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About the data set

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Title : Distortions to the passage of time for annual events: exploring why Christmas and Ramadan feel like they come around more quickly each year

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Collection dates 1 December 2022 to 15 May 2023

Description

Commonly heard statements such as “Christmas comes around more quickly each year” suggest that the passage of time between annual events can become distorted, leading to the sensation of time passing more quickly than normal. At present however, it is unclear how prevalent such beliefs are and, what factors are predictive of it.

To explore the prevalence of beliefs that annual events such as Christmas (Study 1 UK sample) and Ramadan (Study 2 Iraqi sample) feel like they come around more quickly each year. To establish the association between distortions to the passage of time between annual events and emotional wellbeing, event specific enjoyment, memory function and self-reported attention to time.

Methods: exploring their subjective experience of time in relation to Christmas and Ramadan. In addition, measures of attention to time, memory function, quality of life and event specific emotion were also taken.

Data was collected and provided in MS Excel format , with column headings and meanings listed below:

Country: Country of data collection UK or Iraq

dom1b: WHO QOL BREF domain 1

dom2b: WHO QUAL BREF domain 2

dom3b: WHO QUAL BREF domain 3

dom4b: WHO QUAL BREF domain 4

Pro : Prospective memory

Retro: Retrospective memory

POTJ : Passage of time

Attention : Attention to time

Enjoyment: Enjoyment of Christmas/Ramadan

Findings: There was widespread agreement that Christmas and Ramadan appeared to come around more quickly each year. In both countries, this belief was associated with greater prospective memory errors, greater attention to time and greater enjoyment of the event. Furthermore, in the UK greater belief that Christmas comes around more quickly was associated with lower social quality of life and in Iraq, greater belief that Ramadan comes around more quickly each year was associated with lower age and female gender.

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Terms of use

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