

Single by Toby Keithfrom the album Toby KeithB-side"Under the Fall"B-sideFebruary 28, 1994GenreCountryLength3:26LabelPolyGram/Mercury 858290Songwriter(s)Toby KeithProducer(s)Nelson Larkin and Harold Shedd

THEORY OF MIND



Primate Social Behavior 10 March 2020

SOCIAL COGNITION

- Knowledge of others
- Knowledge of others' relationships
- Knowledge of others' minds

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THEORY OF MIND (ToM)

- Ability to attribute mental states (intentions, desires, knowledge, belief) to others
- AKA: perspective-taking, mind reading, mentalizing

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Why is it important or interesting?

THEORY OF MIND (ToM)

- Central to many human capacities (e.g., language, teaching, altruism)
- May explain many cognitive differences between humans and nonhumans
- Poor ToM is widespread in humans; causes variety of problems

Count the number of mental state attributions in this conversation

TODAY'S OUTLINE

- Others' intention
- Others' knowledge/ignorance
- Others' false belief

UNWILLING VS UNABLE

- Two ways to not give a capuchin a raisin
 - Unwilling: experimenter holds out raisin, then pulls it away
 - Unable: experiments holds out raisin, then second experimenters steals it

Phillips et al. 2009

Unwilling vs. unable in capuchin monkeys 941



Figure 2 A depiction of unwilling (left) versus unable (right) test events in Experiment 2.

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How long will capuchin stick around?

Phillips et al. 2009

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Figure 3 Mean amount of time (± standard error) monkeys remained inside the testing box during Experiment 2.



MONKEYS REJECT UNEQUAL PAY?

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Figure 1 Mean percentage \pm s.e.m. of failures to exchange for females across the four test types. Black bars (RR) represent the proportion of non-exchanges due to refusals to accept the reward; white bars (NT) represent those due to refusals to return the token. s.e.m. is for combined non-exchanges. Lines indicate significant differences between conditions (Tukey's multiple comparisons). ET, equality test; IT, inequality test; EC, effort control; FC, food control.

UNFAIR OR JUST MAD AT EXPERIMENTER?



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LEND ME A HAND?







LEND ME A HAND?















LEND ME A HAND?

- Children helped in all experimental conditions (e.g., when experimenter's hands were full, when toy had fallen into a box)
- Apes only helped in trials involving reaching

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Why?

- Apes easily understand experimenter's goal when reaching
- Inferring experimenter's intention or goal in absence of obvious signal may be more difficult

UNDERSTANDING KNOWLEDGE OF OTHERS

OFFERING MATERNAL ADVICE?

- Japanese macaque mothers could see a bunch of apple slices in two conditions:
 - Offspring knowledgable: her offspring could also see the apples
 - Offspring ignorant: her offspring could not see the apples





OFFERING MATERNAL ADVICE?

- Japanese macaque mothers could see a vet with a net in two conditions:
 - Offspring knowledgable: her offspring could also see the vet
 - Offspring ignorant: her offspring could not see the vet





OFFERING MATERNAL ADVICE?

- Mothers' behavior did not differ in two conditions
- Seem to be unable to represent the knowledge/ ignorance of another individual







BUCKET HEAD

 Do chimpanzees understand what a person with a bucket on their head can see?



FIG. 4.—*a*, The configuration for standard trials that surrounded all probe trials (see also Fig. 3 above). *b*, The configuration for baseline probe trials (A) in which subjects chose between one experimenter offering food (the experimenter on the left) and another offering a block of wood (the experimenter on the right). (Note the position of the tables that contain the opposite stimuli of what each experimenter is offering.) *c*, The stimulus configuration for blindfold probe trials (B). *d*, The stimulus configuration for bucket probe trials (B').

BUCKET HEAD

- Chimpanzees beg from a person with a bucket on their head
- But they won't beg from somebody whose back is turned



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CANYOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

 Competitive interactions may be more ecologically relevant to chimpanzees



Figure 1. General experimental set-up in experiments 1–3.

Hare et al. 2001

CANYOU SEE WHAT I SEE?

- Informed vs uninformed
- Informed vs misinformed



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CANYOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



Dominant

CANYOU SEE WHAT I SEE?



What is an explanation for these results that does not require attribution of knowledge?

KNOWING WHAT OTHERS CAN SEE

- When tested in right conditions, chimpanzees appear to understand what other can see
- May also understand of relationship between seeing and knowledge
- But results could be explained by behavioral-rules, not dependent on mental state attribution

UNDERSTANDING OTHERS' FALSE BELIEFS

FALSE BELIEF

The 'Sally-Anne Test' (a false belief test used to assess Theory of Mind)

[FOR EDUCATIONAL USE ONLY]

- Four conditions:
 - I. Visible displacement
 - 2. Invisible displacement
 - 3. Ignore Communicator
 - 4. False belief



Figure 1 Experimental setting depicting the location of the two experimenters, the participant, and the testing materials.

Chimpanzees perform worse
 than chance on False Belief
 task



Figure 6 Mean (SE) percentage of correct trials in the three modified control tests and the false belief test during the follow up phase. * p < .01.

- New eye tracking technology
- Anticipatory looking can measure apes' implicit knowledge

Familiarization Bonobo Jasongo

False-belief 1 Chimpanzee Hatsuka

• Great apes can attribute false belief!



• Great apes can attribute false belief!

How might you critique this study?

What caveats might you want to add to the authors' interpretation?

How does it compare to the Sally-Anne task?



THEORY OF MIND: SUMMARY

- Apes and monkeys can attribute intentions to other individuals
- Apes can also attribute knowledge and false belief
- Results are fragile (i.e., positive results occur under very particular conditions)
- Task demands (e.g., inhibition control) often interfere with performance
- Alternative non-mentalist accounts can explain some results

QUESTIONS?