Dear Editor-in-chief,

Please consider our manuscript titled ‘Stylized and photographic eye images do not increase charitable donations in a field experiment’ (short title: Stylized eye images do not increase charitable donations) for publication in *Letters on Evolutionary Behavioral Science.*

The authors of this paper are Paul Lennon, Rachel Grant and V. Tamara Montrose (corresponding author; Tamara.Montrose@Hartpury.ac.uk).

We believe that this journal is an appropriate suitable vehicle for this submission as our article provides a novel addition to the field via further exploration of the effects of watching eyes on prosocial behavior. Our abstract is as follows:

“The effects of watching eyes upon prosocial behavior have been explored in various contexts, for example, in relation to charitable donations, honor-system payments and littering. Whilst studies have explored the effects of both photographic and stylized eyes upon prosocial behavior, no study, to our knowledge, has compared stylized eyes to photographic eyes. Here we explored the effects of stylized and photographic eye images upon prosocial behavior assessed via charitable donations in a ‘free cakes’ field experiment. Charitable giving was assessed under six eye image conditions, three stylized eye images (evil eye, eye of Horus, all-seeing eye), one photographic eye image (human eye image) and two control images (geometric shape control and blank control). No difference in the amount of money donated was found between any of the eye image conditions. These results suggest that watching eyes, whether stylized or photographic, are not effective at eliciting prosocial behavior via charitable giving. However, further study contrasting single and paired eye imagery, and exploration of the effects of stylized eye imagery in deterring littering and crime, would be beneficial.”

This article is original and has not been previously published elsewhere. It is also not being considered for publication in any other journal. The content of this paper is approved by all authors. The word count of the article is 2490 words.

If you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me using the details below.

Best wishes,

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