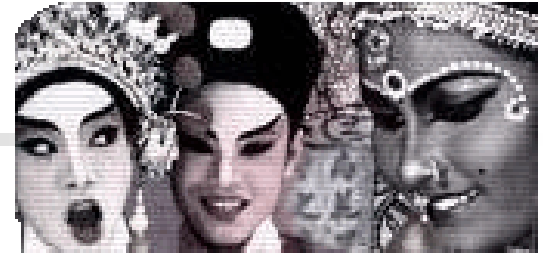


FURTHERING THE SEARCH FOR INTEGRATION: CORRELATES OF EMOTIONAL DISPLAY RULES IN MALAYSIA



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Introduction



- Display rules for emotions like anger, happiness and fear are rules learned early in childhood that help individuals manage and modify their emotional expressions depending on social circumstances
- These display rules may be influenced by gender





Objectives

- To study the nature of display rules of emotional expressions employed by Malaysian undergraduates in various social circumstances
- To investigate whether there are gender differences in these display rules among Malaysian undergraduates

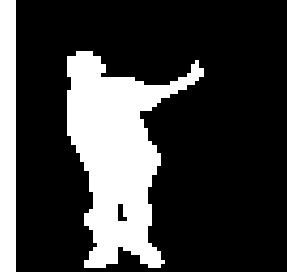


5 Expressive Modes

- Amplify (Show more than you feel it)
- Express (Express it as you feel it)
- Deamplify (Show less than you feel it)
- Qualify (Show the emotion while smiling at the same time)
- Mask (Hide your feelings by smiling)

7 Emotions

- 1) Anger
- 2) Contempt
- 3) Disgust
- 4) Fear
- 5) Happy
- 6) Sad
- 7) Surprised



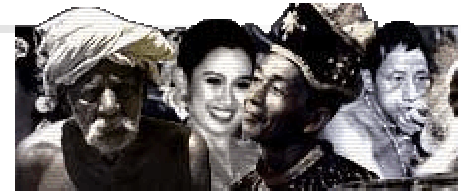
2 Contexts

- 1) Alone (Private)
- 2) Public



21 Targets

- 1) Alone
- 2) Father
- 3) Mother
- 4) Elder brother
- 5) Elder sister
- 6) Younger brother
- 7) Younger sister
- 8) Close male friend
- 9) Close girl friend
- 10) male acquaintance



21 Targets (contd)

- 11) female acquaintance
- 12) male higher year
- 13) female higher year
- 14) male same year
- 15) female same year
- 16) male lower year
- 17) female lower year
- 18) male professor / lecturer 50 – 60 years
- 19) female professor / lecturer 50 – 60 years
- 20) male professor / lecturer 30 – 40 years
- 21) female professor / lecturer 30 – 40 years





Methodology

- Survey Design
- Sample: 496 female and 120 male undergraduates in a Malaysian University.
- Instrument: The *Bahasa Malaysia* version of the Display Rules of Emotional Expression Inventory (DRAI)



Research Questions 1

- Are there any significant contextual (private and public) differences in the emotions displayed based on the type of person around, namely (1) alone, (2) father, (3) mother, (4) elder brother, (5) elder sister, (6) younger brother and (7) younger sister?



Research Questions 2

- Are there any significant differences in the expressions of these emotions towards the father and mother in private and public?



Research Questions 3

- Are there significant gender differences in the expressions of these emotions when (1) alone, (2) with father, (3) with mother, (4) with older brother, (5) with older sister, (6) with younger brother, and (7) with younger sister?

Results – Research Question 1

Table 1: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions When Alone

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Anger	3.34	1.38	3.00	2.68	1.22	2.00	-9.45	0.00
Contempt	3.81	1.16	4.00	3.17	1.22	3.00	-9.41	0.00
Disgust	3.73	1.10	4.00	3.08	1.27	3.00	-9.92	0.00
Fear	3.58	1.19	4.00	3.02	1.31	3.00	-8.72	0.00
Happy	3.52	1.42	4.00	2.71	1.62	2.00	-9.65	0.00
Sad	3.72	1.49	4.00	3.00	1.51	2.00	-8.64	0.00
Surprise	3.67	1.27	4.00	2.74	1.34	2.00	-6.25	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 2: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Father

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Anger	3.38	1.30	3.00	3.33	1.26	3.00	-1.12	0.26
Contempt	3.78	1.17	4.00	3.40	1.22	3.00	-8.04	0.00
Disgust	3.76	1.12	4.00	3.64	2.07	4.00	-4.47	0.00
Fear	3.62	1.18	4.00	3.33	1.24	3.00	-6.15	0.00
Happy	3.14	1.41	3.00	2.85	1.43	2.00	-5.80	0.00
Sad	3.29	1.52	3.00	2.96	1.51	3.00	-6.34	0.00
Surprise	3.48	1.34	3.00	3.15	1.38	3.00	-6.39	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 3: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Mother

