

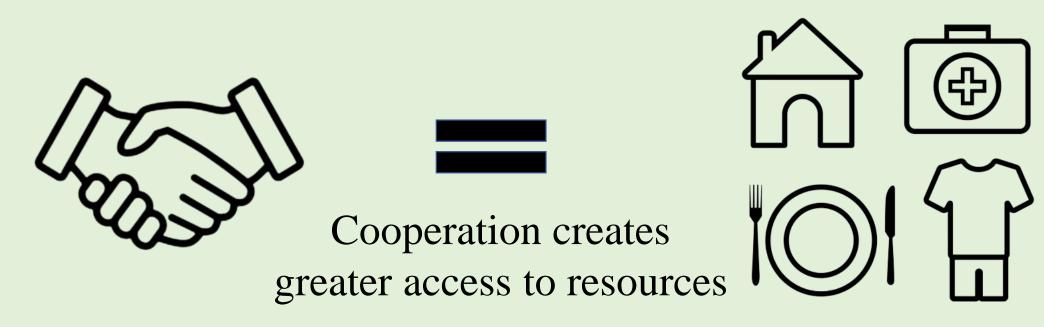
Mechanisms that promote cooperative behavior in groups

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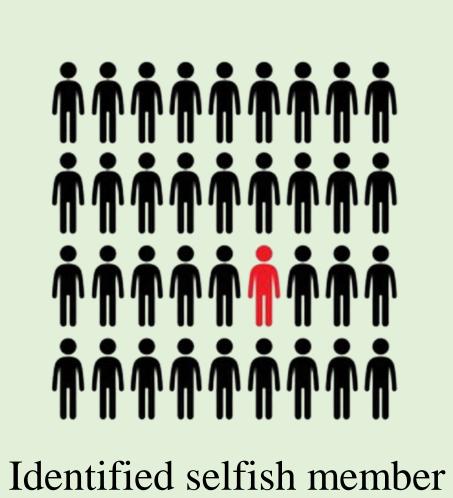


Introduction

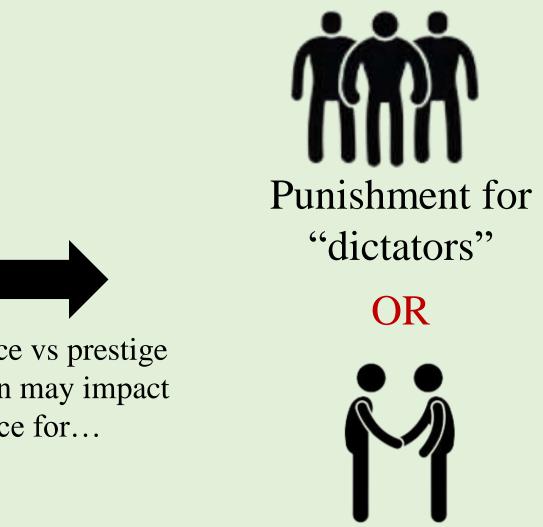
Cooperation is crucial for human success. People cooperate with close friends and family, their community, and even complete strangers

