

# Rethinking ‘Them’: Challenging Out-Group Stereotypes in Backsliding Democracies Appendix

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## **Abstract:**

Affective polarization carries particular force in backsliding democracies, where citizens often exaggerate the extremity of their political opponents and may distrust corrective information. This study asks whether targeted, issue-specific stereotype correction can moderate those exaggerated beliefs in Türkiye, and whether its downstream effects vary by intervention format and audience. I first develop a data-light targeting procedure that uses existing opinion surveys to identify policy domains on which out-group extremity is especially likely to be overstated. I then field a preregistered online survey experiment comparing two interventions: accuracy feedback about the true distribution of out-group views, and exposure to simulated out-group conversations expressing moderate positions. Accuracy feedback leads respondents in the full sample to see the political out-group as less extreme, with larger corrective point estimates among opposition supporters, whereas conversation exposure yields weaker average belief updating. Those shifts in belief do not translate uniformly into warmer intergroup attitudes. The affective responses are more heterogeneous and often less precisely estimated, with subgroup patterns suggestive of more favorable relational responses under conversation exposure among opposition supporters, who also begin with the largest baseline misperceptions, and less favorable affective responses to accuracy feedback among government supporters. Taken together, the findings suggest that belief correction remains feasible under democratic backsliding, but that its affective consequences depend on delivery format, audience characteristics, and the credibility of the environment in which the message is received.

# Appendix 1 - Perceived Willingness of the Out-Group to Use Un-democratic or Hostile Tactics

Table 1: Political Extremism Questions by Partisanship

Statements: "To achieve their political goals, out-group supporters..." <sup>a</sup>	Government Supporters (%)	Opposition Supporters (%)	P-value (Chi-square)
... may not accept the election defeat.	57.694	78.190	<0.001
... may use violence.	37.782	68.973	<0.001
... may harass opposition groups on the internet.	45.870	78.948	<0.001
... may not recognize court decisions that do not align with their interests.	46.517	75.908	<0.001

Source: Author's original survey experiment (population-weighted). Proportions are the percentages of respondents who selected "somewhat agree" or "strongly agree." Estimates use the placebo group only to describe baseline polarization (N = 434).

## Appendix 2 - Determining Stereotype-Prone Policy Issues (RDPD Targeting)

My interventions aim to challenge misperceptions about the political extremity of out-groups, reducing animosity and polarization by exposing participants to accurate information about moderate positions on stereotyped policy issues. Given the limited availability of reliable data in declining democracies on out-group perceptions, I developed a context-tailored, replicable strategy leveraging existing opinion surveys to select appropriate policy issues for interventions. This process involves calculating representativeness-discounted probability densities (RDPD) through a six-step procedure.

First, I empirically identified divisive policy issues using recent Konda opinion surveys.<sup>1</sup> Issues significantly dividing government and opposition supporters were identified through chi-square tests.

Second, drawing from Bordalo et al. (2016), I calculated likelihood ratios for each divisive issue  $X_k \in K$  at each extreme position (e.g., strongly disagree or strongly agree). The likelihood ratio ( $LR$ ) compares the probability that out-group supporters ( $O$ ) hold an extreme position relative to in-group supporters ( $I$ ):

$$LR_k(x^{extreme}) = \frac{P(X_k = x^{extreme}|O)}{P(X_k = x^{extreme}|I)}$$

Third, to account for representativeness bias and population density, I calculated the representativeness-discounted probability density (RDPD) by weighting the likelihood ratios with the true out-group population densities, and normalizing these values:

$$RDPD_k(x^{extreme}) = \frac{LR_k(x^{extreme}) \cdot P(X_k = x^{extreme}|O)}{\sum_{i=1}^X (LR_k(x) \cdot P(X_k = x|O))}$$

This innovative process produces a context-specific theoretical measure of the potential dissonance between perceived extremist densities (RDPD) and actual out-group densities for each policy issue and extreme position. By highlighting issues with the highest discrepancy, my approach identifies areas where individuals are most likely to significantly exaggerate the extremity of out-group views, driven by representativeness bias. Thus, this method enables targeted interventions that directly address and correct substantial misperceptions about out-group political extremity (Bordalo et al. 2016, 2019).

Fourth, I identified policy issues with the highest potential dissonance between perceived extremist densities (RDPD) and true population densities, indicating greater representativeness bias and potential for belief correction.

Fifth, from these identified issues, I carefully selected two non-controversial yet divisive policy issues: housing opportunities and income equality for opposition supporters, and road/infrastructure construction for government supporters. These issues were chosen to ensure they were relevant yet non-threatening, minimizing the risk of triggering negative emotions or conflict.

Finally, Graph 1 illustrates elicited beliefs about the extremity of out-group positions on these chosen policy issues. Opposition supporters generally overestimated government supporters' extremism on income equality and housing (true extremity around 25%), while government supporters similarly exaggerated opposition extremism on road and infrastructure issues (true extremity around 20%). This approach highlights tailored, empirically-grounded method designed to effectively identify misperceptions to reduce polarization in the absence of data on out-group perceptions.

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<sup>1</sup>For this research, I used Konda's recent opinion surveys from January 2022, February 2022, April 2022, September 2022, and January 2023.

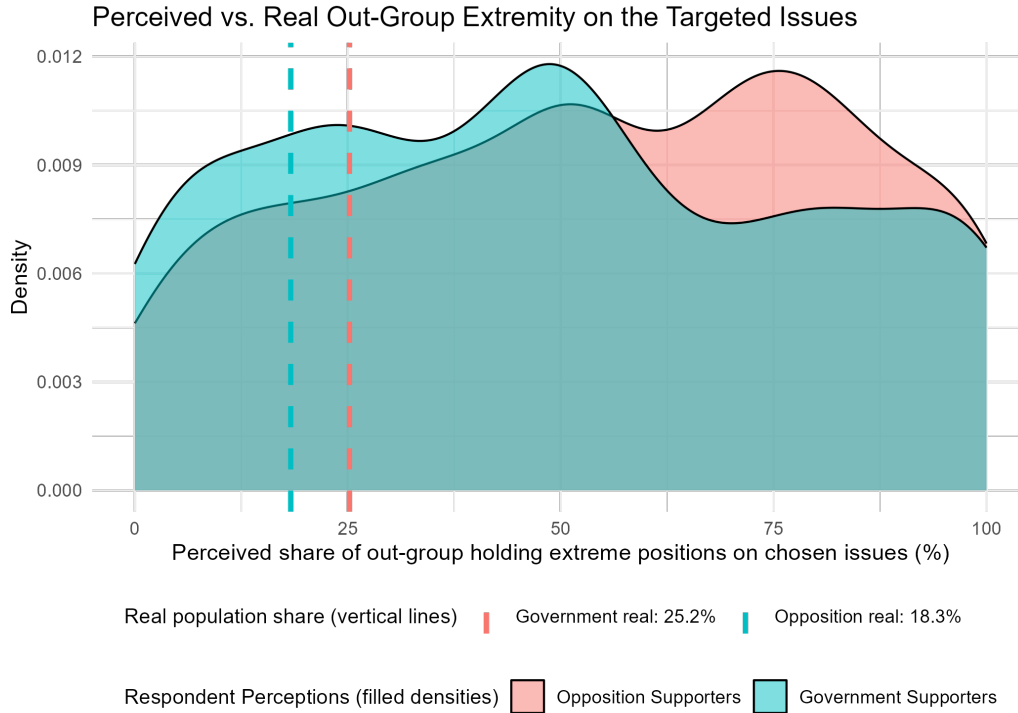


Figure 1: Elicited Beliefs (Percentage of Out-group Members Holding Extreme Positions). Dashed lines indicate true values of extreme positions (N=906).

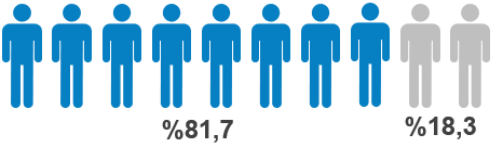



## Appendix 3 - Deviations from Pre-Registered Analysis Plan

- In order to have another manipulation check, I added an open-ended post-treatment question that asks the following question:
  - BEFORE:**
  - AFTER:** What is the text you read above about? State in a few words.
- Following the preregistration, a Meta advertisement campaign was launched from January 24 to January 31 to recruit a total of 700 participants. This advertising strategy aimed to ensure a diverse and representative sample for the study. However, during the recruitment process, challenges arose concerning the quality of responses, with instances of low-quality submissions and duplications detected. In response to these issues, I decided to employ an oversampling technique, surpassing the initially targeted sample size to compensate for the observed deficiencies in data quality. This approach aimed to secure a final dataset comprising 1263 high-quality responses, thereby enhancing the reliability and validity of the research findings. This strategic adjustment addressed the challenges encountered during participant recruitment while maintaining the pre-registered sample size.

