Online Appendix for "Americans' Belief in Linked Fate"

June 2015

1 Mechanical Turk Survey

As described in the paper, we used Amazon's Mechanical Turk service to recruit participants for a second round of data collection in April and May 2015, using a two-wave sampling process to obtain respondents. This section presents analysis of responses to our main survey, sent to 632 people in May 2015.

Demographics

We collected 449 responses, with 86 Black, 88 Hispanic, 135 Asian, and 140 White respondents. A slight majority of respondents (266/449) were male. As is common on Mechanical Turk, the sample skews heavily Democratic (80% of the sample reported being Democratic or leaning towards the Democratic party). Respondents were less religious than the American public as a whole, with 221 reporting no religious affiliations (of the remainder, 185 observed some form of Christianity and 43 held other faiths). The vast majority of respondents identified as either middle class (228) or working class (136), with relatively few identifying as lower class (77) or upper class (8).

The main purpose of this follow-up study was not to find another representative sample, but to test some survey items that might capture the same thing as the linked fate item. As these were fairly universal concepts and relationships, we were comfortable running this survey on a convenience sample. In order to keep the survey short, we did not ask many demographic questions beyond those needed to construct our Linked Fate items and outcome measures. However, we can look to other large MTurk surveys as a guide to the demographics of the sample pool. For example, we did not collect measures of education, so we cannot explore whether Black respondents to our sample are especially highly-educated(which has been associated with higher levels of both linked fate and political engagement). However, two major surveys characterizing MTurk samples are useful here. In our own analysis of the replication data from Berinsky, Huber, and Lenz (2012), we found that Black respondents to their survey reported an average of 13.4 years of education. For reference, this is higher than the mean education reported by overall sample of respondents (all races) to the 2008 Current Population Survey: it is quite high. Similarly, Black respondents to the recent MTurk surveys described in a working paper by Huff & Tingley (2015) reported very high levels of education, with only 17.5% of Black respondents reporting that they had a high school education or below (personal communication, Connor Huff, June 2015). We suspect that such high levels of education in this sample could be the reason that we observe somewhat higher levels of Black racial linked fate here than in LFSS.

