How to help clients hire more diverse candidates by debunking common hiring myths





Include





The Business School for the World®





Qnclude Icebreaker

I'd love to hire more diverse talent but...

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One of the biggest barriers to advancing DEIB in hiring, is Unconscious Bias.





What is unconscious bias?

They are the views and opinions that we hold about others that we are unaware of.

11 million pieces of information every second.

40 bits of those on a conscious level.

99.99996% of our mental processing is unconscious.

System 1

- Fast
- Effortless
- Emotional
- Stereotypic
- Unconscious



System 2

- . Slow
- . Takes Effort
- Logical
- Calculative
- Conscious

What gender comes to mind for these occupations

Engineer Secretary Lawyer

HR Manager CEO Nurse

About Unconscious Bias?

- 1. **EVERYONE** has it
- 2. It does **NOT** always align with your explicit beliefs
- 3. A **TINY** bit of bias, can have **BIG** consequences.
- Don't "CURE" it,
 "ACKNOWLEDGE & ADDRESS" it



How does unconscious bias manifest in recruitment













Stereotype Bias



Halo Bias



Confirmation Bias



Gravitating towards people similar to us

Similar backgrounds, city we lived in or even nationalities.

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Affinity Bias

Gravitating towards people similar to us

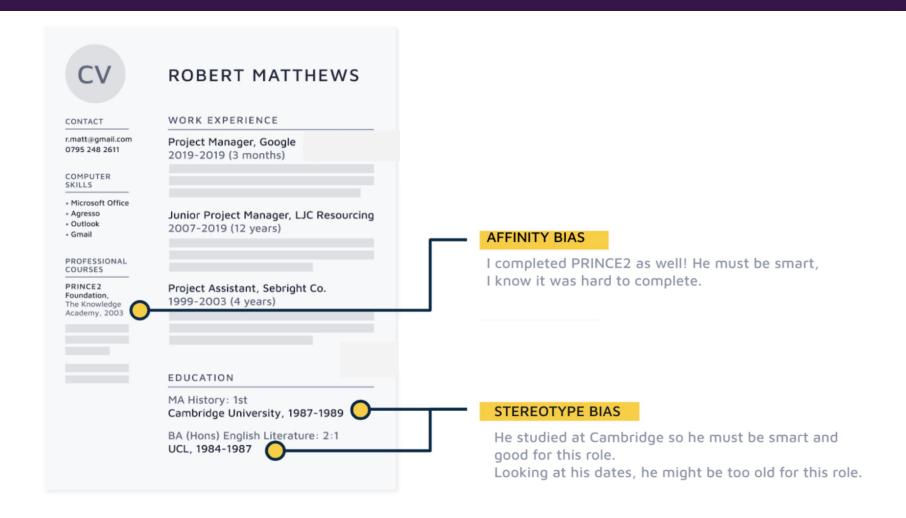
Similar backgrounds, city we lived in or even nationalities.



Stereotype Bias

Stereotypes of particular group of people based on cultural stereotypes, class, age, race

New mums, older candidates, racial groups.





Projecting positive qualities onto candidates without actually knowing them

"Wow they worked for Standard Chartered and Google they must be really great!"



Looking to confirm our own opinions and pre-existing ideas about a particular group of people.

"They left Google in 3 months? I'm sure it isn't because of performance"



HALO EFFECT

If they worked there, they must be a strong candidate.

CONFIRMATION BIAS

He was only at Google for 3 months, but there must be a good reason why he left if he was hired there in the first place.

Orchestra Auditions



In orchestras, what was the % increase of women being hired when auditions were held behind a screen?

A. No Change

B. 5-14%

C. 15-36%

D. 25-46%



The result of biased hiring decisions:

underrepresented groups are overlooked.

Sandra Bauer



Sandra Bauer



Meryem Öztürk



Sandra Bauer



Meryem Öztürk



Meryem Öztürk



Source: ftp.iza.org/dp10217.pdf

We unconsciously make assumptions about a persons competence based on their identity.

