



How did you find out about 9/11?  
 Where were you when you heard about your  
 graduate school acceptance/job offer/tenure?  
 If you can answer these questions, you may have a  
**flashbulb memory.**

## Age Differences in Flashbulb Memories: A Meta-Analysis

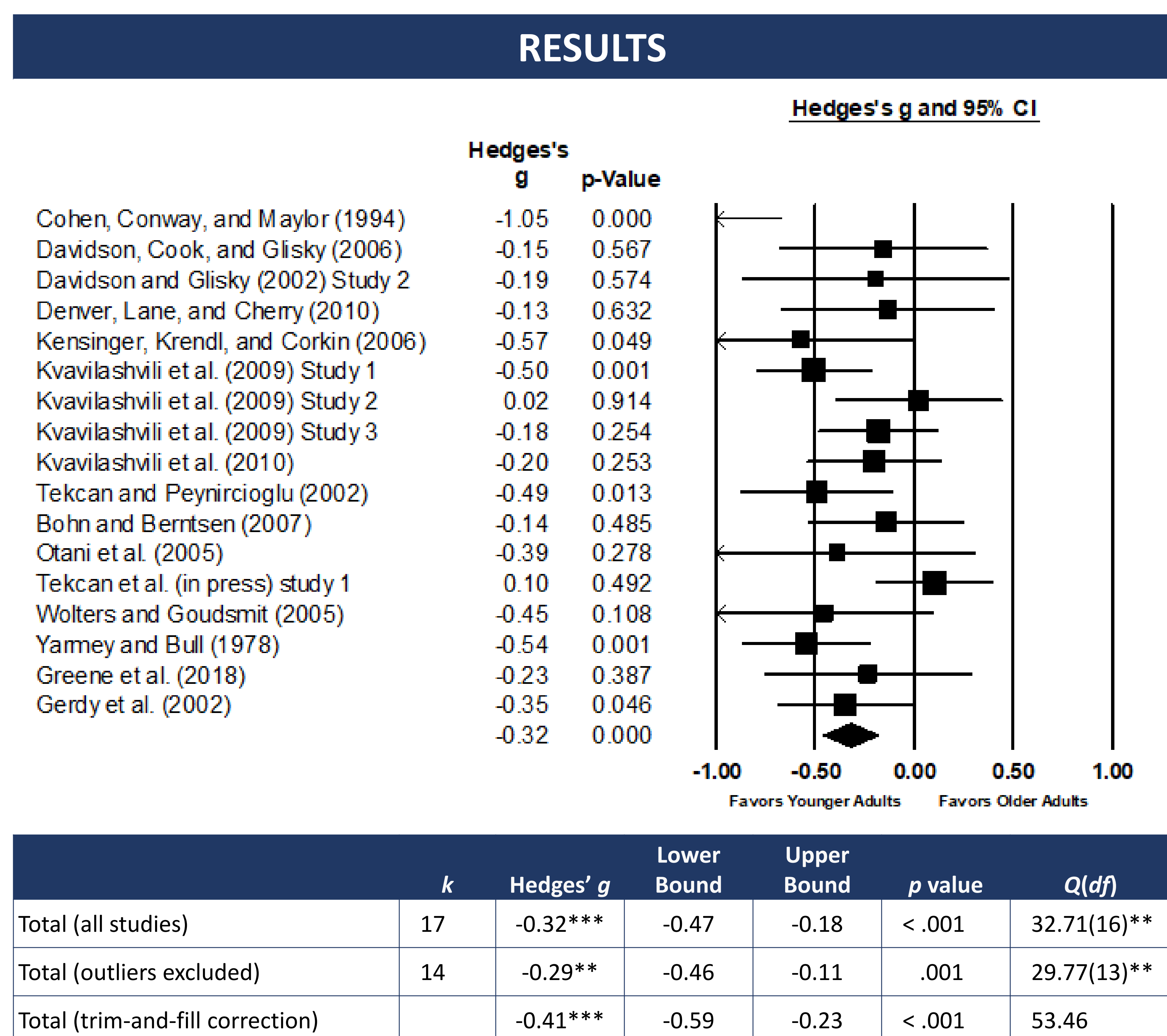
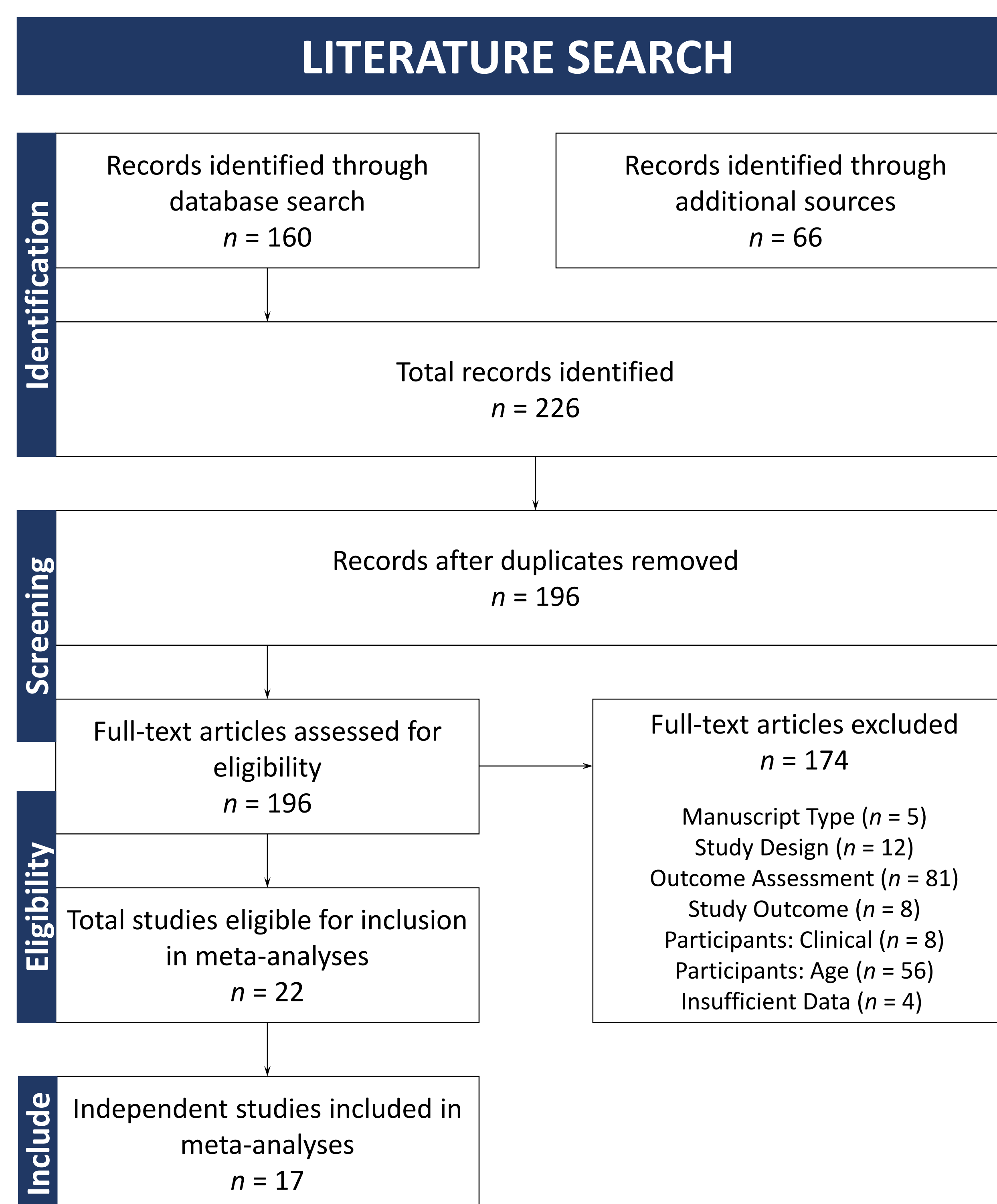
Sarah J. Kopp, Laura E. Sockol & Kristi S. Multhaup

Department of Psychology, Davidson College

### Summary

- There are age-related declines in flashbulb memories.
- Despite significant heterogeneity in effect sizes, characteristics of studies (definition of FBM, retention and delay intervals) and participants (mean age for older and younger adults) were not significant moderators.
- Older adults were less likely than young adults to remember the ongoing activity at the time of the reception event. There were no differences between age groups in memory for source, location, others present, or time of the reception event.
- Older adults reported greater investment in the flashbulb event than young adults did. There were no age differences in ratings of surprise, importance, emotionality, or overt rehearsal.

## There are age-related declines in flashbulb memories.



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