

# Wrapping-Up



PSYCH 1101: LAST DAY!

PROF. DAVID PIZARRO  
CORNELLPSYCH.NET

No Class On Friday!

# 6 Interesting Things I Never Got A Chance To Talk About\*

\*THAT WILL BE ON THE EXAM. HOLIDAY SPIRIT AND ALL

# 1. What You Believe Changes What You Taste (Aka Don't Listen Too Much To Wine Snobs)



## 2. Blushing Is Likely An Adaptive Signal



# 2. Blushing Is Likely An Adaptive Signal

Emotion  
2013, Vol. 13, No. 2, 110–119

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## Saved by the Blush: Being Trusted Despite Defecting

Corine Dijk  
University of Groningen

Bryan Koenig and Tim Kenelaar  
New Mexico State University

Peter J. de Jong  
University of Groningen

This study examined whether blushing after a social transgression mediates trustworthiness in an interdependent context. Participants ( $N = 196$ ) played a computerized prisoner's dilemma game with a virtual opponent who defected in the second round of the game. After the defection, a photograph of the opponent was shown, displaying a blushing or a nonblushing face. In a subsequent Trust Task, the blushing opponent was entrusted with more money than the nonblushing opponent. In further support of the alleged remedial properties of the blush, participants also indicated that they trusted the blushing opponent more, expected a lower probability that she would defect again, and judged the blushing opponent more positively.

**Keywords:** blushing, signaling, trustworthiness, embarrassment, appeasement

Emotion  
2010, Vol. 10, No. 2, 207–211

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1528-3542/10/\$12.00 DOI: 10.1037/a0018981

## The Remedial Value of Blushing in the Context of Transgressions and Mishaps

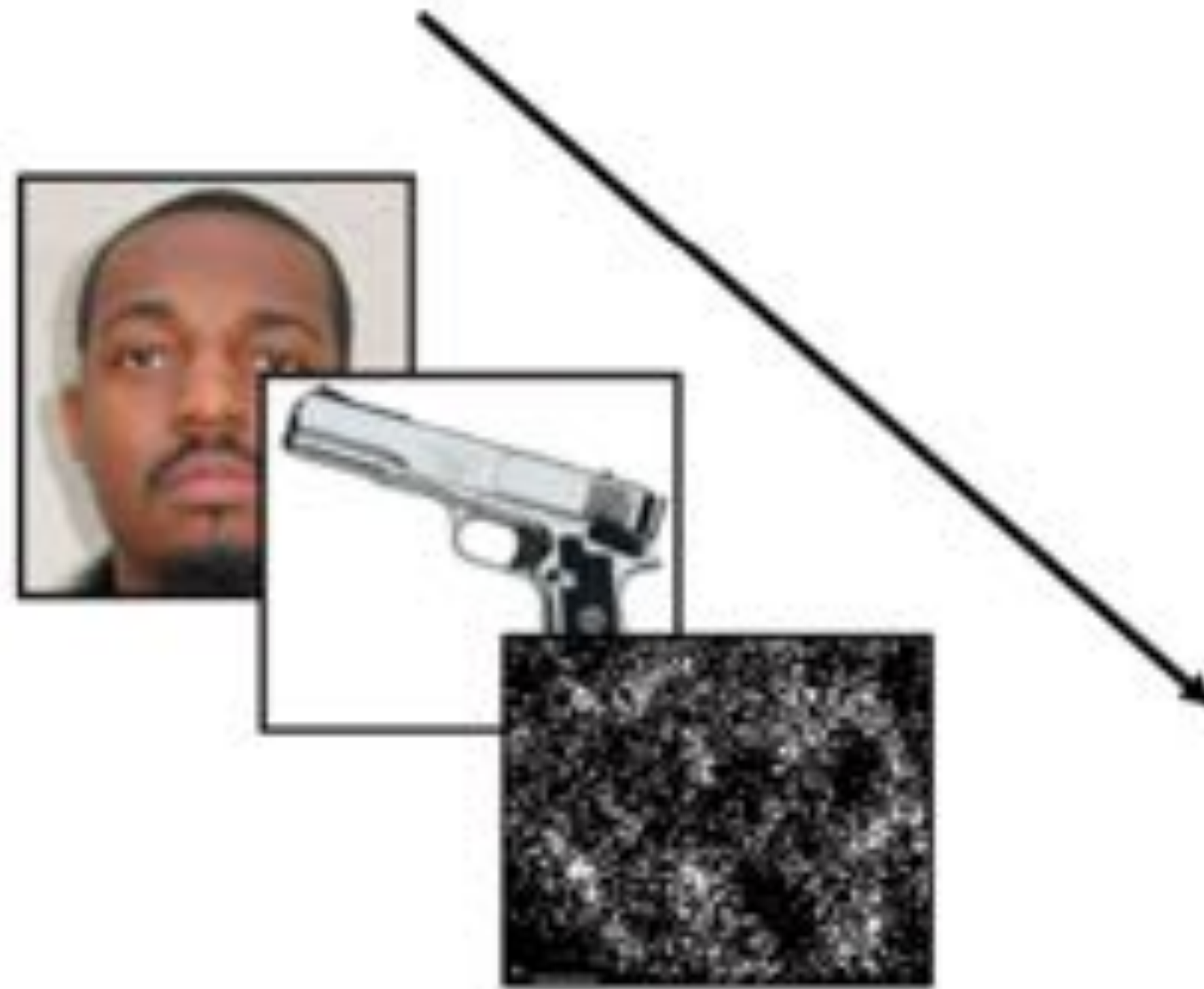
Corine Dijk and Peter J. de Jong  
University of Groningen

Madelon L. Peters  
Maastricht University

This study investigated the remedial value of blushing in the context of clear-cut predicaments. Besides testing the effects of displaying a blush on a neutral expression, we investigated whether blushing increased the remedial properties of shameful and embarrassed expressions. After reading a vignette describing either a transgression (Experiment 1;  $N = 66$ ) or a mishap (Experiment 2;  $N = 62$ ), participants saw pictures of people with or without a blush and rated them on several dimensions (e.g., sympathy, trustworthiness). The results of both experiments supported the hypothesis that blushing has remedial properties. In most instances, blushing actors were evaluated more favorably than their nonblushing counterparts. Although people often consider blushing to be an undesirable response, our results showed that, in the context of transgressions and mishaps, blushing is a helpful bodily signal with face-saving properties.

