### **Generalized Shared Reality (SR-G) Behavioral Signatures**

Rossignac-Milon, M., Bolger, N., Zee, K. S., Boothby, E. J., & Higgins, E. T. (2021). Merged minds: Generalized shared reality in dyadic relationships. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 120(4), 882.

During their discussion, how frequently did this dyad...

Never			Occasionally			Very
			(Average)			frequently
1	2	3	4	5	6	7

*Note*. Try not to count "instances" of these behaviors - instead, after watching the interaction all the way through, rate your overall sense of how frequently the dyad was exhibiting each type of behavior relative to other dyads in the sample.

## 1. Express thought similarity

(e.g., "I was thinking the same thing", "I was just going to say that", "you read my mind", "That's how I think about it too"; "That's exactly what I was trying to say"; "Exactly"; "YES!")

*Note.* Participants don't need to say these phrases explicitly, as long as their response indicates that their partner seems to have vocalized their thought process (i.e., a thought they already had in their mind).

#### Examples from online conversations between stranger dyads:

A: I think they will pay for their purchase and leave the establishment.

B: That's exactly what I was thinking

A: Comfortable and relaxed

B: Yep. I was going to say happy

### Example from laboratory conversations between romantic dyads:

A: And there was also one that was nice, but it had too many colors. It was like a landscape thing, it had, like, a sunset, but then there was just too much going on.

B: Yeah, exactly. It seemed like one of those things that's on the Jehovah's Witness, um...

A: Yeah, exactly!

A: [Nodding] Yeah, Joseph. Joseph didn't care!

B: Which, I feel like he would do that, in that pond. [Pointing]

A: [Nodding] Oh, god, yes.

B: For sure.

# 2. Vocalize agreements/shared feelings

(e.g., "I totally agree"; "So true"; "That's how I feel too", "That makes total sense"; "You're completely right")

*Note.* Do not count back-channeling (i.e., saying "yeah", "right", or "mhmm" to indicate listening)—only expressions of actual agreement and sharing the partner's inner state about what they are discussing. Intonation can definitely play into this (e.g. saying "that's true" or "riiight" in an annoyed or skeptical tone can actually convey a lack of agreement).

#### Examples from online conversations between stranger dyads:

A: Lol yeah, he looks serious. It could always just be a casual bar conversation though

B: TRUE

A: Maybe he just joined the conversation and hasn't sat down yet. Or isn't really engaged in the convo?

B: Yeah, that makes sense.

### Examples from laboratory conversations between romantic dyads:

A: The ones I liked.... And the dog [laugh]

B: Yeah I agree. The dog was pretty awesome.

A: And... you remember there was this contorted—[Hand gesture]—with the—

B: Yeah, I didn't like it.

A: I didn't like it either.

### 3. Say similar things [nearly] at the same time

(e.g., near-synchronous exclamations, single-word utterances, phrases, quick repetitions. These need not use same exact words, as long as they are aligned *semantically*, i.e., expressing the same meaning])

*Note*. Rate the extent to which partners seemingly think of things at the same time, have the same thought processes and reactions during the conversation, or simultaneously express the same ideas about what they are discussing (doesn't have to be using the same words).

### Examples from online conversations between stranger dyads:

A: I think they are talking because the man in the hat is a PI who the man in the hooded shirt has hired.

B: I think that the man with the pipe is a private investigator and the hooded man is telling him about something he wants him to investigate

A: He's the serious one!

B: He's the enforcer

#### Examples from laboratory conversations between romantic dyads:

B: Um, I'm trying to think... oh!

A: Reminds me of Pokemon!

B: Reminds me of Pokemon! Like all things.

A: .. to look at shitty motivation posters.

B: [Simultaneously] Motivational posters!

# 4. Finish each other's ideas (build off of each other)

Rate the extent to which the dyad seems to be riffing off of each other's ideas, i.e., sharing one stream of consciousness and really building off each other's thoughts to co-construct a shared understanding (not just explaining their respective perspectives to each other, but building a new understanding together in a fluid way). Note that they can come from different perspectives and initially have different interpretations (or have no opinions)—as long as through their discussion, they seem to be sharing a stream of consciousness as they come to make sense of it and really building off of what the other is saying.

### Examples from online conversations between stranger dyads:

A: the empty chair

B: oooh dark!

B: i dig it though

A: seance?

A: hahahaha!

B: damnit carol you forgot the ouijia board?!?!

A: LOL!

B: dear spirits move this chair up into the air if you wish carol would have brought a ouijia board and made this easier for everyone

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- A: He is trying to establish dominance in the room, but failing miserably.
- B: HAHA
- B: No one cares if you stand up, Ted
- A: I sort of wish they had faces
- B: Me too, I think Ted would be crying
- A: The more I look at them the more it creeps me out
- B: Yeah.. their little blank faces and nubby hands
- B: There is definitely a semblance of distress
- A: Oh my god maybe they're about to arm wrestle
- B: Right. Ted is about to walk up and show him what's up.
- A: Exactly. It's a frat party

### Examples from laboratory conversations between romantic dyads:

- *B: I felt like it was an—a virtual reality image.*
- A: Exactly, I felt—
- B: It was unreal.
- A: Yeah, unreal, I felt the same too. Uh, I felt the other thing, there were some boxes with moss over it—
- B: Yes.
- A: That could—
- B: [simultaneously] It could have been real.
- A: Or bad book covers!
- B: Yeah!
- A: Those, the kind you buy at the grocery store 'cause you're going on vacation and it's very—
- B: It's like a young adult novel.
- A: [Nodding] Yes! Like, "Tommy and the Zombie Apocalypse" [Laughing]

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