# Victimhood, Populism, and CT

Start of Block: Preamble

Q1 You are invited to take part in a research survey about your attitudes toward government institutions and actors and your thoughts on political issues. There are no known risks or discomforts associated with this survey. Taking part in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to participate at all, or you may refuse to participate in certain procedures or answer certain questions or discontinue your participation at any time without consequence. Your responses will be kept strictly confidential, and digital data will be stored in secure computer files. Any report of this research that is made available to the public will not include your name or any other individual information by which you could be identified.

This study has been reviewed by The University of Mississippi's Institutional Review Board (IRB). If you have any questions, concerns, or reports regarding your rights as a participant of research, please contact the IRB at (662) 915-7482 or irb@olemiss.edu.

Continuing indicates that you are 18 years of age or older and consent to participate in this study.

End of Block: Preamble

Start of Block: Egocentric Victimhood

Q2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| I rarely get what I deserve in life (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Great things never come to me (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| I usually have to settle for less (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| I never seem to get an extra break (7) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Egocentric Victimhood**

**Start of Block: Sociotropic Victimhood**

Q3 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| The system works against people like me (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| I feel that the world is "doing it" to me and that there is nothing I can do about it (8) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The world is out to get me (14) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The system is rigged to benefit a select few (17) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Sociotropic Victimhood**

**Start of Block: Other-oriented egocentric**

Q4 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| People blame others for their problems too often (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Hard work does not always pay off for some people (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Some people's claims to victimhood at not legitimate (6) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Others are too quick to play the victim card (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Instead of feeling like victims, people should work hard to better themselves (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Too often other people act like they're entitled to things when they aren't (5) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Other-oriented egocentric**

**Start of Block: Attention Check**

Q5 Please selection "Option 3" from the list below.

- Option 1 (1)
- Option 2 (2)
- Option 3 (3)
- Option 4 (4)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Please selection "Option 3" from the list below. != Option 3*

**End of Block: Attention Check**

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**Start of Block: Anxiety, lack of control, powerlessness**

Q6 Over the last 2 weeks, how often have you been bothered by the following problems?

| | Not at all (1) | Several days (2) | More than half the days (3) | Nearly every day (4) |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Feeling nervous, anxious or on edge (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Not being able to stop or control worrying (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Worrying too much about different things (7) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Trouble relaxing (9) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Being so restless that it's hard to sit still (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Becoming easily annoyed or irritable (11) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Feeling afraid, as if something awful might happen (13) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

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Q7 How often are the following true?

| | Never (1) | Rarely (2) | Sometimes (3) | Often (4) | Always (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| If you try hard enough, how often do you know what to do to overcome a problem? (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| How often can you manage things you set out to do? (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| How often do you feel helpless? (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

End of Block: Anxiety, lack of control, powerlessness

Start of Block: Anti-PC, etc

Q8 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Too many people believe they are unique, important snowflakes (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| People should pay less attention to identity and more attention to policy (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| People these days are too sensitive (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| We shouldn't be giving every kid a trophy–there must be winners and losers (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Anti-PC, etc**

**Start of Block: Conspiracism, Trust, and Corruption**

Q9 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

| | Strongly Agree (1) | Agree (2) | Neither Agree nor Disagree (3) | Disagree (4) | Strongly Disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Unseen patterns and secret activities can be found everywhere in politics. (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Much of our lives are being controlled by plots hatched in secret places. (29) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Even though we live in a democracy, a few people will always run things anyway. (31) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The people who really "run" the country are not known to the voters. (34) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

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Q10 How many of the people running the government would you say are corrupt?

- All (1)
- Most (2)
- About half (3)
- A few (4)
- None (5)
- Don't know (6)

Q11 How often can you trust the federal government in Washington to do what is right?

- Never (1)
- Sometimes (2)
- About half the time (3)
- Most of the time (4)
- Always (5)
- Don't know (6)

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Q12 Have you ever heard of QAnon?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Don't know (3)

*Display This Question:*

*If Have you ever heard of QAnon? = Yes*

Q13 Do you support the QAnon movement?

