## **PROSOCIAL BEHAVIOR**

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# PERSONAL AND SITUATIONAL FACTORS IN HELPING

#### EMPATHY

• Empathy is the ability of individuals to put themselves in positions of others. If a person sees another person in distress, empathy acts to help others who involve in the problems

### GUILT AND HELPING

- an emotional warning sign that most people learn through their normal childhood social development
- Guilt from transgression of this type has led to helping regardless of whether the transgression were intentional or unintentional, public or private, in the laboratory or in the field.

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• One problematic finding, however is that helpfulness induced by guilt is often directed, not just toward the injured victim but towards unrelated parties who may need help.