# Appendix 4 - Interventions Operationalization



## 1 - Accuracy Feedback Treatment

Table 2: Treatment Operationalization: Accuracy Feedback Intervention (Group 1)

The Accuracy Feedback Intervention for Opposition Supporters	The Accuracy Feedback Intervention for Government Supporters
<p>Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the survey results below, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.</p>	
<p>According to a survey conducted by Konda last year, interesting findings emerged about Turkey.</p> <p>The survey indicates that <b>only a small minority of voters supporting the government</b> believes that <b>income equality has definitely improved</b> during the AK Party era.</p> <p>Indeed, <b>only 18.3% of government supporters</b> believe that <b>income equality has definitely improved</b> in Turkey. This means that the majority of government supporters, accounting for <b>81.7%</b>, think that <b>income equality in Turkey has either not improved or has worsened</b>.</p>  <p>Additionally, <b>only 17.1% of government supporters</b> believe that the opportunities for home-ownership <b>have definitely improved</b> during the AK Party era, while the remaining <b>82.9%</b> have stated otherwise.</p>  <p>The correct answer to the previous question was 18.3%. Your answer is: ...</p>	<p>According to a survey conducted by Konda last year, interesting findings emerged about Turkey.</p> <p>The survey indicates that <b>only a small minority of voters supporting the opposition</b> believes that <b>infrastructure and road construction have definitely worsened</b> during the AK Party era.</p> <p>Indeed, <b>only 25.2% of opposition supporters</b> believe that <b>infrastructure and road construction have definitely worsened</b> in Turkey. This means that the majority of opposition supporters, accounting for <b>74.8%</b>, think that <b>infrastructure and road construction have not worsened</b> during the AK Party era.</p>  <p>Additionally, <b>only 38.2% of opposition supporters</b> believe that there is definitely a <b>deterioration in the quality of healthcare services</b>, while the remaining <b>61.8%</b> think otherwise.</p>  <p>The correct answer to the previous question was indeed 25.2%. As for your answer, it is: ...</p>
<p>Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the survey results above, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.</p>	

## 2 - Conversation Exposure Treatment

Table 3: Treatment Operationalization: Conversation Exposure Intervention (Group 2)

The Conversation Exposure Intervention for Opposition Supporters	The Conversation Exposure Intervention for Government Supporters
<p>Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the Facebook conversation sample below, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.</p>	
<div data-bbox="256 489 444 527"> <p><b>Türkiye Haber 7/24</b> Dün 16:11 · 🌐</p> </div> <p data-bbox="256 552 743 615">According to TÜİK (Turkish Statistical Institute) data, in the year 2023, the regions with the highest income inequality were Istanbul, Ağrı, Kars, Iğdır, Ardahan, and Konya.</p>  <p data-bbox="256 890 760 911">👍👎👤 129      21 Yorum 10 Paylaşım</p> <hr/> <div data-bbox="256 978 727 1738"> <p><b>Mesut Baltacı</b> how much can we trust this news? it might be a manipulation by external forces or the opposition groups. Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s</p> <p><b>Mevlüt Demir</b> There may be manipulation, but teachers and civil servants are struggling. They all wake up in the morning having nightmares. Regulations are needed for all of them. Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s</p> <p><b>Mesut Baltacı</b> okay, but the minimum wage is increasing Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s</p> <p><b>Mevlüt Demir</b> I voted for the Cumhur Alliance, but currently, income justice is disrupted in the country. There is incredible income inequality. I am a literature teacher with 9 years of experience. The salary I received in December was 27,000 TL. Is this what we studied for? In my city, rents start from 15,000 TL. Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s</p> <p><b>Mesut Baltacı</b> true, our family health workers have also fallen victim to income inequality. I voted for the Leader (President), but in the past period, our income has become worthless. Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s</p> <p><b>Mevlüt Demir</b> The educated people, who struggled with the KPSS (Public Personnel Selection Examination) for years, are being ignored, and in most major cities, salaries are barely enough for rent. It has affected everyone. Beğen · Yorum Yap · 10s</p> </div>	<div data-bbox="896 489 1084 527"> <p><b>Türkiye Haber 24/7</b> Dün, 16:11 · 🌐</p> </div> <p data-bbox="896 552 1383 615">According to TÜİK (Turkish Statistical Institute) data, the General Directorate of Highways has a total road network of 68,761 kilometers as of December 2022.</p>  <p data-bbox="896 890 1399 911">👍👎👤 129      21 Yorum 10 Paylaşım</p> <hr/> <p data-bbox="896 978 1052 999">View more 16 Comments</p> <div data-bbox="896 1020 1367 1780"> <p><b>Ertuğrul Demir</b> you claim to have built roads, but the roads you've built are there, albeit expensive Like · Reply · 11s</p> <p><b>Emre Varış</b> I wish half of the investments in roads and infrastructure were also allocated to education and merit. Those with connections and those who allowed these connected contractors are the cause of these issues. Like · Reply · 11s</p> <p><b>Ertuğrul Demir</b> toll roads were built, but there are no properly functioning cars on them. hospitals were built, but there are no appointments available within six months. airports were constructed, but there are no passengers. Like · Reply · 11s</p> <p><b>Emre Varış</b> Both in education and in the job market, Turkey is worse off than before, but to be fair, during the AK Party era, the best thing they did was building roads, like Marmaray and Osman Gazi. Like · Reply · 10s</p> <p><b>Ertuğrul Demir</b> I also voted for the Millet Alliance, but that part is correct. In the past, it used to take 10 hours to travel across the country; now, it takes only 6 hours, and marmaray has facilitated transportation in istanbul Like · Reply · 10s</p> <p><b>Emre Varış</b> Yes, I also voted for the opposition, but the roads and infrastructure have definitely improved. Like · Reply · 10s</p> </div>
<p>Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the Facebook conversation sample above, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.</p>	

### 3 - Placebo Text

Table 4: Treatment Operationalization: Placebo Text (Group 3)

The Placebo Text
Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the text below, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.
<p>In this article, we will explore three prominent tree species that stand out.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Taurus Fir (<i>Abies cilicica</i>)</b> Taurus Fir belongs to the Mediterranean fir group, characterized by its long, narrow, needle-like leaves. The tree's elevation range is 1000-2000 meters, and it prefers shallow, rocky, and well-drained calcareous soils.</li><li><b>Turkish Pine (<i>Pinus brutia</i>)</b> Turkish Pine is a widespread pine species in various regions of Turkey. Covering 40</li><li><b>Anatolian Sweetgum (<i>Liquidambar orientalis</i>)</b> The Anatolian Sweetgum grows in limited areas in the South Aegean and West Mediterranean regions of Turkey. Locally known as the "Günlük tree," the sweetgum can reach heights of up to 20 meters and bears a resemblance to the plane tree in appearance. It can live up to 200-300 years.</li></ol>
Please Pay Attention! Carefully read the text above, we will ask you some attention questions about this text after you finish.

## Appendix 5 - Power Analysis

Here I present the power analysis with and without a multiple-comparison adjustment. Figure 2 plots statistical power for total sample sizes between 100 and 600. For each sample size, I ran 1,000 simulations of the data-generating process and p-value estimation.<sup>2</sup> Following Voelkel et al. (2023), I assumed standardized outcomes with the control group distributed as  $N(0, 1)$  and treatment effects drawn from distributions centered at  $-0.5$  with standard deviation  $0.3$  for both interventions.

Under these assumptions, the design is powered to detect average treatment effects of roughly  $0.5$  standard deviations relative to the control group. With a Bonferroni-style adjustment for two treatment arms (significance level/arms =  $0.05/2$ ), the simulations indicate that power exceeds  $0.80$  for rejecting at least one null hypothesis with sample sizes below  $200$ , while achieving  $0.80$  power for rejecting both nulls requires approximately  $325$  observations (Figure 2).

These calculations are informative for average treatment effects but are less informative for partisan heterogeneity tests. Heterogeneity across government and opposition supporters depends on within-partisan treatment cells, which are substantially smaller than the full sample. As a rule of thumb, if the sample is split into two partisan groups, the minimum detectable difference in treatment effects across groups is roughly twice the minimum detectable average effect, holding the total sample size fixed. Consequently, the study can detect only relatively large partisan differences in treatment effects, and null heterogeneity results should be interpreted cautiously.

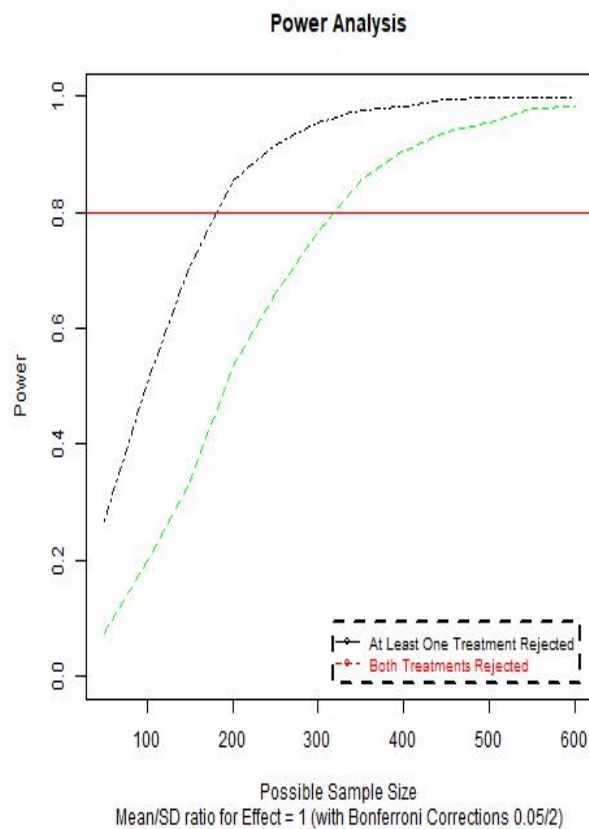


Figure 2: Power Curves with Varying Sample Sizes.

<sup>2</sup>For the simulation code template, see the multi-treatment section of the EGAP power analysis simulation script: <https://egap.org/resource/script-power-analysis-simulations-in-r/>.

## Appendix 6 - Balance Table

Table 5: Balance Table (Mean Values).

