BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE 2.0: TACKLING COMPLEX GOALS USING BEHAVIOURAL SYSTEMS

CHRIS HARVEY

13th NOVEMBER 2025



ACTIVATE RESEARCH – BRIEF SUMMARY

- We inspire change and drive growth through enabling a deeper understanding of how people think and why they behave as they do
- Insights and approaches from behavioural science

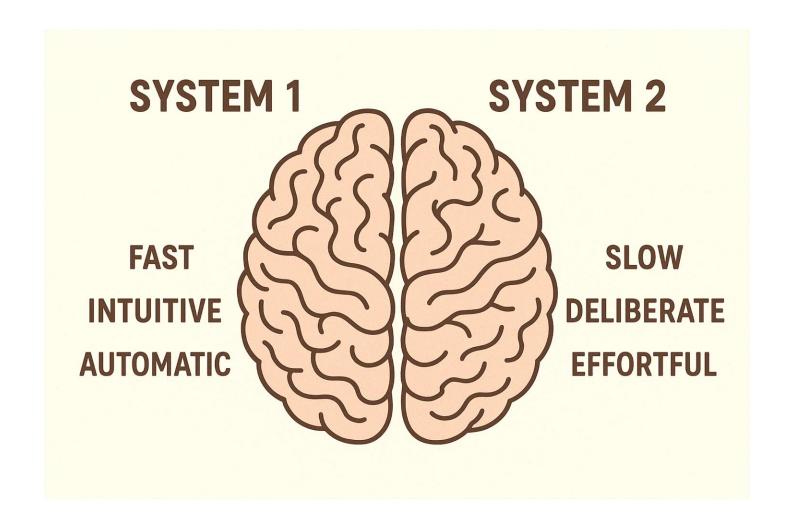


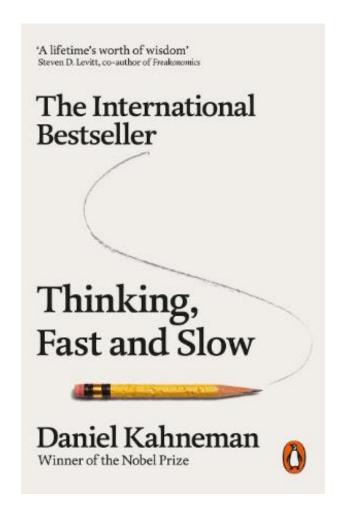




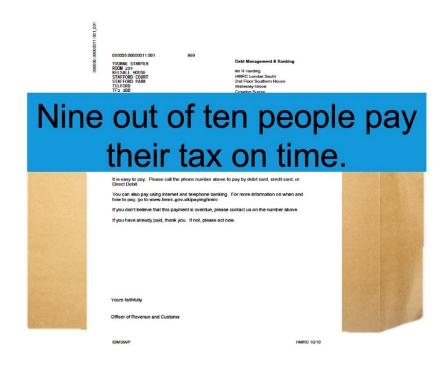


BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE 1.0





BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE 1.0: EFFECTIVE NUDGES





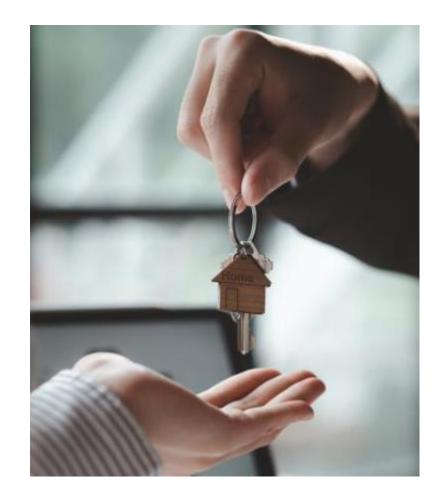
BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE 2.0



Complex goals

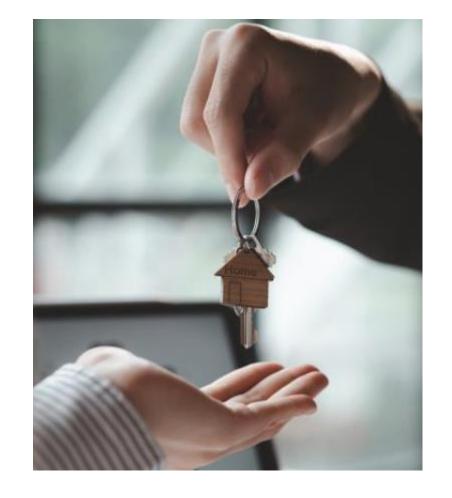
EXERCISE: BUYING A PROPERTY

- View property(ies)
- Arrange mortgage
- Make offer(s)



EXERCISE: BUYING A PROPERTY

- > Saving for a deposit
- > Researching the market
- > Viewing properties
- Getting mortgage approval
- Making offers
- Contacting a solicitor
- > Selling current property



COMPLEX GOALS INVOLVE MULTIPLE INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOURS

SOME OTHER COMPLEX GOALS







CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT



CUSTOMER LOYALTY



IDENTIFYING COMPLEX GOALS

- 1. A problem you or your client / stakeholder have struggled to solve for some time
- 2. Inconsistent behaviour despite strong intentions
- 3. Multiple contexts, touchpoints or devices



EXERCISE

➤ Tell me about a complex goal you'd like to tackle – something involving multiple individual behaviours

- 1. A problem you or your client / stakeholder have struggled to solve for some time
- 2. Inconsistent behaviour despite strong intentions
- 3. Multiple contexts, touchpoints or devices





STEP 1: INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIOURS

Individual behaviours

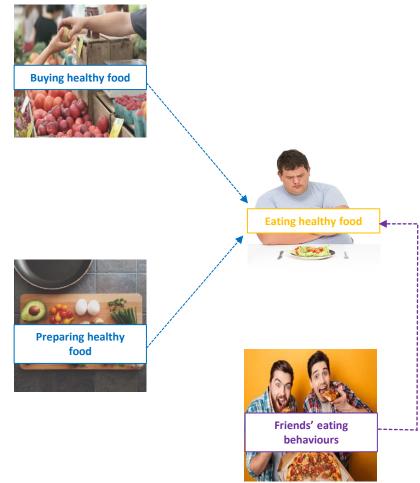
Eating healthy food

Preparing healthy food

Buying healthy food

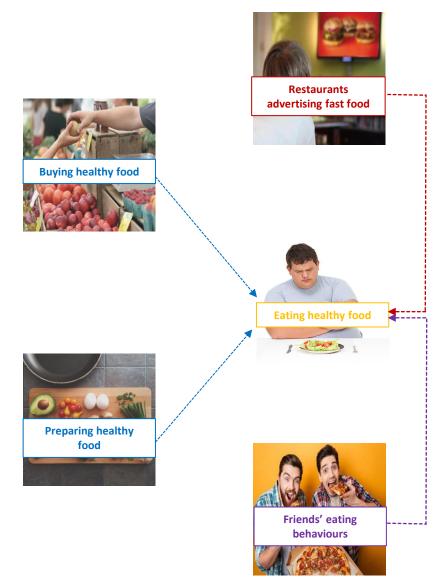
STEP 2: OTHER PEOPLE

Individual behaviours
Other people



STEP 3: ORGANISATIONS

Individual behaviours
Other people
Organisations



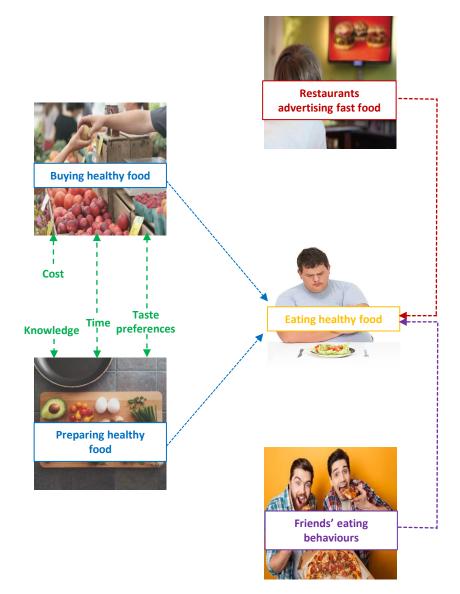
STEP 4: INFLUENCES

Individual behaviours

Other people

Organisations

Influences



STEP 5: ROOT CAUSES

Escoto, K., Laska, M., Larson, N., Neumark-Sztainer, D., & Hannan, P. (2012).

Work hours and perceived time barriers healthful eating among young adults.

American Journal of Health Behaviour, 3
786-796.

Working

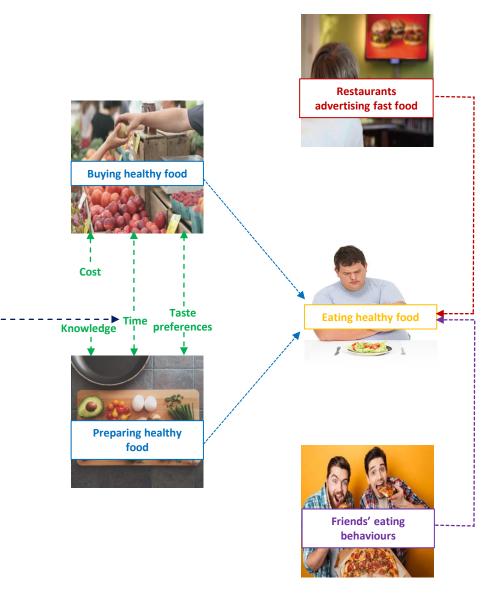
Individual behaviours

Other people

Organisations

Influences

Root cause behaviours



SUMMARY – BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE 2.0

Complex goals involve multiple individual behaviours

STEPS 1-5 - CONSIDER:

1. Individual behaviours

2. Other people

3. Organisations

4. Influences

5. Root cause behaviours



THANK YOU! ANY QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?

Chris.Harvey@activate-research.com (+44) 7816 015772

www.activate-research.com https://www.activate-research.com/newsletter