Redesigning our processes enable us to better focus on one's <u>competence</u>.



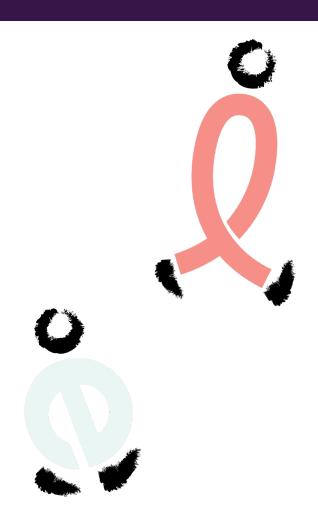
<u>Qnclude</u>

Identifying and mitigating bias in recruitment



I want to hire more diverse candidates but...

We are a meritocracy and we need to hire the best person for the role



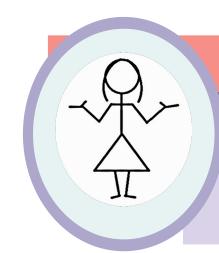
The Myth of Meritocracy

- The ONLY time we mention meritocracy in hiring is when we mention diversity
- It reflects a deep, underlying unconscious bias that in order to hire someone from an underrepresented group we will have to compromise
- This triggers positional bias and confirmation bias before we have even shared the job description or reviewed a resume
- Companies who claim they rely on meritocratic values are MORE not less likely to be biased

When we rely on meritocratic values....we believe we are more impartial

445 managers asked to make bonus, promotion and termination recommendations

When explicitly tole that the company's core values **emphasized meritocracy** in evaluations and compensation...



Males favoured for bonus

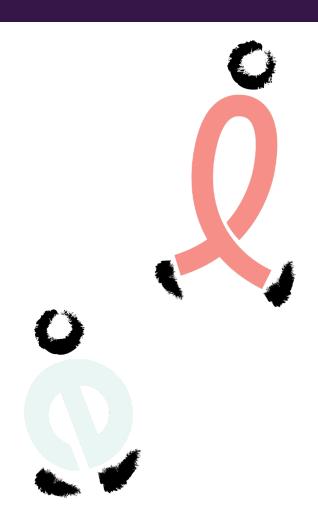
Males favoured for promotion

More females considered for termination

Castilla. E & Bernard, S. (2010), The Paradox of Meritocracy in Organisations, ASQ

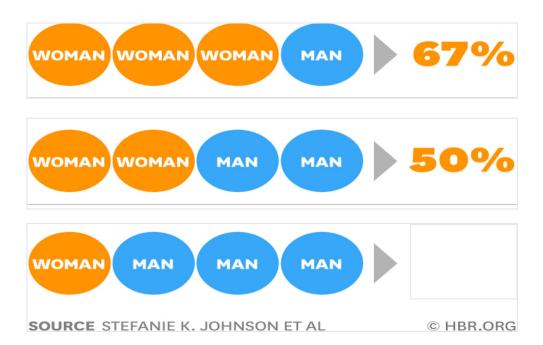
I want to hire more diverse candidates and...

I want at least one diverse candidate on the slate



The Relationship Between Finalist Pools and Actual Hiring Decisions

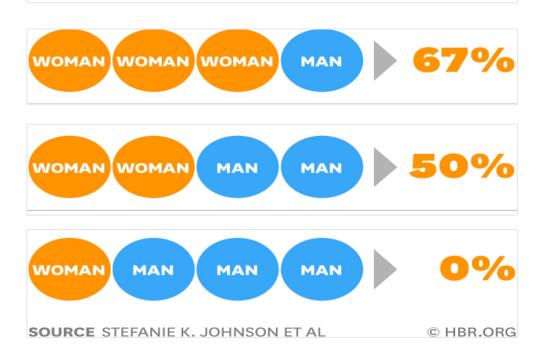
According to one study of 598 finalists for university teaching positions.



