

Dries H. Bostyn

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Summary Statement

I am a social psychologist, statistician and philosopher at the Social Psychology Lab in Ghent University. My primary research focus is the study of moral psychology. In particular, studying peoples' tendencies towards either rule-oriented (deontological) moral reasoning or alternatively, outcome-focused (utilitarian) moral reasoning. I am a big proponent of transparency in science and aim to make my research and data as accessible as possible. As such all data and statistical code are made available through Open Science Framework (individual links available on dhibostyn.com).

Education

Doctor of Science in Psychology (2019)
Ghent University

MSc in Statistical Data-analysis (2021)
Ghent University | Great Distinction

MSc in Psychology (2013)
Ghent University | Great Distinction

MA in Philosophy (2009)
Ghent University | Distinction

Scientific Publications

Bostyn, D. H., & Roets, A. (2022). Sequential decision-making impacts moral judgment: How iterative dilemmas can expand our perspective on sacrificial harm. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, Advance online publication.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2021.104244>

Bostyn, D. H., Roets, A., & Conway, P. (2021). Sensitivity to Moral Principles Predicts Both Deontological and Utilitarian Response Tendencies in Sacrificial Dilemmas. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. Advance online publication.
<https://doi.org/10.1177/19485506211027031>

Van Hiel, A., Onraet, E., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Stadeus, J., Haesevoets, T., Van Assche, J., & Roets, A. (2020). A meta-analytic integration of research on the relationship between right-wing

- ideological attitudes and aggressive tendencies. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 31(1), 183-221. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10463283.2020.1778324>
- Roets, A., **Bostyn, D. H.**, De keersmaecker, J., Haesevoets, T., Van Assche, J., & Van Hiel, A. (2020). Utilitarianism in minimal-group decision making is less common than equality-based morality, mostly harm-oriented, and rarely impartial. *Scientific Reports*, 10, 13373. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-020-70199-4>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, De keersmaecker, J., Van Assche, J., & Roets, A. (2020). Bright Mind, Moral Mind? Intelligence is Unrelated to Consequentialist Moral Judgment in Sacrificial Moral Dilemmas. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review*, 27, 392-397. <https://doi.org/10.3758/s13423-019-01676-9>
- De keersmaecker, J., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Van Hiel, A., & Roets (2020). Disliked but free to speak: Cognitive ability is related to supporting freedom of speech for groups across the ideological spectrum. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. 12(1), 34-41. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550619896168>
- Van Assche, J., Noor, M., Dierckx, K., Saleem, M., Bouchat, P., de Guissme, L., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Carew, M., Ernst-Vintila, A., & Chao, M. M. (2020). Can Psychological Interventions Improve Intergroup Attitudes Post Terror Attacks? *Social Psychological and Personality Science*. 11(8), 1101-1109. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550619896139>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, & Roets, A. (2019). Should Trolleys Be Scared of Mice? Replies to Evans and Brandt (2019); Bialek, Turpin, and Fugelsang (2019); Colman, Gold, and Pulford (2019); and Plunkett and Greene (2019). *Psychological science*, 30(9), 1392-1396. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797619865236>
- Haesevoets, T., Van Hiel, A., Van Assche, J., **Bostyn, D. H.**, & Reinders Folmer, C. (2019). An exploration of the motivational basis of take-some and give-some games. *Judgment and Decision Making*, 14(5), 534-546.
- Roets, A., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Van Assche, J., De keersmaecker, J., & Van Hiel, A. (2019). Generalized ingroup-stereotyping as a response to perceived individual failure. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 145, 15-18. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2019.03.012>
- Haesevoets, T., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Reinders Folmer, C., Roets, A., & Van Hiel, A. (2019). Decision-making in the prisoner's dilemma game: The effect of exit on cooperation and social welfare. *Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*, 32(1), 61-78. <https://doi.org/10.1002/bdm.2096>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, Sevenhant, S., & Roets, A. (2018). Beyond physical harm: How preference for consequentialism and primary psychopathy relate to decisions on a monetary trolley dilemma. *Thinking & Reasoning*, 25(2), 192-206. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13546783.2018.1497536>
- Haesevoets, T., Reinders Folmer, C., **Bostyn, D. H.**, & Van Hiel, A. (2018). Behavioral consistency within the prisoner's dilemma game: The role of personality and situation. *European Journal of Personality*, 32(4), 405-426. <https://doi.org/10.1002/per.2158>

