

Mate Poaching for Our Friends

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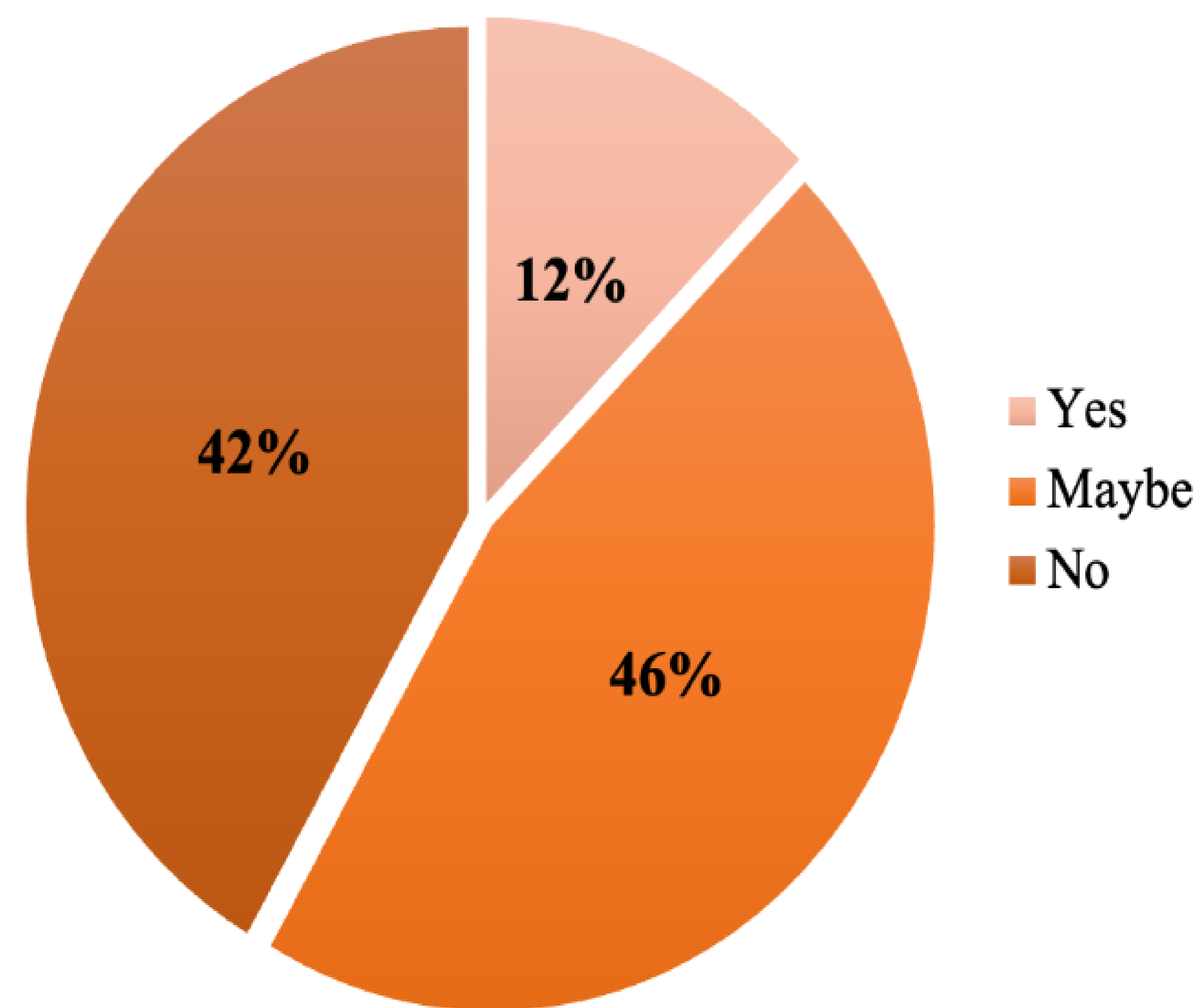
Introduction

- Estrogen is high during ovulation and is associated with competitiveness
- Has been shown to influence mating decisions and intrasexual competitiveness.
- Women compete for: friends, resources, and mates
- Female friendships: care, social information, rally to your side (Castro and Prasad, 2017;; Durante et al., 2008; Gildersleeve, 2014)

