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“Cognitive, Motivational,, and Emotional Antecedents of Forgiveness”

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About the Investigator and His Work in Forgiveness

Dr. Ellard is a member of the Social Psychology program in the Department of Psychology at the University of Calgary. His research is primarily concerned with how people's concerns about justice affect their reactions to their own and others' experiences. In the past, he has examined reactions of people who have been victimized in some way (e.g., spinal cord injury) and people who are reacting to the victimization of another person (e.g., cancer). He has found that perceptions of deservingness significantly define reactions people have to their own and others' fate. Recent research has focused on reactions to perpetrators, including the tendency to demonize them. He also has found that people tend to view negative experiences as "punishment" even when they know this reaction is not rational.

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