



## **Illusion of collaborative cheating: The demon is in ourselves**

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*A previous study suggested that people might be biased to do cheating when they were paired with partners who also did cheating. However, it was unknown whether the participants were aware of the actual partners' behavior, or otherwise, they were misled by their own thought. Using an experimental design involving a technique used to assess awareness, we were intended to address this question. Participants performed die-rolling task for obtaining certain monetary gain, working remotely with pseudo-partners –a computer program which was set to do cheating 50% of the trials. Following the experiments, participants were asked to fill out a questionnaire to check whether they were aware of partners performance. In participants' cheating, our result shows that there was a correlation between awareness of partners and participants' performance. In addition, the study would like to know whether participants could accurately identify their partners' performance. Our result demonstrated that although participants cheat when they were paired with partners cheated, they could not identify partners' actual performance. Altogether, this finding has shown abundant evidence that socially-biased cheating was rather rooted in the human mind, not driven by actual fact.*

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