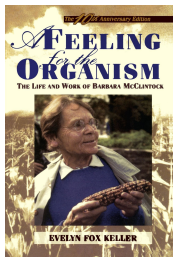




For the Love of Dog: The Ethical Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research

Carla Fehr, Waterloo

ontheroadwithmilo.com



Love, epistemology, science



Chauvet Cave – child and dog

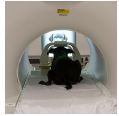
2012 – Carla and Milo the AwesomeDog

- Skillful interactions (Attention, trust, teamwork)
- Intense relationship
- Curiosity
- What is it like to be Milo?
- What is the nature of our relationship?

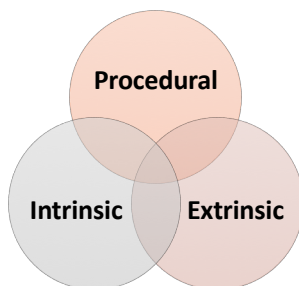


2012 – Greg Berns, Callie et al, and an fMRI

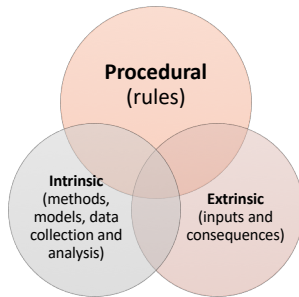
Canine cognition research
Does his dog, Callie, love him? What is going on in her brain/mind?
Sources of data
NOT endorsing this research
fMRI
Reductionist
Unsavoury questions
Explore the role of love in this research using EDSR



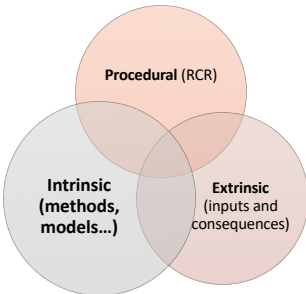
Nancy Tuana's Ethical Dimensions of Scientific Research (EDSR)



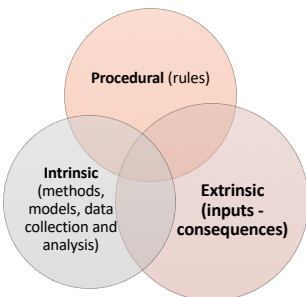
Nancy Tuana's Ethical Dimensions of Scientific Research (EDSR)



Nancy Tuana's Ethical Dimensions of Scientific Research (EDSR)



Nancy Tuana's Ethical Dimensions of Scientific Research (EDSR)



Ethical Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research (fMRI)

Ethical Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research (fMRI)

Procedural Ethics

Ethics review challenge

Easier if they bought dogs rather than used pet dogs

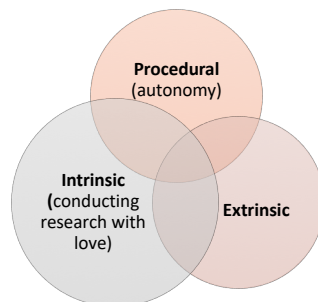
A consent form for dog research?

| Animal Ethics Review | Human ethics review |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Welfare | Dignity |
| Property | Informed consent (assent) |

Used the consent form given to guardians of minors

Assent → the dogs can opt out of the experiment

Ethical Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research (fMRI)

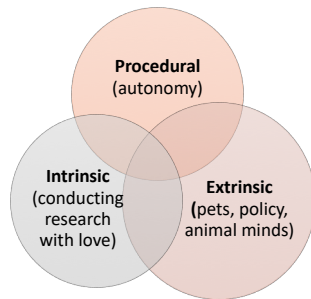


Intrinsic ethics—non (less) invasive methodology

Love expressed in development and implementation of new **research** questions and experimental designs



Ethical Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research (fMRI)



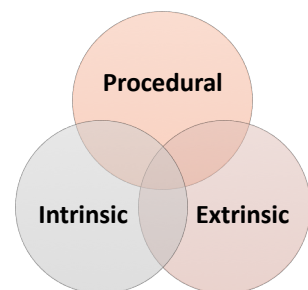
Extrinsic Ethics

- **Input:** pet dogs as family
- **Consequences:** results provide support for the idea that dogs have rich inner lives, miss their people, and have brain structures and activation patterns that are similar to those of us humans.



Epistemic Dimensions of Canine Cognition Research

Fruitful Rigor





Thank you



Thank you
