

Direct Brain Stimulation and Agency

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Novel ways to intervene on brain function raise questions about agency and responsibility. I discuss whether direct brain interventions, and in particular, deep brain stimulation, pose a threat to agency in individual cases, or to our general conceptualization of what it is to be a responsible agent. I discuss the possibility that our theoretical understanding of agency and our therapeutic approaches could be improved with a more nuanced, multidimensional view of agency, and the first steps to making such a new view a reality.