

## Abdication: Friends and Strangers (#5664)

### Author(s)

Mike Kardas (University of Chicago) - mkardas@chicagobooth.edu  
Alex Shaw (University of Chicago) - alex.w.shaw@gmail.com  
Eugene Caruso (University of Chicago) - Eugene.Caruso@chicagobooth.edu

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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 plan to test whether abdication prompts reciprocity among both friends and strangers.

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

We will measure the proportion of participants who choose selfishly versus generously.

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

Participants will be randomly assigned to one cell in a 2 (Relationship: friend, stranger) x 2 (Condition: baseline, abdication) between-participants design.

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

Across "friend" and "stranger" conditions, we will test for main effects of condition by comparing the proportion of participants who choose generously in the "baseline" and "abdication" conditions. We expect that people will choose generously more often in the abdication condition than the baseline condition.

### 6) Any secondary analyses?

Regardless of whether this main effect above is significant, we will also test for simple effects of condition (baseline versus abdication) among the "friend" and "stranger" participants separately. We may also test for main effects of relationship type (friend or stranger) on rates of generosity as well as interaction effects between relationship type (friend or stranger) and condition (baseline or abdication). Finally, we may test for simple effects of relationship type (friend or stranger) within the "baseline" and "abdication" conditions separately.

### 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.

We will recruit 551 participants from Amazon Mechanical Turk. Previous experiments suggest that about 7% of participants may fail one or more attention checks, and this sample size allows us to target 512 participants after exclusions (about 128 per condition).

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

Participants will be asked to report demographics (gender, age, ethnicity). We will remove from all analyses any participants who withdraw from the study before completing study procedures. Data from these participants will not be analyzed. We will also exclude from analyses any participants who fail one or more of 3 attention and memory checks. These checks will include: (i) Did the flight attendant originally hand the gift cards to you or to the other person? (The flight attendant originally handed the gift cards to ME. / The flight attendant originally handed the gift cards to THE OTHER PERSON.); (ii) Who was the other person in the story? (The other person was my friend. / The other person was a stranger.); (iii) Which gift card did you take for yourself? (High-value gift card / Medium-value gift card).