TITLE: Anticipatory Completions in Conversations between PWS and PWNS

PRIMARY RESEARCHERS: Sergey Kondrashov, a PhD student in Communicative Disorders at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. And John A. Tetnowski, PhD, the Blanco Endowed Professor of Communicative Disorders at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

ABSTRACT: The hypothesis of this study is that in conversations between people who stutter (PWS) and people who do not stutter (PWNS), it is possible that PWNS do not wait for PWS who are struggling to complete their turn at talk and having blocks or repetitions to finish their ongoing speaking turns, but they complete PWS’ current turns themselves. PWS’ stuttering moments, such as repetitions, prolongations, or blocks may trigger the anticipatory completion by a non-stuttering conversational partner. PWNS may consider this anticipatory completion as “help” to PWS by completing their turn-in-progress, whereas the PWS may get a feeling of being insulted by the recipient’s rush-in, and completion of their turn.

The study of this phenomenon will explore the following topics:

1. How do people who stutter perceive anticipatory completion of their turn by people who do not stutter?
2. What are the specific stuttering moments which trigger anticipatory completions?
3. The frequency of anticipatory completions in conversations between people who stutter and people who do not stutter.
4. What are the feelings, anticipations, and expectations of people who stutter during anticipatory completions?
5. What types of behaviors do people who stutter have during anticipatory completions?

The researchers will conduct the interview and set up a conversation on a topic of mutual interest to the participants. Participants for this study, both PWS and their conversational partners, will take part in an ethnographic interview on their feelings, anticipations, expectations, and behaviors during anticipatory completions. The ethnographic interview, which will be audio recorded for future analysis, will last approximately 20 minutes and will occur after the conversation between a PWS and PWNS. The interview will be conducted either through skype or in person between the researcher and the participant. If you have an experience of anticipatory completions in conversations between PWS and PWNS, when PWNS do not wait for PWS who are struggling to complete their turn at talk and having blocks or repetitions to finish their ongoing speaking turns, but they complete PWS’ current turns themselves, we are asking you to participate in the study.

If you wish more information about the research you may contact Dr. John A. Tetnowski at (337)-482-6869 or by e-mail: tetnowski@louisiana.edu or Mr. Sergey Kondrashov at (337)-414-9132 or by e-mail: smk7532@louisiana.edu at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. We will make every effort to answer your questions.