

DO REPORTING EMPLOYEES AFFECT MANAGER'S RISKY INVESTMENT DECISION-MAKING BEHAVIOR?

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The Decision-Influencing Employee





RQ

What is the effect of an information-reporting employee on a manager's judgement and subsequent risky investment decision-making behavior? How does justifying influences this effect?

The Effects of Being Similar or Different on Judgement and Decision-Making Behavior

- People unconsciously compare themselves to others and detect similarities and differences (Chatman and Flynn 2001)
- Differences are perceived more salient than similarities (Wish, Deutsch and Kaplan 1976)
- A more salient perception of differences might lead to include differences more to a judgement than similarities

Being different to the information-reporting employee lead managers to include employee-related information more for their investment-decision judgement than being similar.

- According to self-categorization theory, similarities and differences lead to trust and distrust and a change in attitude to the trusted/distrusted person (Abrams and Hogg 2010; Markus and Cross 1990)
- A variation in trust might lead to a variation in risk-perception and subsequently to a perception of risky decision-making behavior (Sitkin and Weingart 1995)

H1b

Being different to the information-reporting employee lead managers to a higher variation in risky investment decision-making behavior than being similar.

The Effect of Decision-Justification on Judgement and Decision-Making Behavior

■ Decision-justification leads to a wider and more salient perception of information (Conolly and Zeelenberg 2002; Hagafors and Brehmer 1983; Leonard, Scholl, and Kowalski 1999) such as employee related information.

H2a

Having to justify a decision leads managers to include employee-related information more for their investment-decision judgement than not having to justify their decision.

- The increase in salience due to decision-justification leads to a stronger perception of (by self-categorization theory induced) trust and distrust (Abrams and Hogg 2010; Markus and Cross 1990)
- This might lead to a stronger change in risk perception and consequently to a stronger change in risk behavior (Sitkin and Weingart 1995)
- By explicitly considering the employee for their investment-decision, managers fail to verify the logical connection to the investment project and exhibit the belief bias (Evans, and Curtis-Holmes 2005; Johnson-Laird and Byrne 1991)

H2b

The extent of risky investment decision-making behavior variation between similarity and difference is higher for managers that have to justify than for not having to justify their decisions.

Predictive Validity Figures

Figure 1: Effect of homogeneity and justification on inclusion of employee information for the investment-decision judgement

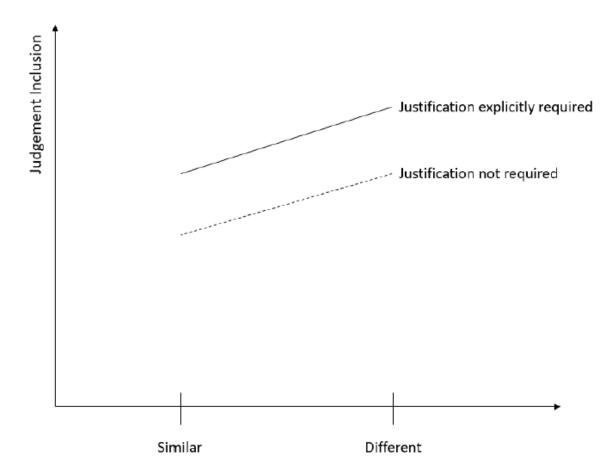
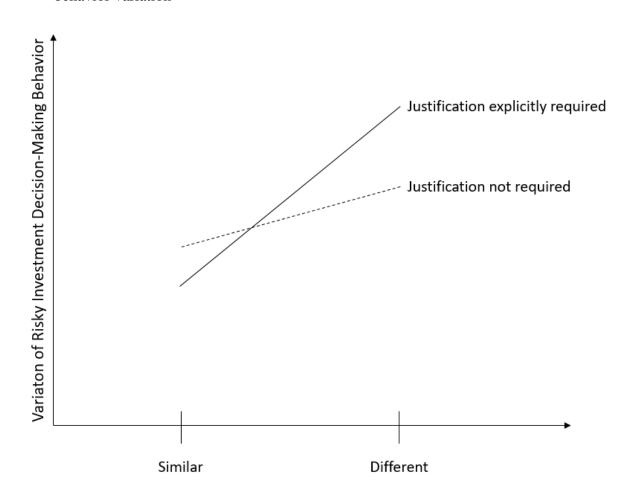


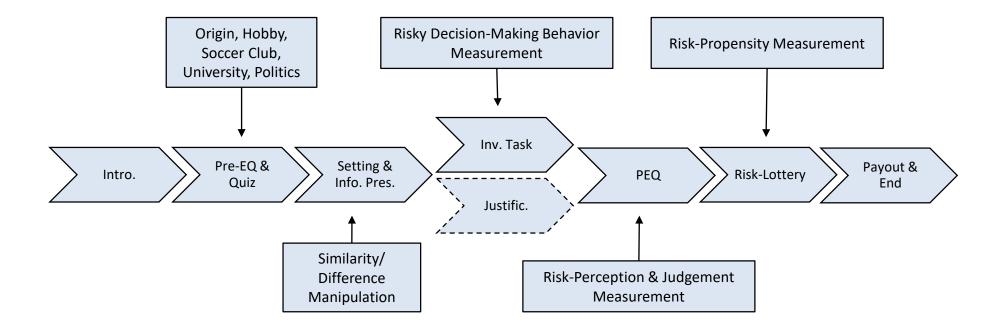
Figure 2: Effect of homogeneity and justification on risky investment decision-making behavior variation



Experimental Design

2x2 laboratory experimental design, conducted in Z-Tree (Fischerbach, 2007).

