Hypothesis 1: We predicted that communication between emerging adults and their family members will be less frequent overall.

- **Hypothesis 1A**: Emerging adults will communicate more frequently using face-to-face communication methods with friends/romantic partners than with family members.
- **Hypothesis 1B**: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently with close others’ than males will.
- **Hypothesis 1C**: Emerging adults’ communication with their friends and romantic partners will increase over the course of three years.

Hypothesis 2: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently with close others’ than males will.

- **Hypothesis 2A**: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently using face-to-face interactions than male emerging adults will.
- **Hypothesis 2B**: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently with family members than male emerging adults will.
- **Hypothesis 2C**: Emerging adults will communicate more frequently with close others’ less frequently than female emerging adults during the course of three years.

Hypothesis 3: Emerging adults will communicate more frequently over the course of 3 years.

- **Hypothesis 3A**: Emerging adults will have an increase in texting and phone calls to communicate over the course of three years.
- **Hypothesis 3B**: Emerging adults will communicate less frequently with family members over the course of three years.
- **Hypothesis 3C**: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently over the course of three years than male emerging adults.

**Introduction**

**Method**

**Participants**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>250 participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean age</td>
<td>18.49 (SD=0.49)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity</td>
<td>EA: 87.6% AA: 6.0% Other: 1.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marital Status</td>
<td>Married: 72.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean Family Income</td>
<td>$84,000-$99,999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distance from family</td>
<td>More than 30 minutes away: 84.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Hypotheses**

- **Hypothesis 3**: Hypothesis 3C: Female emerging adults will communicate more frequently over the course of three years than male emerging adults.

**Discussion**

- **Hypothesis 1 – Partially Supported**: Emerging adults communicated more frequently with friends and romantic partners in person, but there was no significant difference in frequency of communication between emerging adults and their family members over the course of three years.
- **Hypothesis 2 – Not Supported**: Male emerging adults communicate with close others more frequently than females do.
- **Hypothesis 3 – Partially Supported**: Emerging adults communicate less frequently with family members than friends or romantic partners over the course of three years, but this is not affected by gender.

**Limitations/Future Directions**: The present study examined predominantly White, middle class sample. Future studies should examine more diverse populations to increase generalizability of these findings.

**References**


