



Epistemic Arrogance: A Tool for Greater Meaning in Life?

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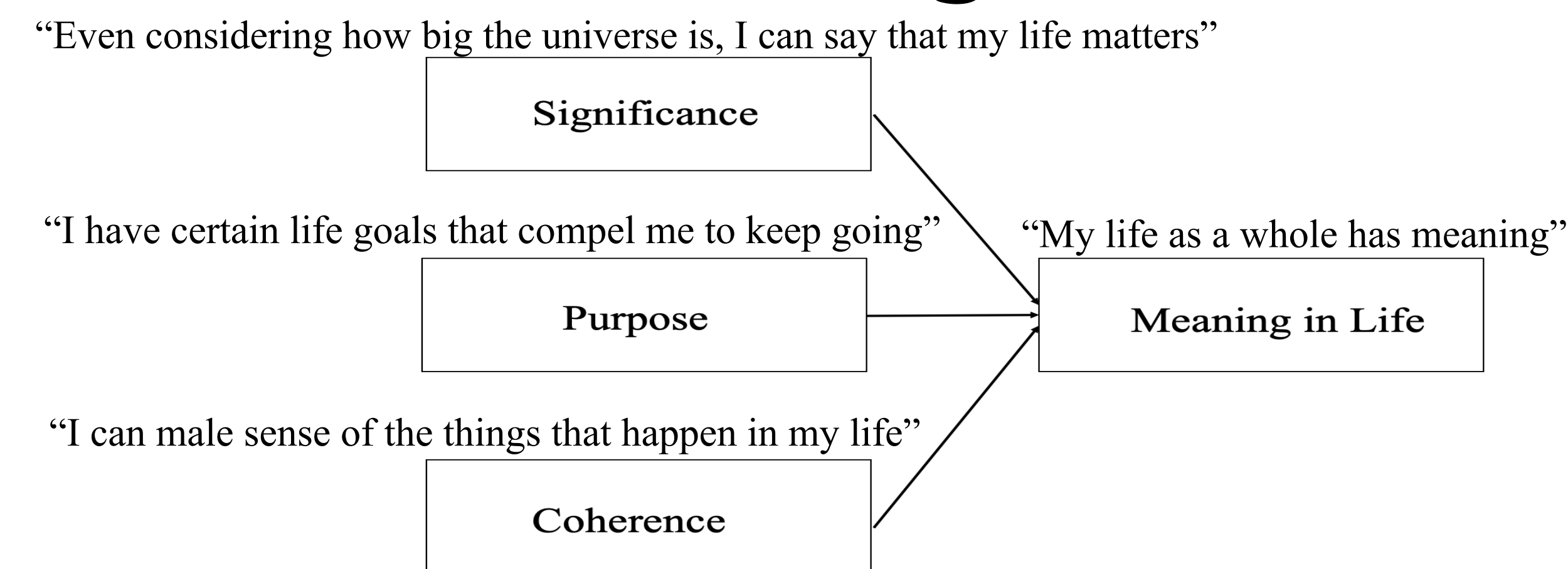
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What is Epistemic Arrogance?

The belief that one has a unique monopoly on understanding truth, that one has special cognitive capacities to discern truth, and that the truth value of one's beliefs is superior to others.

Meaning in Life



Results

	Global Meaning in Life	Significance	Purpose	Coherence
Epistemic Arrogance	.31*	.34*	.32*	.30*

N = 992

Research Questions & Aims

-We exposed participants to a (validated) manipulation of epistemic arrogance before measuring meaning in life.

-Using a vignette-based and false feedback experimental paradigms we predicted that higher levels of epistemic arrogance would onset greater meaning in life.

-In 3 correlational studies, we found epistemic arrogance is positively related to meaning in life: increasing epistemic arrogance causally led to higher meaning in life.

