

Why Doesn't Everyone Respond the Same Way to the Same Things?

Appendix

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Introduction

You're welcome to use Copernican Revolution activities and essays for your thesis and studies. Having information about scholarly aspects like psychometric data, activity design details, and norm calculations may help. The primary focus of my essays is connecting educated laypersons with psychology. To help people like you, with advanced academic interests, I add an appendix like this one with each activity. Just to be sure it will work for your purposes, please complete each activity yourself before using it with your students or in your classes.

When citing, please reference the activity essay:

<https://copernicanrevolution.org/behaviorism/reinforcement-vs-punishment>

A preferred citation in APA style is:

Grobman, K. H. (2014). Why Doesn't Everyone Respond the Same Way to the Same Things? CopernicanRevolution.org

Measure

This activity is based on an existing measure, the SPSRQ, which tends to call it sensitivity to reward. I chose reinforcement for clarity and tying it to lessons about behaviorism.

Torrubia, R, Avila, C., Molto, J., & Caseras, X. (2001). The sensitivity to punishment and sensitivity to reward questionnaire (SPSRQ) as a measure of Gray's anxiety and impulsivity dimensions. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 31, 837-862.

Normative Data

I worry about readers essentializing so I do not report demographic differences in my education lay person essays for self reflection unless they're at least small-to-medium and found by others. Here is the sample I collected while developing the activity

Sensitivity to Punishment	women	N	men	N
asian	58.83 ± 19.80	76	58.00 ± 18.49	38
black	53.21 ± 19.03	87	47.35 ± 18.70	22
hispanic	58.64 ± 19.18	341	50.75 ± 21.25	124
white	55.24 ± 21.76	214	41.92 ± 22.59	67
(any)	56.86 ± 20.05	736	49.25 ± 21.50	262

Of 998 students the scores for SP were 54.86 ± 20.70.

Sensitivity to Reinforcement	women	N	men	N
asian	46.50 ± 16.09	76	45.96 ± 17.18	38
black	43.50 ± 17.93	87	53.42 ± 15.41	22
hispanic	43.33 ± 15.78	341	51.46 ± 15.90	124
white	48.75 ± 17.35	214	51.13 ± 18.01	67
(any)	45.5 ± 16.73	736	50.88 ± 17.05	262

Of 998 students, the scores for SR were 46.88 ± 16.97.

Simplified Scales?

The simplified scales are a shorter selection of items on a 7-point Likert scale based on 6 studies attempting to refine and improve the SPSRQ. Normative data is not available yet. But results can be interpreted along the lines of the original scale.