	All Sample	Placebo	Accuracy Incentive	Conversation Exposure	F-test p-value
Woman	0.477	0.489	0.465	0.475	0.697
College Graduate	0.477	0.475	0.500	0.459	0.648
18-24	0.231	0.243	0.205	0.244	0.995
25-34	0.241	0.252	0.238	0.234	0.534
35-54	0.291	0.291	0.312	0.269	0.482
+55	0.237	0.213	0.245	0.253	0.170
Turkish Ethnicity	0.857	0.862	0.868	0.843	0.420
Minority	0.350	0.344	0.355	0.351	0.822
Lower SES	0.220	0.252	0.205	0.201	0.071
Lower-Mid SES	0.305	0.280	0.318	0.319	0.216
Middle SES	0.417	0.406	0.422	0.424	0.593
Upper-Mid SES	0.053	0.057	0.050	0.052	0.702
Upper SES	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.983
Previously Voted	0.914	0.908	0.932	0.902	0.737
Voted for Ruling Coalition	0.420	0.417	0.418	0.426	0.794
Interested in Politics	0.628	0.596	0.647	0.642	0.167
Following Political News	0.542	0.532	0.530	0.564	0.343
Following News on Internet	0.666	0.670	0.642	0.684	0.666
Feeling Close to Party	0.296	0.298	0.288	0.302	0.901
Politically Knowledgeable	0.309	0.305	0.318	0.304	0.987
Full Democratic Support	0.702	0.667	0.703	0.735	0.029
Partial Democratic Support	0.896	0.897	0.877	0.913	0.431
Accuracy Incentive Group	0.317	0.000	1.000	0.000	NA
Conversation Exposure Group	0.338	0.000	0.000	1.000	NA
Placebo Group	0.345	1.000	0.000	0.000	NA

*Note:*

Source: Author's Original Survey Experiment.

## Appendix 7 - Comparison of Convenience Sample and Population

In Table 6, I present demographic statistics based on data from the Turkish Statistical Institute for 2022. A preliminary analysis indicates that my convenience sample has an overrepresentation of individuals from the young cohort (18-34). Additionally, there is a higher representation of college graduates compared to individuals with less than a college education in my convenience sample (refer to Table 6). Although Neundorf and Öztürk (2021) recommended running multiple advertisement sets targeting different groups to achieve a balanced sample, limitations in Meta’s demographic targeting capabilities in 2024 constrained this experiment to using only one set of advertisements.

Table 6: Comparison of Convenience Sample and Population Proportions.

	Sample Proportion	Population Proportion
Women, 18-34 Less than College	13.38	11.28
Women, 18-34 College Grad	9.98	5.76
Women, 35-54 Less than College	6.81	15.85
Women, 35-54 College Grad	7.68	2.98
Women, +55 Less than College	4.83	13.58
Women, +55 College Grad	4.83	0.90
Men, 18-34 Less than College	15.04	12.49
Men, 18-34 College Grad	8.87	5.18
Men, 35-54 Less than College	6.25	14.28
Men, 35-54 College Grad	8.31	4.89
Men, +55 Less than College	5.46	11.04
Men, +55 College Grad	6.81	1.77

*Note:*

Source: Address Based Population Registration System, 2021.

## Appendix 8 - Results with Weighted Samples

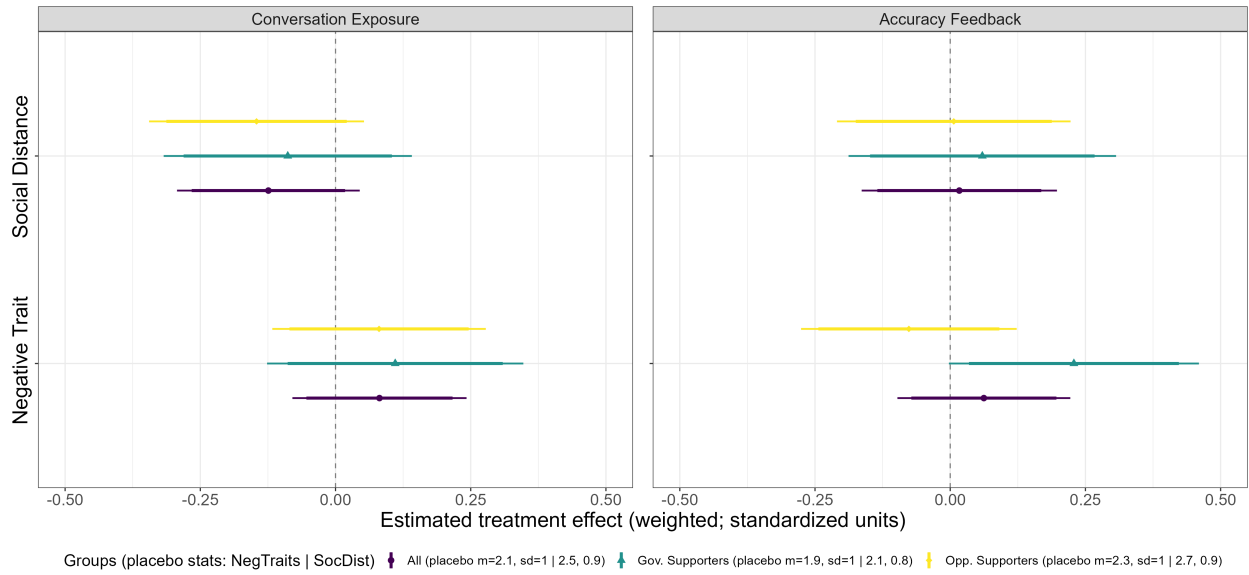


Figure 3: Average Treatment Effects on Social Distance and Negative Trait Associations (with Population Weights,  $N=1263$ ).

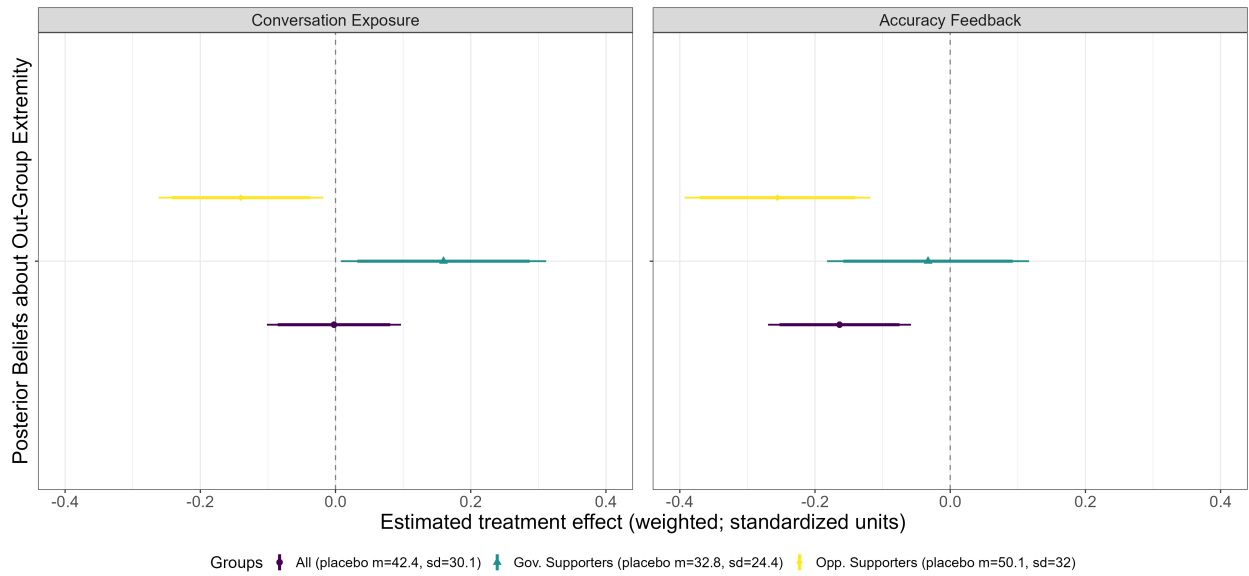


Figure 4: Average Treatment Effects on Posterior Beliefs on Out-Group Extremity. (with Population Weights,  $N=1263$ ).

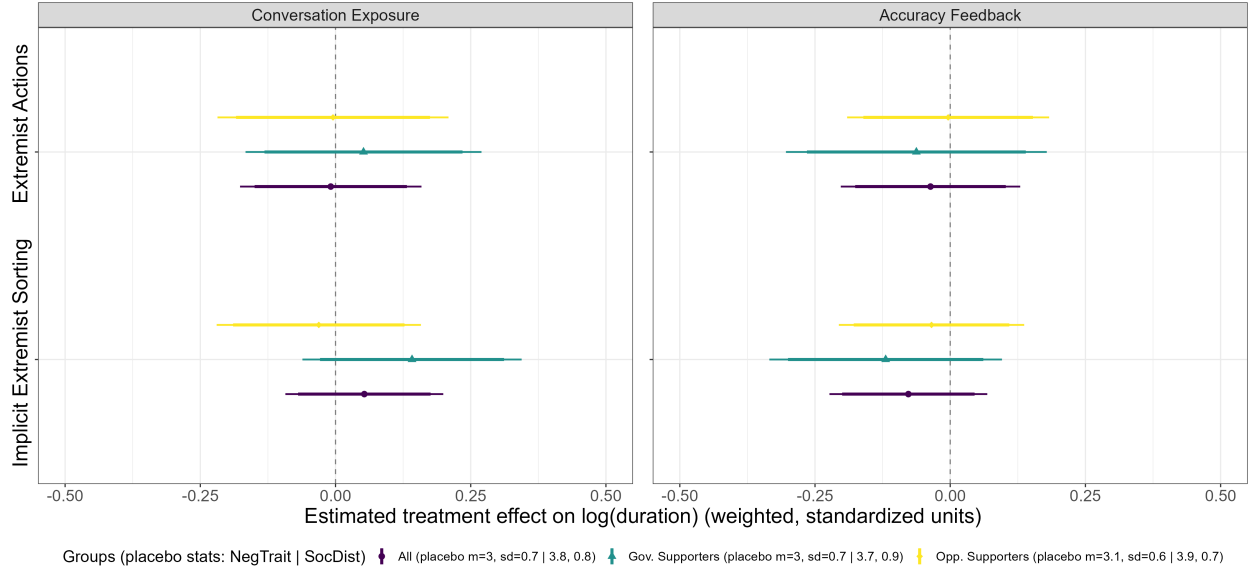


Figure 5: Average Treatment Effects on on Page Duration (log). (with Population Weights, N=1263).

