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Editors' introduction to JBEP 8(S1)

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This **Special Issue** of the *Journal of Behavioral Economics for Policy* gathers a selection of papers originally presented at the 2023 IAREP-SABE conference, which took place from June 8–10, 2023, at Université Côte d'Azur in Nice, France. The event was hosted by the École Universitaire de Recherche ELMI and organized by the Groupe de Recherche en Droit, Économie et Gestion (GREDEG), a research unit affiliated with CNRS and Université Côte d'Azur. The Early Career Researcher pre-conference workshop took place on June 7 and offered Ph.D. students and job market candidates an opportunity to present and discuss their work, attracting 20 participants.

The conference featured four outstanding keynote presentations. George Loewenstein (Carnegie Mellon University) delivered a talk titled *Land, Labor, Capital, and… Attention* examining the role of attention in a world saturated with information and highlighting its implications for digital technologies and AI. Dilip Soman (University of Toronto), in his keynote Behavioral Science at Scale addressed the challenge of turning academic insights into large-scale public policy interventions and presented practical strategies useful to both researchers and practitioners. Eliana La Ferrara (Harvard Kennedy School) spoke on *"Changing Harmful Norms"* blending theoretical viewpoints with experimental results to illustrate interventions designed to advance gender equality. Martin Dufwenberg (University of Arizona) discussed *"Psychological Game Theory"* emphasizing the influence of emotions, reciprocity, and image concerns on economic decision-making and illustrating these ideas with various real-world examples.

Over the course of the conference, more than 400 papers were presented in parallel sessions, alongside 25 posters showcased in the poster session, bringing together a global community of young, mid-career and veteran researchers who bravely resisted the allure of sun-kissed beaches. The Nice edition of the IAREP SABE conference featured new findings, valuable insights, and fruitful exchanges. Talks spanned a broad range of topics, including gender issues, personality traits, social preferences, environmental behavior, financial decision-making, and uncertainty. This diversity not only reflects the interdisciplinary nature of the field but also underscores its growing relevance to public policy. Academic discussions were complemented by an exciting social program – including a scenic boat trip to Monaco and a very chic gala dinner at the Palais de la Méditerranée.

This Special Issue offers three papers that convey the diversity of perspectives in economic behavior research, all focused on understanding and shaping human behavior to tackle pressing societal challenges. The issue is composed of three contributions on norm dynamics, consumer behavior, and experimental methodology.

The first paper, *"Norm Misperceptions in Social Dilemmas: Preferences, Heuristics, and Experiences"* explores how people form and revise misperceptions of social norms, especially when behaviors remain largely unobserved. Using post-lockdown COVID-19 data from Italy, the authors highlight the roles of personal preference, heuristic thinking, and past experience in shaping norm perceptions and offer actionable insights for designing interventions that recalibrate these perceptions. Thesecond paper, *"Temporal Best Prices and Consumer Behavior: Fairness and Transparency"* takes up the practice of communicating Temporal Best Prices to consumers – an approach aligned with the EU's Omnibus Directive. This study uncovers how such communication influences purchase intent and affects perceptions of fairness and transparency. The third paper, *"Virtual Humans in High-Immersive Environments: Balancing Anonymity and Interaction"* focuses on the potential use of virtual reality avatars to maintain anonymity in economic experiments. Discussing that virtual reality can preserve the dynamics of face-to-face interaction without revealing participants' identities, the authors address some long-standing methodological challenges in experimental research.

We would like to thank all the contributing authors, the conference organizers and staff for making this event a success, the scientific committee for creating such a stimulating program, and the reviewers for their constructive feedback in ensuring the quality of this issue.

We hope you enjoy reading this issue.

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