

What makes a theory more convincing? A social approach

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Theories, in linguistics and elsewhere, need to be accepted and endorsed by researchers. Philosophers and psychologists have now moved from an individual approach, where acceptance depends on individual's critical scrutiny, to a more social approach, where acceptance depends also on the community's response and patterns of persuasion. This talk will examine some of the conceptual toolbox that social epistemologists and psychologists are using to understand these dynamics.