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	z	p
Anger	3.29	1.36	3.00	3.18	1.35	3.00	-1.82	0.07
Contempt	3.66	1.20	4.00	3.13	1.24	3.00	-10.14	0.00
Disgust	3.79	1.13	4.00	3.35	1.26	4.00	-8.70	0.00
Fear	3.53	1.21	4.00	3.20	1.28	3.00	-7.14	0.00
Happy	2.92	1.46	2.00	2.62	1.46	2.00	-6.68	0.00
Sad	3.09	1.59	3.00	2.78	3.01	2.00	-8.55	0.00
Surprise	3.32	1.41	3.00	2.91	1.44	2.00	-7.54	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 4: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Elder Brother

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	z	p
Anger	3.07	1.30	3.00	2.87	1.29	3.00	-3.97	0.00
Contempt	3.39	1.19	3.00	2.74	1.14	2.00	-10.01	0.00
Disgust	3.51	1.19	4.00	2.94	1.18	3.00	-9.56	0.00
Fear	3.38	1.17	3.00	2.99	1.18	3.00	-7.13	0.00
Happy	3.03	1.45	3.00	2.69	1.40	2.00	-5.94	0.00
Sad	3.36	1.54	3.00	2.97	1.59	2.00	-6.62	0.00
Surprise	3.30	1.38	3.00	2.91	1.39	2.00	-6.39	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 5: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Older Sister

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	z	p
Anger	2.96	1.28	3.00	2.67	1.24	2.00	-4.23	0.00
Contempt	3.26	1.28	3.00	2.65	1.20	2.00	-10.18	0.00
Disgust	3.75	1.21	3.00	2.80	1.20	2.00	-9.65	0.00
Fear	3.28	1.21	3.00	2.86	1.21	3.00	-7.78	0.00
Happy	2.87	1.39	2.00	2.58	1.37	2.00	-5.72	0.00
Sad	3.12	1.52	3.00	2.64	1.53	2.00	-7.69	0.00
Surprise	3.23	1.31	3.00	2.73	1.35	2.00	-8.20	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 6: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Younger Brother

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Anger	2.93	1.31	3.00	2.54	1.29	2.00	-6.54	0.00
Contempt	3.11	1.26	3.00	2.40	1.16	2.00	-11.66	0.00
Disgust	3.29	1.22	3.00	2.64	1.19	2.00	-10.82	0.00
Fear	3.37	1.25	3.00	2.98	1.29	3.00	-7.60	0.00
Happy	3.00	1.45	3.00	2.71	1.40	2.00	-6.51	0.00
Sad	3.24	1.51	3.00	2.90	1.56	2.00	-6.98	0.00
Surprise	3.40	1.39	3.00	2.99	1.41	3.00	-7.08	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

**Table 7: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions
with Younger Brother**

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Anger	2.87	1.28	3.00	2.64	1.29	2.00	-4.47	0.00
Contempt	3.18	1.22	3.00	2.50	1.20	2.00	-10.36	0.00
Disgust	3.37	1.15	3.00	2.81	1.26	2.00	-9.35	0.00
Fear	3.36	1.20	3.00	3.04	1.29	3.00	-6.51	0.00
Happy	2.94	1.42	3.00	2.66	1.47	2.00	-5.29	0.00
Sad	3.17	1.53	3.00	2.74	1.55	2.00	-7.11	0.00
Surprise	3.32	1.40	3.00	3.00	1.39	3.00	-6.79	0.00

Results – Research Question 1 (Contd)

Table 7: Public and Private Comparisons of Emotional Expressions with Younger Sister

Public – Private Comparisons	Public			Private			Wilcoxon Sign Rank	
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	<i>z</i>	<i>p</i>
Anger	2.87	1.28	3.00	2.64	1.29	2.00	-4.47	0.00
Contempt	3.18	1.22	3.00	2.50	1.20	2.00	-10.36	0.00
Disgust	3.37	1.15	3.00	2.81	1.26	2.00	-9.35	0.00
Fear	3.36	1.20	3.00	3.04	1.29	3.00	-6.51	0.00
Happy	2.94	1.42	3.00	2.66	1.47	2.00	-5.29	0.00
Sad	3.17	1.53	3.00	2.74	1.55	2.00	-7.11	0.00
Surprise	3.32	1.40	3.00	3.00	1.39	3.00	-6.79	0.00



Research Question 2

- Are there significant differences in the expressions of these emotions towards their father and mother in private and public?

