

Critical summary of a recent journal article in cognitive psychology. the aim of ...



Cognitive Psychology Psychology is an important these days in determining our daily life actions. It not only helps to understand the actions of others but also helps one to act according to what is required by an individual.

Psychology addresses the overall problems in this world. Similarly the children born these days are vulnerable to lie about little things. The subject of Psychology helps to determine this effect in children and also helps to determine if the adults can realize when one child is lying or not. This paper would further analyze an article named “ Children’s prepared and unprepared lies: Can Adults See through Their Strategies?

This article describes the different psychological aspects of how children tend to lie and whether the adults are able to determine if the child is lying or not. It explains a child’s psychology that with age a child starts to determine the concepts and thinking of adults and hence he can successfully lie. In this respect a lengthy research was conducted in which children from the age group of 10 to 13 were chosen and they were interviewed. These interviews were videotaped and shown to observers who were then questioned and data was collected from them to reach to a final result to determine the different verbal and non verbal aspects of a child’s lying and whether the adults could accurately find out if the child was lying or not. The results of the research showed that prepared lies were difficult to be caught than unprepared ones and the reason for this being that the children are able to think and plan the details before lying. It also showed that they could more easily know that the child is telling the truth but it is difficult for them to judge whether he is lying. And last but not the least adults were not good at determining the child’s deception. Regarding the children it was

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seen that they were equally nervous when they were telling a lie or the truth when facing the interviewer so this could not be considered to be a major factor. One interesting thing which was seen was that the lying patterns of children were somewhat similar to adults as they tried to remain calm and cool while lying and also they were actually trying to relate their lies with real life incidents.

The final conclusion that we get is that it is very difficult for an adult to know if a child is lying or not. This poses a serious problem especially when children facing criminal charges are to be questioned. Factors that adults more often consider to check a child's lie for example the nervousness factor can be misleading. Children can also prepare lies within seconds so adults may not reach to a decision regarding the credibility of the child's statement by throwing a question to them instantaneously. So when questioning a child it should be kept in mind that it is not very easy to check whether a child is lying or not and second through case study it should be checked that whether it would be a prepared lie or an unprepared lie. This article concludes that it is very difficult to determine if a child is lying or not.

#### Works Cited

Stromwall, L. A., P. A. Granhag, and S. Landstrom. " Childrens Prepared and Unprepared Lies: Can Adults See Through Their Strategies? " *Applied Cognitive Psychology*. 21. 4 (2007): 457-471.