

## Cross-cultural work on moral judgments: Moral intuitions of the Nunamuit Eskimo

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The goal of carrying out cross-cultural work on moral judgments is to explore the possibility that despite extensive variation in how people behave in moral situations, there may be universal principles underlying how people judge moral situations. This general goal emerges out of an analogy with language, articulated in Marc Hauser's Moral Minds (1). To date, Hauser and colleagues have developed methods to explore the psychological mechanisms underlying people's moral judgments. Specifically, by creating sets of carefully designed moral dilemmas in which pairs of cases systematically pinpoint particular distinctions concerning the causal and intentional properties of an agent's actions, we are able to assess which factors mediate our judgments of right and wrong. This methodology has provided a powerful tool for looking at the psychological basis of our moral judgments.



Distribution of Inuit People

Note: Embed images along with the 500 word project narrative. Image captions should be **brief** and will not count towards the 500 word limit.

Narrative continues (500 words max excluding title, applicant name and image captions).....

## Project Budget

Round-trip flight from Fairbanks to Anaktuvuk Pass		\$600
Snow Shoes	1 Pair	\$200
Lodging and supplies		<u>\$150</u>
<b>Total Requested from Sigma Xi</b>		<b>\$950</b>

Total Project Budget (\$5,000)

Note: Submit your project budget as a separate page in your proposal upload (just after the 500 word proposal narrative).

Budgets should clearly list items requested, number (if applicable), and cost. A total amount requested from Sigma Xi along with an estimated total project budget should be listed as well.

## Budget Justification

Note: Include a budget justification that describes how items requested will be utilized if it is not clear in the methodology section of your proposal narrative. Make certain to provide justifications if the items you request fall under the funding exceptions on the Guidelines page (under resources)

Sample Proposal Upload

## Literature Citations

- (1) Chomsky, N. (1965). Aspects of a Theory of Syntax. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. // Cushman, F.A., L. Young & M.D. Hauser (2006).
- (2) The Role of Reasoning and Intuition in Moral Judgments: Testing three principles of harm. Psychological Science, 17(12): 1082-1089. // Harman, G. (in press).
- (3) Using a Linguistic Analogy to Study Morality. In W. Sinnott-Armstrong (Ed.), Moral Psychology, Vol. 1: The Evolution of Morality. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press. // Hauser, M.D. (2006). Moral minds: How nature designed a universal sense of right and wrong. New York: Harper Collins. // Mikhail, J. (2002).
- (4) Aspects of the Theory of Moral Cognition: Investigating Intuitive Knowledge of the Prohibition of Intentional Battery and the Principle of Double Effect. Georgetown Public Law Research Paper No. 762385. Available at SSRN: <http://ssrn.com/abstract=762385>. // Petrinovich, L., O'Neill, P., Jorgensen, M.J. (1993). An empirical study of moral intuitions: Towards an evolutionary ethics. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, 64, 467-478. // Rawls, J. (1971). A Theory of Justice. Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press. // Thomson, J.J. (1985). The trolley problem. The Yale Law Journal, 94, 1395-1415.

Note: Sigma Xi does not require a specific citation format but citations should include numerical indicia that correspond to the appropriate section in the proposal narrative

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