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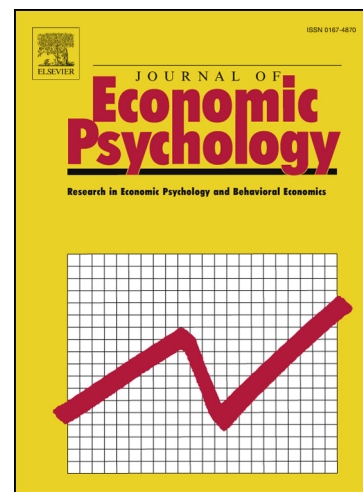
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The role of beliefs, trust, and risk in contributions to a public good*

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Abstract: This paper experimentally investigates the role of beliefs, trust, and risk in shaping cooperative behavior. By applying incentivized elicitation methods to measure these concepts, we find that beliefs about others' cooperation and trust are positively associated with cooperation in a public goods game. However, even though contributing to a public good resembles a situation of making decisions under risk, elicited risk preferences do not seem to explain cooperation in a systematic way.

JEL Classification: C91, D03, D64.

Keywords: Public goods, cooperation, risk preferences, trust, experiment.

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