Effects of caricatured features on experience of facial beauty

Todić Jakšić T¹, Marković S²

¹Faculty of Philosophy, University of Priština, Serbia, ²Laboratory for Experimental Psychology, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Keywords: face, caricatures, beauty experience

In the present study we investigated the effects of caricatured features on experience of male and female facial beauty. Caricatures were generated by enlargement and reduction of chin, eyes, nose and mouth. Experience of facial beauty was specified by six basic dimensions: Phenomenal, Cute, Erotic, Clear, Impressive and Elegant beauty. Twelve participants (age 18-35, both genders) judged three categories of faces: enlarged, normal and reduced facial parts. Results have shown that female faces with reduced nose was judged as more Phenomenal, Cute, Erotic, Clear and Elegant, while the faces with enlarged eyes was judged as more Cute, Erotic, Elegant and Impressive. Female faces with enlarged mouth were judged as more Impressive, while the male faces with reduced mouth were judged as more Clear. Reduced chin on male face is judged as more Cute, Erotic, Clear and more Elegant, while the male faces with reduced nose were judged as more Phenomenal. Therefore, the strongest effects produced by the facial manipulation on male faces are reduced chin and eyes, while female faces with reduced nose and enlarged eyes are judged as more beautiful at almost every level of experiencing beauty. Results are also in line with previous findings that feminine male face is judged as more attractive than masculine male face.