**Keywords:** blushing, appeasement, nonverbal communication, embarrassment, shame

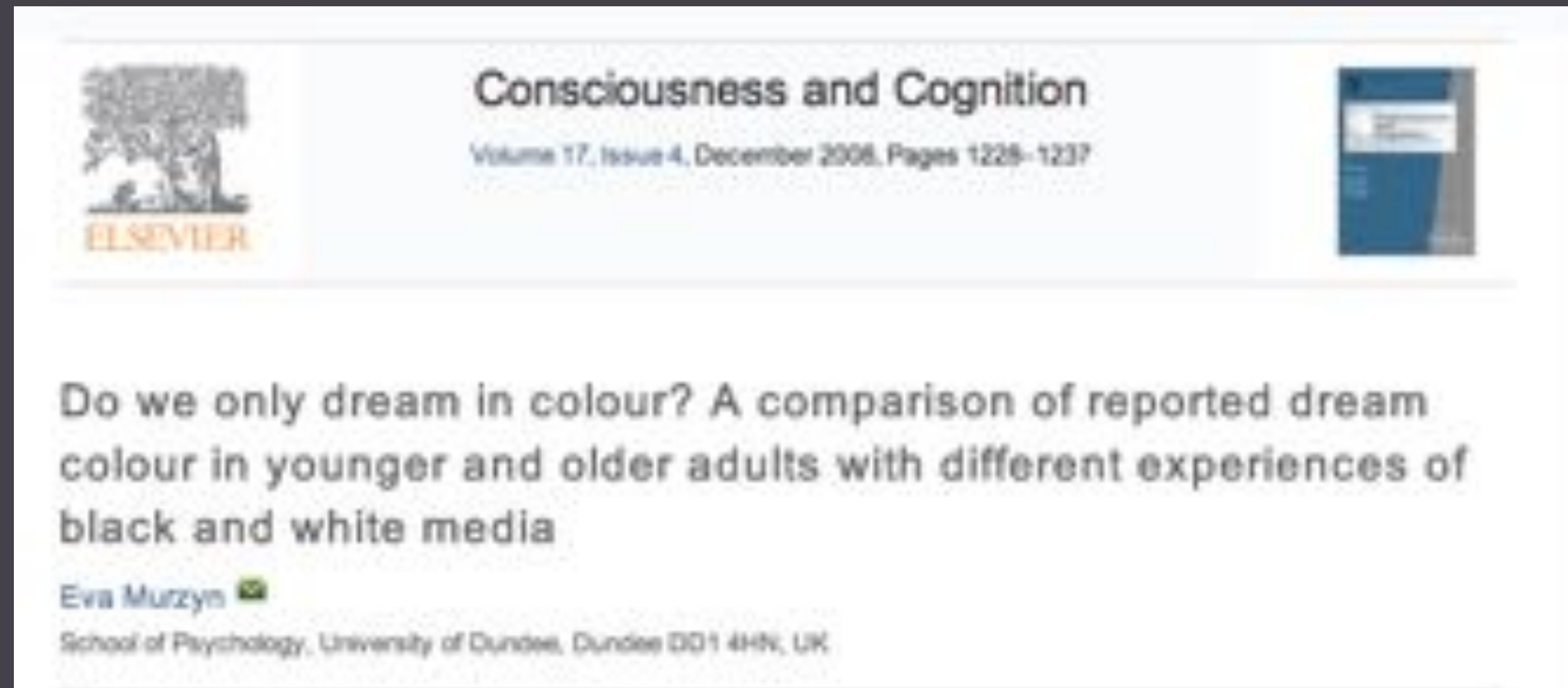
# 3. Unconscious Bias Is Real



**Fig. 1.** Schematic illustration of weapons-priming procedure. On each trial, a white or black face appears first, followed by a gun or hand tool, followed by a visual mask. Participants' task is to indicate, as quickly as possible, whether they saw a gun or a tool.

# 4. We Dream In Color

(Unless We Are Old Enough To Have Watched Lots Of B&W Media)



## Abstract

This study aimed to find out whether differences in the reported colour of dreams can be attributed to the influence of black and white media or to methodological issues. Two age groups, with different media experience, were compared on questionnaire and diary measures of dream colour. Analysis revealed that people who had access to black and white media before colour media experienced more greyscale dreams than people with no such exposure, and there were no differences between diary and questionnaire measures of dream colour. Moreover, there were inter-group differences in the recall quality of colour and black and white dreams that point to the possibility that true greyscale dreams occur only in people with black and white media experience.



# 5. Pain Caused Intentionally Feels More Painful

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Short Report

## The Sting of Intentional Pain

Kurt Gray and Daniel M. Wegner

Harvard University

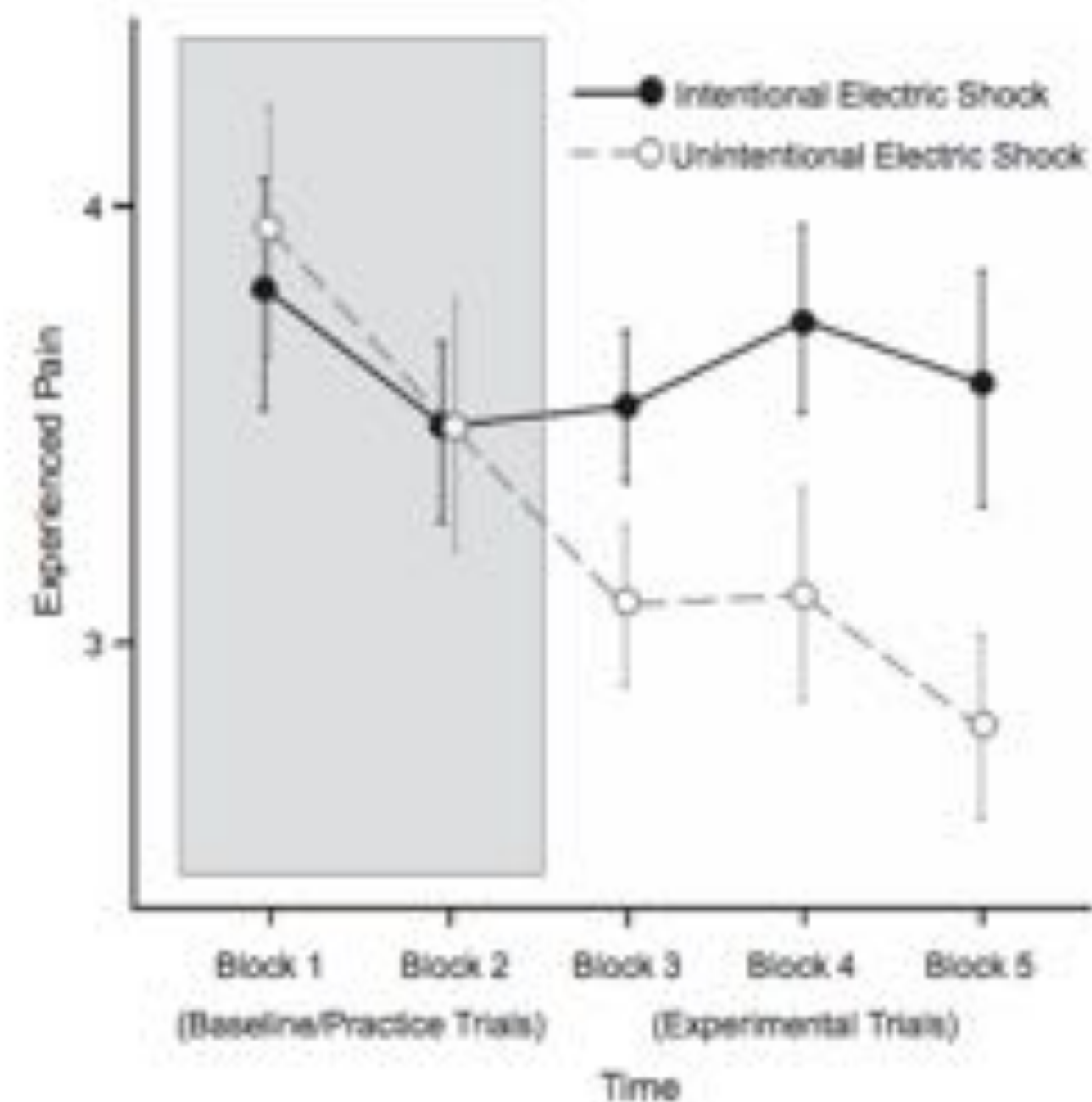


Fig. 1. Experienced pain as a function of whether electric shocks were perceived as intentional or unintentional.