Results - Research Question 2

Comparison of Emotional Expressions of Respondents with Father and Mother (Private)

Test Statistics^b

	mothera1 - fathera1	mothera2 - fathera2	mothera3 - fathera3	mothera4 - fathera4	mothera5 - fathera5	mothera6 - fathera6	mothera7 - fathera7
Z	-2.532 ^a	-5.119 ^a	-4.390 ^a	-2.269 ^a	-4.478 ^a	-5.404 ^a	-4.044 ^a
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.011	.000	.000	.023	.000	.000	.000

a. Based on positive ranks.

b. Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test

There appears to be significant differences in their display of their emotions towards their fathers and mothers. The mean ranks indicate that the respondents have a greater tendency to hide and not show their emotions towards their father but not towards their mother.

Results - Research Question 2

Comparison of Emotional Expressions of Respondents with Father and Mother (Public)

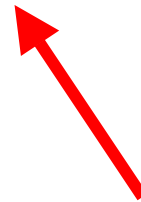
Test Statistics ^c

	motherb1 - fatherb1	motherb2 - fatherb2	motherb3 - fatherb3	motherb4 - fatherb4	motherb5 - fatherb5	motherb6 - fatherb6	motherb7 - fatherb7
Z	-1.999 ^a	-2.765 ^a	-.190 ^b	-2.164 ^a	-4.615 ^a	-3.368 ^a	-2.433 ^a
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)	.046	.006	.849	.030	.000	.001	.015

a. Based on positive ranks.

b. Based on negative ranks.

c. Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test



When the respondents are disgusted with their parents, they do not show that to either of their parents in public, whereas for the other emotions they tend to show their emotions more readily towards their mothers.

Research Question 3



- Are there gender differences in the expressions of these emotions either (1) alone, (2) with father, (3) with mother, (4) with older brother, (5) with older sister, (6) with younger brother, and (7) with younger sister?

Results - Research Question 3

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions when Alone both in Private and Public

Test Statistics^a

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
alonea1	20596.500	-3.703	.000
alonea2	21096.500	-2.661	.008
alonea3	21179.500	-2.433	.015
alonea4	18476.000	-5.056	.000
alonea5	25525.000	-1.102	.270
alonea6	20722.000	-3.643	.000
alonea7	3537.000	-2.112	.035
aloneb1	24717.000	-.540	.589
aloneb2	23759.000	-.877	.381
aloneb3	23425.000	-.698	.485
aloneb4	21208.500	-2.582	.010
aloneb5	24295.000	-.602	.547
aloneb6	24612.500	-.463	.643
aloneb7	21300.000	-2.461	.014

a. Grouping Variable: gender

Male respondents tend to significantly hide their emotions compared to females when alone in private except for the feeling of happiness where there are no significant gender differences. When in public, there are no significant gender differences in all the seven types of emotions except for 'fear' and 'surprise' where the males appear to significantly hide their emotions compared to females

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Father both in Private and Public

Test Statistics^a

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
fathera1	23241.000	-1.568	.117
fathera2	25401.500	-.228	.820
fathera3	23018.000	-.873	.383
fathera4	23148.500	-.879	.379
fathera5	22715.000	-3.168	.002
fathera6	25705.500	-.867	.386
fathera7	23942.500	-1.342	.180
fatherb1	24306.500	-1.141	.254
fatherb2	24589.000	-.601	.548
fatherb3	23067.000	-.741	.459
fatherb4	23224.000	-.607	.544
fatherb5	23547.000	-2.173	.030
fatherb6	23633.000	-1.985	.047
fatherb7	24296.000	-.961	.337

a. Grouping Variable: gender

Male and female respondents show similar emotional expressions towards their fathers except when they are happy. The female respondents tend to express more than what they feel towards their father irregardless of whether they are at home or in public.

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Mother both in Private and Public

Test Statistics^a

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
mothera1	21777.000	-2.971	.003
mothera2	22690.000	-2.082	.037
mothera3	23225.500	-.639	.523
mothera4	20315.000	-2.746	.006
mothera5	20592.500	-4.476	.000
mothera6	26390.500	-.622	.534
mothera7	22765.500	-2.144	.032
motherb1	23036.500	-1.800	.072
motherb2	24870.000	-.370	.711
motherb3	23662.500	-.100	.920
motherb4	21434.500	-1.797	.072
motherb5	21129.500	-3.753	.000
motherb6	24760.500	-1.263	.207
motherb7	23374.500	-1.748	.080

a. Grouping Variable: gender

Male respondents tend to hide anger, contempt, fear, happiness and surprise towards their mothers or express them with a smile when in private. In public, there are no significant gender differences in emotional expression towards their mothers except for 'happy'. For the expression of happiness, irregardless of whether they are in private or public, male respondents tend to hide their feelings towards their mothers.