- Van Hiel A., Van Assche, J., De Cremer, D., Onraet E., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Haesevoets, T., & Roets, A. (2018). Can education change the world? Education amplifies differences in liberalization values and innovation between developed and developing countries. *PLOS One*, 13(6), e0199560. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0199560>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, Sevenhant, S., & Roets, A. (2018). Of mice, men, and trolleys: Hypothetical judgment versus real-life behavior in trolley-style moral dilemmas. *Psychological Science*, 29(7), 1084-1093. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0956797617752640>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, & Roets, A. (2017). Trust, trolleys and social dilemmas: A replication study. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 146(5), e1. <https://doi.org/10.1037/xge0000295>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, & Roets, A. (2017). An asymmetric moral conformity effect: Subjects conform to deontological but not consequentialist majorities. *Social Psychological and Personality Science*, 8(3), 323-330. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550616671999>
- De keersmaecker, J., **Bostyn, D. H.**, Fontaine, J.R.J., Van Hiel, A., & Roets, A. (2017). Towards an integrated cognition perspective on ethnic prejudice: An investigation into the role of intelligence and need for cognitive closure. *Social Psychology and Personality Science*, 9(6), 719-726. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1948550617722201>
- Van Assche, J., **Bostyn, D. H.**, De keersmaecker, J., Dardenne, B., & Hansenne, M. (2017). Intergroup reconciliation between Flemings and Walloons: The predictive value of cognitive style, authoritarian ideology, and intergroup emotions. *Psychologica Belgica*, 57(6), 132-155. <https://doi.org/10.5334/pb.333>
- Haesevoets, T., Van Hiel, A., Pandelaere M., **Bostyn, D. H.**, & De Cremer, D. (2017). How much compensation is too much? An investigation of the effectiveness of financial overcompensation as a means to enhance customer loyalty. *Judgment and Decision Making*, 12(2), 183-197.
- Bostyn, D. H.**, & Roets, A. (2016). The morality of action: The asymmetry between judgments of praise and blame in the action-omission effect. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 63, 19-25. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jesp.2015.11.005>
- Bostyn, D. H.**, Roets, A., & Van Hiel, A. (2016). Right-wing attitudes and moral cognition: Are Right-Wing Authoritarianism and Social Dominance Orientation related to utilitarian judgment?. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 96, 164-171. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.paid.2016.03.006>
- Van Hiel, A. Roets, A., Van Assche, J., **Bostyn, D. H.**, De keersmaecker, J., Haesevoets, T. Joosten, A., Stadaeus, J., & Onraet, E. (2015). Defining the happiness gap. *Science*, 348(6240), 1216-1216. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.348.6240.1216-a>

Academic Positions

FWO Junior Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Ghent University, 2019 – present
Department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology
Advisor: Arne Roets

Visiting Professor, KU Leuven, 2021 – present
Department of Social and Cultural Psychology.

Assisting Academic Staff, Ghent University, 2013 – 2019
Department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology
Advisor: Arne Roets

Fulbright Research Fellow, Yale University, August 2018 – December 2018
Department of Philosophy
Advisor: Joshua Knobe

Fulbright / BAEF coach, Ghent University, 2019 – present
Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences

Representative of Other Academic Staff, Ghent University, 2017 - present
Faculty Board of the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences

Representative of Other Academic Staff, Ghent University, 2016 - 2021
Doctoral Schools Board for the Social and Behavioral Sciences

Representative of Other Academic Staff, Ghent University, 2016 - 2021
Doctoral Schools Steering Board for the Alpha Sciences

Representative of Other Academic Staff, Ghent University, 2013 - present
Board of the department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology

Representative of Other Academic Staff for the alpha sciences, Ghent University, 2018 – present
Research Council

Teaching Experience

Visiting Professor, KU Leuven, 2021 – 2022
Courses: Introduction to Social Psychology

Co-instructor, Ghent University, 2019 – present
Courses: Advanced issues in Cognition related Processes (Partim Social Psychology),
Exercises Experimental Social Psychology, Social Psychology

Teaching Assistant, Ghent University, 2013-2019
Courses: Social Psychology, Advanced Issues in Cognition-related Processes (Partim
Social Psychology), Exercises Experimental Social Psychology

Guest Lecturer, University of Kent, 2017-2018
Course: Groups, Teams, and Organisations

Guest Lecturer, University of Kent, 2016-2017
Course: Advanced Topics in Group Processes

Doctoral Guidance Committee:
Drs. Marie-Céline Gouwy.

Supervision of Masters' Theses, Ghent University

Coucke, F. (2021). Alcohol, een goed excuus?: Onderzoek naar het moreel beoordelen van personen onder invloed en hun gedrag.

Krammerhoffer, I. (2021). De moraliteit van spermadonatie.

Malot, I. (2021). The shape of gendered blame. Are we quicker to blame men or women?

