

# Deciding for others: An experimental investigation of preference for shared destiny

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## Abstract

In this paper, we present the results of an experiment on social choice under uncertainty. We use an experimental design where individuals make decisions for others by choosing between uncertain gains allocations for two other participants. We elicit equivalences between different types of allocations and reveal individual preferences for fairness and shared destiny as well as "other-regarding" risk attitudes. We find strong evidence of risk and inequality aversion for others and of preference for shared destiny. In particular, we calibrate a measure of preference for "shared destiny" at an individual level. We test and confirm that this measure does not depend on the gain and likelihood components of the uncertain allocations.

*Keywords:* Behavioral Economics, Ex-post and ex-ante inequality, "Other-regarding" risk attitudes, Preference for Shared Destiny, Social risk measurement.

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