Replicating LFSS figures/analysis with MTurk data

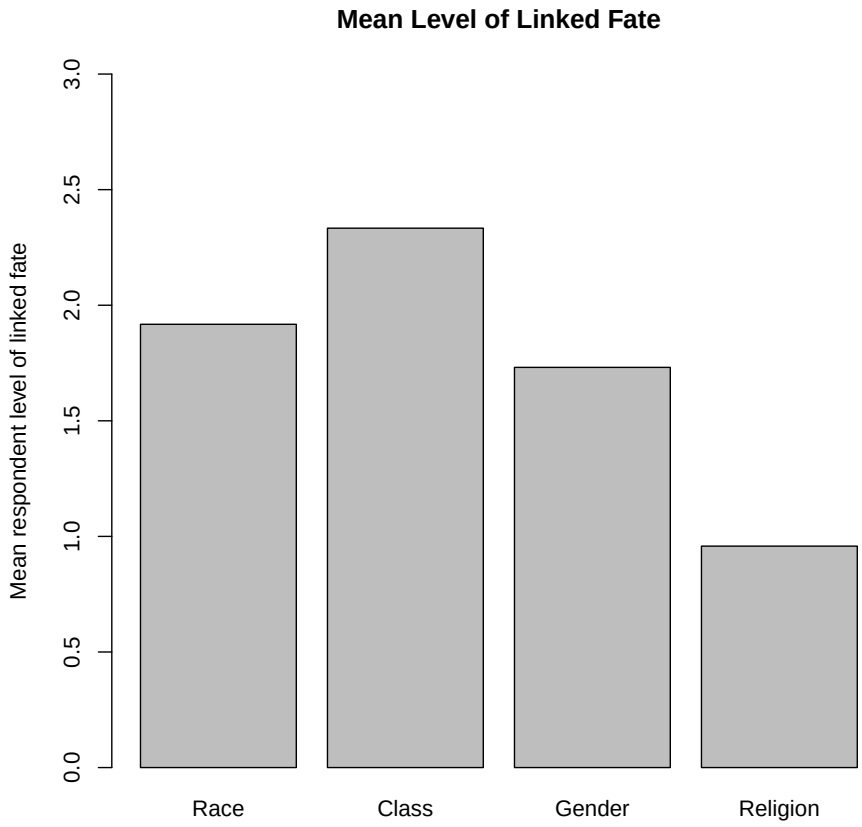

Figure 1: Levels of Different Types of Linked Fate in the Mechanical Turk Sample

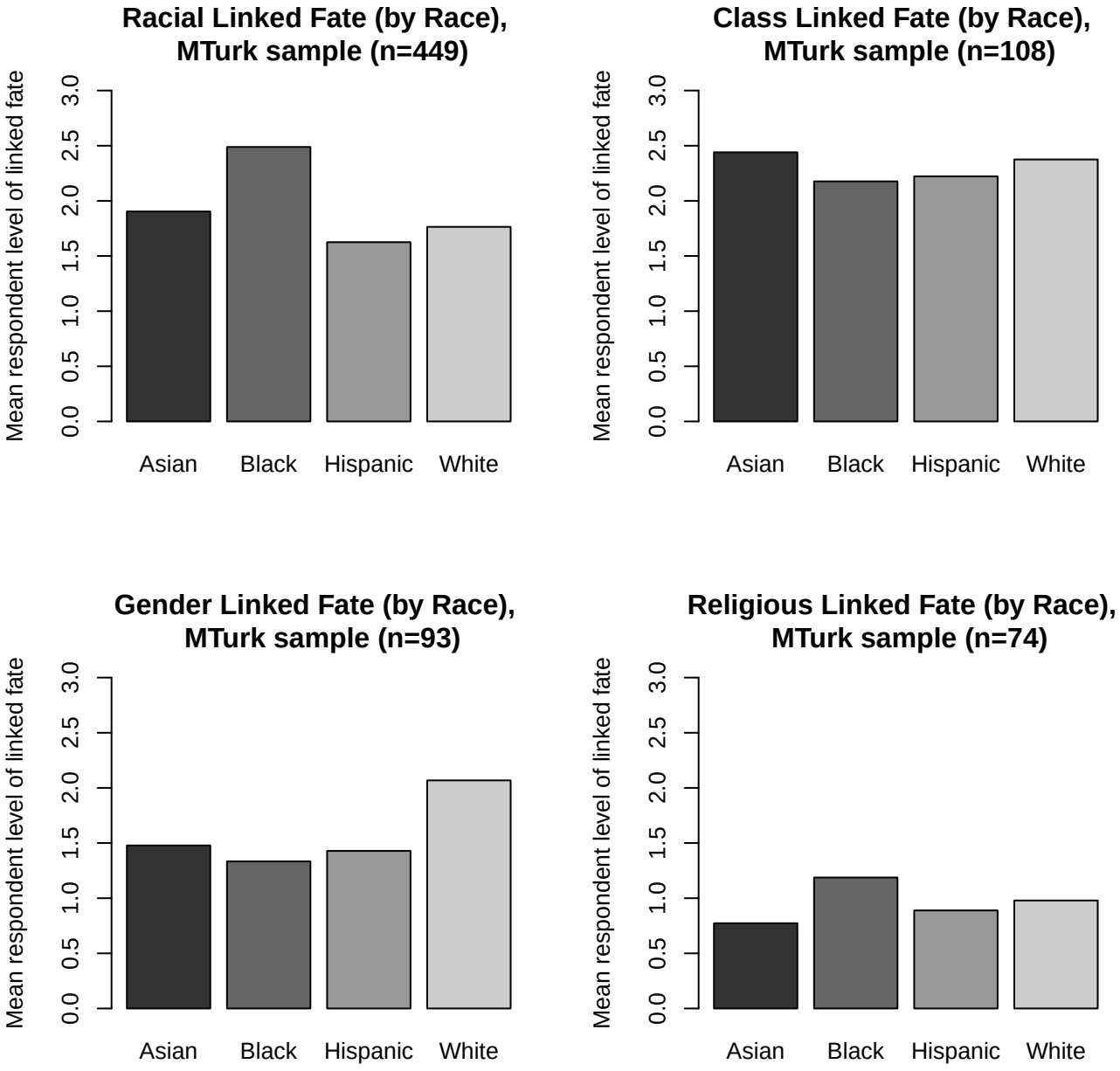