# 6. Guilt Can Make Us Want To Physically Punish Ourselves

*Emotion*, 2013 Feb;13(1):14-8. doi: 10.1037/a0029749. Epub 2012 Sep 17.

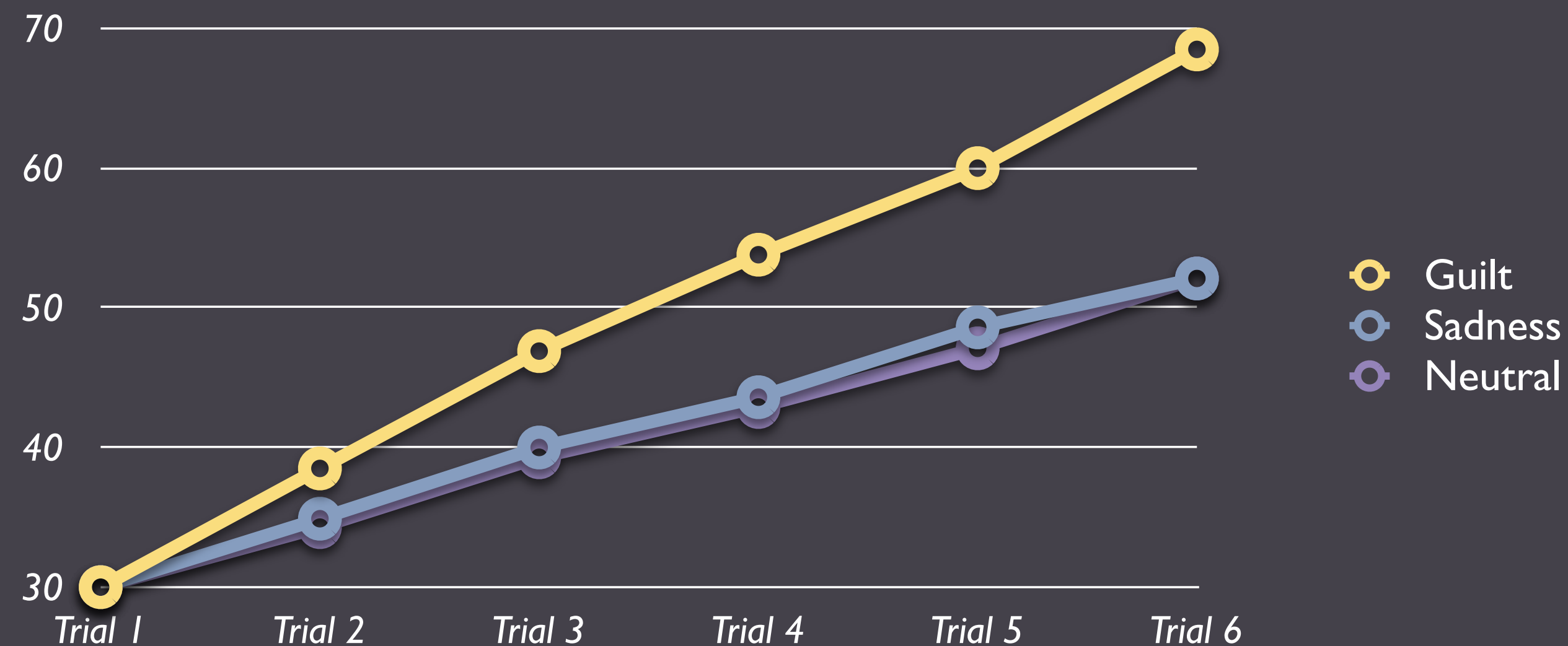
## Moral masochism: on the connection between guilt and self-punishment.

Inbar Y, Pizarro DA, Gilovich T, Ariely D.

Department of Social Psychology and Tilburg Institute for Behavioral Economics Research, Tilburg University, The Netherlands. yinbar@uvt.nl

### Abstract

Do people sometimes seek to atone for their transgressions by harming themselves physically? The current results suggest that they do. People who wrote about a past guilt-inducing event inflicted more intense electric shocks on themselves than did those who wrote about feeling sad or about a neutral event. Moreover, the stronger the shocks that guilty participants administered to themselves, the more their feelings of guilt were alleviated. We discuss how this method of atonement relates to other methods examined in previous research.