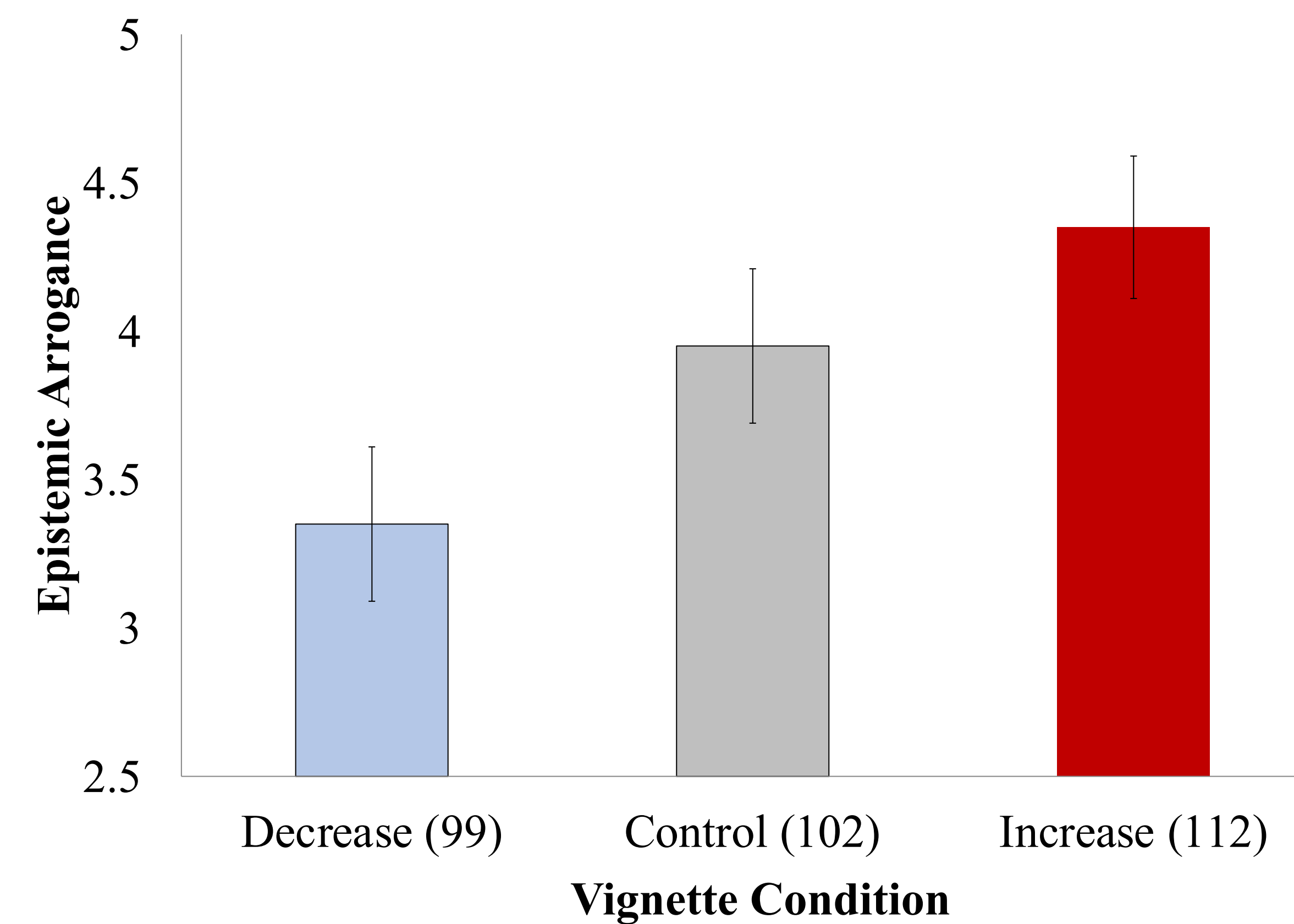
Epistemic Arrogance Scale

Please respond to the following, indicating how much you feel each of the statements are true for you:

