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Preferences and beliefs in behavior and the brain

Farina, A.

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Propositions
Accompanying the dissertation

**Preferences and Beliefs
in Behavior and the Brain**

by
Andrea Fariña

1. Human preferences are social preferences. (*this thesis*)
2. Social preferences are modulated by the environment. (*this thesis*)
3. Targeted generosity can be used as a value signal. (*this thesis*)
4. Distinct neural mechanisms underlie ingroup and outgroup trust. (*this thesis*)
5. Even with infinitely advanced technology, decision-making cannot be modelled with neural activity alone.
6. The increased reliance on big data and AI to develop decision-making algorithms should explicitly incorporate moral considerations instead of pretending they don't exist.
7. If we continue to hire (a majority of) researchers with similar backgrounds, we will continue to ask (a majority of) similar research questions: scientific diversity increases communal knowledge by default.
8. Research on human decision-making during crises will become indispensable as the world becomes more prone to global catastrophes and uncertainty.
9. Gender violence needs to be addressed by changing the norms of the perpetrators, not the victims.
10. Teachers and professional caregivers need higher pay and higher barriers to entry to avoid compromised provision.
11. It is the responsibility of the policymaker to inform themselves of evidence-based insights, just as it is the responsibility of the scientist to reach out to policymakers.