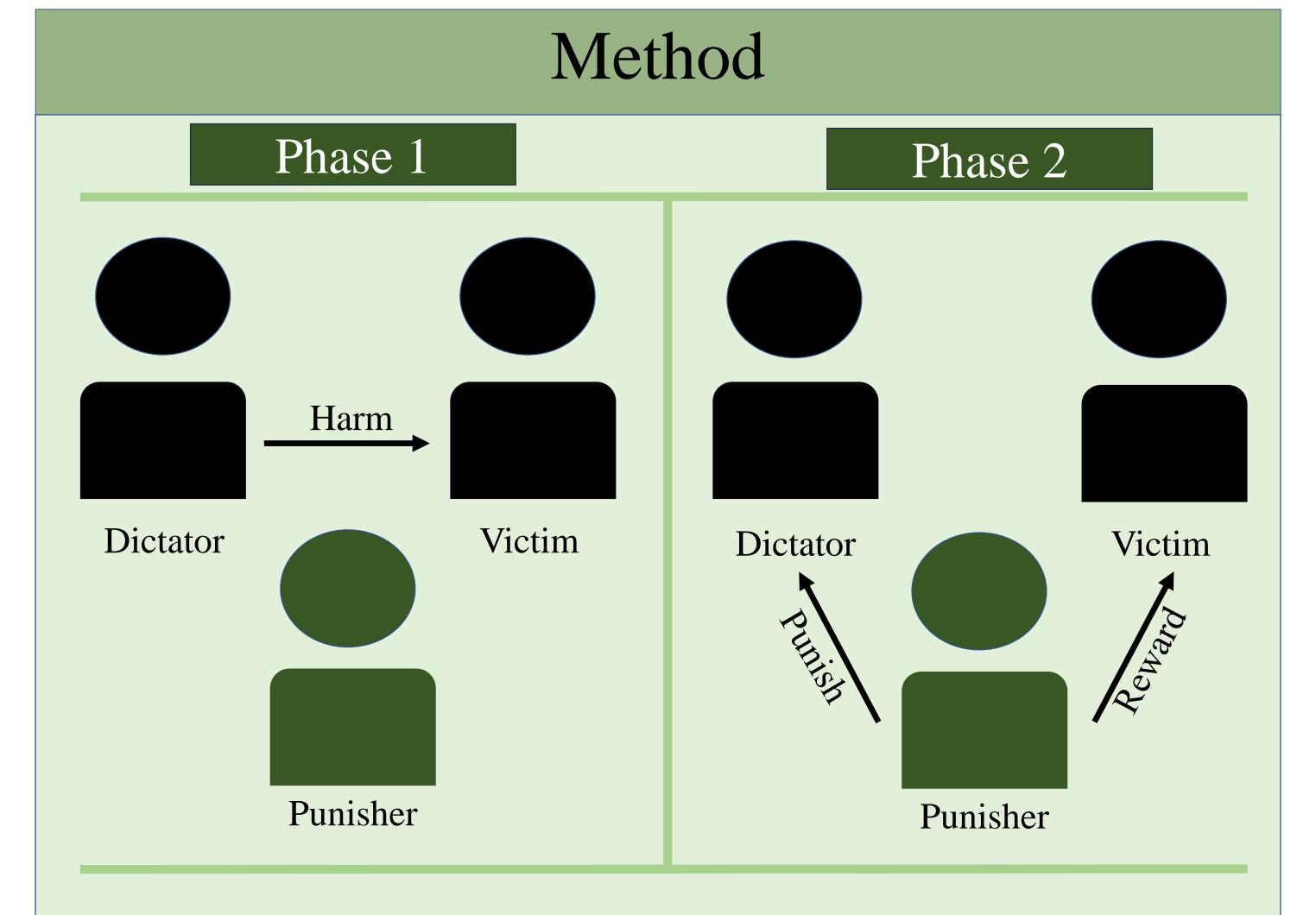


- One mechanism that promotes cooperation is punishment.
- The consequences associated with punishment include:
- Preventing future wrongdoings
- Setting a precedent of unacceptable behavior
- Another (understudied) mechanism that may increase cooperation is compensation or reward which can:
- Redeem the victim
- o Promote behavior that is favorable









- Participants completed dominance and prestige scales
- Participants learned about third-party altruistic punishment task
- Random assignment to public versus private condition





• Participants then chose punishments and/or reward decisions for other members of group

n=81

Conclusion

Punishment is one useful mechanism for increasing cooperation and deterring selfishness.