Figure 2: Levels of Linked Fate by Race, Mechanical Turk Sample

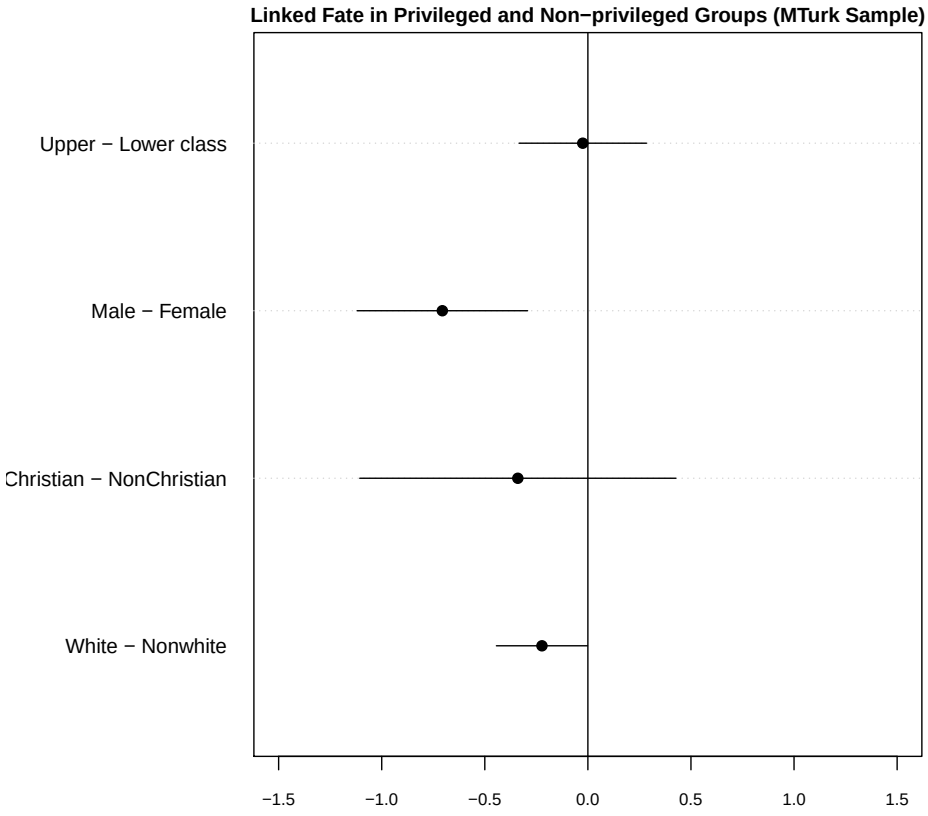

Figure 3: Linked Fate by Group Status, Mechanical Turk Sample

Table 1: Predicting Political Behavior with Racial Linked Fate (MTurk Sample)

