

## DRAFT - TEAM

*Are we being generous to ourselves?* That's the question we asked ourselves when we started our discussions as a group. We think being generous to ourselves can also be a form of being generous. In order to take care of others and be generous to others we have to take care of ourselves first by being generous to ourselves sometimes. We wonder when self generosity becomes selfish. We all took parallel trains of thoughts but we did agree on one fact, generosity does not necessarily mean a sacrifice. Living in a capitalist world, we took the first train to the direction of generosity in the field of consumerism. Today consumerism and charity are often combined.

And we found it is not realistic to have a perfect benchmark for charity. Since no absolute scale exists in terms of lining earning with charitable causes.

We met religion as one prevalent stoppage in our journey. We saw generosity in the name of religion as reciprocal generosity as we do for others in the hope of paradise. Generosity is an important aspect in most religions. They give certain "rules" on being generous. A major problem with religious generosity is that it is often conditional. Religions are usually not generous to other religions. We are more generous to our own "group" and we are not or less generous to the "other". We are for example more generous and accepting to Ukrainian refugees than to refugees from the Middle East or Africa. This might be because we consider Ukrainians to be more like us, more part of our "group" and thus less threatening to our group identity. Refugees from the Middle east are labeled as the "other" and seen as a threat. This might be similar to what other animal species do, they also tend to protect and take care of their own group.

From there on, we took two different routes; one group was motivation-directed and the other got driven by outcomes. The motivation-directed group found a non-self- serving generous act more generous than a self-serving generous act. Where the later group argued, motivation can be borrowed from religious, cultural or self-serving purposes, and it is not to be taken into account, as long as greater good is being served.

Our observation certainly tried to cover the diversity where we thought of generosity in animals. We effortlessly agreed that animals are often times as generous as a good samaritan. Talking about diversity, we found it important to analyze the diverse boundaries of generosity and where they overlap. The intersectional boundaries of moral and ethical generosity got us into thinking deep. We found it a future possibility, to delve deep into where to draw the line (and how) when moral and ethical generosity are in conflict with each other. That led us to our ultimate purpose, to build a generous world for the future. "For our future", as the outcome-driven group said. "For a future that belongs to our next generation", according to the motivation-driven-group. That inevitably connected us to the ever-lasting conflict of "us vs them". Are we taking an equal approach to a generous world? Isn't equity a fairer approach to generosity? We also got confronted by each other's questions when we talked about animals being generous to us.

Generosity is treating others better than you have been treated/ being more generous than

- Can animals be selflessly generous?

- Does motivation count?
- Is generosity something made up or is it rooted in our nature, and if so can animals be generous too, or is it manipulated by mankind? Can robots be generous as well?

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#### Generosity in different religions

- In Islam > generosity is a key principle that islam educate us on —> the acts of selflessness and remanning humble are key traits if ideal character islam.
- In Jewish > Generosity is compel to all Jewish to give to charity and treat people who is less fortunate with compasion. In Jewish there is also an upper limit of giving so you can give more than one fifth as more than that it will be considered as extreme generosity cause one to become needy
- In Christianity > In the bible generosity is defined as “Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously”. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.
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