	No Justification	Decision-Justification
Similarity	1	II
Difference	III	IV





An welcher Universität studieren Sie aktuell / studierten Sie als letztes?

Ruhr-Universität-Bochum

C Hochschule Bochum

Universität Duisburg-Essen

C Technische Hochschule Georg Agricola

C TU Dortmund

Universität Witten/Herdecke

Sonstige

Peter Weber stellt Ihnen heute seine Projektidee vor. Zunächst aber ein paar Details zu Peter:

Peter hat an der Ruhr-Uni Bochum studiert.

Ab und zu trägt er ein Shirt mit dem Logo seiner ehemaligen Universität.

Er scheint ihr immer noch verbunden zu sein.

Sie wissen, dass Peter gebürtig aus Reinland-Pfalz kommt und dort auch aufgewachsen sowie zur Schule gegangen ist.

Seinen Kollegen zufolge ist Peter Dortmund Fan. Ein BVB-Schal hängt bei ihm am Platz.

Darüber hinaus haben Sie gehört, dass er sich politisch engagiert. Peter ist Mitglied einer bekannten liberalen Partei.



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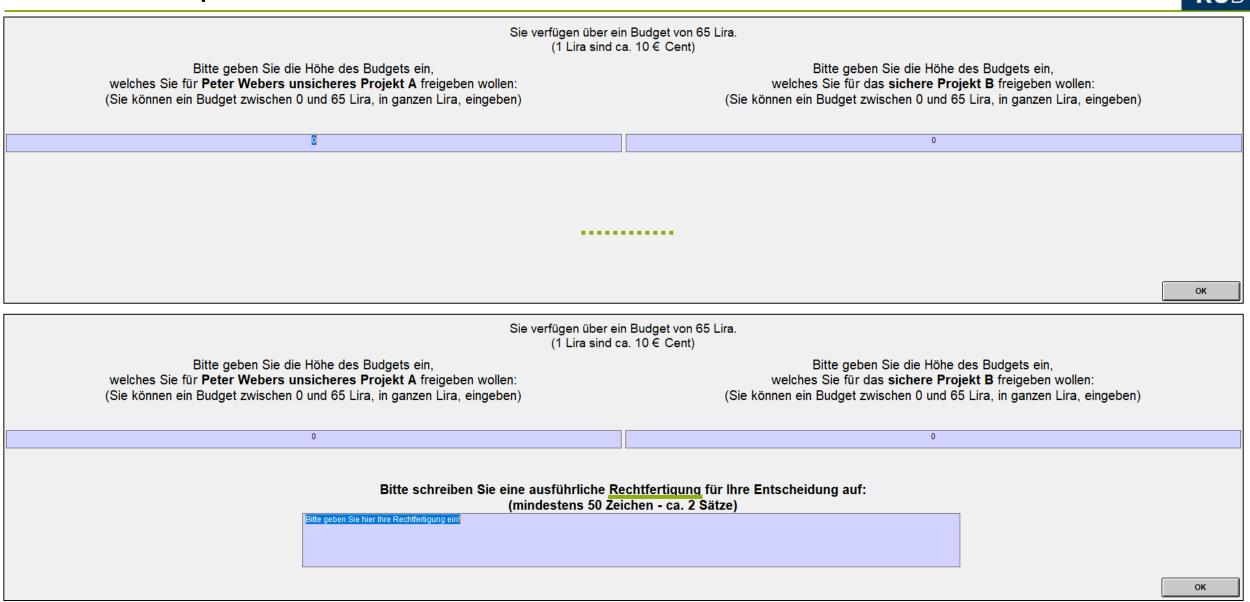
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Justification Manipulation



Employee Information Inclusion

Panel A: Hypotheses 1a and 2a (ANOVA). Dependent variable: Inclusion of employee

information for the investment-decision judgement

Source	df	Mean square	F-Statistics	p-value
Homogeneity	1	2,313.34	3.68	0.058
Decision-Justification	1	2,011.34	3.20	0.076
Homogeneity x Decision-	1	205.30	0.33	0.569
Justification				
Residual	113	628.60		
n = 117				
Adjusted R ² =0.035				

H1a:	Being different to the information-reporting employee lead managers to include employee-related information more for their investment-decision judgement than being similar.	√
H2a:	Having to justify a decision leads managers to include employee-related information more for their investment-decision judgement than not having to justify their decision.	√

Risky Investment Decision-Making Behavior Variation

Panel B: Hypotheses 1b and 2b (ANOVA). Dependent variable: Risky investment decisionmaking behavior variation

Source	df	Mean square	F-Statistics	p-value
Homogeneity	1	336.56	2.98	0.087
Decision-Justification	1	57.79	0.51	0.476
Homogeneity x Decision-	1	328.51	2.91	0.091
Justification				
Residual	113	112.98		
n = 117				
Adjusted R ² =0.027				

ŀ	H1b: Being different to the information-reporting employee lead managers to a higher variation in risky investment decision-making behavior than being similar.		✓
F	12b:	The extent of risky investment decision-making behavior variation between similarity and difference is higher for managers that have to justify than for not having to justify their decisions	✓

Results, Implications and Limitations

Main Results

- Being different to an information-reporting employee can have a negative effect on managers risky investment decision-making behavior (e.g. exhibiting risk-seeking/avoiding behavior)
- Decision-justification can foster such irrational behavior (e.g. belief bias)

Practical Implications

- Introduction of employee-independent reporting processes and techniques (e.g. self-service reporting)
- Monitoring of decision justifications (e.g. 4 eyes principle)

Limitations

- No measurement of separate effects of single attributes
- No clear behavior direction predictable because individual beliefs highly vary
- High variable payment limits the pool of addressed management



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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