	Dependent variable:				
	Registration	Voting	Protest	Org. Membership	Party (7-pt.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Linked Fate	−0.009	0.030	0.008	0.012	0.069
	(0.017)	(0.021)	(0.012)	(0.018)	(0.072)
Male	0.006	−0.082*	0.027	−0.020	−0.314**
	(0.036)	(0.046)	(0.025)	(0.039)	(0.155)
Black	0.046	0.208***	0.133***	0.130**	0.117
	(0.052)	(0.066)	(0.036)	(0.056)	(0.223)
Hispanic	−0.050	0.072	0.015	−0.031	0.092
	(0.050)	(0.064)	(0.035)	(0.054)	(0.214)
White	0.025	0.136**	0.076**	−0.001	−0.576***
	(0.044)	(0.056)	(0.031)	(0.048)	(0.191)
Constant	0.857***	0.573***	−0.012	0.161***	5.444***
	(0.053)	(0.067)	(0.037)	(0.057)	(0.228)
Observations	444	442	449	449	440
R^2	0.008	0.050	0.039	0.026	0.049
Adjusted R^2	−0.003	0.039	0.028	0.015	0.038
Residual Std. Error	0.359 (df = 438)	0.458 (df = 436)	0.254 (df = 443)	0.391 (df = 443)	1.543 (df = 434)
F Statistic	0.700 (df = 5; 438)	4.610*** (df = 5; 436)	3.585*** (df = 5; 443)	2.346** (df = 5; 443)	4.460*** (df = 5; 434)

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 2: Predicting Political Behavior with Class Linked Fate (MTurk Sample)

	Dependent variable:				
	Registration	Voting	Protest	Org. Membership	Party (7-pt.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Linked Fate	0.066	0.027	0.020	0.031	−0.155
	(0.042)	(0.060)	(0.029)	(0.048)	(0.208)
Male	−0.074	−0.275***	0.022	0.002	−0.799**
	(0.071)	(0.101)	(0.049)	(0.081)	(0.339)
Black	−0.132	0.053	0.074	0.183	0.250
	(0.112)	(0.160)	(0.077)	(0.128)	(0.534)
Hispanic	0.085	0.022	0.114	−0.002	0.759
	(0.105)	(0.151)	(0.072)	(0.120)	(0.495)
White	−0.007	0.027	0.064	0.069	−0.337
	(0.084)	(0.119)	(0.057)	(0.095)	(0.398)
Constant	0.767***	0.701***	−0.064	0.045	6.051***
	(0.134)	(0.191)	(0.092)	(0.153)	(0.679)
Observations	106	105	108	108	105
R^2	0.059	0.089	0.030	0.029	0.128
Adjusted R^2	0.012	0.043	−0.017	−0.018	0.084
Residual Std. Error	0.338 (df = 100)	0.475 (df = 99)	0.232 (df = 102)	0.386 (df = 102)	1.574 (df = 99)
F Statistic	1.262 (df = 5; 100)	1.929* (df = 5; 99)	0.633 (df = 5; 102)	0.615 (df = 5; 102)	2.897** (df = 5; 99)
Note:					*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 3: Predicting Political Behavior with Gender Linked Fate (MTurk Sample)

	Dependent variable:				
	Registration	Voting	Protest	Org. Membership	Party (7-pt.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Linked Fate	−0.006	0.020	0.030	0.090**	−0.191
	(0.038)	(0.047)	(0.023)	(0.042)	(0.201)
Male	−0.046	−0.109	0.013	0.034	−0.334
	(0.077)	(0.097)	(0.048)	(0.088)	(0.414)
Black	0.158	0.183	0.092	0.144	0.360
	(0.121)	(0.152)	(0.075)	(0.137)	(0.642)
Hispanic	0.094	0.143	0.004	−0.048	0.271
	(0.113)	(0.140)	(0.070)	(0.128)	(0.600)
White	0.025	0.058	0.054	0.030	−0.553
	(0.090)	(0.110)	(0.055)	(0.101)	(0.480)
Constant	0.873***	0.756***	−0.055	−0.031	5.646***
	(0.119)	(0.149)	(0.073)	(0.135)	(0.633)
Observations	92	92	93	93	90
R^2	0.034	0.050	0.049	0.073	0.072
Adjusted R^2	−0.022	−0.005	−0.006	0.019	0.017
Residual Std. Error	0.330 (df = 86)	0.408 (df = 86)	0.205 (df = 87)	0.376 (df = 87)	1.755 (df = 84)
F Statistic	0.602 (df = 5; 86)	0.911 (df = 5; 86)	0.896 (df = 5; 87)	1.360 (df = 5; 87)	1.300 (df = 5; 84)
Note:					*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 4: Predicting Political Behavior with Religious Linked Fate (MTurk Sample)