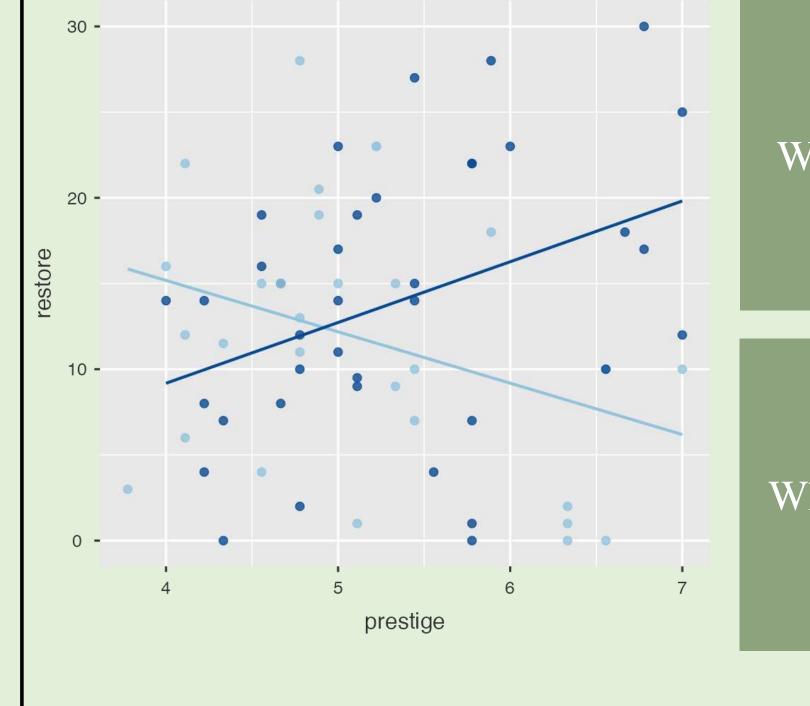
Redeeming of victim

- The current work finds evidence that compensation (of victims) is another useful tool for increasing cooperation.
- Results are tentative (data collection is still in progress) but suggest that the use of punishment and/or reward may be influenced
 - o (1) one's trait levels of dominance and prestige
 - o (2) whether decisions were made in public (when social approval is at stake) or private

Preliminary Results

Key DVs (outcomes): average punishment (to dictator) and average compensation (to victim)

Key IVs (predictors): trait dominance and prestige, in public versus **private**



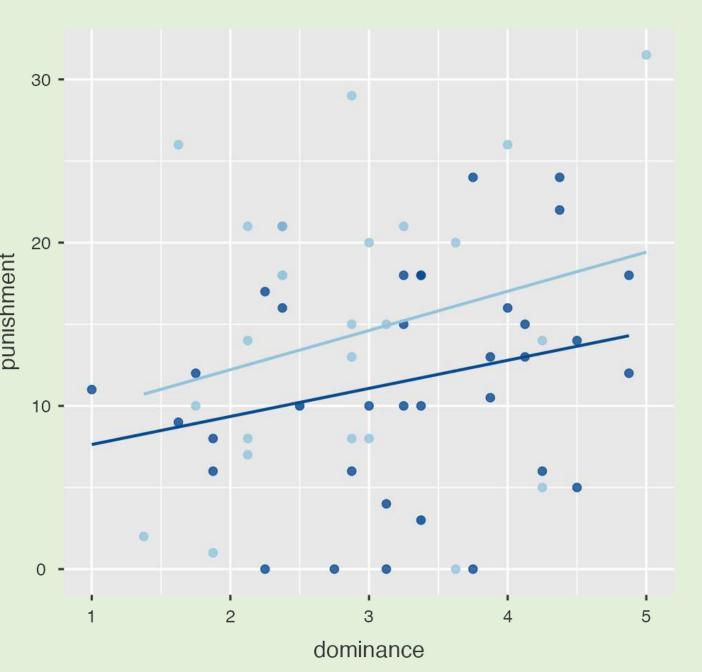
When making decisions in **public**: Those higher in prestige compensated a victim **more**

DIGITIZE

DIGITAL COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS When making decisions in **private**: Those higher in prestige compensated a victim <u>less</u>

Dominance main effect: b=-1.966, p=.048Prestige in public: b=3.260, p=.026Prestige in private: b=-3.298, p=.042

Dominance did **not** interact with condition (i.e., effect of dominance did not depend on public/private context)



Dominance (again) did **not** interact with condition (i.e., effect of dominance did not depend on public/private context)

Dominance was positively associated with punishment, regardless of condition.

Dominance main effect: b=2.030, p=.058Prestige: b=0.239, p=.845

- Prestigious individuals may only engage in costly decisions such as compensation of a victim if done publicly when social approval and reputation are at stake.
- Although the association between dominance and punishment was nonsignificant, it suggested that dominant individuals engage in costly punishment regardless of whether social approval was at stake or not.

References

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Acknowledgments

Special thanks to the Maner lab, to José Martínez for his mentorship and guidance throughout this whole project, and to all my UROP coresearchers for helping to make and execute this project.