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Older Brother both in Private and Public

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
oldbroa1	18218.000	-3.792	.000
oldbroa2	12847.000	-1.878	.060
oldbroa3	12912.000	-1.204	.228
oldbroa4	12155.000	-2.313	.021
oldbroa5	12557.000	-2.962	.003
oldbroa6	15033.500	-.006	.995
oldbroa7	12108.500	-2.525	.012
oldbrob1	13008.500	-1.515	.130
oldbrob2	13530.000	-1.077	.281
oldbrob3	13554.500	-.653	.513
oldbrob4	11812.500	-2.458	.014
oldbrob5	12625.000	-2.406	.016
oldbrob6	13854.500	-.890	.373
oldbrob7	13281.000	-1.309	.191

Male respondents appear to hide or express their emotions with a smile when interacting with their older brother especially in showing anger, fear, happiness, and surprise when alone, and fear and happiness when in public. For the other emotions there are no significant gender differences.

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Older Sister both in Private and Public

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
oldsisa1	10678.000	-3.211	.001
oldsisa2	15003.500	-1.108	.268
oldsisa3	15290.500	-.323	.747
oldsisa4	13544.500	-2.299	.022
oldsisa5	11706.000	-4.857	.000
oldsisa6	15751.500	-1.120	.263
oldsisa7	12129.000	-3.996	.000
oldsisb1	13614.000	-2.616	.009
oldsisb2	15386.500	-.884	.377
oldsisb3	14761.500	-1.277	.202
oldsisb4	12929.500	-2.590	.010
oldsisb5	12366.500	-4.218	.000
oldsisb6	16480.000	-.282	.778
oldsisb7	13636.000	-2.505	.012

Male respondents significantly differ from their female counterparts in displaying emotions such as anger, fear, happiness and surprise towards their older sister in both private and public

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Younger Brother both in Private and Public

Test Statistics^a

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
yngbroa1	13824.500	-3.818	.000
yngbroa2	17609.000	-.148	.882
yngbroa3	14940.500	-1.768	.077
yngbroa4	14472.000	-1.768	.077
yngbroa5	13556.500	-3.833	.000
yngbroa6	16609.000	-1.254	.210
yngbroa7	13658.000	-3.244	.001
yngbrob1	16435.500	-.792	.429
yngbrob2	16451.000	-1.014	.311
yngbrob3	16261.000	-.343	.731
yngbrob4	16003.500	-.076	.939
yngbrob5	15102.000	-2.078	.038
yngbrob6	17099.000	-.448	.654
yngbrob7	14677.000	-2.020	.043

a. Grouping Variable: gender

Male respondents tend to significantly suppress their feelings of happiness and surprise towards their younger brother than the female respondents both in private and in public.

Male respondents tend to hide their anger towards their younger brother in private but in public there are significant gender differences

Results - Research Question 3 (Contd)

Gender differences in Emotional Expressions with Younger Sister both in Private and Public

Test Statistics^a

	Mann-Whitney U	Z	Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)
yngsis1	11233.500	-2.132	.033
yngsis2	9902.500	-1.917	.055
yngsis3	9015.000	-2.494	.013
yngsis4	9026.500	-2.323	.020
yngsis5	7777.500	-4.738	.000
yngsis6	11493.000	-.344	.731
yngsis7	9305.500	-2.425	.015
yngsisb1	8940.500	-2.653	.008
yngsisb2	10324.500	-.914	.361
yngsisb3	9649.500	-1.209	.227
yngsisb4	8936.500	-2.007	.045
yngsisb5	8511.000	-3.353	.001
yngsisb6	11334.000	-.119	.906
yngsisb7	9111.000	-2.400	.016

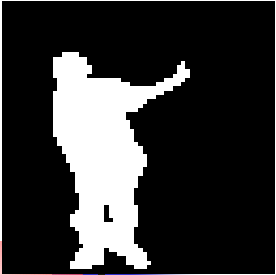
a. Grouping Variable: gender

Male respondents tend to hide their anger, fear, happiness and surprise significantly compared the female respondents, both privately and in public. Male respondents also appear to hide their disgust more than their female respondents towards their younger sister when they are alone together.



Conclusion

- There are significant differences in the display of emotions among Malaysian undergraduate students whether they are alone or together with significant members of their family namely their fathers, mothers, older brothers, older sisters, younger brothers and younger sisters.
- Generally, there are also significant gender differences in the expressions of these emotions whether alone or when they are with these members of the family.
- The findings support those undertaken in other cultures that display of emotions tend to depend on many factors that are closely related to the culture.



Thank You