Proven Strategy: Include more underrepresented candidates in the shortlist

The Relationship Between Finalist Pools and Actual Hiring Decisions

According to one study of 598 finalists for university teaching positions.

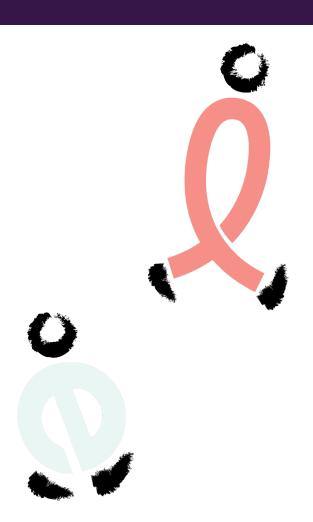


Why it works?

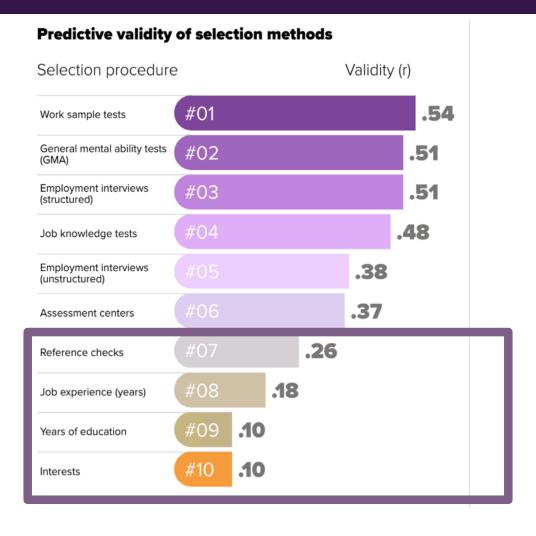
Normalizing the presence of underrepresented candidates makes them more likely to get selected.

I want to hire more diverse candidates but...

