# Phub you too!



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Exploring the Link between Individuals' Dual Role Partner Phubbing Experiences and Relationship Satisfaction

> Janneke M. Schokkenbroek Wim Hardyns Mariek Vanden Abeele Koen Ponnet

# PARTNER PHUBBING

### the act of ignoring a romantic partner during a conversation or shared activity by paying attention to the mobile phone instead (Ugur & Koc, 2015)





#### Many studies have already found a link between partner phubbing and relationship dissatisfaction

Hypothesis 1





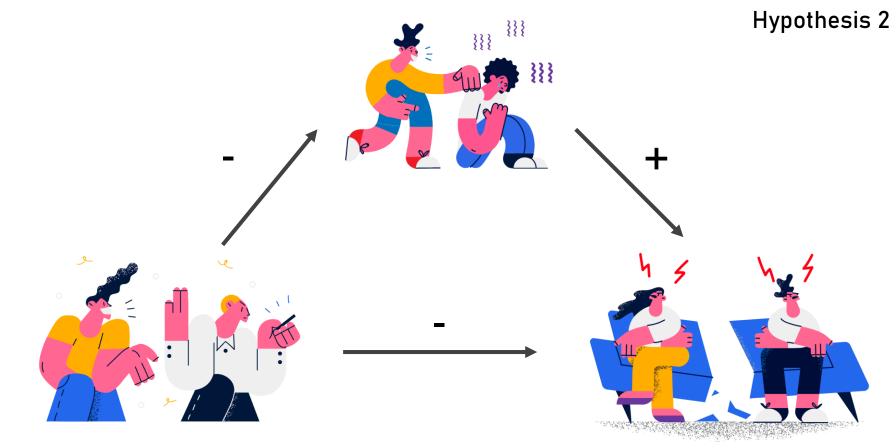


Partner responsiveness = the extent to which a partner feels supported, understood, and cared for by their intimate partner (Reis et al., 2004)

Previous research: Link between partner phubbing and relationship satisfaction is mediated by partner responsiveness (Beukeboom & Pollmann, 2021; Frackowiak et al. 2022)





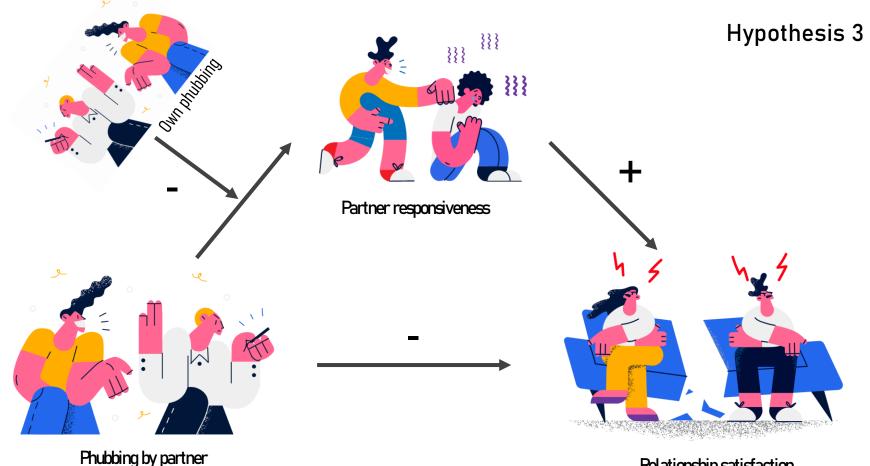




But:

# Not everyone who is phubbed will perceive their partner as less responsive

Building on the expectancy violation theory<sup>(Burgoon, 1993)</sup> and studies that have linked this theory to phubbing (Hall et al., 2014; Miller-Ott & Kelly, 2016), we propose that people who often phub their partner themselves, will be less negatively affected by their partner's phubbing behaviours



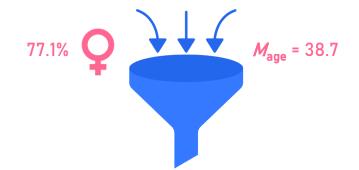
Relationship satisfaction

Phubbing by partner

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#### Methods

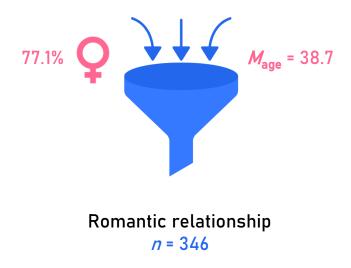
#### Online survey study among convenience sample (*n* = 512) of Belgian adults





#### **Methods**

#### Online survey study among convenience sample (*n* = 512) of Belgian adults







#### Methods

| CONSTRUCT                    | INSTRUMENT   | EXAMPLE  |
|------------------------------|--|--|
| PARTNER PHUBBING             | Partner phubbing scale<br>(Roberts & David, 2016)          | When [my / my partner's] cell phone rings or beeps, [I / they]<br>check it even if we are in the middle of a conversation. |
| PARTNER RESPONSIVENESS       | Supportive dyadic coping scale<br>of DCI (Bodenmann, 2008) | My partner listens to me and gives me the opportunity to communicate what really bothers me.                               |
| RELATIONSHIP<br>SATISFACTION | Quality of Marriage Index<br>(Norton, 1983)                | My relationship with my partner makes me happy   |





92.2% of respondents had been phubbed by their partner at least once during the last 2 weeks.