# "They're Made Out Of Meat"

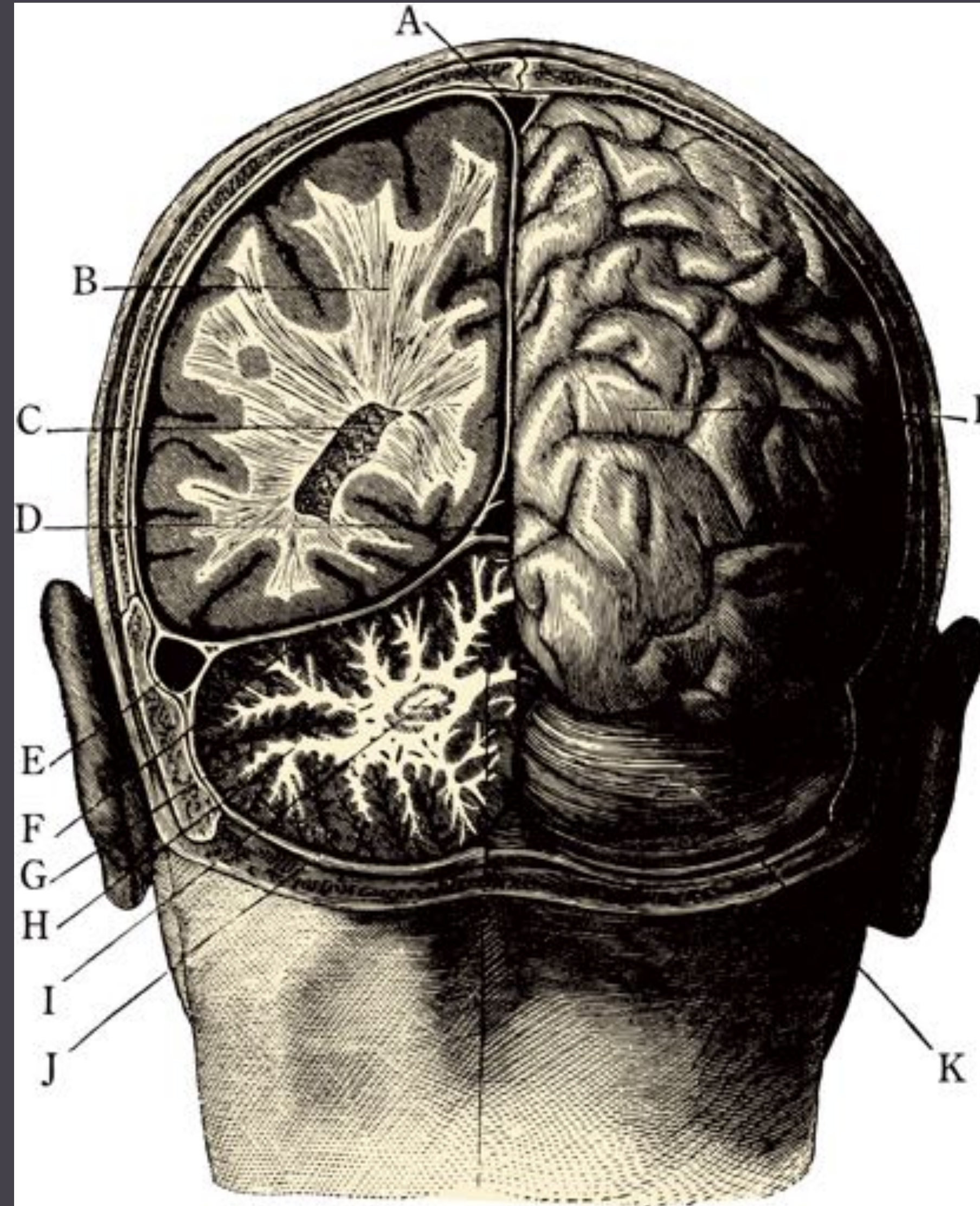
## Terry Bisson

- "Meat. They're made out of meat."
- "Meat?"
- "There's no doubt about it. We picked up several from different parts of the planet, took them aboard our recon vessels, and probed them all the way through. They're completely meat."
- "That's impossible. What about the radio signals? The messages to the stars?"
- "They use the radio waves to talk, but the signals don't come from them. The signals come from machines."
- "So who made the machines? That's who we want to contact."
- "They made the machines. That's what I'm trying to tell you. Meat made the machines."
- "That's ridiculous. How can meat make a machine? You're asking me to believe in sentient meat."
- "I'm not asking you, I'm telling you. These creatures are the only sentient race in that sector and *they're made out of meat.*"

# “Ugly Bags Of Mostly Water”



# An Organ That Seeks To Understand Itself



# Psychology: Reverse-Engineering The Mind



# The “Hardest” Science





# In Air: Will It Clear The Jump?

- Fairly simple calculation if we have the right information.
- Did the horse exert enough force to counteract gravity?
- Same forces as acting on the moon's orbit





# Approaching: Will It Clear The Jump?

- Number of factors has greatly increased
- What did the horse eat that morning?
- What's the relationship between the rider and the horse?
- Is the horse tired? Old?
- How much experience does the rider have?
- etc...



**EVOLUTION**

**BIOLOGY**

**INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPMENT**

**CULTURE**

**PERSONALITY**

**SITUATION/SOCIAL CONTEXT**

# Divide-And-Conquer Using The Scientific Method

- Observation/Measurement
  - Develop refined measures that are *valid* and *reliable*
- Experimentation
  - Good control groups, avoiding confounds
- Analysis
  - The right statistics for the right data
  - The right inferences from those statistics

# Richard Feynman On The Scientific Method (Cornell Lectures, 1964)



you can see all of the Feynman Cornell lectures here: <http://research.microsoft.com/apps/tools/tuva/>

# Goal Of This Course:

- To teach you the basics of the human mind.
  - To satisfy curiosity
  - To improve how you think
  - To improve how you live
- To get you interested in learning more



