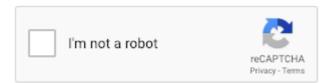
Captcha

Please confirm that you are human.



Consent

Who is organising this study?

The study is organised by the School of Psychology at the University of Kent. The researchers are Scott Claessens and Jim Everett.

What will I need to do?

Participation in this study involves reading some brief descriptions of moral scenarios and answering some questions about your views. Please use a desktop computer, laptop, or tablet to complete the survey.

Is the study likely to cause any discomfort or anxiety?

We expect the survey to cause no greater harm than would typically be experienced in everyday life. We will not ask you about subjects that are likely to be sensitive (e.g., negative memories, sexual preferences).

What happens if I wish to end the study early?

You are free to leave the study at any point for any reason. No negative consequences or penalties will be incurred.

Are my responses anonymous?

All responses are fully anonymous and your answers are strictly confidential. No details will be disclosed from which your identity could be traced back.

What happens to the information I provide?

Information generated from this study may be published. In this case, only broad trends will be reported. A summary of the results will be available from the researchers on request. Your responses (fully anonymous) will be used by the research team, and may be shared with other researchers, or made available in an online data repository.

Contacts for further information

If you have any questions about the research or survey, please feel free to contact the researchers at:

Scott Claessens (S.Claessens@kent.ac.uk)

Jim Everett (j.a.c.everett@kent.ac.uk)

If you would like to withdraw your data from the study, please contact the researchers with 48 hours of your participation. Please note that once your data have been anonymised for analysis, it cannot be withdrawn.

If you have any serious concerns about the ethical conduct of this study, please inform the Chair of the Psychology Research Ethics Panel (psychethics@kent.ac.uk) in writing, providing a detailed account of your concern.

Please read the following statements and, if you agree, click "Yes I agree" below.

- I have read and understand the information above.
- I am at least 18 years old.
- I understand that my participation is voluntary and that I am free to withdraw at any time without giving any reason.
- I understand that my data will be treated confidentially and any publication resulting from this work will report only data that does not identify me. My anonymised responses, however, may be shared with other researchers or be made available in online data repositories.
- I freely decide to take part in this study.

08/07/2025, 10:01	Qualtrics Survey Software
O Yes, I agree. Take me to the study.	
○ No, I do not agree.	
Country	
Which country do you currently live in?	
O United Kingdom	
Other	
Age	
How old are you?	
Gender	
How do you describe yourself?	
O Male	
Female	
Non-binary / third gender	

Attention1

Prefer not to say

In studies like ours, there are sometimes a few people who do not carefully read the questions they are asked and just "quickly click through the survey." These random answers are problematic because they compromise the results of the studies. It is very important that you pay attention and read each question. In order to show that you read our questions carefully (and regardless of your own opinion), please answer "TikTok" in the question on the next page.

Prefer to self-describe

When an important event is happening or is about to happen, many people try to get informed about the development of the situation. In such situations, where do you get your information from?

Attention2

Other

Within the last 6 months, have you invented a new cryptocurrency that has surpassed Bitcoin in market value?

O Yes

O No

Introduction

Welcome to the study!

In life, there can be difficult situations that require people to make moral decisions. To make these decisions, we often turn to external experts for help.

Artificial Moral Advisors draw on the latest advancements in artificial intelligence to provide recommendations in difficult moral cases. These systems employ advanced statistical and machine learning techniques to engage in human-level moral reasoning and ethical problem solving.

In this study, you will be presented with two different moral situations. For each moral situation, you will see what an **Artificial Moral Advisor** decides is the morally correct decision.

Please read each scenario carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

Welcome to the study!

In life, there can be difficult situations that require people to make moral decisions. To make these decisions, we often turn to external experts for help.

Moral Advisors draw on their extensive ethical and philosophical training to provide recommendations in difficult moral cases.

In this study, you will be presented with two different moral situations. For each moral situation, you will see what a **Moral Advisor** decides is the morally correct decision.

Please read each scenario carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

Bike

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

On the next pages, we will present you with a moral dilemma.

We will first ask you for your own judgement about what the right thing to do is. We will then tell you how an Artificial Moral Advisor, **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**, responded.

Please read the moral dilemma carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

On the next pages, we will present you with a moral dilemma.