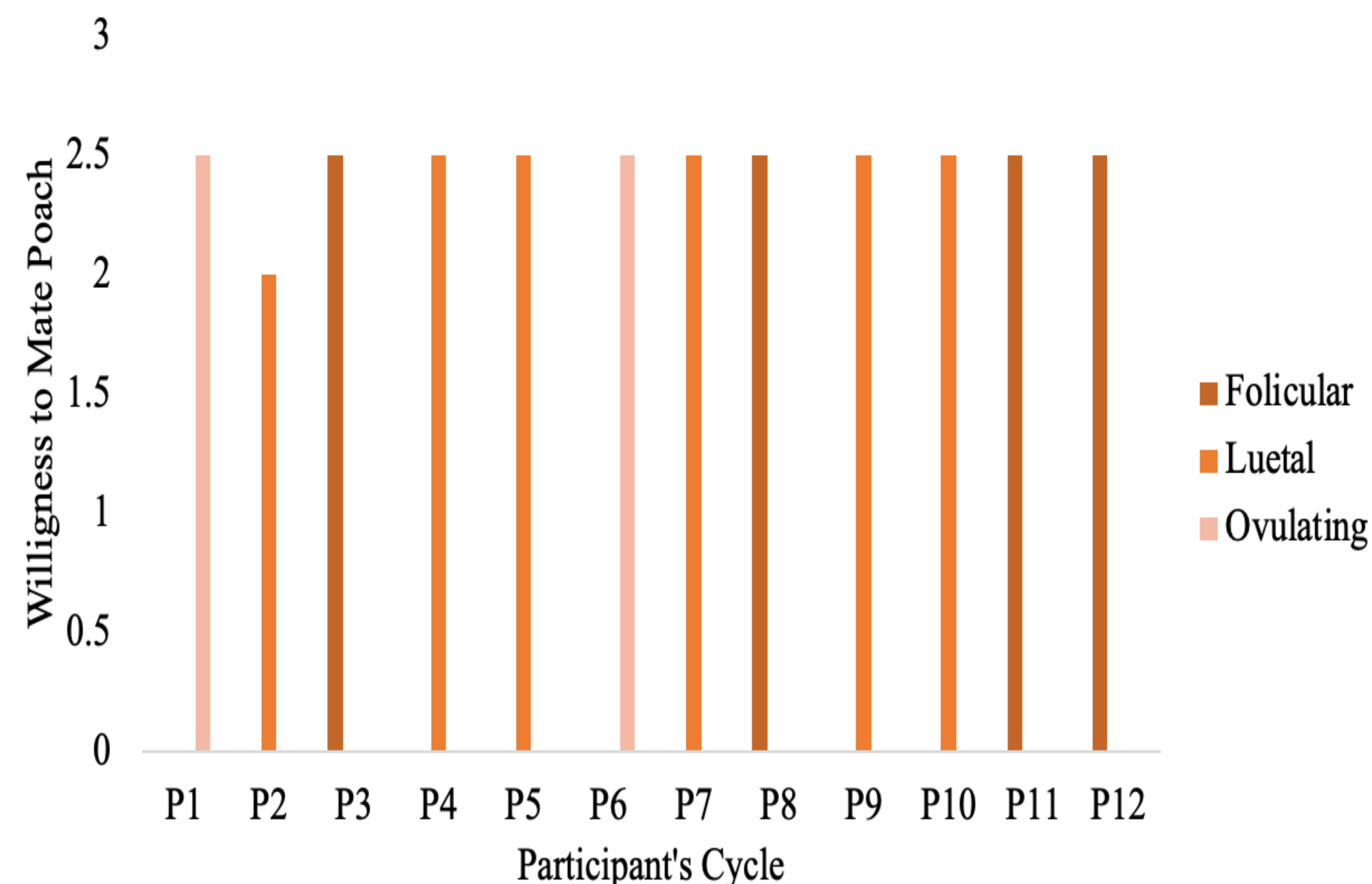
Research Question

Will friends help one another mate poach depending where they are in their cycles?

Willingness to Mate Poach



There is no difference in willingness to mate poach for a friend across the cycle



Methods

- 27 female participants
- Took a survey
 - Last day of period
 - Willingness to mate poach for a friend "Have you ever encouraged a friend to pursue someone they like/are interested in who is already in a relationship?"

Discussion

- Insignificant results
- Limitations:
 - Low sample size
 - Birth control/ menstrual cycles were estimated
- Mate poaching may be too high risk

References

- Durante, K. M., Li, N. P., & Haselton, M. G. (2008). Changes in women's choice of dress across the ovulatory cycle: Naturalistic and laboratory task-based evidence. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34(11), 1451-1460.
- Gildersleeve, K., Haselton, M. G., & Fales, M. R. (2014). Do women's mate preferences change across the ovulatory cycle? A meta-analytic review. *Psychological bulletin*, 140(5), 1205.
- Casto, K.V. & Prasad, S. (2017). Recommendations for the study of women in hormones and competition research. *Hormone Behavior*, (92): 190-194. Doi: 10.1016/j.yhbeh.2017.05.009. Epub 2017 May 24. PMID: 28526234.