Table 7: Moderated Linear Regression Results with Population Weights

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
	(Social Distance)			
	Prior Belief (1)	Politicization (2)	High Affiliation (3)	Higher Education (4)
Accuracy Feedback	0.031 (0.091)	0.155 (0.119)	-0.002 (0.107)	0.008 (0.115)
Conversation Exposure	-0.118 (0.084)	0.096 (0.127)	-0.077 (0.100)	-0.143 (0.105)
Prior Beliefs	0.333** (0.144)	0.222 (0.142)	0.243* (0.141)	0.227 (0.142)
Squared Prior Beliefs	-0.026 (0.150)	-0.033 (0.150)	-0.057 (0.150)	-0.039 (0.151)
Accuracy x Prior	-0.250*** (0.082)			
Conversation x Prior	-0.106 (0.074)			
Politicization	0.0002 (0.088)	0.162 (0.140)	-0.023 (0.086)	-0.024 (0.087)
Accuracy x Politicization		-0.216 (0.175)		
Conversation x Politicization		-0.346* (0.177)		
High Affiliation	0.330*** (0.090)	0.337*** (0.089)	0.348** (0.135)	0.322*** (0.092)
Accuracy x Affiliation			0.089 (0.198)	
Conversation x Affiliation			-0.150 (0.195)	
Higher Education				-0.048 (0.098)
Accuracy x Education				0.048 (0.154)
Conversation x Education				0.093 (0.141)
Observations	1,263	1,263	1,263	1,263
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.150	0.145	0.142	0.140

*Two-sided tests. (N = 1263).*

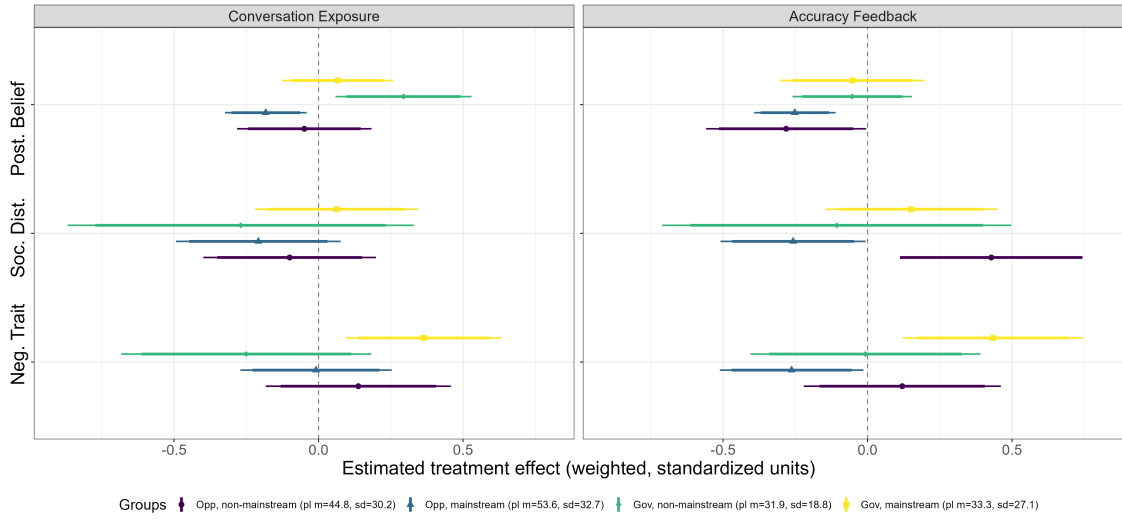


Figure 6: Average Treatment Effects. (with Population Weights, N=1263).

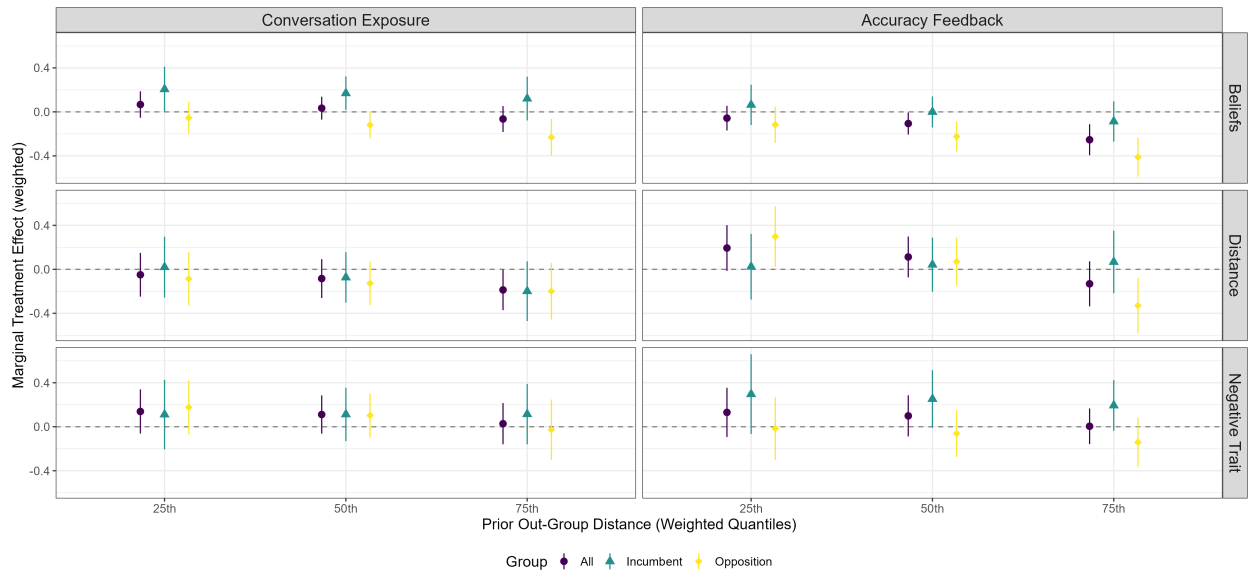


Figure 7: Marginal ATE on Social Distance (with Population Weights, Standardized) at Prior Beliefs at 25th, 50th, and 75th Percentiles. (N=1263).

## Appendix 9 - Results with One-Tailed Tests

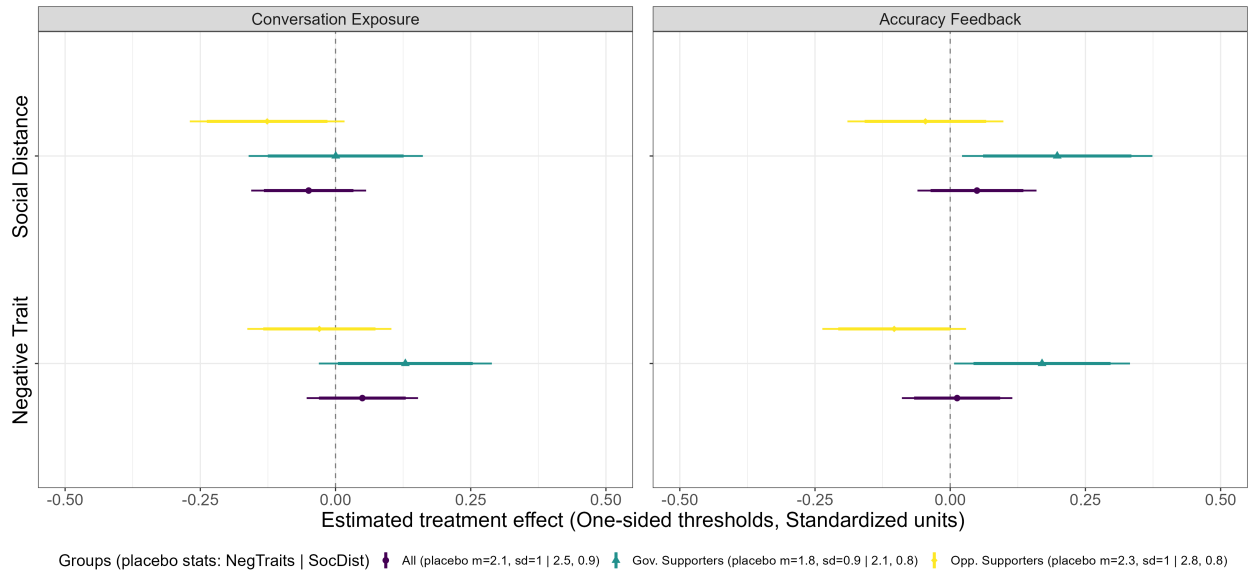


Figure 8: Sample Average Treatment Effects on Social Distance and Negative Trait Associations (One-sided thresholds, N=1263).