They need to have at latest 15 years of experience and have a tertiary degree

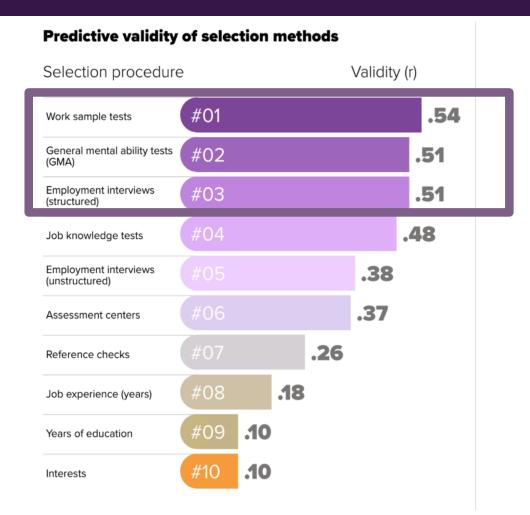


Predictive validity of recruitment 32 assessment methods



Qnclude

Predictive validity of recruitment 33 assessment methods

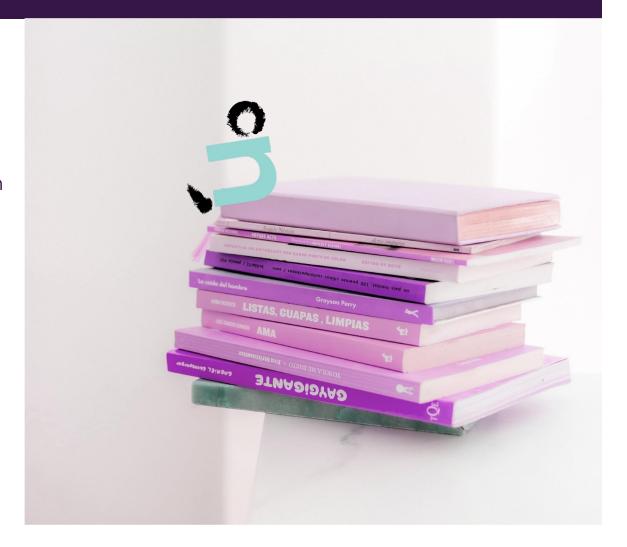


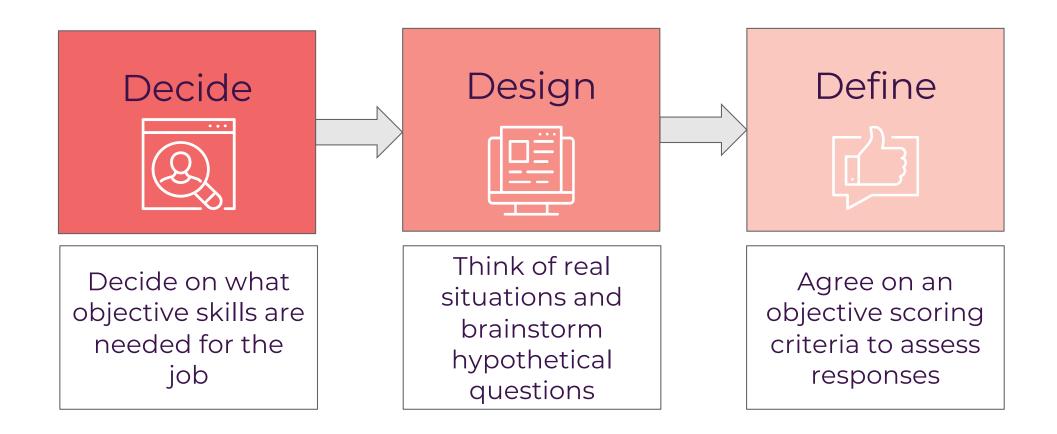
Work sample test - Test to demonstrate skills

Present a new business strategy on how you would build a client base in the middle east as part of our companies' expansion plans?

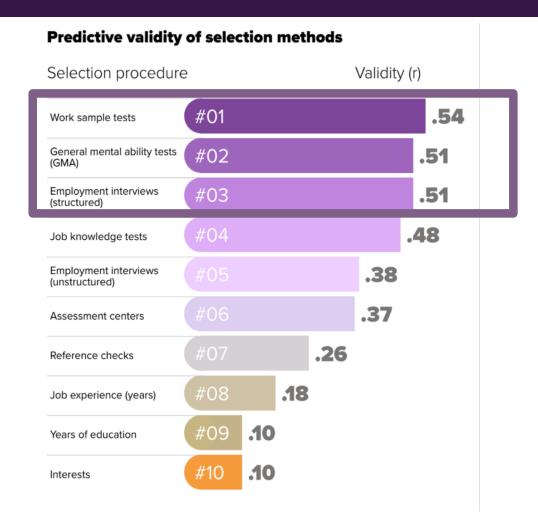
Why are work sample tests effective?

- Demonstrate their skills rather than just talk about their skills
- If a candidate values humility over self-promotion, a traditional interview could hinder them to perform well.



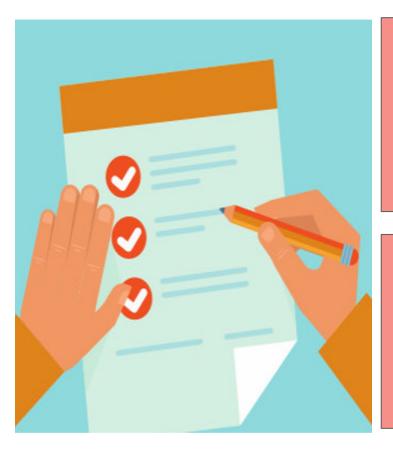


Predictive validity of recruitment 36 assessment methods



Structured Interviews -

Specifically crafted questions asked in a structured way and evaluated in a structured way



Questions
asked in the
same way,
order and exact
wording

There is a clear evaluation criteria linked to skills

Record only
what the
candidate says,
and not
interpret their
responses

Score candidates independently from other reviewers Discuss scores horizontally, that is, assess scores for Q1 all together

Stick to what the scores tell them about who is the best candidate



Why it works?