- Strongly support (1)
- Support (2)
- Neither support, nor oppose (3)
- Oppose (4)
- Strongly oppose (5)

End of Block: Conspiracism, Trust, and Corruption

Start of Block: Other predispositions

Q14 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Irish, Italians, Jewish and many other minorities overcame prejudice and worked their way up. Blacks should do the same without any special favors. (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Generations of slavery and discrimination have created conditions that make it difficult for blacks to work their way out of the lower class. (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Over the past few years, blacks have gotten less than they deserve. (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| It's really a matter of some people not trying hard enough; if blacks would only try harder they could be just as well off as whites. (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

Page Break

Q15 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| People like me don't have much say in what government does. (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Politics usually boils down to a struggle between the people and the powerful. (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The system is stacked against people like me. (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| It doesn't really matter who you vote for because the rich control both political parties. (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| People at the top usually get there from some unfair advantage. (5) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| I'd rather put my trust in the wisdom of ordinary people than the opinions of experts and intellectuals. (6) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| When it comes to really important questions, scientific facts don't help very much. (7) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Ordinary people can really use the help of experts for understanding things like health and science. (8) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Politics is ultimately a struggle between good and evil. (9) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

Page Break

Q16 Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Established conducts should not be questioned (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| People should leave important decisions to those in charge/the leaders (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Troublemakers should clearly feel the effects of the fact that they are unwanted in society (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

End of Block: Other predispositions

Start of Block: Health Insurance

Q17 Do you currently have health insurance?

- ○ Yes (1)
- ○ No (2)

*Display This Question:*

*If Do you currently have health insurance? = Yes*

Q18 Is your health insurance sponsored by your employer?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

End of Block: Health Insurance

Start of Block: Voting and Political Predispositions

Q19 Did you vote in the 2020 presidential general election?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Don't know (3)

*Display This Question:*

*If Did you vote in the 2020 presidential general election? = Yes*

Q20 Who did you vote for in the 2016 U.S. presidential election?

- Donald Trump (1)
- Joe Biden (2)
- Jo Jorgensen (3)
- Can't remember (4)

Q21 Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or what?

- Democrat (1)
- Republican (2)
- Independent (3)
- Other (4)
- No preference, neither (5)
- Don't know (6)

*Display This Question:*

*If Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = Republican*

Q22 Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican?

- Strong (1)
- Not very strong (2)
- Don't know (3)

*Display This Question:*

*If Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = Democrat*

Q23 Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

- Strong (1)
- Not very strong (2)
- Don't know (3)

*Display This Question:*

*If Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = Independent*

*Or Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = No preference, neither*

*Or Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = Other*

*Or Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or... = Don't know*

Q24 Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

- Republican Party (1)
- Democratic Party (2)
- Neither (3)
- Don't know (4)

Q25 We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. When it comes to politics, how do you think about yourself?

- Extremely liberal (1)
- Liberal (2)
- Slightly liberal (3)
- Moderate (4)
- Slightly conservative (5)
- Conservative (6)
- Extremely conservative (7)
- Haven't thought much about this (8)
- Don't know (9)

Q26 How interested would you say you are in politics?

- Very interested (1)
- Somewhat interested (2)
- Not very interested (3)
- Not at all interested (4)
- Don't know (5)

**End of Block: Voting and Political Predispositions**

**Start of Block: Feeling Thermometers**

Q27
We'd like to get your feelings toward some of the political institutions and figures in our country. Below we list the names of several political figures and parties, and we'd like you to rate them using something called the feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the party or person. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel favorable toward the person or party and that you don't care too much for that person or party. You would rate the person or party at the 50 degree mark if you don't feel particularly warm or cold toward the person or party.

| | Not Applicable<br>0 20 40 60 80 100 |
|---|---|
| The Democratic Party () | |
| The Republican Party () | |
| Joe Biden () | |
| Donald Trump () | |
| Black Lives Matter () | |
| Antifa () | |
| The QAnon movement () | |

End of Block: Feeling Thermometers

Start of Block: Attention Check 2

Q28 Please select "I am not a robot."

- Robot I am not (1)
- I am not a robot (2)
- Robots are cool (3)
- I'd love to be a robot (4)

*Skip To: End of Survey If Please select "I am not a robot." != I am not a robot*

**End of Block: Attention Check 2**

**Start of Block: Voter Fraud**

Q29 To what extent to you agree or disagree with the following statements about the 2020 presidential election?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| The 2020 presidential election was rigged to elect Joe Biden (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| 2020 witnessed more dead people voting and other fraudulent votes than any election in past 100 years (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Lawmakers in red and blue states colluded to ensure Donald Trump lost the election (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Voter Fraud**

**Start of Block: Riot at the capitol and violence**

Q30 To what extent to you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| The riots at the U.S. Capitol building on January 6th were justified (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| It is acceptable to use violence in advancing political goals these days (4) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Violence is sometimes an acceptable way for Americans to express their disagreement with the government. (2) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| Violence is justified if the members of the other side act violently first (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

**End of Block: Riot at the capitol and violence**

**Start of Block: Demographics**

*

Q31 Please enter your age:

_____

Q32 In what general region of the U.S. do you live?

