

TITLE

The Experience of Spontaneous Speech

PRIMARY RESEARCHER

Christopher Constantino, a PhD candidate at the University of Memphis, is conducting a research study to understand the relationship between spontaneity, fluency, and stuttering. This study has been approved by the University of Memphis IRB and NSARC.

ABSTRACT

There is a gap between our behavioral measures of stuttering and the subjective experience of what it is actually like to stutter. This is because frequency of stuttering has little to do with the impact of stuttering on people's lives. We theorize that the impact of stuttering on an individual has less to do with the occurrence of disfluency than with the lack of spontaneity that accompanies effortful speech, regardless of the speaker's degree of fluency. Spontaneous speech is characterized by little premeditation, effortless production, and is enjoyable/meaningful. We would like to test this hypothesis by measuring participants' frequency of disfluency and spontaneity in their daily lives as close to the experiences of speaking as possible. In order to accomplish this we will use a phone application to administer a survey to participants at 5 random times a day for one week. Participants will take part in this study from their smart phones and therefore can live anywhere in the country.

CONTACT

If you are stutter, have access to a smart phone, and are 18 years of age or older please contact Chris Constantino (ccnstntn@memphis.edu | (845) 242-4256) to participate. Participants who complete all study surveys will receive \$20 for their time.