

BARRIERS TO JUSTICE REASONING IN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS	Robyn K. Dean
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JUSTICE REASONING: A "JUST" RESPONSE

MORAL PSYCHOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ James Rest▪ Lawrence Kohlberg▪ Daniel Kahneman▪ Jonathan Haidt

**ALL DECISION MAKERS (TACITLY)
ADDRESS SITUATIONS WITH:**

- **Personal Interest Schema (PIS)**
 - *What's in it for me and mine (in-group)?*
- **Maintaining Norms Schema (MNS)**
 - *What's my duty? What are the rules?*
- **Post-conventional Schema (PCS)**
 - *What ideals are shared? How can those shared ideals be operationalized? How can I cooperate?*

HIERARCHY: POST CONVENTIONAL

DEFINING ISSUES TEST (DIT-2)

- **The Center for the Study of Ethical Development**
 - In use since late 1970s
- **Tool designed to measure *dominant moral schemas* by activating them through ethical scenarios (5)**
 - These preferences guide thinking & decision-making

DIT-2:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Constructed of 5 ethical scenarios (macro-morality)<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 1. Judgment question▪ 2. Five- point rating of 12 questions of reasoning or <u>argumentation</u> (great to no importance)▪ 3. Ranking of top four reasoning statements▪ Extensive validity studies (44,000 internationally in the 1990s)

PERSONAL INTEREST SCHEMA FEATURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Arbitrary, compulsive cooperation▪ Self-focused▪ Advantage to self is primary▪ Survival orientation▪ Scope includes others who are known▪ In-group reciprocity

MAINTAINING NORMS SCHEMA FEATURES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Need for norms▪ Society-wide view▪ Uniform categorical application▪ Partial society-wide reciprocity▪ Duty orientation

POST-CONVENTIONAL SCHEMA FEATURES

- Appeal to an ideal
- Shareable ideals
- Primacy of moral ideal
- Full reciprocity
- Rights orientation

MEASURES OF THE DIT

- **P score**
 - The degree to which a respondent endorses items that are reflective of justice-reasoning through PCS.
- *Type indicator*
- *Utilizer score*

ASL-ENG INTERPRETER SAMPLE = 25

- 56% graduated from an ITP (2 yr.), 36% did not
- About 1/2 had 4 year degree; 1/3 had no degree
- All had certification or qualification except one
- The average years of experience as an interpreter was 14.3 years: Max = 31 and min = 3
- Average age was 49 (n = 22)

WHY THIS COHORT?

COMPARING P SCORES	
P score	Group
65.2	Moral philosophy/political science graduate students
52.2	Law students
50.2	Medical students
49.2	Practicing physicians
46.3	Staff nurses
42.3	College students in general
40.0	Adults in general
33.6	← ASL-ENG Interpreter Sample
31.8	Senior high school students

Education Level	
Grade 7 - 9	
Grade 10 - 12	
Freshman 1 st year undergrad.	
Senior 4 th year undergrad	
MS/MA degree	

Education Level	PIS (Stage 2/3)
Grade 7 - 9	35.21
Grade 10 - 12	28.25
Freshman 1 st year undergrad.	28.53
SLI Cohort	
Senior 4 th year undergrad	24.80
MS/ MA degree	21.69

Education Level	PIS (Stage 2/3)	MNS (Stage 4)
Grade 7 - 9	35.21	41.69
SLI Cohort		35.03
Grade 10 - 12	28.25	33.24
Freshman 1 st year undergrad.	28.53	33.57
SLI Cohort	26.02	
Senior 4 th year undergrad	24.80	32.40
MS/ MA degree	21.69	32.64

Education Level	PIS (Stage 2/3)	MNS (Stage 4)	PCS (Stage 5/6)
Grade 7 - 9	35.21	41.69	15.78
SLI Cohort		35.03	
Grade 10 - 12	28.25	33.24	33.13
Freshman 1 st year undergrad.	28.53	33.57	32.32
SLI Cohort	26.02		33.59
Senior 4 th year undergrad	24.80	32.40	37.84
MS/ MA degree	21.69	32.64	41.06

WHY DO SL INTERPRETERS RESPOND LIKE 'ADOLESCENTS'?

- Evidence for PIS-like reasoning in the field and in discourse
 - Criticism for the hearing person (stereotypically)
 - Ally model may implicate a need for an adversary
 - Expectations that hearing people should "know about ASL & Deaf culture/ community and interpreters"
- Evidence for MNS-like reasoning in the field and in discourse
 - "Not my Job" or "not my role" responses to engagement
 - Retrieval and report of rules when asked to justify decision
 - Use of rule-based language as in 'always and never'
- Evidence for PCS-like reasoning in the field and in discourse
 - Member of the team metaphor
 - But used often to mean "you do your job and I will do mine"
 - "It depends..."

ADVANCING ETHICAL REASONING SKILLS AND FUTURE RESEARCH

REFERENCES

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QUESTIONS?