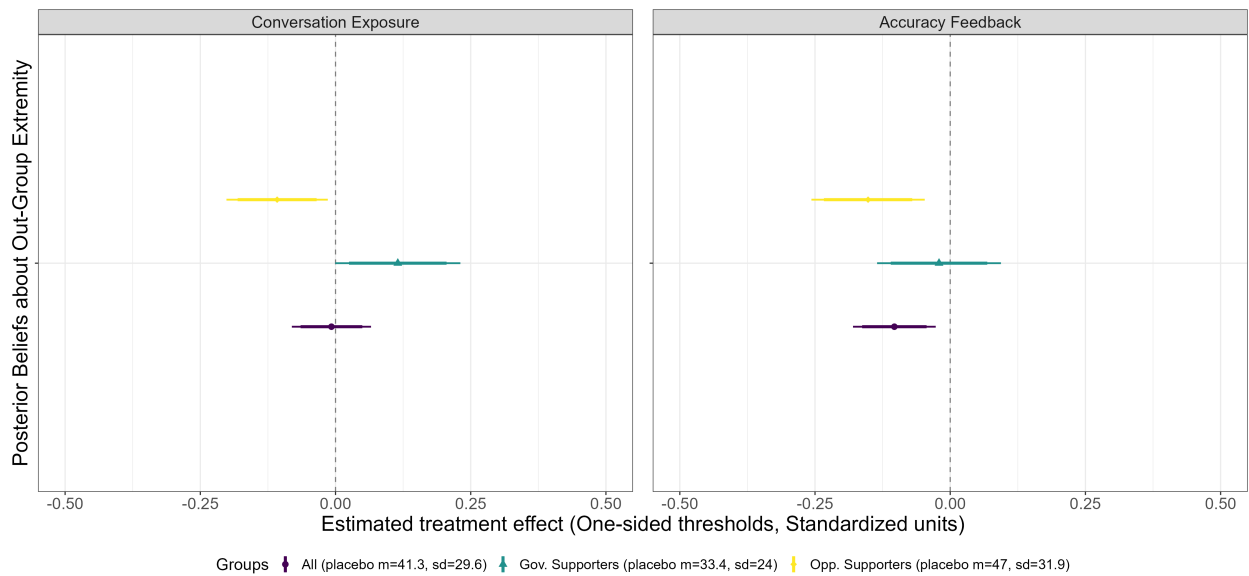


Figure 9: Sample Average Treatment Effects on Posterior Beliefs on Out-Group Extremity. (One-sided thresholds, N=1263).

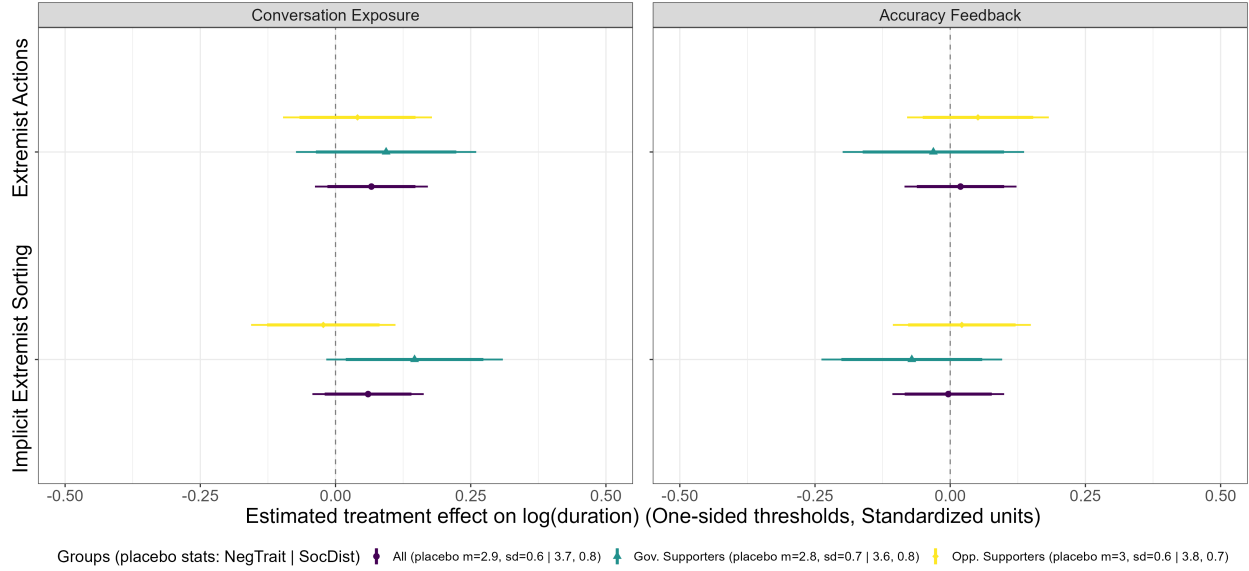


Figure 10: Sample Average Treatment Effects on on Page Duration (log). (One-sided thresholds, N=1263).

Table 8: Moderated Linear Regression Results with one-sided thresholds

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
	(Social Distance)			
	Prior Belief (1)	Politicization (2)	High Affiliation (3)	Higher Education (4)
Accuracy Feedback	0.048 (0.066)	0.137 (0.108)	0.030 (0.078)	0.059 (0.094)
Conversation Exposure	-0.056 (0.064)	0.063 (0.104)	0.002 (0.075)	-0.052 (0.090)
Prior Beliefs	0.006 (0.105)	-0.115 (0.100)	-0.106 (0.100)	-0.114 (0.100)
Squared Prior Beliefs	0.265*** (0.102)	0.261*** (0.103)	0.252*** (0.103)	0.260*** (0.103)
Accuracy x Prior	-0.221*** (0.067)			
Conversation x Prior	-0.158*** (0.065)			
Politicization	-0.063 (0.062)	0.035 (0.094)	-0.070 (0.062)	-0.071 (0.062)
Accuracy x Politicization		-0.146 (0.137)		
Conversation x Politicization		-0.182 (0.133)		
High Affiliation	0.412*** (0.064)	0.409*** (0.065)	0.446*** (0.103)	0.408*** (0.065)
Accuracy x Affiliation			0.065 (0.151)	
Conversation x Affiliation			-0.169 (0.147)	
Higher Education				-0.011 (0.091)
Accuracy x Education				-0.019 (0.134)
Conversation x Education				0.005 (0.130)
Observations	1,263	1,263	1,263	1,263
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.111	0.104	0.105	0.102

*One-sided tests. (N = 1263).*

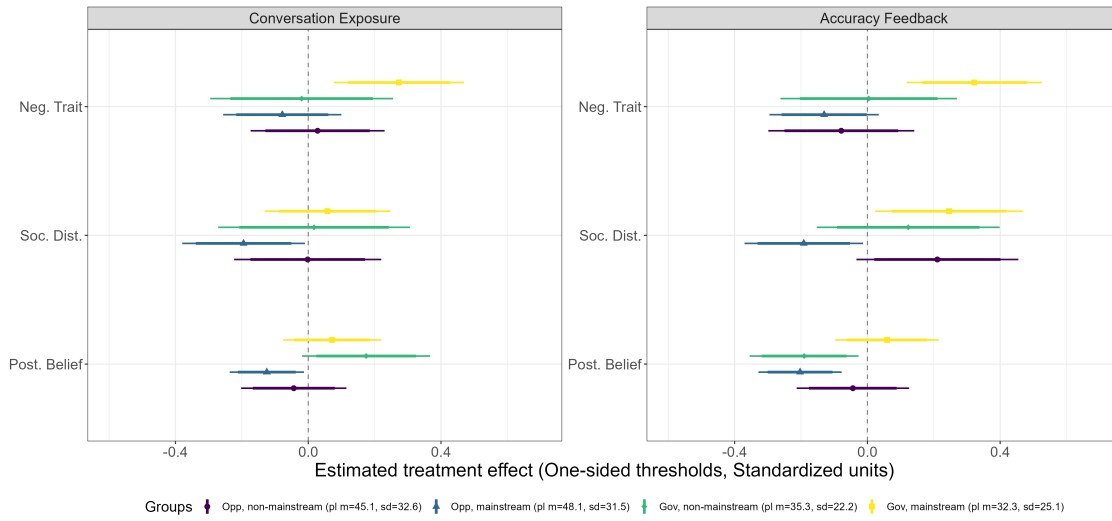


Figure 11: Sample Average Treatment Effects. (One-sided thresholds, N=1263).

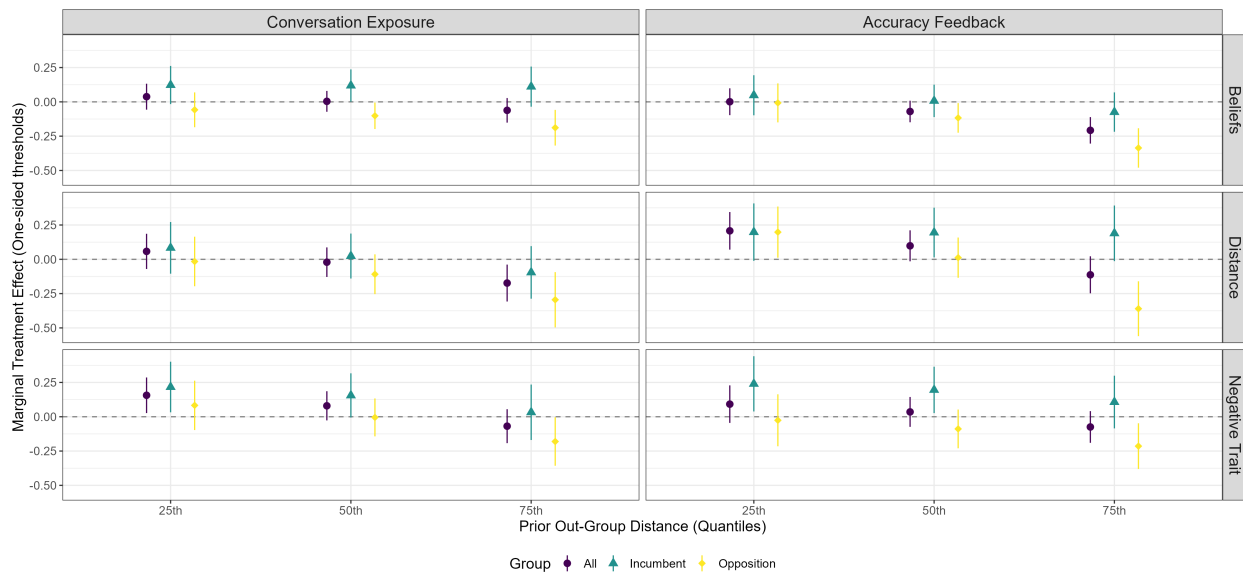


Figure 12: Marginal SATE on Social Distance (One-sided thresholds, Standardized) at Prior Beliefs at 25th, 50th, and 75th Percentiles. (N=1263).

