

Supplementary Information

for

Using performance art to promote intergroup prosociality by cultivating the belief that
empathy is unlimited

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Supplementary Figure 1. Empathy-inducing articles toward liberals and conservatives

12 People Injured in Liberal Protest

At a liberal protest yesterday in Columbus OH, mass panic resulted in numerous casualties.

By ANDREW TALMADGE

Yesterday around 7 pm, approximately 250 protesters assembled at the meeting point near Nationwide Arena in Columbus, Ohio. Before reaching their final destination at the city hall, the demonstrators had to walk through a narrow pedestrian underpass.

For reasons yet unknown, panic began to spread. While dozens of protesters desperately tried to escape from the crowd, people from behind kept pushing forward – unaware of the tragedy that was unfolding ahead.

"It was awful", recounts an eyewitness. "I was afraid for my life. People were so desperate, crying for help and we just couldn't get out." In total, 12 people were injured.

Medics arriving at the scene were faced with extensive bruises and head injuries. Some of the protesters were even taken to a hospital for observation and additional medical treatment.

12 People Injured in Conservative Protest

At a conservative protest yesterday in Columbus OH, mass panic resulted in numerous casualties.

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Supplementary Figure 2. Manipulation of the belief about empathy as a limited/unlimited resource

Definition of empathy (presented in both conditions – limited and unlimited empathy)



DID YOU KNOW?

Empathy is defined as the ability to understand and share the feelings and thoughts of others. For example, empathizing with someone in distress involves understanding the situation from his/her perspective and feeling his/her negative emotions.

Limited empathy condition



DID YOU KNOW?

Recent studies have found that empathy is a limited resource so people cannot feel it toward a large number of people.

Imagine that you are about to meet people in distress. Toward how many of them could you feel empathy?

Please answer by using the scale below:

From 0 - can't feel empathy toward anyone; To 3 - can feel empathy toward three people.

0 1 2 3
number of people I can empathize with



Unlimited empathy condition



DID YOU KNOW?

Recent studies have found that empathy is an unlimited resource so people can feel it toward a large number of people.

Imagine that you are about to meet people in distress. Toward how many of them could you feel empathy?

Please answer by using the scale below:

From 0 - can't feel empathy toward anyone; To 300 - can feel empathy toward three hundred people.

0 30 60 90 120 150 180 210 240 270 300
number of people I can empathize with



Supplementary Figure 3. Manipulation of the belief about empathy as a limited/unlimited resource or control

Control condition (definition of empathy)

“Empathy is defined as the ability to understand and share the feelings of others. For example, empathizing with someone in distress involves understanding the situation from his/her perspective and feeling his/her negative emotions”

הידעת?
אמפתיה מוגדרת כהזדהות עם רגשותיו או עם מחשבותיו של בן אדם אחר. כך לדוגמה, כשמישהו סובל ואנחנו מרגישים אמפתיה כלפיו, אנחנו חווים את הסבל שלו.



Unlimited empathy condition (definition of empathy + unlimited empathy text)

“Apparently the idiom ‘everyone has a place in my heart’ is scientifically correct: Studies have found that empathy is an unlimited resource so it can be felt toward a large number of people”

הידעת?
מסתבר שהביטוי "יש לי מקום בלב לכולם" הוא נכון מבחינה מדעית: מחקרים מצאו שאמפתיה היא משאב לא מוגבל ולכן אפשר להרגיש אותה כלפי הרבה אנשים.



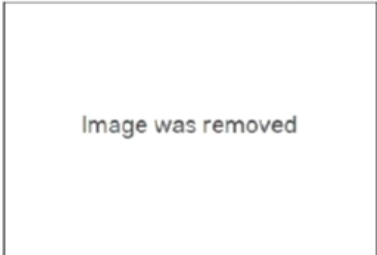
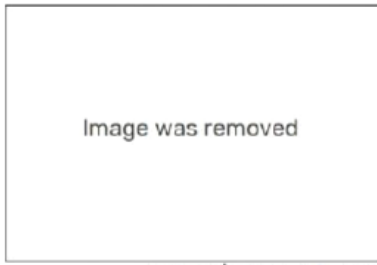
Limited empathy condition (definition of empathy + limited empathy text)

“Apparently the idiom ‘everyone has a place in my heart’ is scientifically incorrect: Studies have found that empathy is a limited resource so it cannot be felt toward a large number of people”

הידעת?
מסתבר שהביטוי "יש לי מקום בלב לכולם" הוא שגוי מבחינה מדעית: מחקרים מצאו שאמפתיה היא משאב מוגבל ולכן אי אפשר להרגיש אותה כלפי הרבה אנשים.



