Research Informed Consent

Intuitions on Social Judgments

Purpose: We are conducting a research study to examine people’s ordinary intuitions about how they make social judgments.

Procedures: Participation in this study will involve filling out a brief questionnaire.  We anticipate that your involvement will require approximately five minutes.  You will be compensated financially for participating. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate.

Risks and Benefits: You will be paid for participation through Amazon's Mechanical Turk. Further, we hope that our results will add to scientific knowledge about people’s ordinary causal intuitions.

Confidentiality: All of your responses will be anonymous. Only the researchers involved in this study and those responsible for research oversight will have access to the information you provide.

Voluntary Participation: Participation in this study is completely voluntary.  You are free to decline to participate, to end participation at any time for any reason, or to refuse to answer any individual question without penalty.

Questions: If you have any questions about this study, you may contact the investigator, Joshua Knobe at joshua.knobe@yale.edu. If you would like to talk with someone other than the researchers to discuss problems or concerns, to discuss situations in the event that a member of the research team is not available, or to discuss your rights as a research participant, you may contact the Yale University Human Subjects Committee, Box 208252, New Haven, CT  06520-8252, 203-436-3650, human.subjects@yale.edu. Additional information is available at http://www.yale.edu/hsc/Subject/subjectsrights.htm

Do you voluntarily consent to participate in this study?

* Yes
* No

Please carefully read the following story. You will be asked some questions about it at the end of the study.

Maria is the mother of three children who all really love her. In fact, they couldn’t imagine having a better mom. Maria usually stays pretty busy taking care of her children. She often finds herself rushing from one birthday party to the next, visiting friends important to her children.

Almost every single day Maria is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that she would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Maria thinks about her life, she always comes to the same conclusion: she is highly satisfied with the way she lives.

The reason Maria feels this way is that while Maria has been preoccupied with her children, she still makes an effort to be nice and spend time with her old friends. Almost every night she ends up helping her children or planning something for her children’s future.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Maria feels.

Based on what you know about Maria, please tell us how you think Maria feels by choosing one of the images below.

* Image:Female 1002
* Image:Female 1018
* Image:Female 1034
* Image:Female 1050
* Image:Female 1066
* Image:Female 1082
* Image:Female 1098

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Maria is happy.

* Completely disagree

* In between

* Completely agree

Please summarize the life of the person you read about. You only need to write a sentence or two — we just want to make sure you read carefully.

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Maria wants to live the life of a celebrity in L.A. In fact, she has even started trying to date a few famous people. Maria usually works hard to become popular. She often finds herself rushing from one social gathering to the next and is always going to pick up some alcohol or a dress.

Almost every single day Maria is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that she would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Maria thinks about her life, she always comes to the same conclusion: she is highly satisfied with the way she lives.

The reason Maria feels this way is that Maria is so preoccupied with becoming popular that she is no longer concerned with being honest or nice to her old friends unless they know someone famous. Almost every night she ends up drinking or partying with famous people she wants to be like.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Maria feels.

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Please carefully read the following story. You will be asked some questions about it at the end of the study.

After going to nursing school for several years, Sarah got a job at the children’s hospital and sees many different children each day. This is the job she has always wanted.

Almost every single day Sarah is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that she would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Sarah thinks about her life, she always comes to the same conclusion: she is highly satisfied with the way she lives.

The reason Sarah feels this way is that she stays incredibly busy all day helping the many sick children who depend on her for their medication. She often wonders whether she will be able to help all of them. Every day she carefully measures how much medicine she will give each child, and then watches to make sure the child swallows it. Sarah doesn’t really know how many children have been helped by her, but she thinks about it when she falls asleep at night.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Sarah feels.

Based on what you know about Sarah, please tell us how you think Sarah feels by choosing one of the images below.

* Image:Female 2002
* Image:Female 2018
* Image:Female 2034
* Image:Female 2050
* Image:Female 2066
* Image:Female 2082
* Image:Female 2098

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Sarah is happy.

* Completely disagree

* In between

* Completely agree

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* Image:Female 2066
* Image:Female 2082
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Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Sarah is happy.

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After going to nursing school for several years, Sarah got a job at the children’s hospital and sees many different children each day. This is the job she has always wanted.

Almost every single day Sarah is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that she would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Sarah thinks about her life, she always comes to the same conclusion: she is highly satisfied with the way she lives.

The reason Sarah feels this way is that she stays incredibly busy all day poisoning the many sick children who depend on her for their medication. She often wonders whether she will be able to poison all of them. Every day she carefully measures how much poison she will give each child, and then watches to make sure the child swallows it. Sarah doesn’t really know how many children have been killed by her, but she thinks about it when she falls asleep at night.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Sarah feels.

Based on what you know about Sarah, please tell us how you think Sarah feels by choosing one of the images below.

