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

# MORAL PSYCHOLOGY

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- 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:

- Constructed of 5 ethical scenarios (macromorality)
  - 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

- 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

- Need for norms
- Society-wide view
- Uniform categorical application
- Partial society-wide reciprocity
- Duty orientation

### **POST-CONVENTIONAL SCHEMA FEATURES**

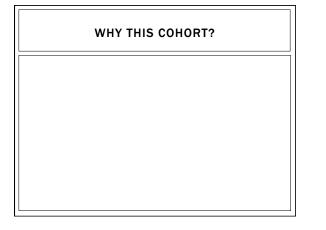
- Appeal to an ideal
- Shareable ideals
- Primacy of moral ideal
- Full reciprocity
- Rights orientation

#### **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

- $\blacksquare 56\%$  graduated from an ITP (2 yr.), 36% did not
- $\blacksquare About \frac{1}{2} had 4 year degree; 1/3 had no degree$
- 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)



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		

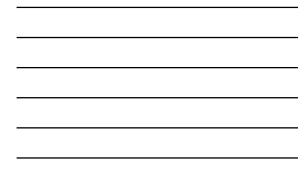
Education Level	
Grade 7 - 9	
Grade 10 - 12	
Freshman	
1 <sup>st</sup> year undergrad.	
Senior	
4 <sup>th</sup> year undergrad	
MS/ MA degree	

Education Level	PIS (Stage 2/3)
Grade 7 - 9	35.21
Grade 10 - 12	28.25
Freshman	28.53
1 <sup>st</sup> year undergrad.	
SLI Cohort	
Senior	24.80
4 <sup>th</sup> year undergrad	
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	28.53	33.57
1 <sup>st</sup> year undergrad.		
SLI Cohort	26.02	
Senior	24.80	32.40
4 <sup>th</sup> year undergrad		
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	28.53	33.57	32.32
1 <sup>st</sup> year undergrad.			
SLI Cohort	26.02		33.59
Senior	24.80	32.40	37.84
4 <sup>th</sup> year undergrad			
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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