## Appendix 10 - Joint Tests

### Joint Tests of Treatment Contrasts by Main Outcomes

Table 9: Treatment Contrasts by Main Outcomes

Outcome	Accuracy	<i>p</i>	Conversation	<i>p</i>	Accuracy - Conversation	<i>p</i>	$\chi^2$	df	<i>p</i>	Joint $\chi^2$	df	Joint <i>p</i>	<i>N</i>
Posterior beliefs	-0.103 (0.046)	0.026	-0.008 (0.045)	0.865	-0.096 (0.048)	0.045	4.003	1224	0.045	5.785	1224	0.055	1263
Social distance	0.049 (0.067)	0.460	-0.050 (0.065)	0.442	0.099 (0.068)	0.145	2.127	1224	0.145	2.130	1224	0.345	1263
Negative trait association	0.013 (0.062)	0.837	0.050 (0.063)	0.428	-0.037 (0.065)	0.570	0.323	1224	0.570	0.660	1224	0.719	1263
Extremist actions time	0.019 (0.063)	0.763	0.066 (0.063)	0.296	-0.047 (0.062)	0.443	0.589	1224	0.443	1.176	1224	0.555	1263
Implicit extremist sorting time	-0.004 (0.063)	0.954	0.060 (0.063)	0.336	-0.064 (0.061)	0.297	1.086	1224	0.297	1.358	1224	0.507	1263

Entries in the Accuracy and Conversation columns report coefficients relative to placebo, with HC1 robust standard errors in parentheses. The Accuracy - Conversation column reports the direct contrast between the two active treatments. The equality test evaluates the null that Accuracy = Conversation. The joint test evaluates the null that Accuracy = 0 and Conversation = 0. Two-sided tests.

### Joint Tests of Treatment-by-Subgroup Interactions

Table 10: Pooled Interaction Tests by Main Outcomes

Outcome	Accuracy $\times$ Incumbent	<i>p</i>	Conversation $\times$ Incumbent	<i>p</i>	Joint $\chi^2$	df	Joint <i>p</i>	<i>N</i>
Posterior beliefs	0.131 (0.094)	0.164	0.223 (0.090)	0.013	6.220	1189	0.045	1263
Social distance	0.244 (0.138)	0.077	0.127 (0.131)	0.332	3.153	1189	0.207	1263
Negative trait association	0.273 (0.127)	0.032	0.159 (0.126)	0.208	4.715	1189	0.095	1263
Extremist actions time	-0.082 (0.129)	0.523	0.053 (0.131)	0.687	1.140	1189	0.565	1263
Implicit extremist sorting time	-0.093 (0.127)	0.468	0.169 (0.128)	0.187	4.543	1189	0.103	1263

Entries in the interaction columns report coefficient estimates with HC1 robust standard errors in parentheses. Joint tests evaluate the null that the Accuracy  $\times$  Incumbent and Conversation  $\times$  Incumbent interaction terms are jointly equal to zero. Two-sided tests.

### Joint Tests of Treatment-by-Moderator Interactions

Table 11: Pooled Interaction Tests by Moderator

Moderator	Accuracy $\times$ Moderator	<i>p</i>	Conversation $\times$ Moderator	<i>p</i>	Joint $\chi^2$	df	Joint <i>p</i>	<i>N</i>
Prior beliefs	-0.221 (0.067)	0.001	-0.159 (0.065)	0.014	11.934	1222	0.003	1263
Politicization	-0.146 (0.137)	0.287	-0.184 (0.133)	0.167	2.147	1222	0.342	1263
High affiliation	0.066 (0.151)	0.662	-0.168 (0.147)	0.252	2.512	1222	0.285	1263
Higher education	-0.019 (0.134)	0.884	0.005 (0.130)	0.969	0.035	1225	0.982	1263

Entries in the interaction columns report coefficient estimates with HC1 robust standard errors in parentheses. Joint tests evaluate the null that the Accuracy  $\times$  Moderator and Conversation  $\times$  Moderator interaction terms are jointly equal to zero. Two-sided tests.

# Appendix 11 - Variables and Questionnaire

## 0.0.1 Consent Form:

You have been invited to participate in an award-winning experiment conducted by the Istanbul Social Sciences Research Center and New York University (IRB-FY2024-8112). You can view the research conditions below:

You have been invited to participate in a research study to learn more about social attitudes. This study will be conducted by Alper Sukru Gencer, FAS - Politics, Arts & Science, New York University, as a part of his project. His faculty sponsor is Professor Gwyneth McClendon, Department of FAS - Politics, Arts & Science, New York University.

If you agree to be in this study, you will be asked to do the following:  
- Complete a screening questionnaire to determine survey eligibility, - Complete a questionnaire about your background (age, gender, education, etc.), - Answer the post-survey questionnaire about the given text.

To participate in this research, participants must be 1) citizens of the Republic of Türkiye and 2) over the age of 18. Those who do not qualify won't be able to fill out the survey. While this research may help the investigator understand social attitudes, participants will have a 1 in 20 chance of receiving 200 Turkish Lira compensation. If participants correctly answer attention check questions, they can double their chances (1 in 10 probability of receiving 200 Turkish Lira).

Participation in this study is voluntary. You may refuse to participate or withdraw at any time without penalty. Nonparticipation or withdrawal will not affect the participant's chances of receiving the baseline benefit (1 in 20 chance of receiving 200 Turkish Lira). We will send the virtual gift card codes to your phone number and collect them at the end of the survey.

While we do not foresee further physical, psychological, social, or economic risks and discomfort associated with our study beyond those of everyday life, participation in this online survey might involve risks of breach of confidentiality as we collect phone numbers to deliver the lottery prizes. We minimize this risk and strictly maintain the confidentiality of your research records by de-identifying your responses so that your responses are not linked to your phone numbers and identity. We will separate your phone numbers into a different dataset, and the raffle winners will be randomly selected. Participants receive these coupons four and six weeks after the survey. Virtual gift card keys do not require identification checks when used. Information not containing identifiers may be used in future research, shared with other researchers, or placed in a data repository without your additional consent. During this study, you may be misled about certain aspects on purpose. This is known as disclosed concealment or deception. Your rights and well-being will be protected, and any deception will be explained at the end.

If there is anything about the study or your participation that is unclear or that you do not understand, if you have questions or wish to report a research-related problem, you may contact Alper Sukru Gencer at +90 537-945-8060, asg664@nyu.edu, New York University 19 West 4th St. 2nd Floor New York, NY 10012, or the faculty sponsor, Gwyneth McClendon at +1-(212)-998-8507, gwyneth.mcclendon@nyu.edu, Wilf Family Department of Politics.

For questions about your rights as a research participant, you may contact the University Committee on Activities Involving Human Subjects (UCAIHS), New York University, 665 Broadway, Suite 804, New York, New York, 10012, at ask.humansubjects@nyu.edu or (212) 998-4808. Please reference the study # (IRB-FY2024-8112) when contacting the IRB (UCAIHS).

You can download the consent file here:

- “Consent” Important: Each participant can only take the survey once. Do you give your consent to participate in the research?
  1. Yes, let's start the research.
  2. No, exit the survey.

## 0.0.2 SCREENING QUESTIONS:

Welcome to the survey. Let's see if you are eligible to participate in the survey.

- “Screening1” Are you over 18 years old?
  1. Yes
  2. No
  
- “Screening2” Are you a citizen of the Republic of Turkey?
  1. Yes
  2. No

### 0.0.3 PRETREATMENT: Demographics

[DISPLAYED IF Screening1 == 1 AND Screening2 == 1]

Congratulations, you can participate to the survey!  
Let's start with demographic questions first:

- “Pre\_Age” In which age range are you?
  1. “18-24”
  2. “25-34”
  3. “35-44”
  4. “45-54”
  5. “55-64”
  6. “65 and older”
  
- “Pre\_Sex” What is your gender?
  1. “Male”
  2. “Female”
  3. “Other”
  
- “Pre\_Educ” What is the highest level of education you have completed?
  1. I haven't finished primary school
  2. I am a Primary school graduate
  3. I am a High school graduate
  4. I am a university graduate
  5. I have a Master's degree or above
  
- “Pre\_Work” What is your employment status?
  2. I am unemployed and currently looking for a job
  3. I am unemployed and currently not looking for a job
  4. I am employed part-time
  5. I am employed full-time
  6. I am retired
  7. Other
  
- “Pre\_SES” What is your socioeconomic class based on your income level?
  1. Lower class
  2. Lower-middle class
  3. Middle class
  4. Upper-middle class
  5. Upper class
  
- “Pre\_HInc” What is your approximate household income?

