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# Sense of agency in social context

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## Abstract

The sense of agency is the subjective experience that one is the author of her actions and its consequences. The sense of agency is thus strongly rooted in our social life, since the majority of our actions have the aim to produce an outcome that is either positive or negative for oneself or for others. This is the case from simply turning the light on to be able to read to giving money to charity. And yet, the huge majority of the scientific studies published on the sense of agency used neutral outcomes that have no meaning for the participants. In the present talk, I will discuss about the importance to study the sense of agency in a social context, by mentioning behavioural and neuroimaging studies that showed its relation to responsibility and empathy for pain in a coercive context.

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