

Large-Scale Cooperation Needs Maintenance

Punishment: A powerful mechanism for discouraging selfish behavior and promoting group norms.

Durkheim (1901); Boyd & Richerson (1992); Fehr & Fischbacher (2004); Henrich (2006); Baumard (2010)

Why do we care about punishment?

Perspectives on function

- Norm expression and social cohesion (Durkheim)
- Deterrence and behavioral regulation (Cesare Beccaria [1738–1794])
- Cooperation maintenance and free-rider control (Robert Axelrod, Ernst Fehr, & Samuel Bowles)
- Status regulation and power enforcement (Weber)