1. Less than 17,500 TL
2. between 17,500 TL and 25,000 TL
3. between 22,500 and 35,000 TL
4. between 35,000 and 60,000 TL
5. between 60,000 and 80,000 TL
6. between 80,000 TL and 120,000 TL
7. 120,000 TL or more

- “Pre\_Ethnicity” We are all citizens of the Republic of Turkey, but we may be of different ethnic origins; How do you know or feel your identity?

1. Turkish
2. Kurdish
3. Zaza
4. Arab
5. Other

- “Pre\_RelSect” What religion and sect do you feel you belong to?

1. Sunni Muslim
2. Alevi Muslim
3. Other

#### 0.0.4 PRETREATMENT: Political Choices:

Now, we will ask you questions about your news-following habits.

- “Pre\_PolNews1\_1” How often do you follow the news? Economic News

1. I do not follow
2. Twice - three times a week
3. Once a day
4. Twice - three times a day

- “Pre\_PolNews1\_2” How often do you follow the news? Political News

1. I do not follow
2. Twice - three times a week
3. Once a day
4. Twice - three times a day

- “Pre\_PolNews1\_3” How often do you follow the news? Technology News

1. I do not follow
2. Twice - three times a week
3. Once a day
4. Twice - three times a day

- “Pre\_PolNews1\_4” How often do you follow the news? International News

1. I do not follow
2. Twice - three times a week
3. Once a day
4. Twice - three times a day

- “Pre\_PolNews2\_1” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Newspapers Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.

- “Pre\_PolNews2\_2” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Television Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- “Pre\_PolNews2\_3” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Websites Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- “Pre\_PolNews2\_4” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Facebook Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- “Pre\_PolNews2\_5” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Twitter Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- “Pre\_PolNews2\_6” Which platforms do you mostly use to follow the news? Youtube Discrete Variable in {1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6}.
- “Pre\_Politization” How interested are you in politics?
  1. I’m not interested at all
  2. I’m not very interested
  3. I’m somewhat interested
  4. I’m very interested
- “Pre\_Affiliation” Which one do you find yourself closer to??
  1. Ruling coalition
  2. Opposition coalition
  3. Other
- “Pre\_AffiliationOther” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 3] If you had to choose one of the two coalitions, which would you find yourself close to?
  1. Ruling coalition
  2. Opposition coalition
- “Pre\_AffiliationGover” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1] How close do you find yourself to the ruling coalition?
  1. I find it a little close
  2. I find it somewhat close
  3. I find it pretty close
  4. I find it very close
- “Pre\_AffiliationOppos” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2] How close do you find yourself to the opposition coalition?
  1. I find it a little close
  2. I find it somewhat close
  3. I find it pretty close
  4. I find it very close

**Now, we will ask you a general knowledge question. Your answer will not affect your chances of winning the prize.**

- “Pre\_Pol\_Knowledge1” Now, we will ask you a general knowledge question. Your answer will not affect your chances of winning the prize. How many members of parliament are there in the Grand National Assembly of Turkey?
  1. 400
  2. 500

3. 550
4. 600

- “Pre\_Pol\_Knowledge2” When was the constitutional amendment referendum held?

1. 2015
2. 2017
3. 2019
4. 2023

- “Pre\_Voting” Did you vote in the 2023 General Elections?

1. Yes
2. No

- “Pre\_VotingParty” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Voting == 1] Who did you vote for in the 2023 General Elections?

1. AKP
2. MHP
3. CHP
4. Yeşiller ve Sol Gelecek Partisi
5. Yeniden Refah Partisi
6. İYİ Parti
7. Türkiye İşçi Partisi
8. Zafer Partisi
9. Other

#### **0.0.5 PRETREATMENT: Democratic Preferences**

- “Pre\_DemSupport1” Do you agree with the following statement: “A democratic system may have flaws, but it is better than other political systems.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Pre\_DemSupport2” Do you agree with the following statement: “Democracy is the best political system for Turkey.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Pre\_EconPerf” What is your level of satisfaction with the current economic situation of the country?

1. I am extremely dissatisfied
2. I somewhat dissatisfied
3. I somewhat satisfied
4. I am extremely satisfied

#### **0.0.6 PRETREATMENT: Attention Check**

- “Pre\_Attention” To help us keep track of who is paying attention, please select “Somewhat disagree” in the options below.

1. Strongly agree
2. Somewhat agree
3. Somewhat disagree
4. Strongly disagree

### 0.0.7 PRETREATMENT: Prior Beliefs about Ideological Distributions

Now, we will ask you to imagine **100 people from various groups**. Please place these one hundred individuals into the following categories. **The total number of people should be 100.**

- “Prior\_Immig\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Immig\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Immig\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Immig\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Immig\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Immig\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Immig\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Gover\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Gover\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Gover\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Gover\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Gover\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Gover\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Gover\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Prior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Continuous Variable

### 0.0.8 TRANSITION

Congratulations, you are eligible for the second stage of the survey! By completing the survey, you can double your chances of winning the reward.

Do you want to continue?

1. Great! I want to continue with the survey and double my chances.
2. No, I want to exit the survey

### 0.0.9 PRETREATMENT: Incentivized Priors about Outgroups

- “Pre\_OutPrior\_Oppos” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1] Now, we will ask you to make an estimate about opposition voters. The five participants who give the closest answer to the correct one will double their chances of winning a gift voucher

Considering the opposition voters who voted for CHP, IYI Party, or Green Left Party, what percentage of these voters do you think believes that the infrastructure and road construction during the AK Party era has ‘definitely’ worsened?

- “Pre\_OutPrior\_Gover” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2] Now, we will ask you to make an estimate about supporters of the government. The five participants who give the closest answer to the correct one will double their chances of winning a gift voucher.

Considering the government supporters who voted for AK Party or MHP, what percentage of these voters do you think believes that income inequality during the AK Party era has ‘definitely’ improved?

### 0.0.10 TREATMENT: Group 1

In this article, we will explore three prominent tree species that stand out.

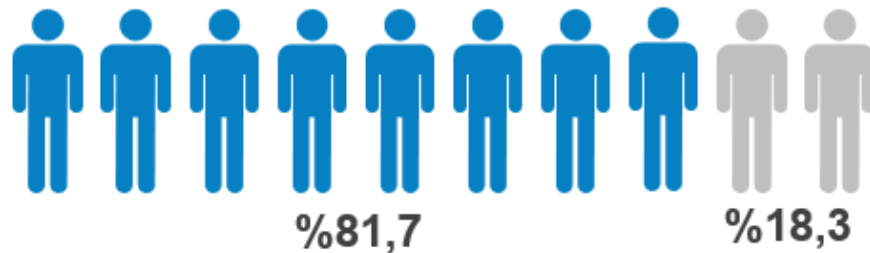
1. Taurus Fir (*Abies cilicica*) Taurus Fir belongs to the Mediterranean fir group, characterized by its long, narrow, needle-like leaves. The tree’s elevation range is 1000-2000 meters, and it prefers shallow, rocky, and well-drained calcareous soils.
  2. Turkish Pine (*Pinus brutia*) Turkish Pine is a widespread pine species in various regions of Turkey. Covering 40% of Turkey’s forests, the Turkish Pine forests extend over a total area of 5.8 million hectares.
  3. Anatolian Sweetgum (*Liquidambar orientalis*) The Anatolian Sweetgum grows in limited areas in the South Aegean and West Mediterranean regions of Turkey. Locally known as the “Günlük tree,” the sweetgum can reach heights of up to 20 meters and bears a resemblance to the plane tree in appearance. It can live up to 200-300 years.
- “Attention\_T1” According to the given article, in what elevation range does the Taurus Fir (Toros Göknaarı) exist in Turkey?
    1. 0-500
    2. 500-1000
    3. 1000-2000
    4. 2000-2500

### 0.0.11 TREATMENT: Group 2

**0.0.11.1 For Opposition Supporters [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]** According to a survey conducted last year, interesting findings emerged about Turkey.

The survey indicates that only a small minority of voters supporting the government believes that income equality has definitely improved during the AK Party era.

Indeed, only 18.3% of government supporters believe that income equality has definitely improved in Turkey. This means that the majority of government supporters, accounting for 81.7%, think that income equality in Turkey has either not improved or has worsened.



Additionally, 17.1% of government supporters believe that the opportunities for homeownership have definitely improved during the AK Party era, while the remaining 82.9% have stated otherwise.



The correct answer to the previous question was 18.3%. Your answer is: "Pre\_OutPrior\_Oppos"

- "Attention\_T2\_Gover" What percentage of government supporters, according to the given survey, believes that income inequality during the AK Party era has 'definitely' improved?

1. %20,8
2. %25,2
3. %36,4
4. %18,3

**0.0.11.2 For Government Supporters [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]** According to a survey conducted last year, interesting findings emerged about Turkey.

The survey indicates that only a small minority of voters supporting the opposition believes that infrastructure and road construction have definitely worsened during the AK Party era.

Indeed, only 25.2% of opposition supporters believe that infrastructure and road construction have definitely worsened in Turkey. This means that the majority of opposition supporters, accounting for 74.8%, think that infrastructure and road construction have not worsened during the AK Party era.



Additionally, only 38.2% of opposition supporters believe that there is definitely a deterioration in the quality of healthcare services, while the remaining 61.8% think otherwise.



