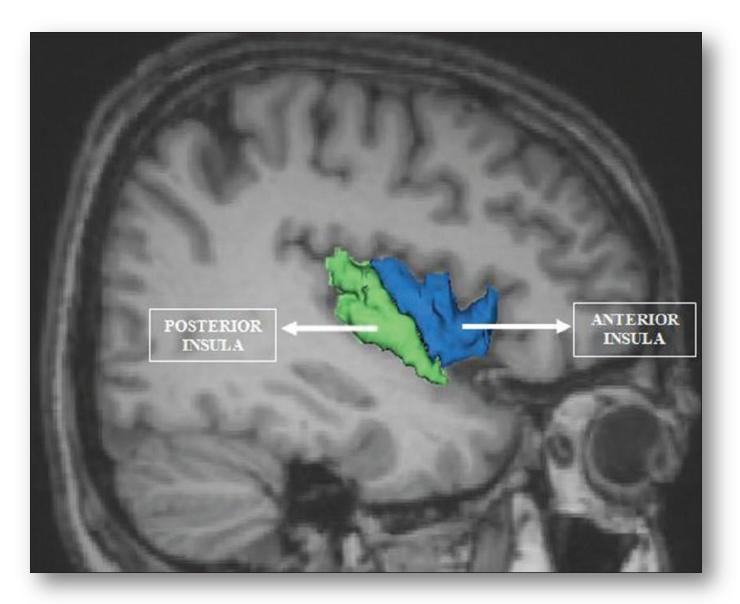


Fair Share



- The psychologists wanted to know if there is something inherently rewarding about being treated decently. So, they scanned several parts of the participants' brains while they were in the act of weighing both fair and miserly offers.
- Consistent with previous results, the researchers found that a region previously associated with negative emotions such as moral disgust (the anterior insula) was activated during unfair treatment. However, interestingly, they also found that regions associated with reward (including the ventral striatum) were activated during fair treatment even though there was no additional money to be gained.

 What's more, these emotional firings occur in brain structures that are fast and automatic, so it appears that the emotional brain is overruling the more deliberate, rational mind. Faced with a conflict, the brain's default position is to demand a fair deal. (psychologicalscience.org)



Anterior Insula: fairness command center





- Matthew 20:1-2 NIV
- "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard.² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

- Matthew 20:3-5 NIV
- "About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' ⁵ So they went.
- *"He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing."*

- *Matthew 20:6-7 NIV*
- ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, 'Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?'
- ⁷ "Because no one has hired us,' they answered. "He said to them, 'You also go and work in my vineyard.'"

- Matthew 20:8 NIV
- "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, 'Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.'"

- Matthew 20:9-10 NIV
- "The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius.
 ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius."

- Matthew 20:11-12 NIV
- "When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner. ¹² 'These who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.'"

- Matthew 20:13-15 NIV
- "But he answered one of them, 'I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn't you agree to work for a denarius? ¹⁴ Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you. ¹⁵ Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?'"

- Matthew 20:16 NIV
- "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

- Matthew 19:30 NIV
- *"But many who are first will be last, and many who are last will be first."*

What kind of God is this?



Are you a full-day worker or a late-comer?

How is God's fairness different from yours?

What are you going to do about it?

