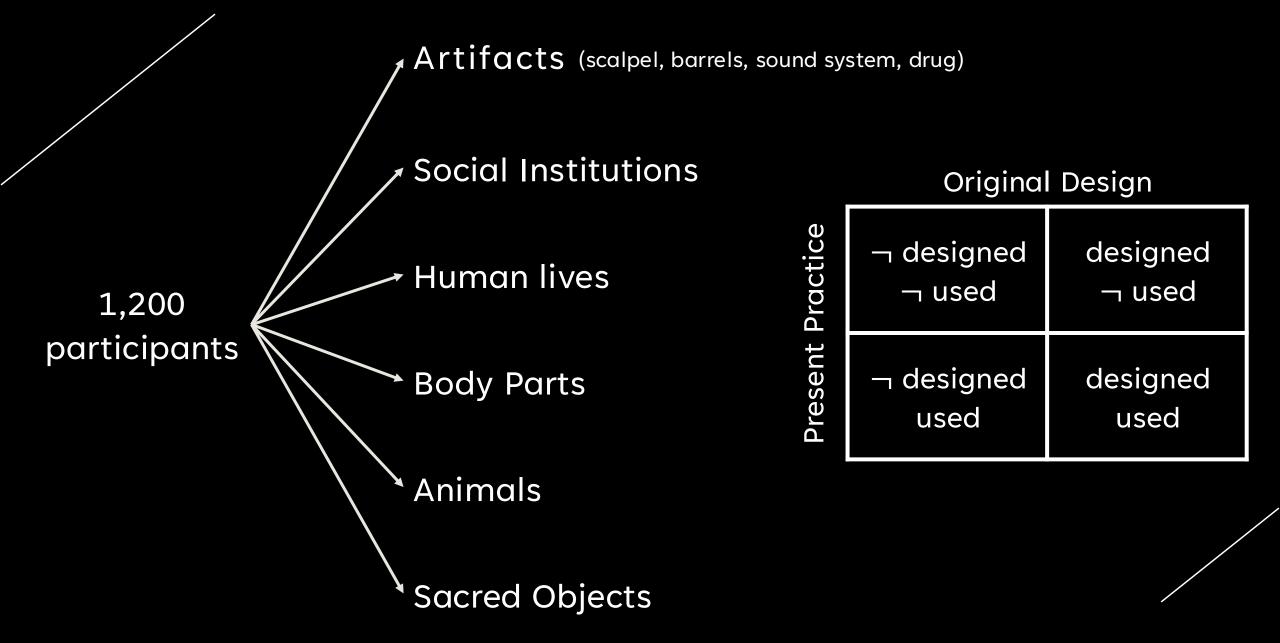
FROM ARTIFACTS TO HUMAIN-GENERALITY OF JUDGMENTS ABOUT PURPOSES

