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Event-related potentials in response to the present and past self-names and faces

The concept of *the self* may be dispelled onto past events, future anticipations or even other people (D'Argembeau *et al.*, 2008). The relations between past-, present- and future-selves as well as between the *self* and closely-related others has not been investigated fairly. The recent event-related potential study of own face and own name detection (Kotlewska & Nowicka, 2015) investigated neural correlates of present self-face and present self-name processing in comparison to temporally distant *self* (past-self) and the others (i.e. close-other, famous, and unknown person). The amplitude of P300 (a late ERP component associated with attention, emotion, and autobiographical memory; Fonaryova Key *et al.*, 2005) to the past self-face was enhanced in comparison to P300 to the close-other's face, when it was not the case for past-self and close-other's name. This may indicate that the physical aspects of the past-self may be differentiated from the close-other. In contrast, no differences between P300 responses to the past self-name and close-other's name suggests that the non-physical aspects of the past-self and the close-other may be processed similarly.

References:

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