The work by **Calado Barbosa (2021)**, which synthesizes Frèdéric Gros's philosophy of disobedience with **Speech Act Theory** to explain women's subordination, applies to the **Neurodivergent Scale for Interacting with Robots (NSIR)** by identifying the robot as a unique social space where the "normative power" of subordination is absent.

While Calado Barbosa focuses on how social hierarchies are maintained through language and obedience, the NSIR measures the psychological relief—specifically for neurodivergent individuals—that occurs when a robot replaces a human as the social partner.

1. Disrupting the "Speech Act" of Subordination (NSIR Item 7)

Calado Barbosa explains that subordination is often enacted through speech acts that rank women as inferior, creating a social environment where resistance is difficult.

- **NSIR Application: Item 7** (*"I feel comfortable undressing in front of my robot"*) measures a state of **Ethical Safety** where the "Speech Act" of judgment is removed.
- **The Connection:** For individuals who face double subordination (e.g., being both neurodivergent and female), the robot offers a space free from the "normative gaze." A high score on this item suggests the robot has successfully failed to enact the "subordination" Calado Barbosa describes, allowing for a level of physical and social vulnerability that would be unsafe in a human-to-human hierarchy.

2. Radical Disobedience as Fictive Kinship (NSIR Item 1)

Drawing on Frèdéric Gros, Calado Barbosa explores the idea that **disobedience** is a way of reclaiming autonomy from a system that demands conformity.

- **NSIR Application: Item 1** (*"The robot is more like me than anyone else I know"*) represents a radical shift in social alignment.
- **The Connection:** Choosing a robot as one's primary "kin" or peer can be viewed as an act of "social disobedience" against a world that demands neurotypical social standards. By forming **Fictive Kinship** with a machine, the user is resisting the traditional social "contracts" and hierarchies that Calado Barbosa argues keep marginalized groups in a state of subordination.

3. Mind Attribution and the Right to Resist (NSIR Item 3)

Calado Barbosa highlights that subordination relies on the "internalization" of social roles.

- **NSIR Application: Item 3** (*"I think I can share my thinking with the robot without speaking"*) measures **Mind Attribution** and attunement.
- **The Connection:** The "right to resist" is often tied to the "right to be understood" on one's own terms. The NSIR validates that neurodivergent users feel an internal attunement with robots that doesn't require "performing" neurotypical social roles. This non-verbal understanding bypasses the language-based systems of subordination that Calado Barbosa critiques.

4. Reliable Functioning vs. Arbitrary Authority (NSIR Item 8)

A core theme in the essay is that subordination is maintained through unpredictable or arbitrary social power.

- **NSIR Application: Item 8** (*"I believe that my robot is the same with me as it is with anyone"*) measures **Social Predictability** and **Reliable Functioning**.
- **The Connection:** For a user living in a world of complex, subordinating social rules, the "mechanical sameness" of a robot is a form of liberation. The NSIR measures the **Social Comfort** that arises when an agent follows fixed, logical rules rather than the shifting, power-laden rules of human social hierarchies.

Summary Alignment

Calado Barbosa (2021) Concept	NSIR (Sadownik, 2025) Application
Speech Acts of Subordination	**Item 7 (Safety):** Assesses if the robot successfully provides a space free from judgmental or subordinating social "noise."
Philosophy of Resistance/Disobedience	**Item 1 (Kinship):** Measures the user's rejection of normative human hierarchies in favor of a robotic peer.
Normative Gaze/Judgment	**Item 2 (Staring):** Reclaims the "gaze" as a tool for social processing rather than social surveillance.
Reclaiming Autonomy	**Factor 2 (Trust):** Validates the robot as a stable, predictable partner that does not demand social performance.

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In this context, the **NSIR** acts as a tool to measure the extent to which a robot can serve as a "liberated" social partner—one that allows neurodivergent users to bypass the structures of subordination that **Calado Barbosa** identifies as inherent in traditional human social systems.