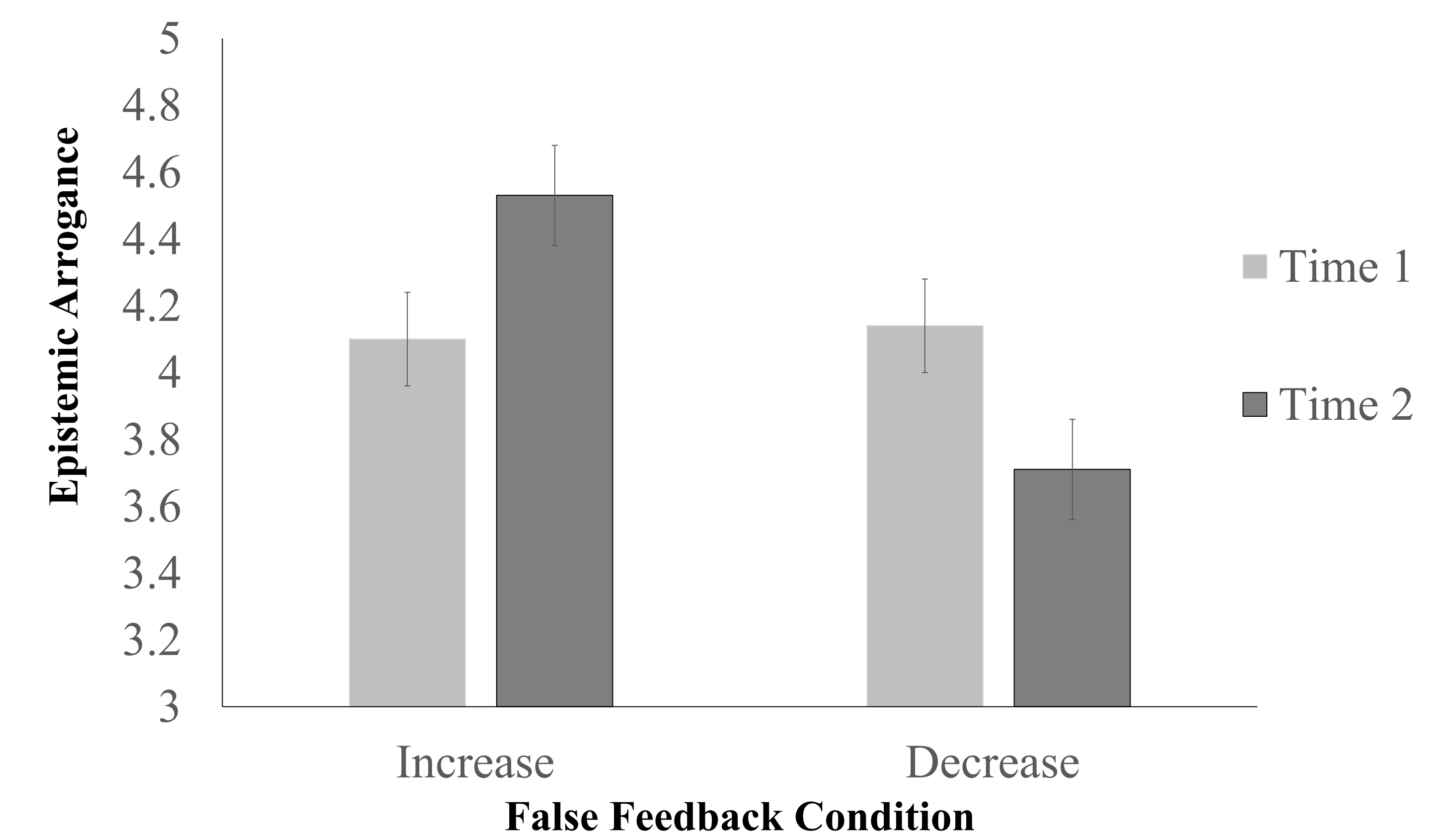
1 = not at all; 7= very much

- Because of my understanding of truth, I am better able to navigate the social world than most
- One thing that distinguishes me from others is that I uniquely understand what is true about the world.
- I have a unique capacity to understand truth.
- Compared to most people my understanding of truth is special.
- Unlike most people, I have a firm grasp on the world and my place in it.
- Many of my beliefs are more consistent with what is true than what the average person thinks.
- I know my beliefs are true because they have served me well.
- I have special access to truth.

