

Moral Resistance, Reasoning in Social Contexts,
and the Coordination of Diverse Judgments

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Abstract

This presentation focuses on opposition and resistance to unfair practices, and the coordination of different types of judgments in social decision-making. Deception is one of the means commonly used by people in subordinate positions to oppose restrictions imposed on them by those in dominant positions in social hierarchies. Research on the judgments of adolescents about deception of parents, and the judgments of adults about deception in marital relationships demonstrates that the issue of honesty can be seen as in conflict with other moral considerations and with the realm of personal autonomy. Judgments from different social domains are applied in social situations in ways that result in variations in moral decisions in different social contexts.