# More Psychology?



Psych 2800: Intro to Social  
Psychology (Spring)  
Tom Gilovich



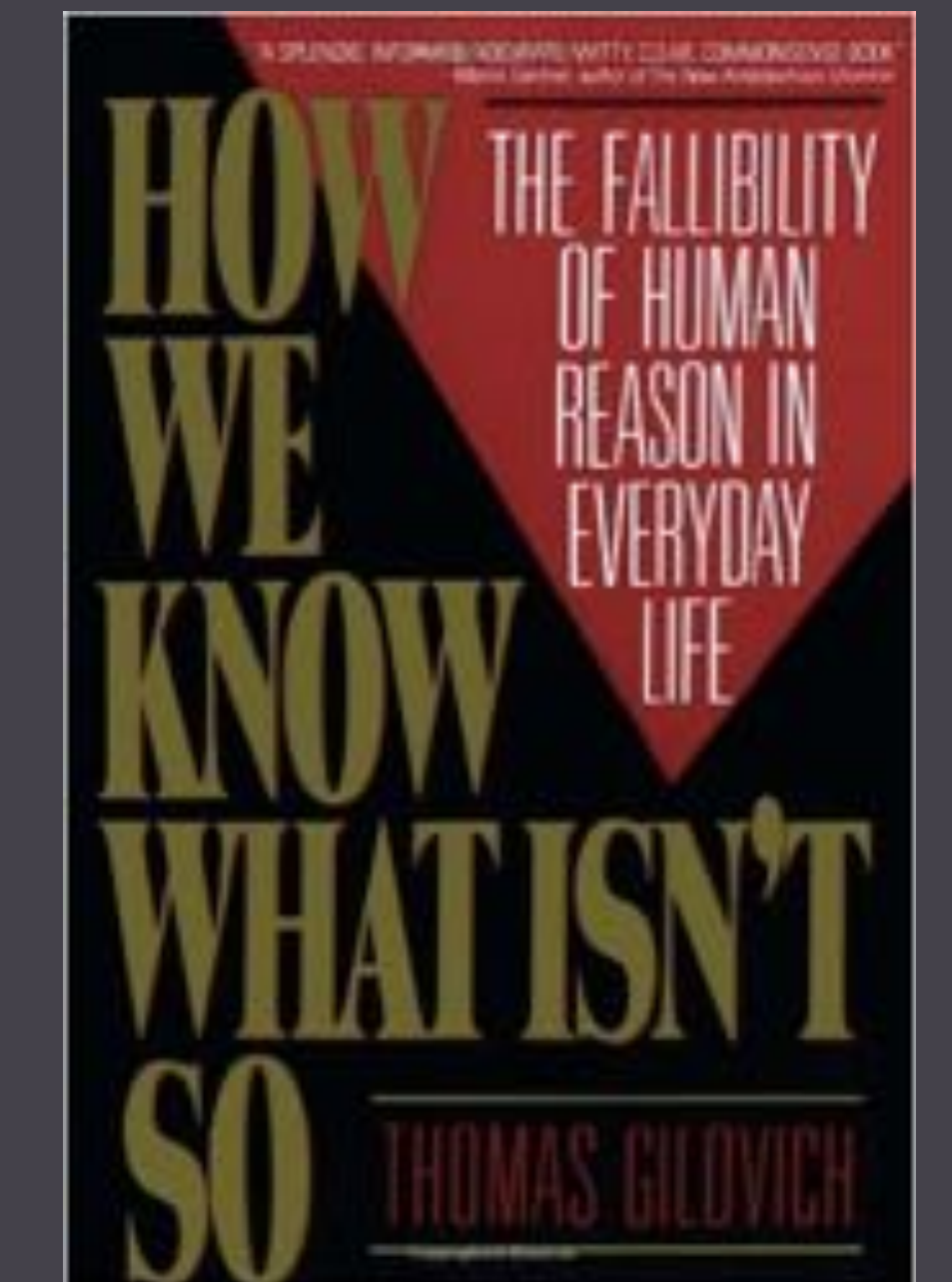
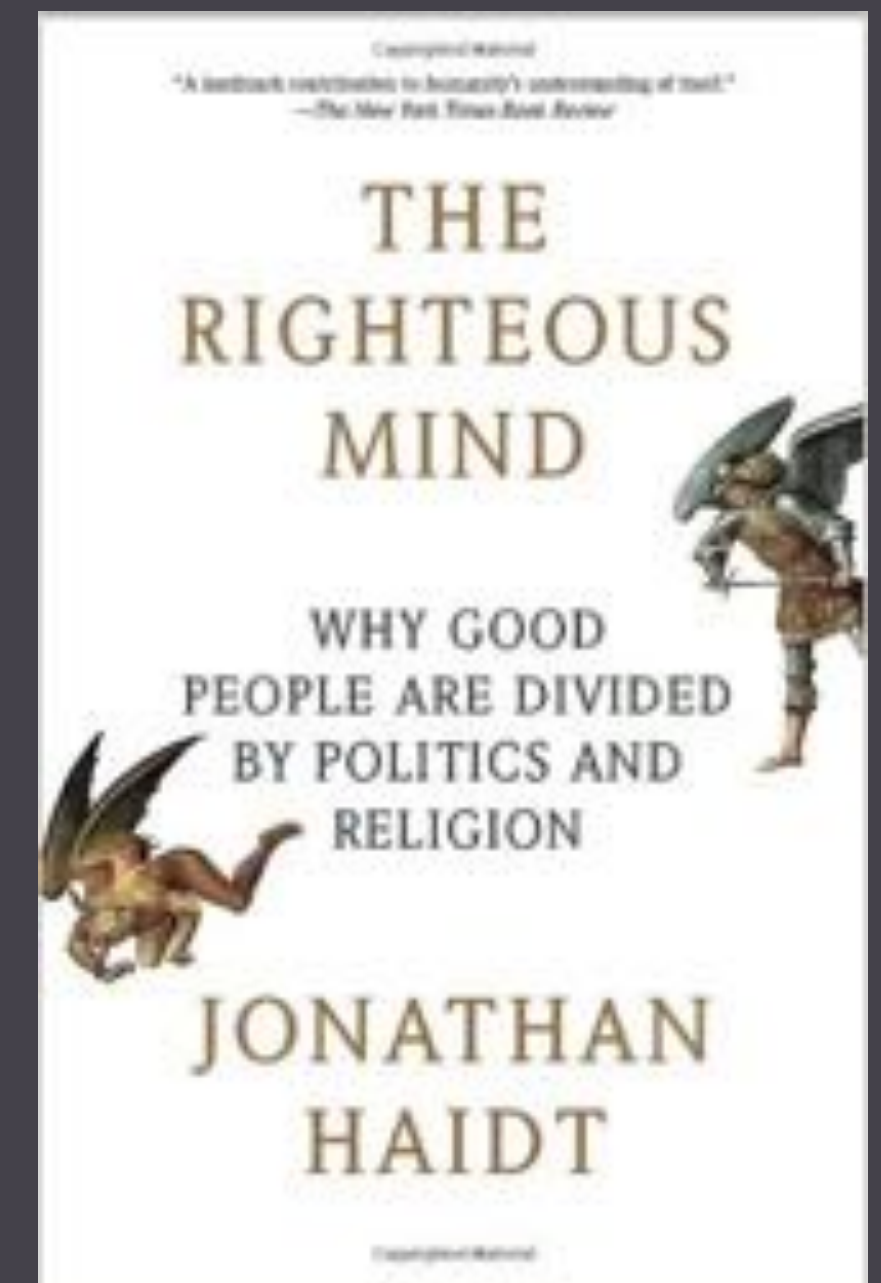
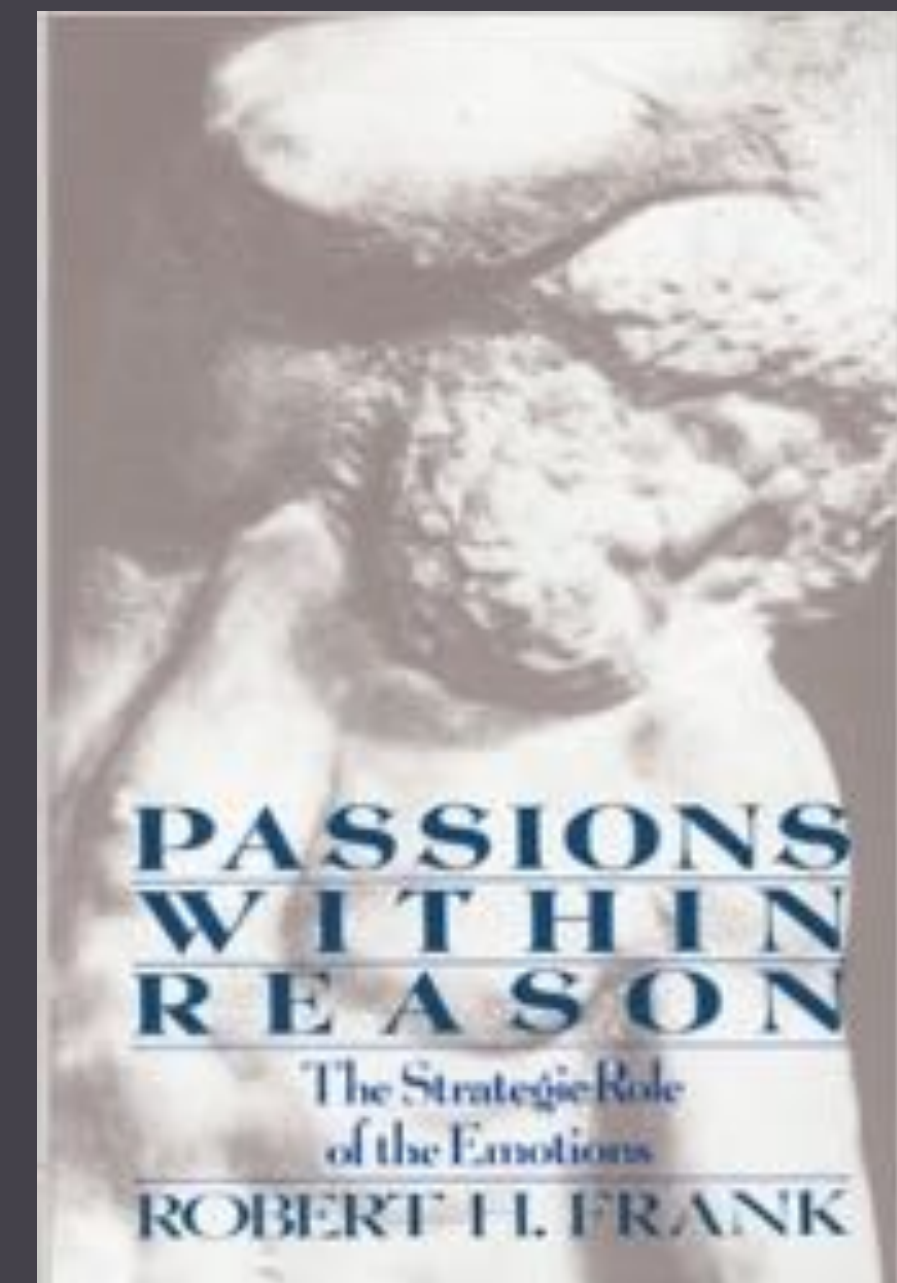
