

A Moral Gene?

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Scientific American:

Morality is often considered to be the domain of philosophers, not biologists. But scientists have often wondered what role our genomes play in directing our moral compass. Today, a paper was published in the open access journal PLoS One which found moral decision making was influenced by different forms of a single gene.

Picture yourself standing at branching train tracks with a unstoppable train barreling towards you. On one side, an evil villain has tied five people, while on the other, he has tied only one. You've got the switch in your hands which chooses which track the train goes down. Do you feel it's morally acceptable to choose to kill the one instead of the five?

Read the full story: [*Scientific American*](#)