

# ADOLESCENTS' MOTIVATIONS TO PERPETRATE HATE SPEECH AND LINKS WITH SOCIAL NORMS

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<https://doi.org/10.3916/C71-2022-01>

## INTRODUCTION



Hate speech is nowadays a widespread phenomenon

Adolescents also perform it but their motivations are unknown



## METHODOLOGY

### Objectives

-1) To examine the psychometric properties of a new multidimensional scale developed to measure motivations for hate speech perpetration

-2) Investigate associations between social norms and adolescents' motivations for perpetrating hate speech

### Sample

1381 participants between 11 and 18 years old from 119 classes in 22 German-speaking schools in two cantons of Switzerland

### Instruments



"Motivations for Hate Speech Perpetration Scale" (MHATE)

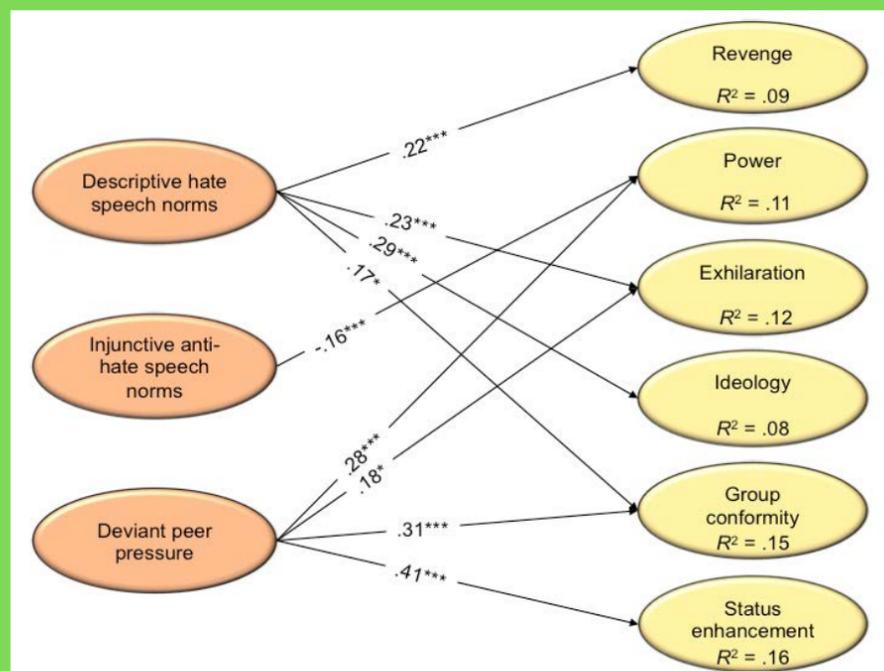
## RESULTS

Analyses revealed good psychometric properties of MHATE, including adequate internal consistency

The subscale with the highest frequency was revenge, followed by ideology, group conformity, status enhancement, exhilaration, and power

Descriptive norms and peer pressure were related to several motivations for hate speech perpetration

Prescriptive norms only became associated with the power



## CONCLUSIONS



Findings indicate that hate speech serves several functions: revenge, ideology, power...



Knowing the specific motivations for these discourses helps to derive individually tailored intervention strategies



Professionals working to prevent hate speech should pay special attention to the social norms surrounding adolescents

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