	Dependent variable:				
	Registration	Voting	Protest	Org. Membership	Party (7-pt.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Linked Fate	−0.053	0.004	−0.004	0.052	0.101
	(0.035)	(0.043)	(0.027)	(0.034)	(0.141)
Male	0.093	−0.033	0.082	−0.011	−0.230
	(0.079)	(0.099)	(0.061)	(0.077)	(0.323)
Black	0.087	0.272*	0.031	0.090	0.519
	(0.126)	(0.157)	(0.098)	(0.122)	(0.513)
Hispanic	0.016	0.260	−0.051	0.081	0.581
	(0.150)	(0.187)	(0.117)	(0.146)	(0.612)
White	0.139	0.330***	0.114	−0.024	−0.064
	(0.100)	(0.123)	(0.077)	(0.096)	(0.401)
Constant	0.747***	0.425***	−0.00003	0.103	5.149***
	(0.101)	(0.123)	(0.076)	(0.095)	(0.400)
Observations	94	94	95	95	95
R^2	0.060	0.082	0.054	0.045	0.041
Adjusted R^2	0.007	0.030	0.0003	−0.009	−0.012
Residual Std. Error	0.377 (df = 88)	0.473 (df = 88)	0.294 (df = 89)	0.368 (df = 89)	1.544 (df = 89)
F Statistic	1.128 (df = 5; 88)	1.567 (df = 5; 88)	1.006 (df = 5; 89)	0.835 (df = 5; 89)	0.768 (df = 5; 89)
Note:					*p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table 5: Predicting Political Behavior with Black Racial Linked Fate (MTurk Sample)

	Dependent variable:				
	Registration	Voting	Protest	Org. Membership	Party (7-pt.)
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Linked Fate	0.067	0.005	0.095*	0.025	−0.025
	(0.045)	(0.054)	(0.050)	(0.065)	(0.181)
Male	−0.010	−0.066	−0.013	0.153	0.037
	(0.073)	(0.087)	(0.081)	(0.104)	(0.294)
Middle Class	0.143	0.071	−0.052	0.284*	−0.124
	(0.104)	(0.125)	(0.113)	(0.146)	(0.410)
Upper Class	0.146	0.193	0.267	0.252	−2.017**
	(0.248)	(0.295)	(0.276)	(0.356)	(0.993)
Working Class	−0.017	−0.130	−0.065	0.121	−0.724*
	(0.105)	(0.126)	(0.114)	(0.148)	(0.412)
Constant	0.663***	0.856***	−0.038	0.022	6.055***
	(0.156)	(0.189)	(0.171)	(0.220)	(0.617)
Observations	85	85	86	86	85
R^2	0.090	0.070	0.074	0.082	0.094
Adjusted R^2	0.033	0.011	0.017	0.025	0.037
Residual Std. Error	0.319 (df = 79)	0.381 (df = 79)	0.357 (df = 80)	0.461 (df = 80)	1.286 (df = 79)
F Statistic	1.567 (df = 5; 79)	1.189 (df = 5; 79)	1.287 (df = 5; 80)	1.431 (df = 5; 80)	1.643 (df = 5; 79)

Note: *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

2 Mechanical Turk Survey Instrument 1

This document presents the text of the demographic survey used in the first wave of our Mechanical Turk data collection, as discussed in the paper.

Block 1

Information Sheet

You are being asked to take part in a research study being done by [redacted] from [redacted] University.

If you choose to be in the study, you will complete a survey. This survey will help us learn more about how people view their situation in society. The survey will take you about 1-3 minutes.