We will first ask you for your own judgement about what the right thing to do is. We will then tell you how a Moral Advisor, **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**, responded.

Please read the moral dilemma carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Please read the following moral dilemma carefully.

James is an expert motorcycle rider who has gone on vacation in order to participate in Bike Week. Thousands of other motorcycle riders from across the country have come to ride in this event. As he is riding down the road in front of a large group of other riders, he sees that someone up ahead is losing control of their

bike. As he speeds up to pull alongside the unstable rider, he realizes that this person is going to crash at any second. This would certainly result in a large pile-up and several deaths as the riders behind James run over each other trying to avoid the crashed rider. James realizes that he could physically run this rider off the road and into some trees. This would cause the other rider to crash and, at his current speed, almost certainly die, but it would prevent a crash in the middle of the street and the large pile-up of riders.

Do **you** think that James should crash the rider in order to avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him?

Definitely NOT crash the rider

Definitely crash the rider

How confident are you in your decision?

1 Not at all confident



2 3



4 5



6



7 Extremely confident



<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on advancements in machine learning about moral cases, the Artificial Moral Advisor **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"James **SHOULD** crash the rider in order to avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on advancements in machine learning about moral cases, the Artificial Moral Advisor **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"James **SHOULD NOT** crash the rider and so not avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him. An important principle in ethics is that killing people is just wrong, and this duty to not kill should apply even if killing has good consequences in a specific case."

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on their extensive ethical and philosophical training, the Moral Advisor \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"James **SHOULD** crash the rider in order to avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

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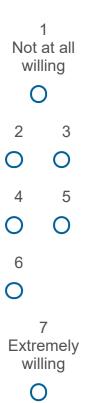
How trustworthy do you think \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} is?



How much would you **blame** someone if they followed **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**'s recommendation?

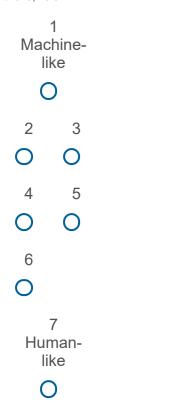
Not at all
O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O
7
Very much

Based on their advice, how **willing** would you be to trust **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** on other issues?



How surprised were you at \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}'s recommendation?

How well do each of the following words describe \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}?



<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

As a reminder, the Artificial Moral Advisor **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"James **SHOULD** crash the rider in order to avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

Having seen this recommendation, we will now ask you again what you think should be done.

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Having seen this recommendation, we will now ask you again what you think should be done.

Do **you** think that James should crash the rider in order to avoid the deaths of the other riders behind him?

Definitely NOT crash the rider

Definitely crash the rider

How confident are you in your decision?

1
Not at all confident

O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O 7

Extremely confident

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

You just read a dilemma and then saw advice from **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**. What did **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommend in this dilemma?

- O James **SHOULD** crash the rider
- O James SHOULD NOT crash the rider

Baby

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

On the next pages, we will present you with a moral dilemma.

We will first ask you for your own judgement about what the right thing to do is. We will then tell you how an Artificial Moral Advisor, \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}, responded.

Please read the moral dilemma carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

On the next pages, we will present you with a moral dilemma.

We will first ask you for your own judgement about what the right thing to do is. We will then tell you how a Moral Advisor, \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}, responded.

Please read the moral dilemma carefully and answer as honestly as you can.

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Please read the following moral dilemma carefully.

Enemy soldiers have taken over David's village. They have orders to kill all remaining civilians over the age of two. David and some of his townspeople have sought refuge in two rooms of the cellar of a large house. Outside, he hears the voices of soldiers who have come to search the house for valuables. David's baby, who is with him in the room, begins to cry loudly. David puts his hand over the baby's mouth to block the sound. If David removes his hand from the baby's mouth, its crying will summon the attention of the soldiers who will spare his baby's life, but will kill David and the others hiding in both rooms. To save himself and the others, David must keep his hand on the baby's mouth and smother the baby to death.

Do you think that David should smother his baby in order to save the townspeople?

Definitely NOT smother his baby

Definitely smother his baby

How **confident** are you in your decision?

