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The path of most resistance

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Propositions:

- Stereotypes and prejudice can threaten social identity outside of conscious awareness.
- This dissertation shows, for the first time, that members of disadvantaged groups are able to *resist* threats to social identity that occur outside of conscious awareness.
- Resistance to implicit social identity threat is internally motivated, and can occur through evaluative as well as behavioural strategies.
- The experience of social identity threat in daily life allows people to build up resilience, which in turn allows them to cope with increasingly subtle forms of such threat.
- This dissertation develops a model of gender identity that conceptualises gender identity as composed of two dimensions: identification with women, and identification with feminists.
- Women who identify with feminists but *not* with women as a group resist exposure to implicit gender stereotypes by implicitly evaluating the own group more favourably, and through behaviour that reflects positively on the group.
- Resistance to implicit social identity threat can be conceived of as functioning like resistance in the physical immune system, fighting disease without the individual's awareness or conscious intervention.
- “You shouldn't go through life with a catcher's mitt on both hands, you need to be able to throw something back” – Maya Angelou