It is less likely to allow unfair bias to creep in as candidates are treated the same.

Decisions are based on facts rather than subjective impressions.

Qnclude

How can we address our own unconscious bias?

S - Stop

Stop and recognise your state of mind - stressed, rushed, tired?

E - Evaluate

Evaluate your decision. What assumptions am I making, why am I having a reaction?

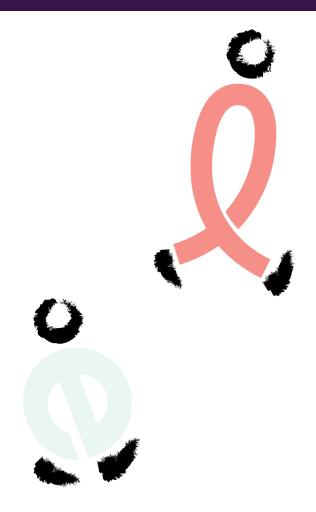
E - Explore

Would you make the same decision if it was a different gender/race? IAT Test

D - Decide

Come to an inclusive outcome and act on it with courage

Questions?



<u>Qnclude</u>

Area of focus



Effective actions



Promising actions



Mixed evidence

Hiring and selection

Offer flexible working by default in job adverts

Use structured interviews for recruitment and promotions

Use skill-based assessment tasks in recruitment

Make expectations around salaries and negotiation clear

Use targeted referrals

Remove biased language from job adverts

Recruit returners

Anonymise CVs

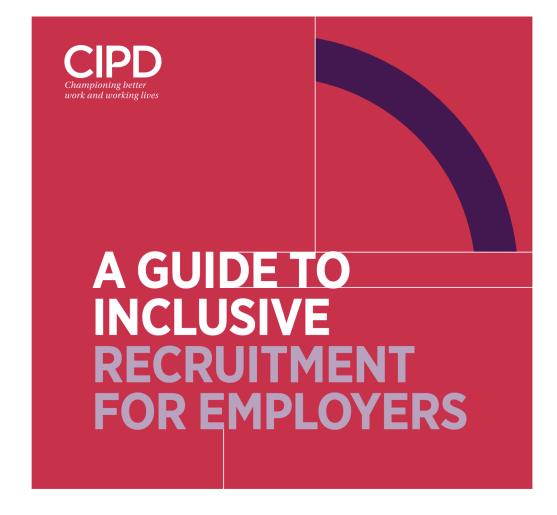
Make it possible to list experience in terms of years not dates in CVs

Include more women in shortlists for recruitment and promotions

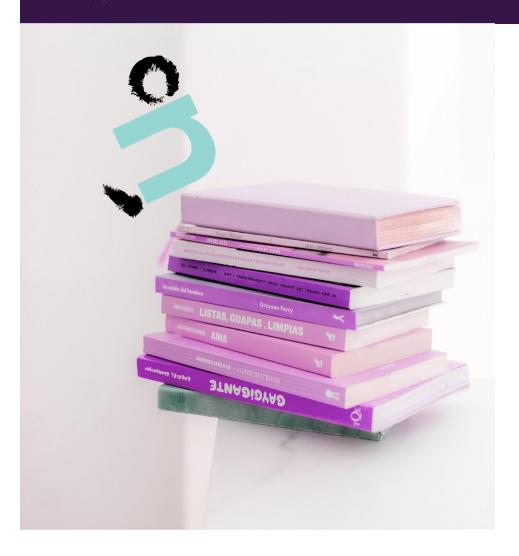
Make decisions about applicants in batches

Diversity statements

Diverse selection panels







What is one key takeaway you had from today's session?



Connect with me!

https://www.linkedin.com/in/helenduce/



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Thank You!

