

An exploration of trust, betrayal, & social identity

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Propositions
accompanying the dissertation

**An exploration of trust, betrayal,
& social identity**

by
Maria-Eugenia Polipciuc

1. Having school peers with different racial backgrounds in adolescence increases the turnout rates of young U.S. adults without increasing political polarization. (Chapter 1)
2. We observe a preference to engage in a risky interaction with a computer rather than a human when the situation entails a conflict of interest, but no relative preference nor dislike for either of the two when there is no conflict of interest. (Chapter 2)
3. Trusting members of one's own social group more than members of other social groups does not seem to be explained by being more betrayal averse to members of other social groups. (Chapter 3)
4. Elicited risk tolerance increases with the overall riskiness of available options. (Chapter 4)
5. Tweaking incentives may change the frame of reference as a side effect.
6. To maintain the public's trust in scientific findings, science communication should educate about how these findings are a collective endeavor with a great deal of seemingly useless byproducts.
7. Throughout the whole history of science most of the really great discoveries which had ultimately proved to be beneficial to mankind had been made by men and women who were driven not by the desire to be useful but merely the desire to satisfy their curiosity.

The Usefulness of Useless Knowledge, Abraham Flexner

8. The presence of the foreign is necessary for the formation of one's own [spirit].

Hyperculture, Byung-Chul Han

9. By indirections find directions out.

Polonius to Reynaldo in *Hamlet*, Shakespeare

10. A subject in a lab experiment and a person from the real world walk into a bar.