95.1% of respondents had phubbed their partner at least once during the last 2 weeks.

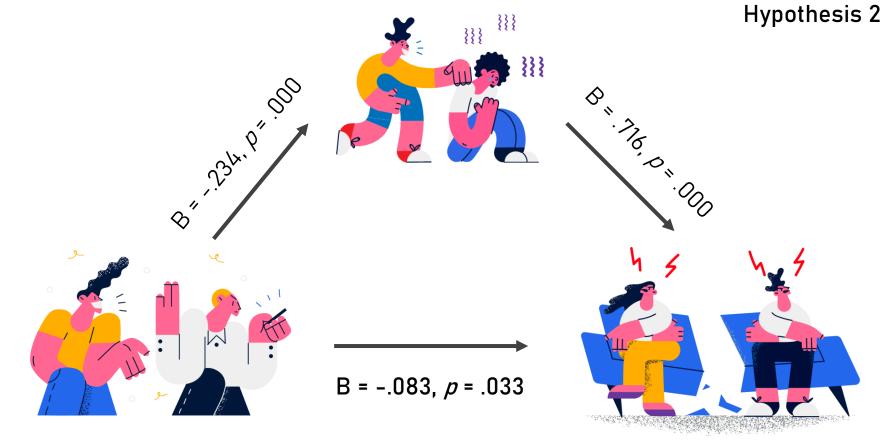
#### Hypothesis 1





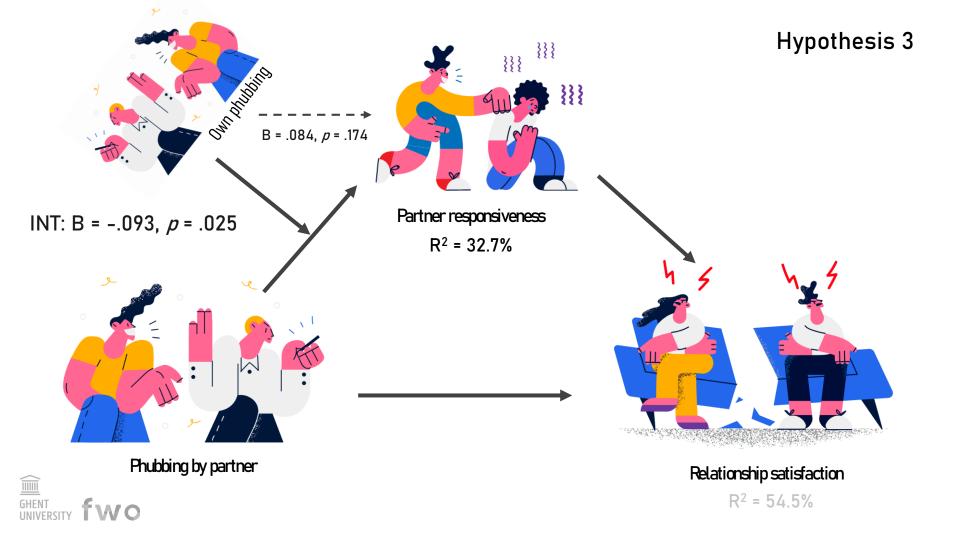
R<sup>2</sup> = 28.1%

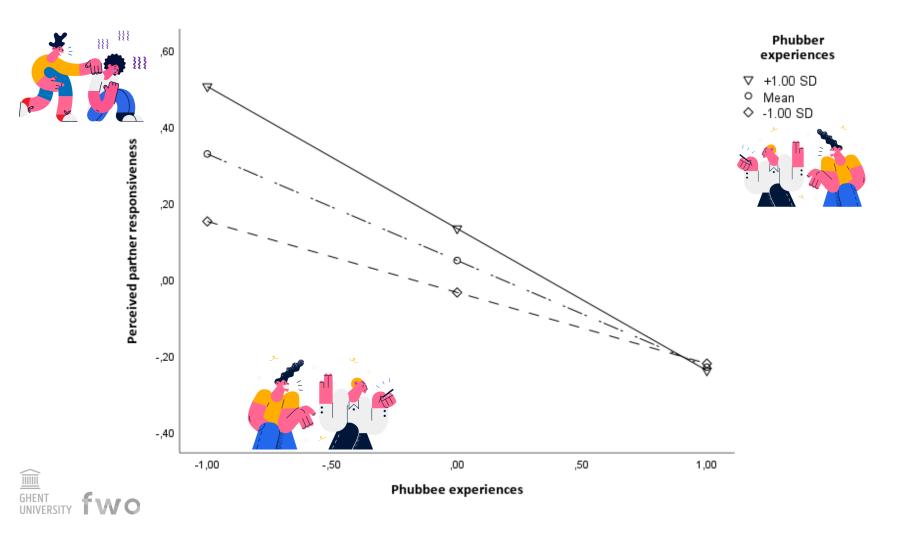




 $R^2 = 54.5\%$ 







## So what does this mean?

Additional measure of own phubbing behaviour provides important additional insight into when and for whom phubbing can affect a relationship

**Responsiveness = key!** 





## **Future directions**

- Dyadic
- Longitudinal
- Self-report + trace data
- Extend the proposed model by including other intrapersonal and relational factors, such as attachment style and communication style



# Looking forward to discuss our research with you!



Janneke M. Schokkenbroek Janneke.Schokkenbroek@UGent.be

