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Study 2 (#63383)

Created: 04/13/2021 07:45 PM (PT)

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1) Have any data been collected for this study already?
No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?
We will examine the interaction between reward salience (high vs. low) and prosocial motivation (high vs. low) on prosocial engagement.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
Our main DV is persistence in prosocial behavior, which will be measured by the number of keyboard button presses made during a three minute online fundraising activity.

We will also measure the following.
Extrinsic motivation, an average of two items:
[To what extent did you] want to maximize the amount of payment you received?; care about earning a bonus in this event?

Prosocial motivation (manipulation check), an average of two items:
[To what extent did you] want to increase donations to the cause?; want to help the charity?

Perceived reward salience (manipulation check):
During the event, to what extent were you focused on earning a bonus for yourself?

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
This study will have a 2 (prosocial motivation: low vs. high) x 2 (reward salience: low vs. high) between-subjects design. To manipulate prosocial motivation, we will randomly assign participants to complete an online fundraising activity for a more (vs. less) important charity. To manipulate reward salience, we will show a message that says either "You've donated" (low) or "You earned a bonus" (high) after each action. In addition, in the activity, participants will push onscreen a heart icon into open hands (low) or a coin icon into an empty wallet (high).

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
-We will conduct t-tests to examine whether our experimental manipulations affect each of the corresponding manipulation check variables.
-We will conduct a linear regression predicting a log-transformed variable representing total effort donation counts from a dummy variable representing 2 (prosocial motivation: low vs. high), a dummy variable representing 2 (reward salience: low vs. high), and their interaction.
-We will conduct a t-test to examine whether our reward salience manipulation affects extrinsic motivation.
-We will run a moderated mediation analysis using PROCESS model 14 to test whether extrinsic motivation mediates the effect.

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
We will check for duplicate IP addresses/worker IDs and exclude any duplicates. We will exclude implausible persistence counts (i.e., counts 3 standard deviations from the mean).

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.
200 per cell for a total of 800 participants

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
We will include manipulation checks, and for exploratory purposes, measure intrinsic motivation, perceived behavior morality and instrumentality, and perception of the task. We will also collect demographic measures (gender and age).