

Something for the weekend

August 15, 2012

Financial Times:

While waiting for exam results, or the outcome of a job interview, many of us might catch ourselves bargaining with the universe; in return for exam or job success we promise to become better citizens, kinder to our friends etc.

Now researchers from Chicago Booth and the University of Virginia have examined this phenomenon a little more closely. They wanted to see whether just as individuals expect others to return a favour, whether these individuals at some level also expect the universe to do the same thing. Would waiting for an outcome that was out of their control compel individuals to do good deeds, with the implicit expectation that the universe would return the favour?

Read the whole story: [*Financial Times*](#)