



**What in the fetching heck is a moun[ʔə]n:
Replication study of Eddington & Savage (2012)
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In Utah English there is a stigma of “t-dropping” by locals, particularly in words that contain a /t/ preceding a syllabic nasal (i.e. “kitten” and “mountain”). However, literature reports that this phenomenon is common to colloquial American English and is observed in other parts of The United States. Given this, it is uncertain as to what it is that distinguishes t-dropping in Utah apart from t-dropping in other states to generate the stigma. Eddington and Savage (2012) suggested the stigma may be a result of Utahn productions involving /t/ deletion, it was hypothesized that glottal pronunciations followed by an oral release, rather than a nasal release, may be a more likely contributor to the stigma. Eddington and Savage (2012) sought to document the pronunciation (or deletion) of /t/ in words to determine whether the pronunciations involved an oral or nasal release, with additional exploration of how age, gender, and proportion of life spent in Utah affected this realization of /t/. The data indicated that Utahns produced more words containing /t/ with oral glottalization, occurring more often with young women who had lived greater proportions of their lives in Utah. Furthermore, there was a relatively low proportion of instances in which words containing /t/ deletion were produced. The present study was interested in determining whether these findings would be robust under replicated methodology. Support was found for the findings reported in Eddington and Savage (2012), suggesting that the t-dropping stigma may be a misperception as there were no instances of /t/ deletion with a plethora of participant productions containing both nasal and oral releases of glottal stops.

References

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