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 demographic information you provide. However, your anonymized responses may be shown to other participants.

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 and answer the question below. You will also be asked some further questions on the following page.

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.

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

* Disagree

* In between

* Agree

Please carefully read the following story and answer the question below. You will also be asked some further questions on the following page.

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.

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

* Disagree

* In between

* Agree

Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about the story you just read.

At the time the story takes place, Maria experienced a lot of pleasant emotions.

* Disagree

* In between

* Agree

At the time the story takes place, Maria rarely experienced negative motions.

* Disagree

* In between

* Agree

At the time the story takes place, Maria was highly satisfied with the way she lived.

* Disagree

* In between

* Agree

Your opinion

Please write out your best guess about what is going on in Maria’s mind without repeating any of the information in the story or the questions you just answered (i.e., don't say whether Maria experienced happiness, pleasure, negative emotions or life satisfaction). (You must write at least 175 characters -- about two sentences.)

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!