You can skip questions that you do not want to answer or stop the survey at any time.

The survey is confidential, and no one besides the researchers will be able to link your answers back to your Mturk Worker ID. Please do not include your name or other information that could be used to identify you in the survey responses.

Being in this study is voluntary. Please close the webpage if you do not want to participate.

Questions? Please contact [redacted] at [redacted]edu.

If you want to participate in this study, select "Agree" below and click the arrow button to start the survey.

Agreement to participate in study

- ◯ I agree to participate in this study
- ◯ I do not agree to participate in this study.

Default Question Block

What is your religion?

- ◯ Other Christian
- ◯ None
- ◯ Catholic
- ◯ Pentecostal
- ◯ Other non-Christian
- ◯ Hindu
- ◯ Protestant (e.g., Methodist, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Episcopal)
- ◯ Muslim
- ◯ Buddhist
- ◯ Eastern Orthodox
- ◯ Jewish
- ◯ Mormon
- ◯ Baptist—any denomination

If you were asked to use one of four names for your social class, which would you say you belong in?

- ◯ the lower class
- ◯ the working class
- ◯ the upper class
- ◯ the middle class

Where would you place yourself on this scale, or haven't you thought much about this?

	Extremely liberal	Liberal	Slightly Liberal	Moderate	Slightly Conservative	Conservative	Extremely Conservative	Haven't thought about it
I am...	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯	◯

What is your gender?

- ◯ Male
- ◯ Female

How would you describe your race or ethnicity?

- ◯ Asian, Non-Hispanic
- ◯ Hispanic
- ◯ Black, Non-Hispanic
- ◯ Other, Non-Hispanic
- ◯ White, Non-Hispanic

What is your MTurk worker ID?

Survey Powered By Qualtrics

3 Mechanical Turk Survey Instrument 2

The next document is the full survey instrument used for the main Mechanical Turk survey discussed in the paper. Note that many variations on the linked fate item appear in the survey, but each respondent was only asked two variations.[1]

[1]Due to an error in survey flow, some people who received the racial linked fate item at the beginning of the survey were asked it again at the end, rather than receiving one of the three other linked fate items. This affected only the last question of the survey; it reduces our power somewhat, as it means fewer people answered those items, but it should not change the answers to any other survey questions.

Block 12

Information Sheet

You are being asked to take part in a research study being done by [redacted] from [redacted] University.

If you choose to be in the study, you will complete a survey. This survey will help us learn more about how people view their situation in society. The survey will take you about 5-12 minutes.

You can skip questions that you do not want to answer or stop the survey at any time.

The survey is confidential, and no one besides the researchers will be able to link your answers back to your Mturk Worker ID. Please do not include your name or other information that could be used to identify you in the survey responses.

Being in this study is voluntary. Please close the webpage if you do not want to participate.

Questions? Please contact [redacted] at [redacted]du.

If you want to participate in this study, select "Agree" below and click the arrow button to start the survey.

Agreement to participate in study

- ◯ I agree to participate in this study
- ◯ I do not agree to participate in this study.

TESS_LFrace

Do you think that what happens to white people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to black people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to Asian people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to Hispanic people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to other people of your race in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

How much will it affect you?

- ◯ Not very much at all
- ◯ Some
- ◯ A lot

TESS_LFgender

Do you think that what happens to women in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to men in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- Yes
- No

How much will it affect you?

- Not very much at all
- A lot
- Some

TESS_LFrelig

Do you think that what happens to Baptist people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- Yes
- No

Do you think that what happens to Catholic people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- No
- Yes

Do you think that what happens to people in this country who are not part of an organized religion will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to Mormon people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to Jewish people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to Muslim people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to Hindu people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to Buddhist people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to Pentecostal people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to Eastern Orthodox people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to other Christian people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to other people in this country with the same religion as you will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

Do you think that what happens to Protestant people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- Yes
- No

How much will it affect you?

