

Abdication: Reciprocity (#2999)

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1) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?

We plan to test whether abdicating resource allocation decisions to others prompts reciprocity. We hypothesize that generosity is greater among recipients (after abdication) than among initial decision makers.

We have already run two studies to test this hypothesis. In one study we observed a marginally significant effect and in the other we observed a highly significant effect. We believe that data we have already collected support our hypothesis but we don't have a good estimate of the true effect size and so want to re-run the study.

2) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.

We will measure whether participants take the higher-value gift card for themselves or give the higher-value gift card to other character.

3) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?

Participants will be assigned to one of two between-participants conditions: initial decision maker or recipient.

4) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.

We will conduct Z tests to determine whether the proportion of participants who behave generously differs between initial decision makers and recipients.

5) Any secondary analyses?

6) 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.

We will collect 350 participants from Amazon Mechanical Turk.

7) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., data exclusions, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)

We will remove from all analyses any participants who do not complete all measures or who do not complete demographic items. These participants will not be analyzed. Additionally, we will exclude from analyses any participants who fail one or more of two attention checks. These checks will include: (i) Did the flight attendant originally hand the gift cards to you or to your friend? (The flight attendant originally handed the gift cards to ME / The flight attendant originally handed the gift cards to MY FRIEND); and (ii) Which gift card did you take for yourself? (High-value gift card / Medium-value gift card).

Participants will also be asked to report demographics (gender, age, ethnicity).

8) Have any data been collected for this study already?

No, no data have been collected for this study yet