Abstract:

The study involves an experimental procedure which addresses the influence of body shape (i.e. obesity), on contact between the doctor and patient. The theoretical part includes studying and describing the current literature relevant to the topic, defining concepts of obesity, prejudice, and weight stigma. The theory concludes with a critical reflection of the current level of knowledge. For the experimental part, participants are randomly assigned across several experimental conditions, which consist of video views an expert advice from the doctor. Conditions vary gender and weight physician, as well as the content of the information the doctor gives to the potential patient. The main research aims are to provide an evidence on how is the weight stigma influenced by various factors, especially gender of HCPs, the information they are providing, their weight status, and other relevant sociodemographic characteristics on the side of a participant. Data are analysed with multivariate analysis of covariance and analysis of covariance. The study results are consistent with previous findings in literature.

Keywords:

Weight stigma, obesity, prejudice, discrimination