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# The influence of pitch manipulation in female speakers on perceived voice and face attractiveness

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## Abstract

Research suggests that the perception of attractiveness is multimodal, however, it is unclear how visual and auditory cues interact. Voice pitch seems important, as men judge high-pitched female voices to be more attractive, possibly due to their association with youthfulness, fertility, and femininity. We investigated whether an increase in voice pitch in female voices would lead to increased ratings of attractiveness, femininity, and health, and decreased age ratings. In a within-subject design we found higher-pitched female voices were rated more attractive, more feminine, and younger, but not healthier compared to non-manipulated voices. However, when manipulated and control voices were presented simultaneously with synchronized face videos, voice manipulations did not affect the ratings of the faces. These results support the multiple-message hypothesis that voices and faces signal different aspects of an individual's overall quality. Further experiments will have to examine the effect of face attractiveness manipulations on voice ratings.