Supplementary Figure 4. Empathy-inducing articles toward Jews and Arabs. Type of issue (financial and health problems) and Group identity (Jews and Arabs) were counter-balanced.

לשרוד את היום. מזל שההורים תומכים. ירון יעקובי פורסם: 18.10, 23.02.17 מחמוד ונור, זוג צעיר, נאלץ לישון עם ילדם בן השנתיים בדירת שני חדרים יחד עם הוריה של נור בירושלים. לפני כשנה התפטר מחמוד ממקום עבודתו לאחר סכסוך עם הבוס, ומאז מצבה הכלכלי של המשפחה הדרדר. בעקבות ההתפטרות, המשפחה לא הצליחה לעמוד בתשלומי שכר הדירה ומאלצה לעזוב אותה.  דירת המיטות הקטנה לא בנויה להכיל חמש נפשות מאז, מחמוד מנסה למצא עבודות מזדמנות כדי ללכלל את המשפחה. עיקר הכסף משמש לקניית אוכל ותשלום על גן הילדים. שאר ההוצאות מכוסות על ידי תשלומי הפנסיה של ההורים בשנה האחרונה הם מתגוררים בדירת השיכון של הוריה הקשישים של נור אשר תומכים בהם כלכלית. דירת השיכון הקטנה לא בנויה להכיל חמש נפשות. נור משתפת: "אנחנו חיים בתנאים קשים, והמצב לא פשוט, אבל לפחות אנחנו מקבלים תמיכה מההורים". 53 לפניה לכתבת/ת»	לשמוע את מי שלא יכול רוני בלום פורסם: 17:50, 26.01.17 לאחר לידת בתם הראשונה, הודיעו הרופאים להוריה, דני ורונת, זוג צעיר מירושלים, כי היא סובלת מבעיה באוזן שמאל. הבת נולדה עם ליקוי שמיעה. באותן אחת שדורשת פיקוח רפואי כדי לדבר שאים מחמיר. בכל זאת, רוב הסיכויים שבשלב מסוים בחייה היא תצטרך להיעזר במכשיר שמיעה.  קיים סיכוי שבצעיד תהדק לתכשיר שמיעה ההורים החלו לברר במגע לרופא טיפל אפשריות, וזילו כי בבלגיה קיים בית חולים המתמחה בכיתות, אשר כסותו לתקן את ליקוי השמיעה הזה. אולם מדובר בפתוח מורכב ויקר אשר אינו ניתן למימון דרך קופת החולים, ועל כן עלות הכיתות תאלץ לישראל על כותפי המשפחה. האם, רונת: "אומנם אין פה סכנת חיים אבל אין דבר בו אנחנו חוצים יותר משהולדה הזו תוכל להיות כמו כל הילדים". 54 לפניה לכתבת/ת»
SURVIVE THE DAY. LUCKY PARENTS SUPPORT Muhammad and Nur, a young couple, have no other choice but to sleep with their two-year-old child in a two-room apartment with Nur's parents in Jerusalem. About a year ago, Muhammad resigned from his job after a dispute with his manager, and since then the family's financial situation has deteriorated. Following the resignation, the family was unable to meet the rent payments and was forced to leave the apartment. Since then, Muhammad has been trying to find casual jobs to support the family. Most of the money is used to buy food and pay for the kindergarten. The rest of the expenses are covered by the parents' pension payments. For the past year they have been living in the apartment of Nur's	HEAR THOSE WHO CANNOT After the birth of their first daughter, the doctors informed her parents, Dani and Ronit, a young couple from Jerusalem, that she was suffering from a problem in her left ear. The daughter was born with a hearing loss in one ear that requires medical supervision to make sure it does not become worse. However, chances are that at some point in her life she will need to use a hearing aid. The parents started looking for possible treatments and found that in Belgium there is a hospital that specializes in surgeries that can fix this hearing impairment. However, this is a complex and expensive operation that cannot be financed through their Health maintenance

elderly parents who support them financially. The tiny apartment is not planned for accommodating five people. Nur shares: "We live in difficult conditions, and the situation is not simple, but at least we get support from the parents."	organization, and therefore the cost of the operation will have to fall on the family's shoulders. The mother, Ronit: "Although this is not a life-threatening condition, what we want most is that our girl would be like all our children".
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