* Image:Female 2002
* Image:Female 2018
* Image:Female 2034
* Image:Female 2050
* Image:Female 2066
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Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Sarah is happy.

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We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Sarah feels.

Please choose the image of Sarah that best represents how you think Sarah feels.

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* Image:Female 2018
* Image:Female 2034
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Please summarize the life of the person you read about. You only need to write a sentence or two — we just want to make sure you read carefully.

Please carefully read the following story. You will be asked some questions about it at the end of the study.

Tom is a janitor at a local community college. His job is very busy, but he meets many different people attending the college.

Almost every single day Tom is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that he would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Tom thinks about his life, he always comes to the same conclusion: he is highly satisfied with the way he lives.

The reason Tom feels this way is that every day Tom takes the autistic and handicapped students from class to class and talks with them about how they are doing and whether they are experiencing any problems. Tom always wonders whether he could be doing more to help these students get through their day without struggling, and to fit in with their peers. Occasionally, Tom hears stories about how hard it is for these students, who end up getting bullied or having to leave the college.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Tom feels.

Based on what you know about Tom, please tell us how you think Tom feels by choosing one of the images below.

* Image:New guy1002
* Image:New guy1018
* Image:New guy1034
* Image:New guy1050
* Image:New guy1066
* Image:New guy1082
* Image:New guy1098

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Tom is happy.

* Completely disagree

* In between

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The reason Tom feels this way is that every day after school Tom goes from locker to locker and steals belongings from the students and re-sells these belongings to buy himself alcohol. He occasionally puts stolen items in black students’ lockers so that they're blamed for the thefts. Tom always wonders whether he could be stealing more. Occasionally, Tom hears stories about how hard it is for these students, who end up getting bullied or having to leave the college.

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Please carefully read the following story. You will be asked some questions about it at the end of the study.

Garrett is a forty-five year old man who lives in the suburbs of Atlanta.

Almost every single day Garrett is in a great mood and generally experiences a lot of pleasant emotions. In fact, it is very rare that he would ever experience negative emotions like sadness or loneliness. When Garrett thinks about his life, he always comes to the same conclusion: he is highly satisfied with the way he lives.

The reason Garret feels this way is that a few years ago, his niece moved in with him after her parents passed away. Almost every night, she asks him to read long books to her late at night so that she can fall asleep. Garrett always wonders if he could be doing more and debates what kind of effect his actions will have on his niece's life. Often, they also talk about what she did that day and the feelings she's had since her parents died.

We are interested in knowing your own thoughts about how Garrett feels.

Based on what you know about Garrett, please tell us how you think Garrett feels by choosing one of the images below.

* Image:Guy3002
* Image:Guy3018
* Image:Guy3034
* Image:Guy3050
* Image:Guy3066
* Image:Guy3082
* Image:Guy3098

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: Garrett is happy.

* Completely disagree

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The reason Garret feels this way is that a few years ago, his niece moved in with him after her parents passed away. Almost every night, he pressures her to have sex with him late at night. Garrett always wonders what kind of effect his action will have on his niece's life, but then reminds himself that he's the only reason she's not homeless. Often, they also talk about what she did that day and the feelings she's had since her parents died.

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In this part of the experiment, we'd like you to answer a series of background questions.

Your answers to these questions are very helpful, and are for research purposes only. Remember that your responses are entirely anonymous. If you feel uncomfortable with a question in this section, you can leave the question blank.

What is your age?

What is your gender?

* Male
* Female

What is your ethnicity?

* Black / African American
* Hispanic / Latino
* Asian / Pacific Islander
* Native American / American Indian
* White / Caucasian
* Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the highest level of education completed.

* Grammar School
* High School or equivalent
* Vocational/Technical School (2 year)
* Some College
* College Graduate (4 year)
* Master's Degree (MS)
* Doctoral Degree (PhD)
* Professional Degree (MD, JD, etc.)
* Other

Think of this ladder as representing where people stand in the United States. At the top of the ladder are the people who have the most money, most education, and most respected jobs. At the bottom are the people who have the least money, least education, and 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, and the lower you are, the closer you are to the people at the very bottom. Where would you place yourself on this ladder? Please select the rung where you think you stand at this time in your life, relative to other people in the United States.

* Rung 10 (Top Rung)
* Rung 9
* Rung 8
* Rung 7
* Rung 6
* Rung 5
* Rung 4
* Rung 3
* Rung 2
* Rung 1 (Bottom Rung)

Please enter your Mturk ID in the box below

Here is your completion code: ${e://Field/random}

Please copy and paste this completion code in the box on mturk before submitting the HIT. You will not be paid if you do not have an accurate completion code.

After pasting the code, please go to the next page to complete the survey.  Thanks!