De Baere, J. (2021). Vertrouwen en morele dilemma's: De rol van fairheid.

De Ketele, S. (2021). Morele intuïties omtrent artificiële liefde en seksrobots.

Van Holsbeke, L. (2019). Sinful sloths, Heinous gluttons and malicious smokers. Ideological differences in the moralization of health behavior.

Vanhoutte, L. (2019). The good, the bad and the robot – Exploring the normative opinion on robot rights and obligations.

Becue, V. (2019). To kill or not to kill, een kwantitatief onderzoek naar impliciet moreel regelgebruik in trolley dilemma's bij politieagenten, gedetineerden, en de doorsnee populatie.

De Cleyn, D. (2019). De morele waarden van conservatieven en liberalen in Vlaanderen.

Vanderplaetse C. (2018). Atheïsme in vlaanderen: een sociaal-cognitieve visie op dogmatism bij niet-gelovigen.

Dewulf T. (2018). De moraliteit van virtueel geluk: een empirische studie van Robert Nozick's ervaringsmachine.

Noclain, M. (2018). In deontologists we trust! The effect of gender and harm-type on inferences of trustworthiness based on other's moral judgements.

Ooms, H. (2017). De aarde als kleine stip: kan macro-perspectief inname sociale tolerantie verhogen?

Mullaert, B. (2016). Does belief in science make you happy? An explorative study on the effects of belief in science

Vanhille R. (2016). Oordelen in morele dilemma's: de rol van morele regels en verantwoording

Thiryn K. (2016). Hoe wordt er moreel geredeneerd in een machtssituatie?

Verselder, K. (2016). Nothing is true, everything is permitted – Video gaming en morele cognitie: Heeft het spelen van video games een invloed op het moreel redeneren? Een cross-culturele studie

Jansen, H. (2016). Het effect van morele oordeelsvorming op vertrouwen en coöperatie in trust games

Rottiers, A. (2015). Het effect van sociaal ideologische attitudes op morele processen: een studie aan de hand van de process dissociation approach

Invited Talks

Bostyn, D.H. (2021). The Shape of Blame. International Moral Psychology (IMP) Seminar Series. Digital, Online. (cancelled due to personal reasons)

Bostyn, D.H. (2020). The Shape of Blame. Jagiellonian University, Krakow, Poland.

Bostyn, D.H. (2019). Of Mice and Men: real-life trolley dilemmas and person-centered moral judgment. Tilburg University, Tilburg, The Netherlands.

Bostyn, D.H. (2018). Of Mice and Men: real-life trolley dilemmas and person-centered moral judgment. Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, USA.

Bostyn, D.H. (2017). The Morality of Action: The asymmetry Between Judgments of Praise and Blame in the Action-Omission Effect. Columbia University, NY, USA.

Bostyn, D.H. (2017). A Person-Centered Approach to the Trolley Problem: On Conformity and Trust. University of Kent, Canterbury, United Kingdom.

Conference Presentations

Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2021). The Shape of Blame. *Annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. Online, USA.

Bostyn, D.H. (2021). Trolleys in the dark: enlightening moral cognition through sacrificial dilemmas. Award-lecture for winning the BAPS Best PhD Thesis Award. *Belgian Association of Psychological Science*. Online, Belgium.

Bostyn, D.H., Sevenhant S. & Roets, A. (2020). Of mice, men, and trolleys: Hypothetical judgment versus real-life behavior in trolley-style moral dilemmas. *International Conference on Thinking*. Paris, France. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2020). The Shape of Blame. *Annual meeting of the Society for Philosophy and Psychology*. Princeton, USA. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2020). The Shape of Blame. *Pan-Asian Summit on Wisdom, Morality and Character in the Polarized World*. Colombo, Sri Lanka. (Cancelled due to COVID-19).

- Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2019). The Shape of Blame. *Meeting of Minds @HKU Forum for Outstanding Young Scholars*. Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China.
- Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2019). The Shape of Blame. *21st conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology*. Tenerife, Canary Islands.
- Bostyn, D.H., Conway P. & Roets, A. (2019). Does Sensitivity to moral principles indicate moral maturity? Poster presented at the *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention*. San Francisco, USA.
- Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2019). The Shape of Blame. *Winter Seminar on Social Cognition and Intergroup Relations*. Poronin, Poland.
- Bostyn, D.H., Conway P. & Roets, A. (2019). Does Sensitivity to moral principles indicate moral maturity? Poster presented at the *Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology*. Portland, USA.
- Bostyn, D.H., Sevenhant S. & Roets, A. (2018). Of mice, men, and trolleys: Hypothetical judgment versus real-life behavior in trolley-style moral dilemmas. Poster presented at the *Association for Psychological Science Annual Convention*. San Francisco, USA.
- Bostyn, D.H., Sevenhant S. & Roets, A. (2018). Of mice, men, and trolleys: Hypothetical judgment versus real-life behavior in trolley-style moral dilemmas. Poster presented at the *Annual meeting of the Belgian Association for Psychological Science*. Ghent, Belgium.
- Bostyn, D.H., & Knobe, J. (2018). Of mice, men, and trolleys: Hypothetical judgment versus real-life behavior in trolley-style moral dilemmas. *Winter Seminar on Social Cognition and Intergroup Relations*. Poronin, Poland.
- Bostyn, D.H., & Roets, A. (2017). Asymmetrical Conformity Effects in Moral Cognition. *General Meeting of The European Association of Social Psychology*. Granada, Spain.
- Bostyn, D.H. & Roets, A. (2015). An Asymmetric Moral Conformity Effect: Subjects Conform to Deontological but not Utilitarian majorities. *Political Psychology Conference Amsterdam*. Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- Bostyn, D.H., Van Hiel, A., & Roets A. (2015). Political Ideology and Moral Reasoning: Are conservatives more utilitarian? *Annual Scientific Meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology*. San Diego, CA, USA.
- Bostyn, D.H., Van Hiel, A., & Roets A. (2015). Political Ideology and Moral Reasoning: Are conservatives more utilitarian? *Annual meeting of the Belgian Association for Psychological Science*. Brussels, Belgium.

Reviewing Experience

Psychological Science
 Nature Human Behavior
 Cognition

Cognitive Science
Journal of Personality
Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin
Journal of Experimental Social Psychology
European Journal of Social Psychology
British Journal of Social Psychology
Philosophical Psychology
PLOS ONE
Group Processes & Intergroup Relations
Journal of Trust Research
Personality and Individual Differences
Scientific Advances
The International Journal of Psychology
Current Psychology
Comprehensive Results in Social Psychology
Social Justice Research
Social and Personality Psychology Compass
Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour
Violence against Women
Journal of Business Ethics
Behavior Research Methods
Consciousness and Cognition
Death Studies
Scientific Advances
The Journal of Social Psychology
Psychologica Belgica
Review of Philosophy and Psychology
Journal of Medical Ethics
Journal of Social Psychology
Psychology, Crime, Law
Review of Philosophy and Psychology
Social Psychological and Personality Science

Awards & Honors

Selection of first-authored manuscript: "Of Mice, Men, and Trolleys: Hypothetical Judgment Versus Real-Life Behavior in Trolley-Style Moral Dilemmas" as Highly-Cited Paper (top 1% of the academic field of Psychiatry/Psychology) by Web of Science.

Best PhD Thesis award for the Belgian Association of Psychological Sciences, 2021.

"Kannjer" award, 2020. Dean's award for service to the Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences.

Laureate of 'Best Poster Award', *Research Day*, Ghent University, Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences 2014.

Grants

2020:

University of Kent and Ghent University: special call for collaboration. (3000£).

2019:

Research Foundation Flanders (FWO): Junior postdoctoral fellowship (158000€).

Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) & Ghent University Departmental Fund for Mobility: Travel and expenses grant to attend the 21st conference of the European Society for Cognitive Psychology. (1400€)

2018:

Fulbright Commission & Education USA, Fulbright Belgium: Grant for graduate study & (pre) doctoral research. (\$10000)

2017:

Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) & Ghent University Departmental Fund for Mobility: Travel and expenses grant to attend the annual meeting of the European Association for Social Psychology. (1143€)

2015:

Ghent University Departmental Fund for Mobility: Travel and expenses grant to attend the Annual meeting of Belgian Association for Psychological Science. (40€)

Research Foundation Flanders (FWO) & Ghent University Departmental Fund for Mobility: Travel and expenses grant to attend the annual meeting of the International Society for Political Psychology. (1450€)

Ghent University Departmental Fund for Mobility: Travel and expenses grant to attend the Political Psychology Meeting Amsterdam. (408€)

Selected Media Coverage

Interview on Moral Psychology and Covid-19. *De Morgen*. December 11th, 2021.

Why hypothetical thinking is only a pale imitation of real life. *The Guardian*. June 22th, 2018.

Does the trolley problem have a problem? *Slate Magazine*. June 18th, 2018.

Wat als een zelfrijdende auto moet kiezen tussen vijf voetgangers doden of zijn passagier. *Knack Magazine*. June 11th, 2018

Trolley problem tested in real life for first time with mice. *New Scientist*. May 11th, 2018.