

Dear Editor,

Important: We are requesting a **streamlined review** (per instructions [here](#)). As we explain below, this replication manuscript was previously rejected by *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology* merely for issues of theoretical contribution and journal fit though reviewers were positive and found the investigation rigorous. We decided on *Collabra* because of the stated focus on rigor, especially in replication work. We received the JESP permission to share the decision letter and make it publicly available, we addressed all their comments point by point in a detailed annex.

Please find the attached manuscript submitted to *Collabra: Psychology*: "Self-interest is overestimated: Two successful, pre-registered replications and extensions of Miller and Ratner (1998)". We are responding to the call for high-powered pre-registered replications of influential findings (e.g., Giner-Sorolla, 2016). We have read your editorial policies and accept them. No other version of this manuscript has appeared elsewhere.

This manuscript was previously reviewed at *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, and those reviews are included with their permission (documentation of permission attached). They found the methods robust but were ambivalent about the conceptual justification for the replication target: "in this specific case we have no particular theoretical or practical reason to doubt the replicability." We find this a questionable explanation after having seen the results. It was not clear whether this effect would replicate because the original studies and methods are more than 20 years old and underpowered. We took their constructive feedback seriously and revised the manuscript and also attach a response letter of how the manuscript was updated following that review.

Self-interest is a central driver of attitudes and behaviors, but people also act against their immediate self-interest through prosocial behaviors or punishing others at personal cost. How much people believe that self-interest causes attitudes and behaviors is important, because this belief may shape regulations and shared narratives. In this paper, we present the first replications of a key claim about perceived self-interest, from this influential paper: Miller, D. T., & Ratner, R. K. (1998). The disparity between the actual and assumed power of self-interest. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 74(1), 53–62. doi: 10.1037/0022-3514.74.1.53 Using the same materials and procedures as the original, we conducted two independent, pre-registered replications. Both samples were well-powered: USA ($N = 799$; MTurk) and UK ($N = 799$; Prolific). Great care was taken to situate the introduction and discussion in the current literature and provide guidance for contemporary theorizing. The results strongly support the original hypotheses and findings across two studies and two samples. We also present two extensions, one looking for individual difference predictors of overestimation, and one measuring self-interest ordinally rather than categorically.

All measures, manipulations, and exclusions are reported, and data collection was completed before analyses. The pre-registrations and full measures are reported in the Supplement. Materials, data, and code are publicly available at OSF.

The original pre-registrations included the author's names. Pre-registrations, code, Qualtrics exports, and pre-registration supplements: MTurk https://osf.io/xaf3w/?view_only=b77b9209ec544bf2941a40b88dfff5e3; Prolific https://osf.io/4zh9u/?view_only=248a3d1f3e4e47c88b00eb9c47167569.

For the purpose of this submission and blinded peer-review, those pre-registration files were modified to remove all author names, and then frozen in this submission.
The links to the original pre-registrations will be put back in the manuscript if accepted.

Note: Some journals require a statement that all authors have seen and approved the submission. Each of the authors gave specific consent to be coauthors on the final manuscript (prior to the final draft). We were unable to contact one of them during this submission. They made essential contributions and previously gave permission when working on the project, and are included as authors.

Thank you,
Cameron Brick and Gilad Feldman