**Cover letter**

**Dear Editor:**

We send you our manuscript titled “Status Expectation Effect in Non-competitive Social Context.” We hope you can consider publishing this manuscript in your *Social Behavior and Personality*.

Our study explored the characteristics of two types of status expectations in non-competitive contexts. We found that the status-expectation effect was consistent across social contexts, as it still appeared in non-competitive contexts. Moreover, although no difference was found in status expectations among different job performances, students had greater expectations to receive fair treatment in warm than cold interpersonal relationships. To a certain extent, this may reflect cultural differences in the effect of status expectations. These findings support the social resource theory description of the taxonomy of status, and to a certain extent expands Binning and Huo’s (2012) research. This emphasizes both that statuses are everywhere and that status differences are universal.

Here, we would like to quote a sentence from the book *Status Anxiety*, by the German writer Alan de Botton. “Why do people pursue a prominent status? The answer to this question is: In short, it is nothing more than praying for wealth, seeking fame, and expanding influence.” We believe that our article will surely interest readers of your journal because status in society is of great significance to everyone.

The following is my statement:

(i) I promise that the article has not been published and is not being considered concurrently for publication elsewhere;

(ii) I promise that the research reported in the manuscript was conducted in accordance with general ethical guidelines in psychology;

(iii) I promise that all authors have contributed significantly, and that all authors are in agreement with the content of the manuscript;

(iv) I promise that no potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Note： If this article is fortunate enough to be accepted by your journal, I hope it can be done through fast-track publication, because I am about to face my Ph.D. graduation. This article is of great significance to me, and I hope it can be considered by you.

Hope to hear from you soon!

Sincerely,

Min Hai

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**Status Expectation Effect in Non-competitive Social Contexts**

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**Compliance with Ethical Standards**

**Conflict of Interest:** We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

**Ethical Approval:** All procedures performed in studies involving human participants were in accordance with the ethical standards of the institutional research committee and with the 1964 Helsinki declaration and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

**Informed Consent:** Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.

**Availability of Data and Materials**

The datasets supporting the conclusions of this article are included within the article and its supplementary information files.

**Authors' Contributions**

**Min Hai** is working toward earning her Ph.D. at School of Psychology, Shaanxi Normal University. Her research focuses on the effects of social status and social affordance on social perception, attitudes, and behavior.

**Yonghui Wang** is a Professor of Psychology at School of Psychology, Shaanxi Normal University. Her research focuses on attention and cognitive control development and neural mechanisms in normal and special groups, including spatial and object attention, return inhibition, negative priming effects, negative compatibility effects, and cross-cultural characteristics of attribution problems.

**Tinghu Kang** is a Professor of Psychology at School of Psychology, Northwest Normal University. His primary research interests are in the study of scene perception and national cultural identity, college students' employability, and career decision-making.