Past research with typically developing (TD) samples indicates that knowing how your helpful actions benefit others (i.e. impact information) increases prosociality and the emotional rewards of generosity. Given the social cue impairments associated with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), we tested whether heightening impact information increases donations and post-giving happiness in kids with ASD and those without (TD).

1) Does providing direct and obvious prosocial impact information (vs. muted impact information) increase helping in ASD and TD samples?

2) How does impact information influence post-giving happiness in TD samples and those with ASD?

Participants:
- 52 kids (27 with ASD, 73% female, $M_{age}=9.8$)

Design:
- Participant given 10 stickers
- Randomly assigned to watch a video describing opportunity to share stickers with sick kid, Sam
  - High impact: Sam loves stickers → very happy
  - Low impact: Sam likes stickers → happy
- Participant able to donate stickers (0-10)

Measures:
- Post-giving affect, Beneficence Scale, Sticker Ratings

**RESULTS**
- Sam’s sticker enjoyment was rated significantly higher by children with ASD in the High Impact ($M=9.92, SE=.08$) compared to children with ASD in the Low Impact Condition ($M=8.60, SE=.08$), $U=52.50, n_1=15, n_2=12, p<0.02$ (See Fig. 1)
- Donation rates were not significantly influenced by impact, diagnosis, or interaction effects.
- Happiness and Perceived Impact were positively correlated for children with ASD ($r=0.46, n=26, p=0.02$) and without ASD ($r=0.47, n=25, p=0.02$; See Fig. 3)
- Donation Amount and Perceived Impact were only positively correlated for children with ASD ($r=0.46, n=26, p=0.02$, See Fig. 3)
- Children with ASD were sensitive to differing levels of sticker enjoyment as intended by the manipulation
  - This relationship was not found in the TD sample
- Impact information has been shown to bolster giving in past research with TD samples
  - This trend was present in the TD sample, though not significant ($p=0.12$)
- We did not observe a similar pattern in the ASD sample; cue saliency did not increase donation rates
- Happiness and perceived impact correlations suggest that these constructs are related for youth with and without ASD
- Inconsistent correlations of donation amount and perceived impact may be a result of small sample size.
- Further research with larger samples is needed.

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**Pre-Registration:** https://bit.ly/ASD_Pi