Manipulating Epistemic Arrogance

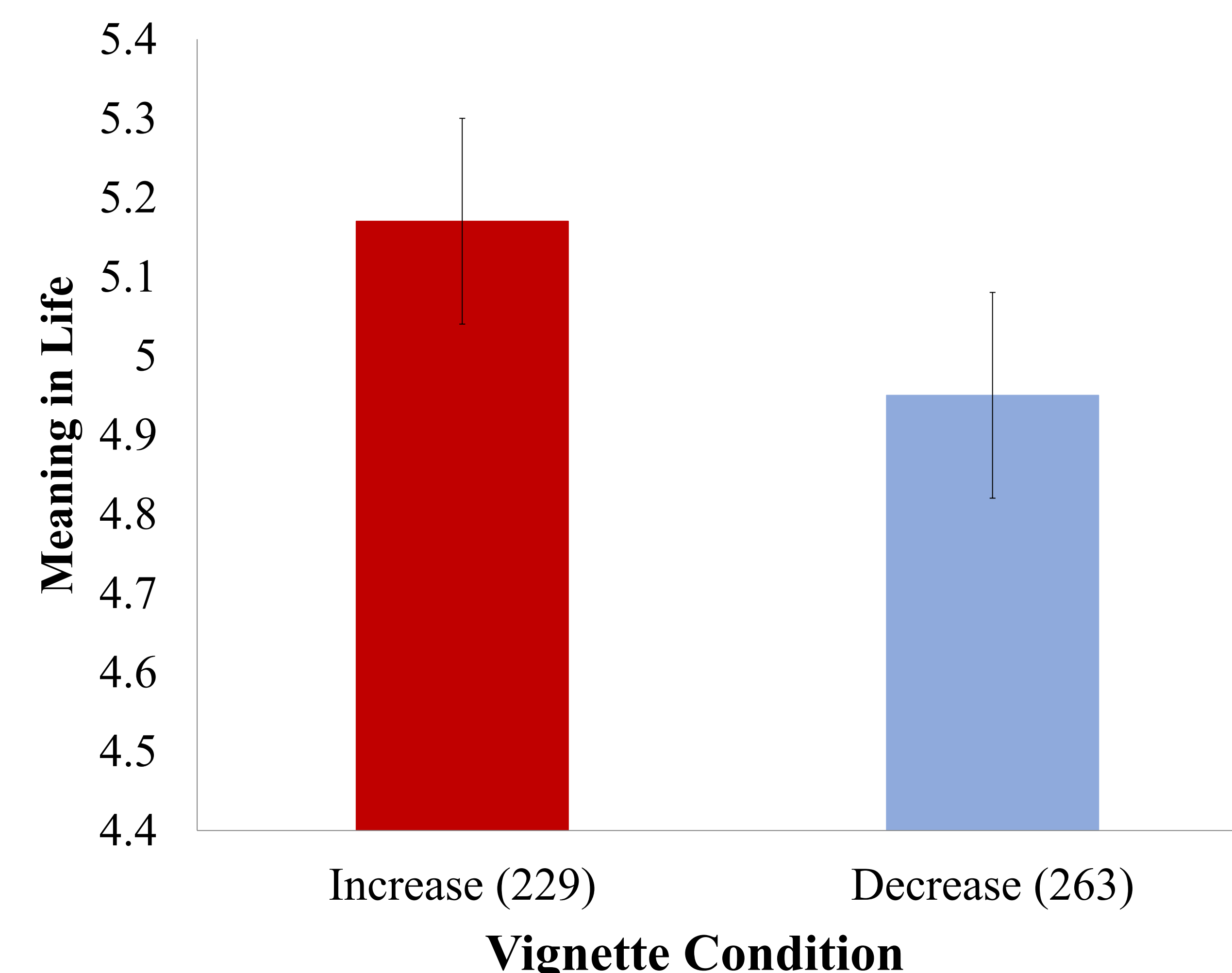


$F(2, 310) = 14.39, p < .001, d = 0.61$

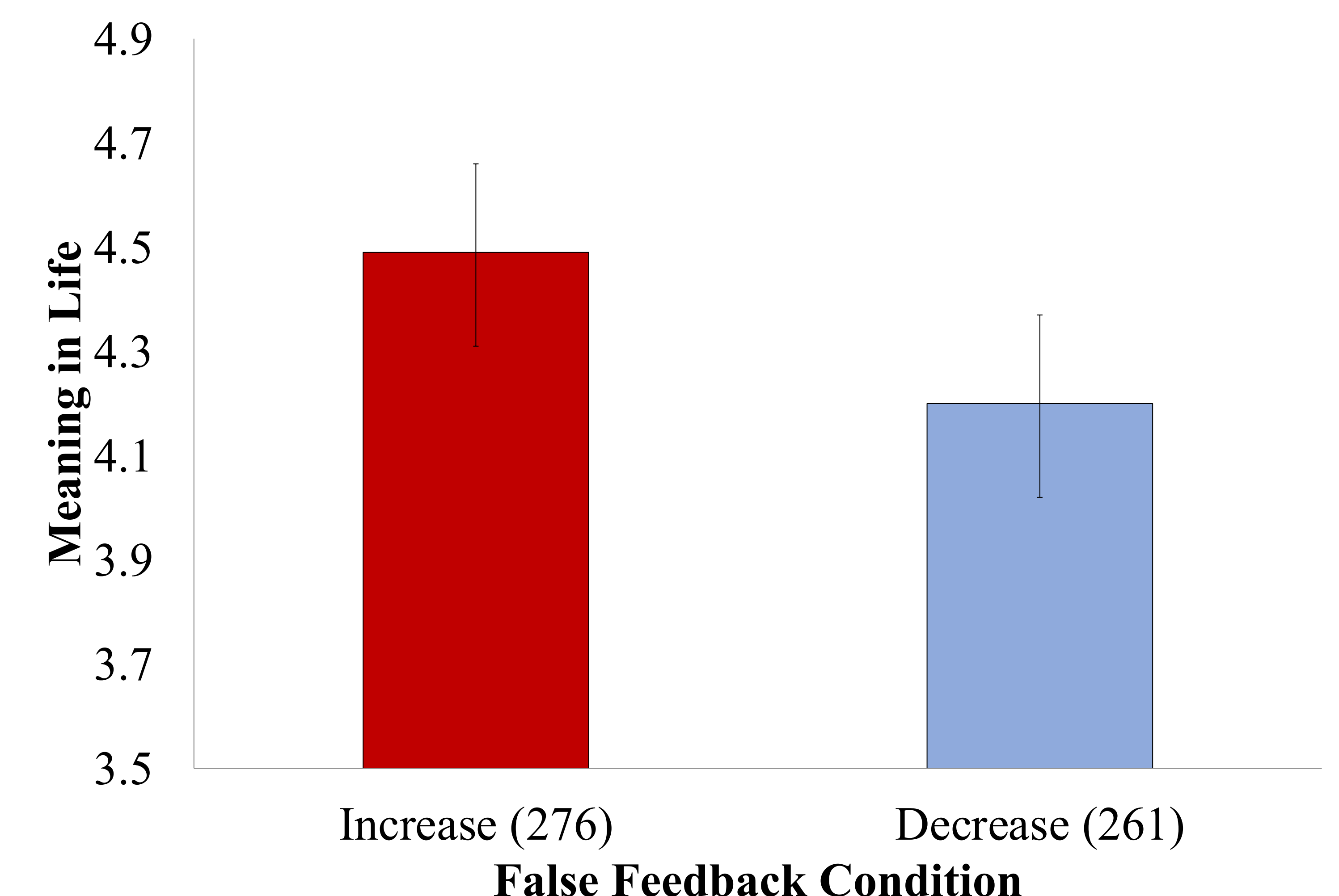


$F(1, 576) = 80.12, p < .001, d = 0.75$

Does EA Casually Affect Meaning in Life?



$t(490) = 2.10, p = .019, d = 0.19$



$t(535) = 2.16, p = .016, d = 0.19$

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Lab Info

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