1
Not at all confident

O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O
7
Extremely confident

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on advancements in machine learning about moral cases, the Artificial Moral Advisor **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"David **SHOULD** smother his baby in order to save the townspeople. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on advancements in machine learning about moral cases, the Artificial Moral Advisor **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"David **SHOULD NOT** smother his baby and so not save the townspeople. An important principle in ethics is that killing people is just wrong, and this duty to not kill should apply even if killing has good consequences in a specific case."

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

Drawing on their extensive ethical and philosophical training, the Moral Advisor \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} recommended the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"David **SHOULD** smother his baby in order to save the townspeople. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

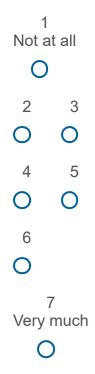
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"David **SHOULD NOT** smother his baby and so not save the townspeople. An important principle in ethics is that killing people is just wrong, and this duty to not kill should apply even if killing has good consequences in a specific case."

How trustworthy do you think \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} is?

1 Not at all trustworthy				
2	3			
0	0			
4	5			
0	0			
6				
0				
7 Extremely trustworthy				

How much would you **blame** someone if they followed **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**'s recommendation?



Based on their advice, how **willing** would you be to trust **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}** on other issues?

```
Not at all willing
O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O 7
Extremely willing
```

How **surprised** were you at **\${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}**'s recommendation?

1
Not at all surprised

O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O
7
Extremely surprised

How well do each of the following words describe \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}?

1
Machinelike
O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O
7
Humanlike

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

As a reminder, the Artificial Moral Advisor \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} recommended

the following course of action for this moral dilemma:

"David **SHOULD** smother his baby in order to save the townspeople. An important principle in ethics is to think about the greater good, and in this specific case killing the one person would bring about better consequences overall."

Having seen this recommendation, we will now ask you again what you think should be done.

<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

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Having seen this recommendation, we will now ask you again what you think should be done.

Do you think that David should smother his baby in order to save the townspeople?

Definitely NOT smother his baby

Definitely smother his baby

How **confident** are you in your decision?

Not at all confident



2 3



5



6



Extremely confident



<u>Dilemma #\${e://Field/CurrentNumber}</u>

You just read a dilemma and then saw advice from \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor}. What did \${e://Field/CurrentAdvisor} recommend in this dilemma?

O David **SHOULD** smother his baby



O David **SHOULD NOT** smother his baby

ΑI

Thank you. Please now answer the following questions about artificial intelligence (AI) tools.

How familiar are you with AI tools like ChatGPT?

1 Extremely unfamiliar



2 3



5



6



Extremely familiar



How **frequently** do you use Al tools like ChatGPT?

1 2 Never Rarely





Occasionally



Frequently



Very frequently



How trustworthy do you think Al tools like ChatGPT are?

1
Extremely untrustworthy

O
2 3
O O
4 5
O O
6
O
7
Extremely trustworthy

Demographics

Before completing the study, please answer some questions about yourself.

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- O Some primary school
- O Completed primary school
- O Some secondary school
- Completed secondary school
- Some university
- O Completed university
- O Some advanced study beyond university
- Advanced degree beyond university

Think of this ladder as representing where people stand in your country. At the top of the ladder are the people who are the best off, those who have the most money, the most education, and the most respected jobs. At the bottom are the people who are the worst off, those who have the least money, the least education, the least respected

jobs, or no job. The higher up you are on this ladder, the closer you are to the people at the very top; the lower you are, the closer you are to the people at the very bottom.

Where would you place yourself on this ladder? Please indicate the number corresponding to the position on the ladder where you think you stand at this time in your life, compared to people <u>in your country</u>.





In political matters, people talk of "the left" and "the right". Generally speaking, how would you place your views on this scale?

1 Left	2 O
3	
0	
4 Neutr	al





7 Right

How religious are you?

1 Not at all religious O 2 3

4 Somewhat religious		
5 6		
0 0		
7 Very religious		
O		

Debrief

Thank you for participating in this study.

In this project, we were interested in the perceived trustworthiness of human advisors compared to Al advisors.

Should you have any questions about the survey, do not hesitate to contact the head researcher at j.a.c.everett@kent.ac.uk. If you have any concerns about the ethical conduct of this study, please email psychethics@kent.ac.uk with a description of your concerns.

Do you have any remarks or comments about today's study?

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