

## **The Mediating Role of Culture, Gender and Experience on the Nonverbal Immediacy Behaviour in the Indian Context**

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### **Abstract**

*The present study explores the influence of culture, gender and experience on the nonverbal communication behavior in an Indian context. The results indicate that Indians often, use more multimodal style of communication- primarily nonverbal methods to relay information in conversations using eye movement, spacing, facial expressions, tone of voice, and other nonverbal cues. Generally, they are seen as high on nonverbal immediacy behavior, but, at times, they do reveal, some kind of withdrawal symptoms like leaning away from the person or their bodies become tense - they would avoid gesturing and not look directly at the person. The Indian women, when compared with men in India, tend to be more emotive, they smile considerably more, maintain eye contact more and gesture more where as men use more expansive gestures. The study did not show major difference in the nonverbal behavior of people with experience and non-experience background.*

**Keywords:** Nonverbal communication, High-context culture, Proxemics, Gender, Eye contact, High power distancing.

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