- Not very much at all
- Some
- A lot

TESS_LFclass

Do you think that what happens to upper-class people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- No
- Yes

Do you think that what happens to middle-class people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- Yes
- No

Do you think that what happens to lower-class people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

Do you think that what happens to working-class people in this country will have something to do with what happens in your life?

- ◯ No
- ◯ Yes

How much will it affect you?

- ◯ Not very much at all
- ◯ Some
- ◯ A lot

Descriptive_LOCandconnectedness

For each statement, select the bubble that matches how much you disagree or agree with that statement.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Slightly Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
We are all connected.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Things that happen to strangers have nothing to do with me.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
My life is determined by my own actions.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People like me have very little chance of protecting our personal interests when they conflict with those of strong pressure groups.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

For each statement, select the bubble that matches how much you disagree or agree with that statement.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Slightly Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Any two people in the world are somehow connected.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I tend to think I have little in common with other people.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
My life is chiefly controlled by powerful others.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I am usually able to protect my personal interests.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

For each statement, select the bubble that matches how much you disagree or agree with that statement.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Slightly Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The world is complicated, but underneath that everything is interconnected.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
There are only a few degrees of separation between me and any other human being.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
What happens in my life is mostly determined by powerful people.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
I can pretty much determine what will happen in my life.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

TESS_politicization

Are you currently registered to vote?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Not sure

In talking to people about elections, we often find that a lot of people were not able to vote because they weren't registered, they were sick, or they just didn't have time. How about you -- did you vote in the last presidential election in 2012?

- ◯ I don't remember.
- ◯ No, I did not vote.
- ◯ Yes, I voted.

In the last 12 months, have you attended a political protest or rally?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

In the last twelve months, have you worked with others or joined an organization in your community to do something about some community problem?

- ◯ Yes
- ◯ No

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

- ◯ Republican
- ◯ Democrat
- ◯ No preference
- ◯ Some other party:
- ◯ Independent

PartisanshipFollowup

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

- Republican
- Democratic

Would you call yourself a strong ${q://QID42/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices} or a not very strong ${q://QID42/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}?

- Strong
- Not very strong

Attn_ck

Many people get their news and entertainment from a wide mix of sources, while others use just a few. We're interested in whether you watch a lot of different television networks or just one or two. We're also interested in your reading habits, so for this first question we'd like you to proceed through without selecting any choices-- just click through and go to the next question. We'll be asking you a few follow-up questions about your views and behaviors.

Which of these television networks do you watch regularly (more than once a month)?

- NBC
- CBS
- ABC
- Fox
- CNN
- PBS
- Other:

LocusofControl_Normative

For each statement, select the bubble that matches how much you disagree or agree with that statement.

	Strongly Agree	Somewhat Agree	Slightly Agree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Slightly Disagree	Somewhat Disagree	Strongly Disagree
People should mostly ``go it alone'' in their lives; it is important to protect privacy, time by yourself, and control over your own activities.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
A person should avoid being dependent on other people or possessions; we should find the meaning of our lives within ourselves.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
People who stand alone deserve our admiration more than people who follow others' lead.	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Connectedness_Normative

How close do you feel to each of the following groups?

	Not at all	Just a little	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very
Americans	○	○	○	○	○
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○

How much would you say you have in common with the following groups?

	Nothing	Just a little	Some	Quite a bit	Very much
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○
Americans	○	○	○	○	○
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○

Sometimes people think of those who are not a part of their immediate family as “family.” To what degree do you think of the following groups of people as “family?”

	Not at all	Just a little	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
Americans	○	○	○	○	○
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○

How much do you feel a part of each of the following?

	Not at all	Just a little	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
Americans	○	○	○	○	○
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○

How much would you say you care or feel upset when bad things happen to:

	Not at all	Just a little	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○
Americans	○	○	○	○	○

When they are in need, how much do you want to help:

	Not at all	Just a little	Somewhat	Quite a bit	Very much
People in my local community	○	○	○	○	○
Americans	○	○	○	○	○
People all over the world	○	○	○	○	○

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