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### **Emotional Decision Making: Crossroads of Cognitive and Clinical Psychology**

Cognitive psychologists have often considered normative models in human decision making. They have also developed statistical methods to disentangle the specific cognitive components of a decision. At the same time, a growing body of literature highlights the impact of emotions on the processes involved in a decision. To investigate these effects, researchers have made use of well-established decision making paradigms. In these paradigms, they either experimentally manipulate affective states or included emotional cues in the tasks. This has advanced research and demonstrates the influence emotions have on decisions. This symposium will introduce several relevant decision making paradigms as well as recently developed experimental and emotional variations. We will present promising approaches to close the gap between the two psychological disciplines by integrating their methodological approaches and theoretical knowledge on decision making.

Unterbeitrag 1:

#### **Is risk preference associated with dispositional affect?**

**PD Dr. Thorsten Pachur (Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin)**

Affect seems to have an important impact on a person's willingness to take a risk. For instance, experimental studies using manipulated affect found that induced positive affect (happiness) seems to increase risk seeking, whereas induced negative affect (fear) seems to increase risk aversion. Further, people are more risk averse when choosing between options whose outcomes trigger strong affect (e.g., medications with adverse side effects) than when choosing between relatively affect-poor options. It is currently unclear, however, to what extent also dispositional (rather than manipulated) affect is linked with risk preference. Moreover, given the wealth of available measures of risk preference (self-report instruments, various behavioral tasks), it is unclear for which measures a link with dispositional affect exists and whether such a link differs across the different measures. To address these issues, I analyzed data of a sample of 1,000 participants (aged 20-35 years) from the Berlin-Basel Risk Study. In this study, participants completed various batteries of affective (i.e., PANAS) and cognitive measures as well as various types of measures of risk preference, including both self-report and behavioral measures (e.g., Balloon Analog Risk Task, lotteries, decisions from experience, Columbia Card Task). As predicted by the risk-appraisal framework, dispositional happiness and anger were positively (and independently) associated with higher risk seeking, whereas dispositional fear was associated with higher risk aversion. Importantly, however, this link emerged primarily for self-reported risk preference, and was considerably weaker (or even nonexistent) for the behavioral measures of risk preference.

Unterbeitrag 2:

#### **Risk-Taking Under Threat: Women Remain Hesitant When Men Become Bold**

**M.Sc. Katharina Siebenhaar, Prof. Dr. Georg W. Alpers (Universität Mannheim)**

Emotions are powerful determinants of decision making. Thus, it is very plausible that threat will influence how willing individuals are to take risks. Current findings are heterogeneous regarding both the direction of this influence and whether gender differences are evident in risk-taking under threat.