- Northeast (1)
- Midwest (2)
- South (3)
- West (4)

Q33 Which of the following best characterizes your gender?

- Man (1)
- Woman (2)
- Trans, non-binary, or another gender identity (3)

Q34 Are you Spanish, Hispanic, or Latin?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)
- Don't know (3)

Q35 How would you best categorize your racial background via the following categories? Check all that apply.

- [ ] American Indian or Alaska Native (1)
- [ ] Asian (2)
- [ ] Black or African American (3)
- [ ] Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (4)
- [ ] White (5)

Q36 What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- ○ Did not graduate high school (1)
- ○ High school diploma or equivalent (GED) (2)
- ○ Some college but no degree (3)
- ○ Bachelor's degree (BA) (4)
- ○ Graduate degree (MA, MS, MD, PhD) (5)

Q37 What is your present religion, if any:

- Protestant Christian (1)
- Roman Catholic (2)
- Mormon (3)
- Orthodox Christian (4)
- Jewish (5)
- Muslim (6)
- Buddhist (7)
- Hindu (8)
- Atheist (do not believe in God) (9)
- Agnostic (unsure about whether there is a God) (10)
- Something else (11)
- Nothing in particular (12)

*Display This Question:*

*If What is your present religion, if any: = Protestant Christian*

*Or What is your present religion, if any: = Roman Catholic*

*Or What is your present religion, if any: = Mormon*

*Or What is your present religion, if any: = Orthodox Christian*

X→

Q38 Would you describe yourself as a born-again or evangelical Christian, or not?

- Yes, born-again or evangelical Christian (1)
- No, not born-again or evangelical Christian (2)

Page Break

Q39 Do you go to religious services every week, almost every week, once or twice a month, a few times a year, or never?

- Every week (1)
- Almost every week (2)
- Once or twice a month (3)
- A few times a year (4)
- Never (5)

Q40 Do you currently, or have you ever, served in the U.S. military?

- Yes, I currently serve (1)
- Yes, I served in the past (2)
- No, I have never served (3)

Q41 The next question is about the total income of YOUR HOUSEHOLD for the PAST 12 MONTHS. Please include your income PLUS the income of all members living in your household (including cohabiting partners and armed forces members living at home). Please count income BEFORE TAXES, including income from all sources (such as wages, salaries, tips, net income from a business, interest, dividends, child support, alimony, and Social Security, public assistance, pensions, or retirement benefits).

What was your total HOUSEHOLD income in the past 12 months?

- ○ Under $15,000 (1)
- ○ $15,000 to $24,999 (2)
- ○ $25,000 to $49,999 (3)
- ○ $50,000 to $99,999 (4)
- ○ $100,000 and above (5)
- ○ Don't know (6)

**End of Block: Demographics**

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**Start of Block: Christian Nationalism**

X→

Q42 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the statements below?

| | Strongly agree (1) | Somewhat agree (2) | Neither agree nor disagree (3) | Somewhat disagree (4) | Strongly disagree (5) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| The federal government should declare the United States a Christian nation (1) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The federal government should advocate Christian values (3) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The federal government should enforce strict separation of church and state (6) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The federal government should allow the display of religious symbols in public spaces (7) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The success of the United States is part of God's plan (9) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
| The federal government should allow prayer in public schools (11) | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

End of Block: Christian Nationalism

Start of Block: White Identity

*Display This Question:*

*If How would you best categorize your racial background via the following categories? Check all that... = White*

Q43 Being white is important to my identity.

- Strongly agree (1)
- Somewhat agree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat disagree (4)
- Strongly disagree (5)

*Display This Question:*

*If How would you best categorize your racial background via the following categories? Check all that... = White*

Q44 White people in this country have a lot to be proud of.

- Strongly agree (1)
- Somewhat agree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat agree (4)
- Strongly agree (5)

*Display This Question:*

*If How would you best categorize your racial background via the following categories? Check all that... = White*

Q45 Whites in this country have a lot in common with one another.

- Strongly agree (1)
- Somewhat agree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat disagree (4)
- Strongly disagree (5)

*Display This Question:*

*If How would you best categorize your racial background via the following categories? Check all that... = White*

Q46 It is important that whites work together to change laws that are unfair to whites.

- Strongly agree (1)
- Somewhat agree (2)
- Neither agree nor disagree (3)
- Somewhat disagree (4)
- Strongly disagree (5)

**End of Block: White Identity**

**Start of Block: Debrief**

Q47 This study you have just completed was designed to investigate whether there is a connection between feeling victimized by politics various and other political properties of

interest, like polarization and trust in government. The story you read may have been fabricated.
Thank you for your participation in this study.

**End of Block: Debrief**