



Behavioral Decision Making Group Colloquium Series

is pleased to present



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Cognitive, Linguistic & Psychological Sciences

Updating the Map of Moral Judgment

ABSTRACT

The literature on moral psychology has exploded in the past decade, but existing maps of the landscape are muddled. I propose a new map that organizes the pertinent concepts and phenomena and provides clearer orientation for new research and practical implications. The elements of the map are as follows: (a) a better understanding of the normative nature of moral judgments, not in terms of “foundational” classifications of norms but in terms of their cognitive representation, retrieval, and context-sensitivity; (b) distinctions between at least four kinds of normative judgments (permissibility, badness, wrongness, and blame) and delineation of the causal and social-cognitive information on which these judgments rely; (c) replacing unsubstantiated claims about the role of affect and emotion in moral judgment with a more nuanced picture of that role; and (d) an emphasis on the social nature of at least some moral judgments.

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