

Self-Knowledge and Other Knowledge of Moral Behaviors

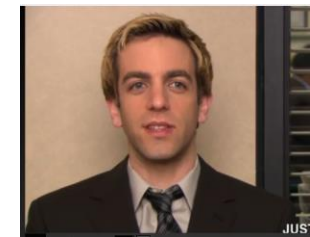
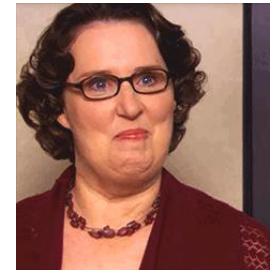
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How accurate are
people's self-
perceptions of
moral behaviors?



How accurate are
close others'
perceptions of moral
behaviors?







**What if we could
eavesdrop on people
as they go about their
daily lives?**

How can we eavesdrop on people?

Electronically Activated Recorder (EAR)



- Digital audio recorder
- Samples ambient sounds
- Worn for a weekend or few days
- ~100 sound bites per day



- Trained research assistants listen & code for behaviors



Showing sympathy,
empathy, concern



What everyday moral behaviors can be heard on the EAR? **Several positive behaviors.**



"Thank you so much! I really appreciate it. You helped me a lot!"



Showing gratitude

"You're learning a lot. You are doing great!"



Offering praise, making compliments

"I don't know why she did such hurtful things to you."



Showing sympathy, empathy, concern

"Can I carry that for you?"



Offering help, support

What everyday moral behaviors can be heard on the EAR? **And several negative behaviors.**



"How did you get so retarded? Oh, yes. I know what it means."



Being condescending or arrogant

"You make it so difficult!"



Complaining or whining

"I came to see you and you were gone! You made me wait an hour!"



Blaming

"Then get off your butt and fix them lunch."



Offering help, support

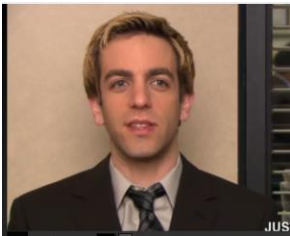
Self-views (target)



Electronically Activated Recorder



Peer-views of target



Self-views (target)



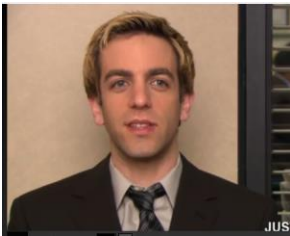
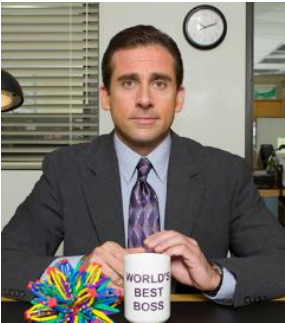
Electronically Activated Recorder



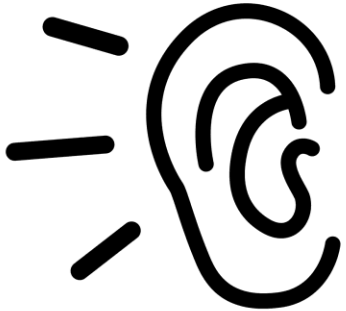
Self-views (target)



Peer-views of target



Electronically Activated Recorder



How accurate are people's self-perceptions of moral behaviors?

| EAR Behavior | Study 1 | | Study 2 | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| | <i>r</i> | 95% CI | <i>r</i> | 95% CI |
| expressed thanks or gratitude | | | | |
| complimented or praised | | | | |
| expressed sympathy, empathy, or concern | | | | |
| offered favors, help, or support | | | | |
| apologized | | | | |
| expressed hope or optimism | | | | |
| spoke sarcastically | | | | |
| bragged | | | | |
| acted condescending | | | | |
| complained or whined | | | | |
| criticized people (present or not) | | | | |
| blamed someone or something | | | | |
| expressed pessimism | | | | |

How accurate are people's self-perceptions of moral behaviors?

| EAR Behavior | Study 1 | | Study 2 | |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | <i>r</i> | 95% CI | <i>r</i> | 95% CI |
| expressed thanks or gratitude | .14 | [-.03, .30] | .10 | [-.01, .22] |
| complimented or praised | -.01 | [-.19, .16] | .11 | [-.01, .22] |
| expressed sympathy, empathy, or concern | .04 | [-.13, .21] | -.01 | [-.12, .11] |
| offered favors, help, or support | .06 | [-.11, .23] | .13* | [.02, .25] |
| apologized | .10 | [-.06, .26] | .21* | [.10, .32] |
| expressed hope or optimism | .03 | [-.13, .18] | .09 | [-.03, .20] |
| spoke sarcastically | .06 | [-.10, .22] | .22* | [.11, .33] |
| bragged | .09 | [-.07, .26] | .02 | [-.10, .13] |
| acted condescending | .20* | [.03, .38] | .12* | [.00, .23] |
| complained or whined | .08 | [-.09, .24] | .07 | [-.04, .19] |
| criticized people (present or not) | .06 | [-.12, .23] | .11 | [-.00, .23] |
| blamed someone or something | -.14 | [-.38, .10] | .08 | [-.03, .20] |
| expressed pessimism | -.01 | [-.23, .22] | -.03 | [-.14, .09] |

How accurate are close others' perceptions of moral behaviors?

| EAR Behavior | Study 1 | |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| | <i>r</i> | 95% CI |
| expressed thanks or gratitude | | |
| complimented or praised | | |
| expressed sympathy, empathy, or concern | | |
| offered favors, help, or support | | |
| apologized | | |
| expressed hope or optimism | | |
| spoke sarcastically | | |
| bragged | | |
| acted condescending | | |
| complained or whined | | |
| criticized people (present or not) | | |
| blamed someone or something | | |
| expressed pessimism | | |

How accurate are close others' perceptions of moral behaviors?

| EAR Behavior | Study 1 | |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| | <i>r</i> | 95% CI |
| expressed thanks or gratitude | .08 | [-.09, .26] |
| complimented or praised | -.01 | [-.18, .17] |
| expressed sympathy, empathy, or concern | .15 | [-.03, .32] |
| offered favors, help, or support | .19* | [.01, .37] |
| apologized | .10 | [-.08, .28] |
| expressed hope or optimism | .05 | [-.13, .23] |
| spoke sarcastically | .10 | [-.07, .28] |
| bragged | .24* | [.06, .42] |
| acted condescending | .24* | [.07, .41] |
| complained or whined | .28* | [.12, .45] |
| criticized people (present or not) | .29* | [.12, .45] |
| blamed someone or something | .08 | [-.17, .33] |
| expressed pessimism | .04 | [-.19, .28] |

How accurate are people's self-perceptions of moral behaviors?



Average correlations: **.05 to .09**

Strongest evidence for: **acted condescending**

Some evidence for: **offered favors, help, or support**
apologized
spoke sarcastically

How accurate are close others' perceptions of moral behaviors?



Average correlation: **.15**

Evidence for: **offered favors, help, or support**
bragged
acted condescending
complained or whined
criticized people

Thanks!