Johannes Abeler

Oxford University

"Preferences for truth-telling"

Abstract:

How people report their private information is important for many areas in economics. Economic theory assumed so far that people misreport their private information if this is to their advantage. Recent experimental evidence suggests, however, that many people are more honest than assumed. I develop a model that can align the stylized facts of the existing data on reporting behavior and present new evidence that further distinguishes between potential mechanisms driving reporting behavior. I also investigate whether preferences for truth-telling are correlated with other preferences.

Contact person: Alexander Sebald