The correct answer to the previous question was indeed 25.2%. As for your answer, it is: "Pre\_OutPrior\_Gover"

- "Attention\_T2\_Oppos" What percentage of opposition voters, according to the given survey, believes that the infrastructure and road construction during the AK Party era has 'definitely' worsened?

1. %20,8
2. %25,2
3. %36,4
4. %18,3

#### 0.0.12 TREATMENT: Group 3

0.0.12.1 For Government Supporters [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]

According to TÜİK (Turkish Statistical Institute) data, the General Directorate of Highways has a total road network of 68,761 kilometers as of December 2022.



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21 Yorum 10 Paylaşım

View more 16 Comments



**Ertuğrul Demir** you claim to have built roads, but the roads you've built are there, albeit expensive

Like · Reply · 11s



**Emre Varış** I wish half of the investments in roads and infrastructure were also allocated to education and merit. Those with connections and those who allowed these connected contractors are the cause of these issues.

Like · Reply · 11s



**Ertuğrul Demir** toll roads were built, but there are no properly functioning cars on them. hospitals were built, but there are no appointments available within six months. airports were constructed, but there are no passengers.

Like · Reply · 11s



**Emre Varış** Both in education and in the job market, Turkey is worse off than before, but to be fair, during the AK Party era, the best thing they did was building roads, like Marmaray and Osman Gazi.

Like · Reply · 10s



**Ertuğrul Demir** I also voted for the Millet Alliance, but that part is correct. In the past, it used to take 10 hours to travel across the country; now, it takes only 6 hours, and marmaray has facilitated transportation in istanbul

Like · Reply · 10s



**Emre Varış** Yes, I also voted for the opposition, but the roads and infrastructure have definitely improved.

Like · Reply · 10s

- “Attention\_T3” The social media message you just read, who is it between?
  1. Two opposition supporters
  2. Two government supporters
  3. Two close friends
  4. Two neighbors

**0.0.12.2 For Opposition Supporters [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]**

According to TÜİK (Turkish Statistical Institute) data, in the year 2023, the regions with the highest income inequality were İstanbul, Ağrı, Kars, Iğdır, Ardahan, and Konya.



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21 Yorum 10 Paylaşım



**Mesut Baltacı** how much can we trust this news? it might be a manipulation by external forces or the opposition groups.

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s



**Mevlüt Demir** There may be manipulation, but teachers and civil servants are struggling. They all wake up in the morning having nightmares. Regulations are needed for all of them.

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s



**Mesut Baltacı** okay, but the minimum wage is increasing

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s



**Mevlüt Demir** I voted for the Cumhuriyet Alliance, but currently, income justice is disrupted in the country. There is incredible income inequality. I am a literature teacher with 9 years of experience. The salary I received in December was 27,000 TL. Is this what we studied for? In my city, rents start from 15,000 TL

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s



**Mesut Baltacı** true, our family health workers have also fallen victim to income inequality. I voted for the Leader (President), but in the past period, our income has become worthless.

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 11s



**Mevlüt Demir** The educated people, who struggled with the KPSS (Public Personnel Selection Examination) for years, are being ignored, and in most major cities, salaries are barely enough for rent. It has affected everyone.

Beğen · Yorum Yap · 10s

- “Attention\_T3” The social media message you just read, who is it between?

1. Two opposition supporters
2. Two government supporters
3. Two close friends
4. Two neighbors

### 0.0.13 POSTTREATMENT: Posterior Beliefs about Outgroup Ideological Distributions

Now, we will ask you to imagine **100 people from various groups**. Please place these one hundred individuals into the following categories. **The total number of people should be 100.**

- “Posterior\_Immig\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 immigrants and refugees and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Immig\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 government supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Gover\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Dist1”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically reasonable Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Dist2”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100. Politically, conciliatory in some matters and uncompromising in others Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$

- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Dist3”: Now, we will ask you to imagine 100 opposition supporters and place them into the following three categories. The total number of people should be 100.  
Politically uncompromising Discrete Variable in  $[0, 100]$
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Posterior\_Oppos\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable

#### 0.0.14 POSTTREATMENT: Negative Trait Association

- “NegativeTraits1” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more closed-minded.
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I somewhat disagree
  3. I somewhat agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “NegativeTraits2” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more immoral.
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I somewhat disagree
  3. I somewhat agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “NegativeTraits3” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more lazy.
  2. I somewhat disagree
  3. I somewhat agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “NegativeTraits4” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more dishonest.
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I somewhat disagree
  3. I somewhat agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “NegativeTraits5” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more unintelligent.
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I somewhat disagree
  3. I somewhat agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “NegativeTraits6” Do you agree with the following statement: Compared to [Opposition/Government] supporters, [Government/Opposition] coalition supporters are more traitorous.
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I somewhat disagree

3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “NegativeTraits\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “NegativeTraits\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “NegativeTraits\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “NegativeTraits\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable

#### **0.0.15 POSTTREATMENT: Political Extremism**

- “Extremism1” Do you agree with the following statement? In order to achieve their political goals, [Government/Opposition] supporters, may not accept the election defeat.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Extremism2” Do you agree with the following statement? In order to achieve their political goals, [Government/Opposition] supporters, may use violence.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Extremism3” Do you agree with the following statement? In order to achieve their political goals, [Government/Opposition] supporters, may harass opposition groups on the internet.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Extremism4” Do you agree with the following statement? In order to achieve their political goals, [Government/Opposition] supporters, may not recognize court decisions that do not align with its interests.”

1. I strongly disagree
2. I somewhat disagree
3. I somewhat agree
4. I strongly agree

- “Extremism\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Extremism\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Extremism\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Extremism\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable

#### 0.0.16 POSTTREATMENT: Social Distance

- “SocDist\_Friend” Do you agree with the following statement: “I would feel uncomfortable with my children being friends with the children of supporters of the [Government/Opposition].”
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I partially disagree
  3. I partially agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “SocDist\_Friend\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Friend\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Friend\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Friend\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable
- “SocDist\_Buss” Do you agree with the following statement: “I would feel uncomfortable doing business with supporters of the ruling party.”
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I partially disagree
  3. I partially agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “SocDist\_Buss\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Buss\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Buss\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Buss\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable
- “SocDist\_Neighb” Do you agree with the following statement: “I would feel uncomfortable if my neighbors are [Government/Opposition] supporters.”
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I partially disagree
  3. I partially agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “SocDist\_Neighb\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Neighb\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Neighb\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Neighb\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable
- “SocDist\_Marry” Do you agree with the following statement: “I would feel uncomfortable if my child married someone who is a supporter of the government.”
  1. I strongly disagree
  2. I partially disagree
  3. I partially agree
  4. I strongly agree
- “SocDist\_Marry\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Marry\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Marry\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “SocDist\_Marry\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable

### 0.0.17 POSTTREATMENT: Implicit Extremism

In this section, we will provide you with statements from different individuals. We would like to gather your estimations on how compromising or uncompromising the owner of these statement might be.

- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Oppo1” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]  
“Religion and state affairs should be separate.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Oppo2” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]  
“The government should be accountable to other political parties, regardless of whether there is a slowdown or not.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Oppo3” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]  
“The presidential system is a bad choice for the future of our country.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Oppo4” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]  
“The termination of the Istanbul Convention would create problems for women’s rights.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Oppo5” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 1 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 1]  
“Close relations with the European Union are essential for Turkey’s interests.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Gover1” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]  
“The state can regulate the daily lives of citizens based on moral values.”
  1. Willing to compromise
  2. Partially willing to compromise
  3. Partially uncompromising
  4. Uncompromising and extreme
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Gover2” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]  
“Opposition parties excessively intervene in the government’s duties and cause slowdowns.”
  1. Willing to compromise

2. Partially willing to compromise
3. Partially uncompromising
4. Uncompromising and extreme

- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Gover3” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]  
“The presidential system is a better choice for the future of our country.”

1. Willing to compromise
2. Partially willing to compromise
3. Partially uncompromising
4. Uncompromising and extreme

- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Gover4” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]  
“The termination of the Istanbul Convention would not be a problem for women’s rights.”

1. Willing to compromise
2. Partially willing to compromise
3. Partially uncompromising
4. Uncompromising and extreme

- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Gover5” [DISPLAYED IF Pre\_Affiliation == 2 OR Pre\_AffiliationOther == 2]  
“Close relations with Eastern countries are essential for Turkey’s interests.”

1. Willing to compromise
2. Partially willing to compromise
3. Partially uncompromising
4. Uncompromising and extreme

- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Timing\_First\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Timing\_Last\_Click”: Continuous Variable
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Timing\_Page\_Submit”: Continuous Variable
- “Extreme\_Sorting\_Timing\_Click\_Count”: Discrete Variable

#### 0.0.18 POSTTREATMENT: End of Survey

Survey has come to an end. Thank you for your participation!

- “Raffle\_Choice” If you win the draw, which grocery store chains would you prefer to receive gift vouchers from? You can select multiple grocery store chains.

1. Migros
2. A101

- “PhoneNumber” Finally, in case you win the draw, please share the phone number to which we will send the gift voucher. Your phone number will be de-identified, and phone numbers will be deleted after the gift vouchers are sent.

Important! Each participant can participate in the survey only once. Those with multiple entries through same IP addresses will be considered invalid.

*Note that the text in square brackets is conditional on participants’ party identification. The text before the “/” was shown to Opposition supporters. The text after the “/” was shown to Government supporters.*

*Note that the questions above are given in a random order. Moreover, the text in square brackets is conditional on participants’ party identification. The text before the “/” was shown to Opposition supporters. The text after the “/” was shown to Government supporters.*

# 1 References

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