Michael Prinzing & Joshua Knobe

Purpose

Original design Present practice



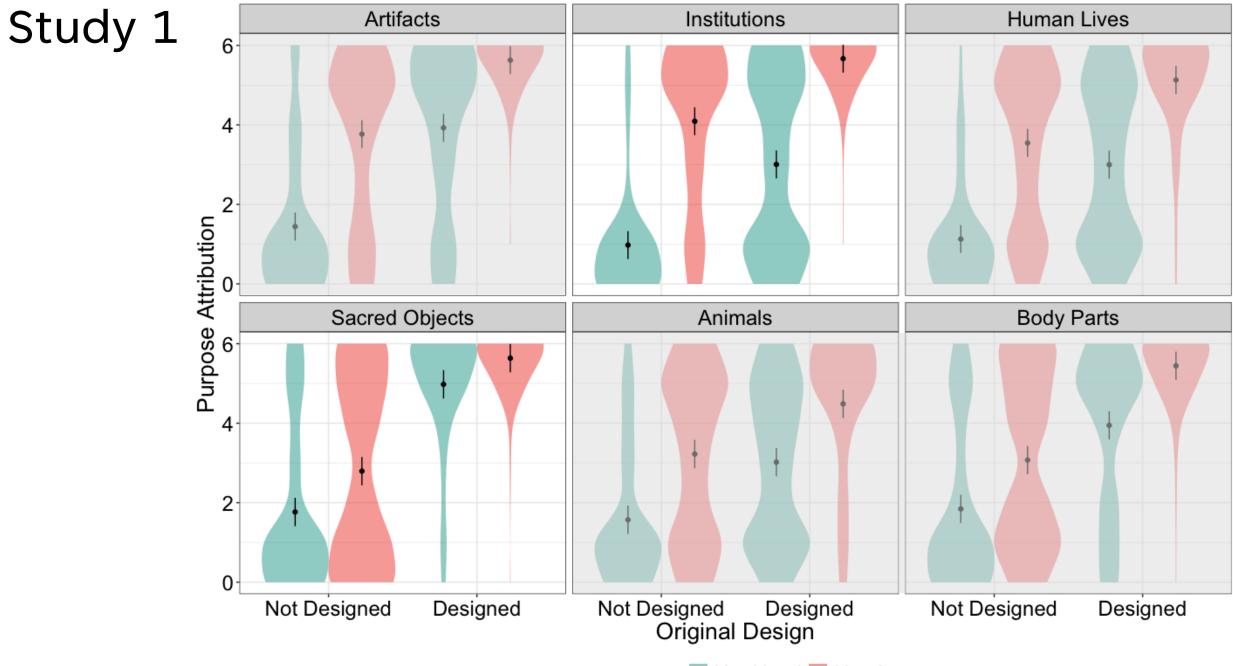
Example vignette

Doctor Winters has a kit of surgical tools that she takes with her whenever she performs delicate operations. One of the tools is a scalpel with a distinctive shape that enables it to cleanly slice tissue around arteries, without cutting the arteries themselves. This keeps patients from bleeding out.

The company that manufactured these tools specially created this scalpel to slice tissue around arteries. They designed it for just that application.

Doctor Winters often performs operations that require delicate work near arteries, but she does not use this special scalpel. This is because, after some reflection about it, Doctor Winters decided to use this scalpel exclusively in other ways.

The purpose of Dr. Winter's scalpel is to slice tissue around arteries.



Participants = 1,170; Observations = 4,680

Present Practice 🔹 Not Used 💌 Used

Example sacred object vignette

The Tablets of Concord sit in a temple in Arcadia. The tablets have been stored in this temple for longer than anyone can remember. In ancient times, the tablets were engraved with a mysterious kind of writing that was read aloud at festivals honoring the god Mardan.

In fact, Mardan himself crafted the Tablets of Concord. When he created them, however, he intended that they be used for something other than reading aloud at these festivals.

At some point, the priests got together and thought about what to do with the Tablets of Concord. They decided not to use the tablets for reading aloud at festivals. Instead, the priests made the decision to only use the tablets for other things.

The purpose of the Tablets of Concord is to be read aloud at festivals honoring Mardan.

Example sacred object (reversed)

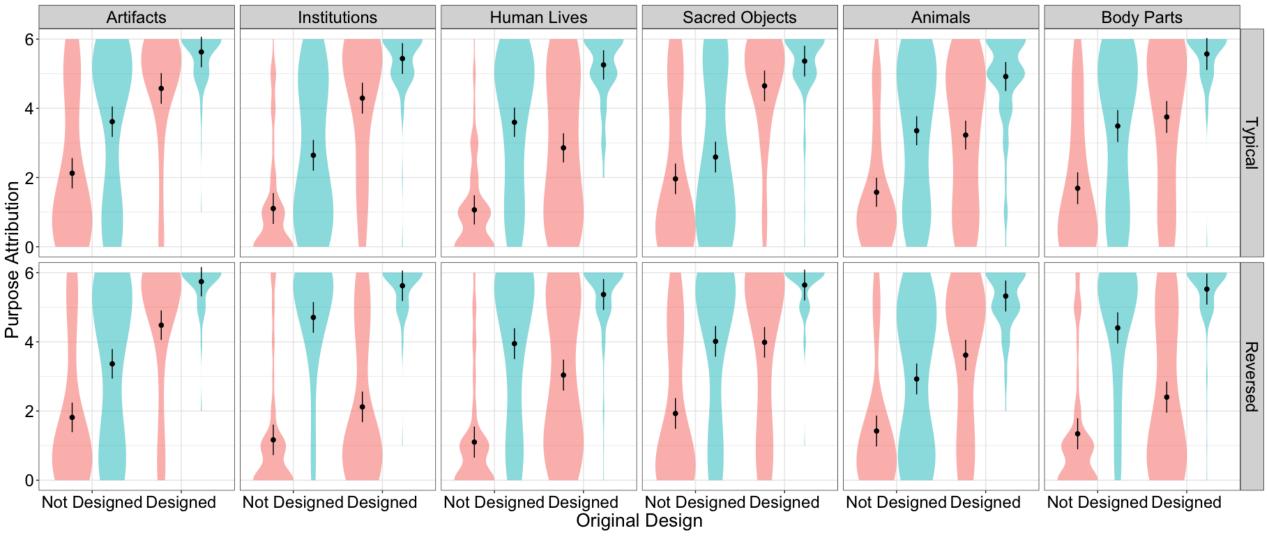
The Tablets of Concord sit in a temple in Arcadia. The tablets have been stored in this temple for longer than anyone can remember. In ancient times, the tablets were engraved with a mysterious kind of writing that was read aloud at festivals honoring the god Mardan.

It was the priests who crafted the Tablets of Concord. When they created the tables, however, the priests intended for them to be used for something other than reading aloud at these festivals.

At some point, Mardan himself sat down and thought about what to do with the Tablets of Concord. He decided that the tablets would be used only for reading aloud at festivals. Indeed, he declared that the tablets would never be used for other things.

The purpose of the Tablets of Concord is to be read aloud at festivals honoring Mardan.

Study 2



Present Practice

Not Used
Used
Used

Participants = 1,124; Observations = 4,496









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