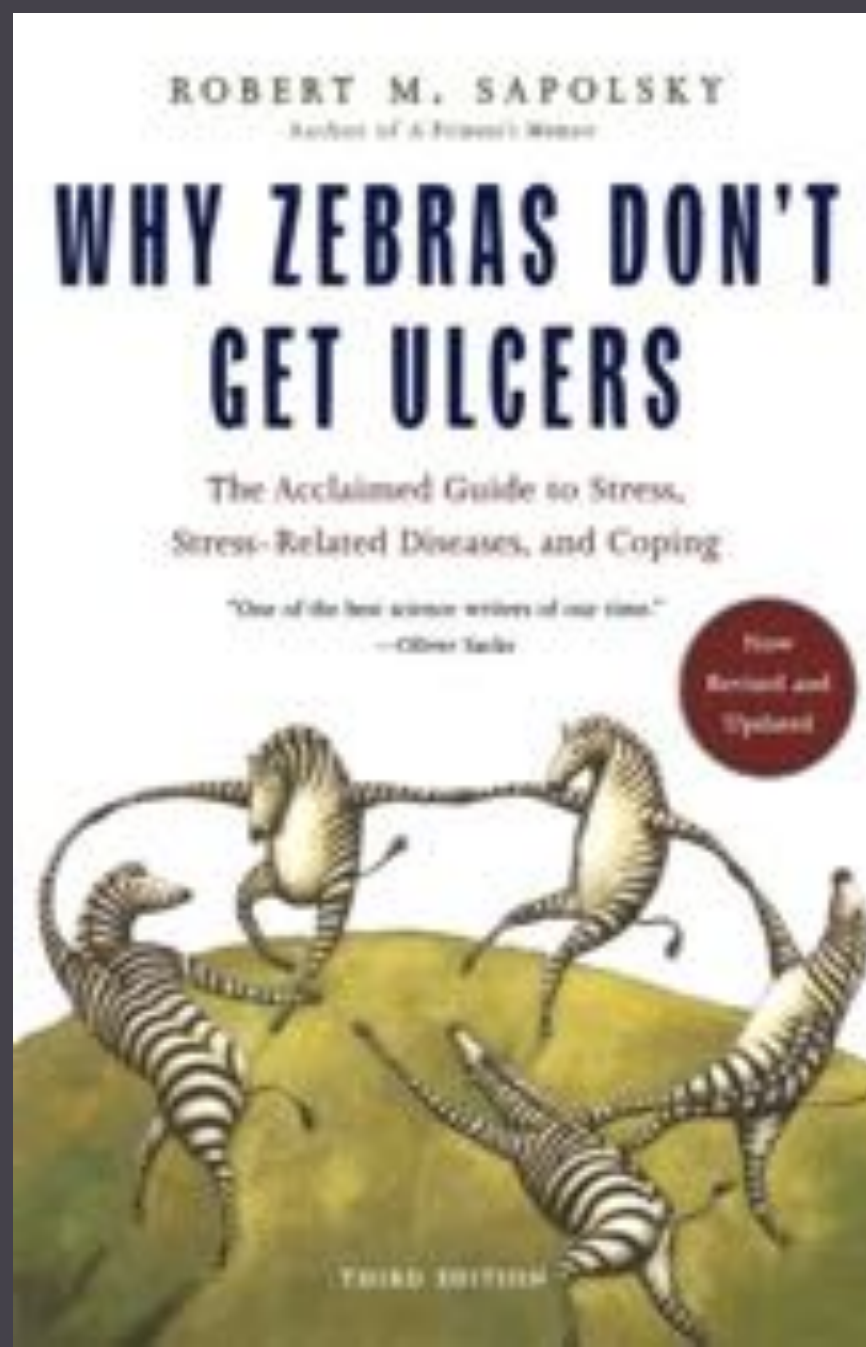
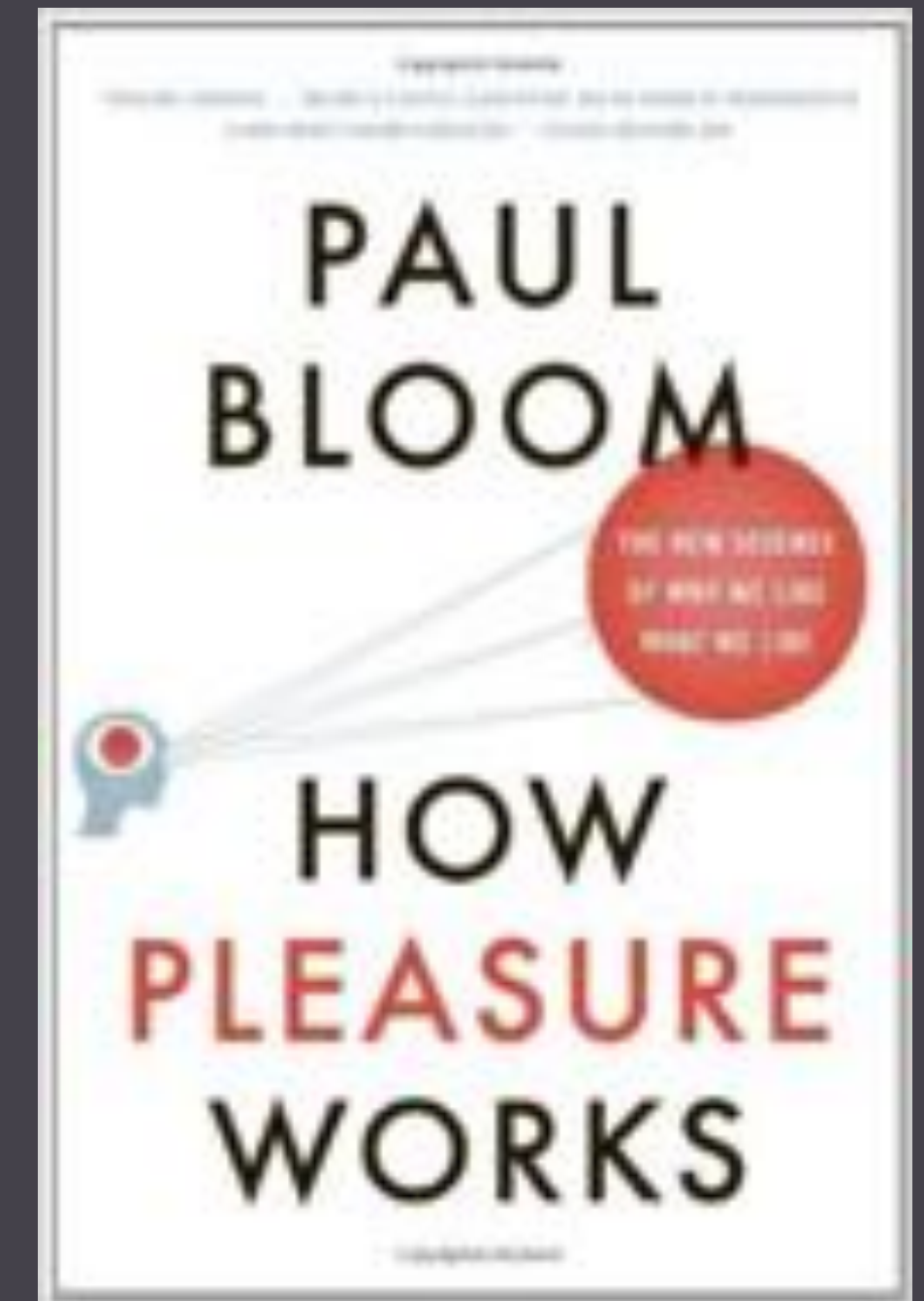
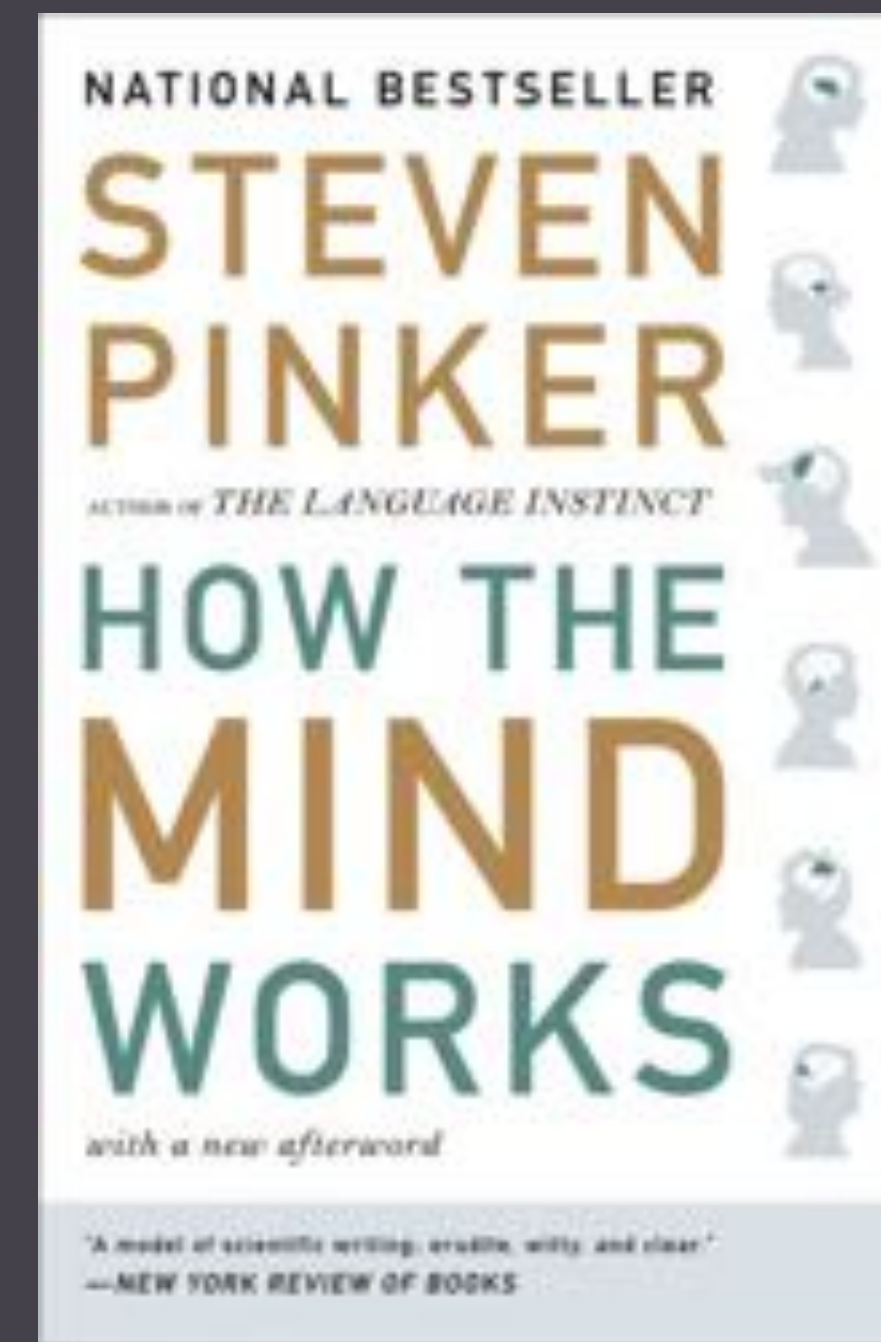
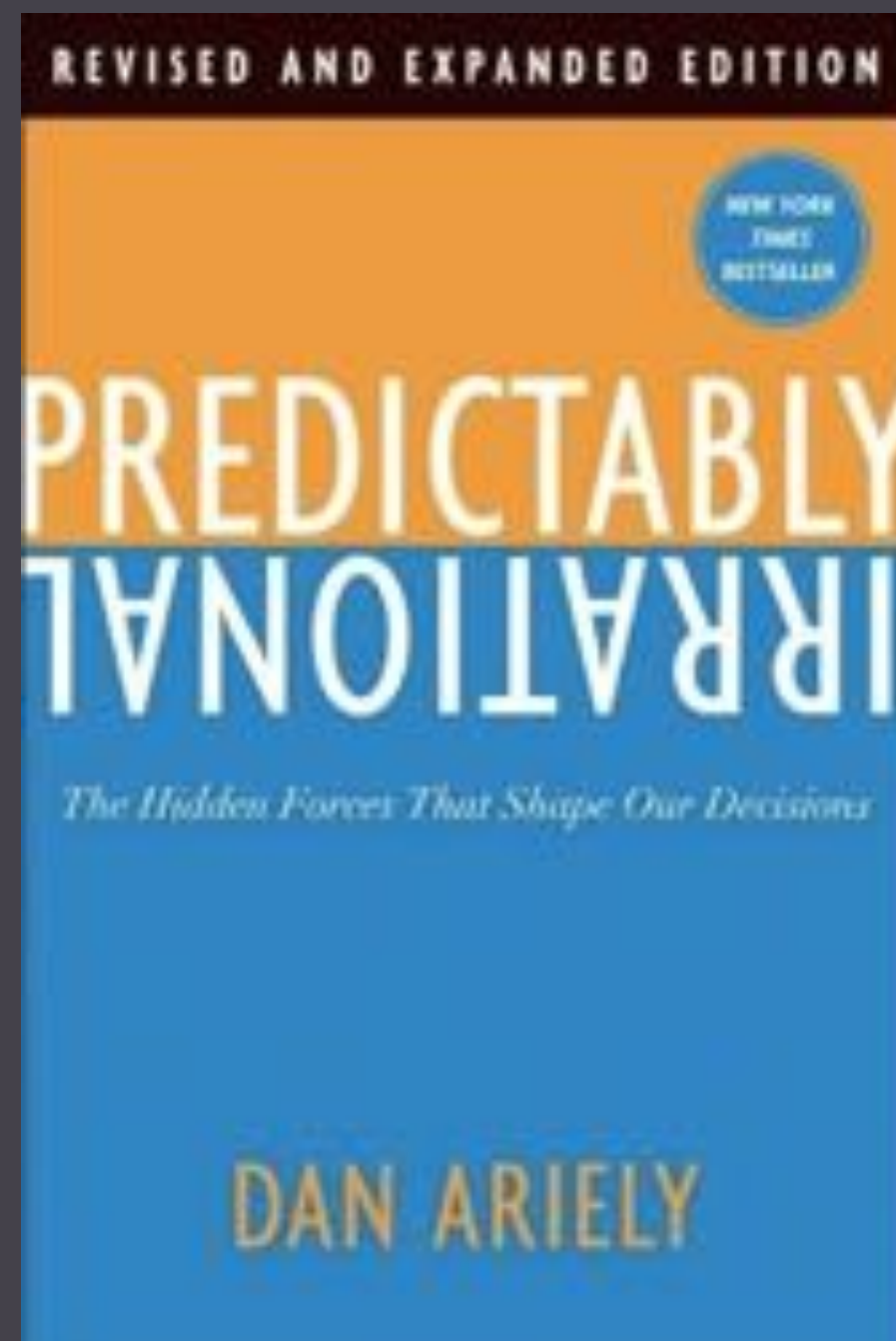
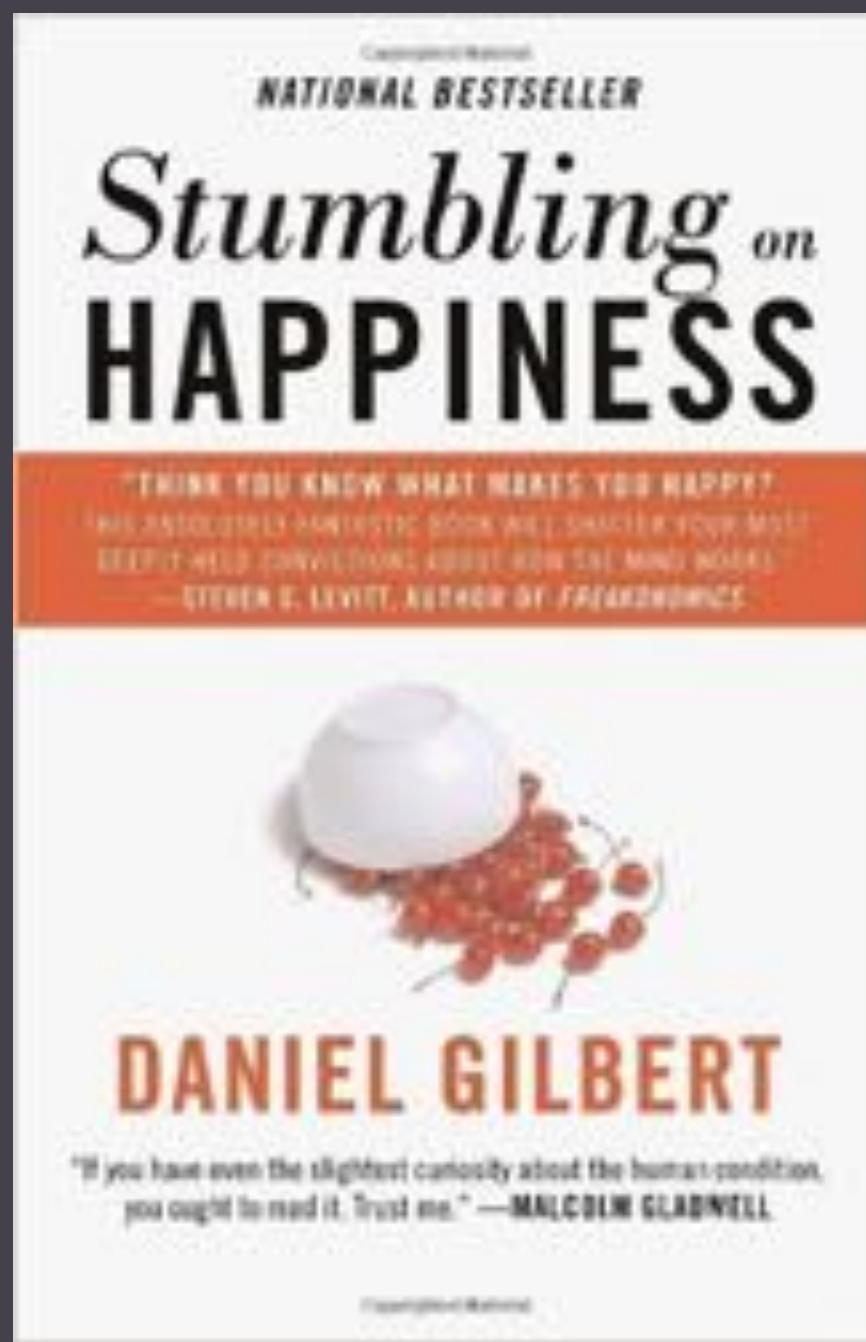
Psych 2090: Developmental  
Psychology (Spring)  
Michael Goldstein



Psych 2050: Perception  
(Fall)  
James Cutting



Psych 2230: Intro to Biopsychology  
(Fall)  
David Smith



Apologia

# Thank You!

DAP54@CORNELL.EDU

234 URIS HALL

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[this is a podcast i do with a philosopher about  
philosophy and psychology of morality.  
it's a little nsfw.]