### Foundations of Affective Social Learning

Written by experts in comparative, developmental, social, cognitive and cultural psychology, this book introduces the novel concept of affective social learning to help explain why what matters to us, matters to us. In the same way that social learning describes how we observe other people's behaviour to learn how to *use* a particular object, affective social learning describes how we observe other people's emotions to learn how to *value* a particular object, person or event. As such, affective social learning conceptualizes the transmission of value from a given culture to a given person and reveals why the things that are so important to us can be of no consequence at all to others.

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(Continued after Index)

## Foundations of Affective Social Learning

Conceptualizing the Social Transmission of Value

Edited by Daniel Dukes University of Fribourg, Switzerland Fabrice Clément University of Neuchâtel, Switzerland



#### **CAMBRIDGE** UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

79 Anson Road, #06-04/06, Singapore 079906

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.

It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of education, learning, and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108473194 DOI: 10.1017/9781108661362

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First published 2019

Printed in the United Kingdom by TJ International Ltd Padstow Cornwall

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data Names: Dukes, Daniel, editor. | Clément, Fabrice, editor. Title: Foundations of affective social learning : conceptualizing the social transmission of value / edited by Daniel Dukes, Fabrice Clément. Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom; New York, NY: Cambridge University Press, 2019. | Series: Studies in emotion and social interaction | Includes index. Identifiers: LCCN 2019019728 | ISBN 9781108473194 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108461054 (paperback) Subjects: LCSH: Social learning. | Social values. | Affect (Psychology) Classification: LCC HM686.F68 2019 | DDC 302/.12–dc23 LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2019019728

ISBN 978-1-108-47319-4 Hardback

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Fabrice would like to thank Laurence and Daniel would like to thank Romaine for their enduring patience, love and support, and we would both like to thank our respective children for teaching us so much about what is important to them through their emotional expressions. *Papa*!

This book is dedicated to all of them.

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Cambridge University Press 978-1-108-47319-4 — Foundations of Affective Social Learning Edited by Daniel Dukes , Fabrice Clément Frontmatter <u>More Information</u>

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Cambridge University Press 978-1-108-47319-4 — Foundations of Affective Social Learning Edited by Daniel Dukes , Fabrice Clément Frontmatter <u>More Information</u>

### Preface

A number of people have contributed a great deal to the making of this book and this preface is our chance to thank them all.

We begin in 2017 and at a two-day workshop on affective social learning (ASL) organized with the wonderful help of Magali Mari in Montezillon, Switzerland. Thanks then to all those people – Brian Parkinson, Agneta Fischer, Christian Mumenthaler, David Sander, Tony Manstead, György Gergely, Paul L. Harris, Jozefien De Leersnyder, Thibaud Gruber, Christine Sievers, Caroline Schuppli and Carel van Schaik, who attended the workshop and who eventually contributed to this volume. We would also like to thank the excellent students who attended the workshop who came with lots of questions and positive energy and who left, like us, we hope, informed and inspired. Thanks too, to the people who have kindly joined the project since – Ildiko Király, Magdalena Rychlowska and Job van der Shalk.

For those of you interested in the historical beginnings of ASL, one would do well to start with Joseph Campos. Joe was kind enough to host both of us in his lab in Berkeley, decades apart, and his research on socio-emotional processes continues to inspire us greatly. Indeed, it was actually at a conference organized by Joe and Eric Walle where the origins of ASL can be found (ISRE, UC Berkeley, 2013). In one symposium, chaired by David Sander, Eric explained why he thought social referencing and social appraisal were essentially the same thing. His position was the opposite of ours, as we felt there were important differences between the two phenomena. We wrote up our different viewpoints, which were subsequently published in two separate papers in Emotion *Review.* It was while formulating our argument that we were struck by how social appraisal could be split into both interpersonal situations and situations between an observer and an agent who was unaware of being watched - a situation that we have since termed affective observation. The idea of a hierarchy of socio-emotional terms quickly emerged and ASL was born. Thanks then to Eric for accepting the challenge in 2013 to join us in writing conflicting views on social referencing and social appraisal. It is often in opposition to one idea that another idea grows best.

We would also like to warmly express our gratitude to Betty Repacholi, Brian Parkinson, Laurence Kaufmann and Paul L. Harris who read and

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commented upon earlier drafts of our introduction and/or conclusion. Each of them offered very helpful comments and valuable advice.

We are very grateful to Janka Romero and Emily Watton at Cambridge University Press for patiently and kindly guiding us through this process and of course, the series editors, Maya Tamir and particularly Brian Parkinson, who not only suggested that ASL might make an interesting subject for a book, but who also kindly accepted our invitation to contribute a chapter himself. Thanks too to the anonymous reviewers for their comments.

Of course, we would like to thank, once again, the generous sponsors of the initial workshop – Swissuniversities on behalf of the Swiss Centre for Affective Sciences, the Swiss National Science Foundation and the University of Neuchâtel. Indeed, the Swiss National Science Foundation continues to generously support Danny's research.

Merci beaucoup à tous.