Toward Knowing the Minds of Gods: A Comparative Examination of Supernatural Agency

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- Mentalizing faculties are central for representing supernatural agency
- Human communication about supernatural agency so often consists of gods’ mental states,
  - Socially strategic information
  - Supernatural Punishment Hypothesis
- Access bias towards moralizing God’s knowledge (Purzycki, et al. 2012)
- Tyvans do not explicitly moralize local “spirit-masters’” concerns (2010, n.d.) but...
  - Biased responses of their knowledge and concern toward moral information (n.d.)
  - Mediated by geography
- Breadth of attributed knowledge predicts moral concern for distant moral information
- Cairn practices conveys a general sense of trustworthiness (Purzycki and Arakchaa, forthcoming).

References: