Date: 10-7-2023

IRB #: PRO-FY2021-263
Title: Politics & Deliberation Study
Creation Date: 2-1-2021
End Date:
Status: Approved
Principal Investigator: Eric Groenendyk
Review Board: University of Memphis
Sponsor:

## Study History

| Submission Type | Review Type | Decision |
|---|---|---|
| Initial | Exempt | Exempt |

## Key Study Contacts

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Member Eric Groenendyk | Role Principal Investigator | Contact grnendyk@memphis.edu |
| Member Eric Groenendyk | Role Primary Contact | Contact grnendyk@memphis.edu |

# Initial Submission

## Section 1 Investigator Information

Human Research Protections Program
Institutional Review Board

*required

### Principal Investigator

1 Name: Eric Groenendyk
Organization: Political Science
Address: 315 Administration Building , Memphis, TN 38152-3370
Phone: 901-678-3462
Email: grnendyk@memphis.edu

#### 1a Your UofM Appointment Status

- Professor
- ✓ Associate Professor
- Assistant Professor
- Instructor
- Student
- Staff
- Other

2 Do you have a Co-PI or Co-PIs?

Yes

No

*required

Primary Contact

3 Name: Eric Groenendyk
Organization: Political Science
Address: 315 Administration Building , Memphis, TN 38152-3370
Phone: 901-678-3462
Email: grnendyk@memphis.edu

Co-Investigators

4

Use the text area for investigators outside UofM, and use the Find People button below for UofM investigators.

Please choose your UofM investigator(s) here:

5 Is there a financial sponsor for this study?

Yes

No

Determination

Do you need a determination for whether or not your study is human subjects research requiring IRB review?

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6

*Human subject* means a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or identifiable private information.

*Research* means a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge.

Yes. Proceed to determination questions for submission

✓ No. Proceed with your protocol submission

## Section 3 IRB Protocol General Information

*required

### CITI Training Completion Information

7 CITI (**C**ollaborative **I**nstitutional **T**raining **I**nitiative at the University of Miami) Training in human subjects research is required every two years.

Date of completion:

09/16/19

### CITI Modules Completed

Check all that apply.

- ✓ Social & Behavioral Research Investigators
- Bio medical Research
- Students conducting no more than minimal risk research
- IRB Members
- Nursing

### CITI Record ID:

31374793

## Section 4 IRB Protocol

*required

8 Anticipated number of subjects for the entire project.

850

9 Submission type

✓ Exempt study

Secondary Analysis of Existing Data

All other studies

*required

Purpose of the study

a) **Study Goal**. Provide a concise statement of the study hypothesis(es) or goal(s).
b) **Literature review.** Briefly describe how the pertinent body of literature supports the study goal. Include citations and references.
c) **Citations and references**. Include citations and a complete reference section.
d) **Possible contribution**. Describe the potential benefits of the proposed research study to the literature.

10 a) The goal of this study is to determine who selects into and out of politics, and under what conditions.
b) Recent work by Groenendyk and Krupnikov (2020) shows that people associate politics with disagreement and debate, which leads to directionally motivated reasoning (Kunda 1990) in contexts labeled "political." We seek to extend this logic by investigating how politics influences self-selection (Heckman 1990) into and out of studies and social situations labeled "political." If people select out of such studies, these studies may be systematically overestimating the polarization of the American electorate (e.g. .Iyengar and Westwood 2014). Our preliminary results suggest that people, especially political moderate people who are conflict avoidant, are more likely to select out of surveys, focus groups, and even dinner parties labeled "political." This study builds on these

findings by examining whether it might help to emphasize the deliberative nature of the setting. If we are right, in addition to making a vital methodological contribution, our results would also contribute to the literature demonstrating the incompatibility between deliberative and participatory democracy (Mutz 2006).

c) References: Groenendyk, Eric and Yanna Krupnikov. 2020. "What Motives Reasoning: A Theory of Goal-Dependent Political Evaluation. " American Journal of Political Science , forthcoming.
Heckman, James J. 1990. "Selection Bias and Self-Selection." In Econometrics. J. Eatwell et al. (eds.) Palgrave MacMillan . New York, NY.
Iyengar, Shanto and Sean Westwood. 2014."Fear and Loathing Across Party Lines: New Evidence of Group Polarization." American Journal of Political Science 59(3): 690-707.
Kunda, Ziva. 1990. "The Case for Motivated Reasoning." Psychological Bulletin 108(3): 480-498.
Mutz. Diana. 2006. Hearing the Other Side. Deliberative versus Participatory Democracy. Cambridge University Press, New York, NY. d) Our results have the potential to contribute to the literature on survey methodology, the literature on political polarization, and the literature on democratic deliberation.

*required

## Methods and Procedures

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**a) Study design**. Provide a summary statement of the design methodology used. For example, stating that the study is a randomized clinical trial using a double blind procedure with a placebo control. Another example would be a reanalysis of de-identified archival data.

**b) Materials.** Provide a concise description of all special equipment, instruments, or measures in this section. Also, label and attach copies of data collection tools at the end of this Initial Review Request.

**c) Procedures**. Provide a chronological description of the experience of being a participant in this study. For archival data, describe how the data is secured, stored, and used. Include the process by which consent will be obtained.

**d)** Indicate which procedures and treatments are associated with the present study and
11 those which are not part of the study (i.e., pre-existing programs, interventions, or classroom exercises).

a) The study is a Qualtrics survey with an embedded experiment. All respondents will be asked to consider whether they would attend a dinner party, but the topic up for discussion at the dinner party will be experimentally manipulated: politics versus movies. Additionally, the description of the dinner party will be manipulated to emphasize either a deliberative atmosphere (e.g. open-minded discussion with the goal of consensus) or not (baseline).

b) The survey instrument is attached.

c) Study participants will be recruited through the crowdsourcing website Prolific (similar to Mturk).

This will require them to log onto the website, see the description of our posted study, and decide to click. This will bring them to our consent form. Once granting consent by clicking to continue with the study, they will begin the survey. The survey should take approximately 2 minutes to complete. Qualtrics will be set to anonymize responses.

d) NA

Attachments: Instruments and Measures

Deliberation_Study_Dinner_Party_2_Survey Instrument.docx

Secondary analysis of existing data

12 The specific information is necessary when identifiable data about human subjects will be obtained. Data are identifiable if they include direct or indirect identifiers such as name, email address, UID Number, race, gender, nationality, age etc.
a) List source of the data and an explanation of why the data were originally collected.
b) Describe in detail the data you plan to access and analyze.
c) Indicate the requirements of the data supplier and how access to the data will be granted or obtained. If access to the data is governed by a data use agreement, provide a copy of the agreement.
d) Describe procedures that will protect data you are given access.

Data information: Data Use Agreement, Data Sharing Agreement, Variables List etc.

*required

Investigator Qualifications

a) Describe the research team's qualifications and experience pertinent to conducting this research project. **This description must address and include information about the lead investigator and, if the lead investigator is a student, the faculty advisor as well.**

13

b) If physical or psychological assessments are being administered who will administer the assessment and score the results and what are their qualifications for doing so? Is the training in human subject protection of those administering assessments adequate?

a) Eric Groenendyk has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Michigan and is Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Memphis. He has been conducting studies of this type for 20 years. He has published a book and numerous articles, in respected journals

b) NA

*required

Human Subjects

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**a) Characteristics**. Describe the characteristics of the participant population. Include the age range(s), gender, ethnicity, health status, any physical, mental, cognitive or emotional limitations, and any other relevant variables.

**b) Vulnerable Populations**. Indicate if subjects include students, prisoners, pregnant women or any other class of subjects that might be especially vulnerable and require special consideration.

**c) Pre-existing relationship** to subject pool. If subjects are students, describe the relationship between students and researcher. If there is a pre-existing relationship between the researcher and the subject pool, please describe that relationship in detail.

**d) Selection.** Describe criteria for inclusion and exclusion of subjects in the study. Provide a detailed explanation for each exclusion and inclusion criterion.

**e) Justification** for the proposed sample size. This number helps reviewers understand
14 the expected sample size. Please explain why this number was chosen for your sample size. Any increases to sample size require a modification to the study.

a) Study participants will be recruited through Prolific, a crowdsourcing platform. All study participants will be be Americans over the age of 18. Prolific does not permit individuals under 18 from participating in their services. Participants will be able to choose, based on the information posted on Prolific's website, whether or not to participate in the study.

b) No vulnerable populations will be targeted for our sample.

c) No pre-existing relationship exists between the researchers and subject pool.

d) Only Americans over 18 years old will be allowed to participate. All others will be excluded. Participants will choose whether or not to participate in the study. Prolific prohibits individuals under 18 from signing up for their service.

e) I have chosen a sample size of 850  in order to minimize margin of error in our estimates (and thus Type II error) without collecting more data that needed (and spending more money than needed). This decision was informed by power analysis.

*required

## Recruitment

15 Describe how subjects will be identified and recruited.
Provide detailed description and examples, where relevant, of any material to be presented to potential participants prior to their receipt of the informed consent/assent documents.

Study participants will decide on their own whether or not they want to participate in our study, which will be posted on Prolific. See the attached recruitment materials.

## Recruitment Materials

Attach advertisements, postings on social media, posters, scripts for radio/TV, other electronic ads, scripts for verbal recruitment, copies of email recruitments and any text that will be provided to potential participants. It should be clear in all recruitment materials that you are conducting research. See Sample Recruitment flyer on IRB website.

Prolific Advertisement_Dinner Party (Study 2).docx Sample documents:
sample_recruitment_flyer.doc

*required

## Subject Compensation

16 a) Describe any economic or other incentives for participation including reimbursement for time and travel.
b) If study participation requires subject to complete multiple sessions, compensation must be pro-rated over
the course of the study. (Example: In a study where subjects are compensated $50 per session, Tom completes only two sessions, then he should be compensated $100 for his participation)

c) If the study incentive involves earning course credit, list alternative ways to earn the same credit.

a) Study participants will by paid $0.35 for participating in this study, which should take them approximately 2 minutes to complete.
b) NA
c) NA

## Risk Benefit Analysis

*required

### Potential Risks

17 a) Describe all potential risks: physical, psychological, social, legal or other associated with each procedure. Assess the probability, severity, potential duration and reversibility of each risk.
b) Identify those risks that are minimal and those which are more than minimal.
c) Describe the procedures used to minimize any potential risks.

a) There are no risks associated with this study beyond those experienced in everyday life.
b) NA
c) NA

*required

### Potential Benefits

18 a) Describe the direct potential benefits to the subject. If there are none, this should be so stated.
b) Describe the potential societal benefits of the study in terms of human health/welfare, the advancement of knowledge or the good of society.

a) Study participants will receive $0.35 for participating in the study. Additionally, participants in studies of this sort often remark that they enjoy sharing their opinions and sometimes even find it cathartic.
b) This study has the potential to make important contributions on two fronts: First, from a methodological standpoint, researchers may be overestimated the the degree to which the electorate is actually polarized. It would be important for Americans to know if we aren't as divided as we think. Second, it may help to explain why dialog is often unproductive. Again, it may not simply be that Americans, in general, are polarized. Instead, the most polarized and conflict seeking individuals are simply selecting into the discussion, while conflict avoidant individuals are selecting out. This study examines whether the problem might be overcome by

emphasizing the deliberative nature of discussion, thereby establishing norms of open-minded exchange and problem-solving, not just debate, at the outset.

*required

## Differential Evaluation of Risks and Benefits

19 Justify the research study based on your evaluation of the risk/benefit assessment. When composing this section, imagine you are standing in front of a panel of researchers who are all skeptical about your research. Your task is to reassure them that the benefits of your research outweigh the risks.

Since there are essentially not risks and substantial potential benefits, it is clear that the benefits (especially social benefits) outweigh the risks.

*required

## Privacy

The research proposal should outline strategies to protect privacy, including how the investigator will access participant information.
In developing strategies for the protection of subjects' privacy, consideration should be given to:

- The methods used to identify and contact potential subjects.
- The settings in which an individual will be interacting with an investigator.
- The appropriateness of all personnel present for research activities.
- The methods used to obtain information about subjects.
- The nature of the requested information.

20

- Information that is obtained about individuals other than the target subjects, and whether such individuals meet the regulatory definition of human subject (e.g., a subject provides information about a family member for a survey).
- Privacy guidelines developed by relevant professional associations and scholarly disciplines.
- How to access the minimum amount of information necessary to complete the study.

Study participants will be contacted through the crowdsourcing website Prolific. Participants will take the study over a computer or smartphone. The researcher is highly qualified, but will not be present while participants are taking the study, since they will be doing it over the Internet. All data collected will be in the form of survey responses, and no sensitive data will be collected. Qualtrics will be set to anonymize responses. No information will be obtained about anyone other than the target subject. Only the minimum amount of information necessary will be collected. That information will be stored

securely, and there will be no possible way to identify respondents, since payment will occur separately (by Prolific) from data collection (through Qualtrics).

*required

## Confidentiality

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The research proposal should outline in detail what variables of identifiable data will be handled, the strategies to maintain confidentiality of identifiable data, including controls on storage, handling, sharing of data as well as eventual destruction of identifiable data including signed consent forms.

***NOTE***: If using an online survey like Qualtrics, Survey Monkey, etc., change settings to Anonymize Responses so IP addresses will not be collected. The Qualtrics default is to collect IP address and GPS coordinates of respondents. By setting the survey to Anonymized Responses the investigator will not be collecting this identifiable information. Include this language in the Confidentiality, Methods/Procedures, and in any other necessary sections/documents noting that the investigators will set Qualtrics to Anonymize Responses.

21

There will be no identifiable data collected. Qualtrics will be set to anonymize IP addresses. It will be impossible to link survey responses to respondents, since payment will occur through Prolific (where respondents are identified by one set of ID numbers) and Qualtrics (where respondents are identified by a separate set of ID numbers) and there is no way to link the two. Data will be saved on a secure drive. Consent forms will not be signed. Consent will be given by clicking to continue with the study. Data will be stored on a secure hard drive, which only the investigator will have access to. In accordance with norms in the field, if published, anonymous data will be made publicly available for purposes of replication (Note: This is a now a requirement for publication in all top journals).

*required

## Collaboration, Engagement & Sponsor Relationships

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a) Describe all collaborative relationships necessary to complete your research. Include letters of support from the collaborator(s). This letter must come from a person with director-level authority within the collaborating institution. When the collaborator has an Institutional Review Board, please include a copy of the IRB application sent to collaborating institution.

22

b) Indicate in your study when U of M IRB approval must be issued before the collaborator will commit to the study.
c) Specify what data will be provided to the collaborator(s) and sponsor(s).

a) NA
b) NA
c) NA

Collaboration Attachments

Letters of support, IRB approvals / protocols from collaborating institutions

Proposal

23

If your study is sponsored, please insert or attach a copy of the funded proposal under this section.

**Full Board** and **Expedited** review-categorized research require informed consent for human subjects to participate in research. Such consent must be given by the subject and parent/guardian if the subject is under the age of eighteen (18) years. Voluntary and fully informed consent must be obtained and documented in writing unless a waiver is requested and granted.

Also, templates/guidelines for Informed Consent, Parental Consent, and Children's Assent forms are available on the IRB website.

**EXEMPT** review-categorized research also requires obtaining voluntary consent to participate. This consent will provide subjects with pertinent information such as stating that the activity involves research and the University of Memphis has approved the research. Also, as is appropriate, include information such as contact for investigators, description of the procedures, risks and benefits, and IRB contact information.

**WAIVERS:**

**WAIVER OF DOCUMENTATION OF INFORMED CONSENT**
**45 CFR 46.117(c)**
The Institutional Review Board (IRB) may consider waiving the requirement for obtaining documentation of informed consent if the following conditions are met. To request a waiver, justification for the waiver should be included in the IRB submission and should address each of the criteria listed below.

1. IRB may waive requirement to obtain a signed consent form for some or all of subjects if:
a. the only record linking the subject and the research would be the consent document and the principal risk would be harm resulting from breach of confidentiality; each subject must be asked whether subject wants documentation;
***OR***
b. the research presents no more than minimal risk and involves no procedures for which written consent is normally
required.

2. In cases where documentation is waived, the IRB may require investigator to provide subjects with written statement regarding the research.

*[Note that 1a above is not included in FDA. 1b is included in FDA and HHS regulations 21 CFR 56.109(c)]*

## WAIVER OF INFORMED CONSENT*
## THESE CRITERIA DO NOT APPLY IF THE STUDY IS FDA REGULATED**
## 45 CFR 46.116 [d]

The Institutional Review Board (IRB) may consider waiving the requirement for obtaining informed consent if all of the following conditions are met. To request a waiver, justification for the waiver should be included in the IRB submission and should address each of the criteria listed below.

### 1. THE RESEARCH INVOLVES MINIMAL RISK TO SUBJECTS
This condition is satisfied if either the likelihood or the magnitude of harm/discomfort is no greater than what the subjects would ordinarily encounter in daily life or during routine clinical care.

### 2. THE WAIVER OR ALTERATION WILL NOT ADVERSELY AFFECT THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE SUBJECTS
The IRB will assess whether subjects' rights, such as the "right to privacy", would be violated if the consent were waived. *For example, in the case of "right to privacy", the IRB will consider the safeguards for minimizing the potential invasion of privacy and will consider the potential benefits of participation.*

### 3. THE RESEARCH COULD NOT PRACTICABLY BE CARRIED OUT WITHOUT THE WAIVER;
### AND
For example, obtaining informed consent would not be practicable if the investigator will have no direct contact with subjects and will not know their identities.

### 4. WHENEVER APPROPRIATE, THE SUBJECTS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH ADDITIONAL PERTINENT INFORMATION AFTER THEY HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE STUDY
In social science research involving deception, it is common practice to debrief the subjects at the conclusion of the study. In other studies, however, it would not be appropriate to require debriefing. For example, if the research proposed collection of tissue without identifiers, it would not be possible for the investigator to provide additional information since the identities of the subjects would be unknown.

** To conduct research involving deception or passive consent procedures, these criteria must be met.*
*** Waiver of Consent in FDA regulated studies is permissible only in life-threatening situations or acute care research if specific FDA mandated requirements are met.*

**Even if all of the above conditions are met, the IRB is authorized to require an investigator to obtain informed consent. For example, the IRB may determine that the knowledge being sought is not important enough to justify the use of unaware subjects.**

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Consent Documents

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Attach Consent, Assent, Parental/Guardian permission, Waiver requests (Waiver of written documentation of informed consent, Wavier of informed consent)

*required

Consent statement (for exempt research), or waiver requests can go here

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If you have nothing to add here, please type n/a.

Institutional Review Board
315 Administration Bldg.
Memphis, TN 38152-3370
Office: 901.678.2705
Fax: 901.678.2199

Consent to Participate in a Research Study

Public Opinion Study

WHY ARE YOU BEING INVITED TO TAKE PART IN THIS RESEARCH?

You are being invited to take part in a research study about public opinion. You are being invited to take part in this research study because we are interested in the opinions of people like you. If you volunteer to take part in this study, you will be one of about 850 people to do so.

## WHO IS DOING THE STUDY?

The people in charge of this study are Dr. Eric Groenendyk of University of Memphis Department of Political Science. There may be other people on the research team assisting at different times during the study.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS STUDY?

By taking part in this study, we hope to learn about Americans' preferences, opinions, and participation in public discourse. If you are interested in receiving the results of this study, you are welcome to e-mail the principle investigator at grnendyk@memphis.edu.

## WHERE IS THE STUDY GOING TO TAKE PLACE AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

The research procedures will be conducted through an Internet Survey program called Qualtrics. This study will take about 2 minutes.

## WHAT WILL YOU BE ASKED TO DO?

You will be asked to answer a series of survey questions. We ask that you take your time and answer honestly.

## WHAT ARE THE POSSIBLE RISKS AND DISCOMFORTS?

To the best of our knowledge, the things you will be doing have no more risk of harm than you would experience in everyday life.

## WILL YOU BENEFIT FROM TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?

There is no guarantee that you will get any benefit from taking part in this study. However, some people have experienced satisfaction when asked to mull over their opinions on these sorts of issues. Your willingness to take part, however, may, in the future, help society as a whole better understand this research topic.

## DO YOU HAVE TO TAKE PART IN THE STUDY?

If you decide to take part in the study, it should be because you really want to volunteer. You will not lose any benefits or rights you would normally have if you choose not to volunteer. You can stop at any time during the study and still keep the benefits and rights you had before volunteering.

## IF YOU DON'T WANT TO TAKE PART IN THE STUDY, ARE THERE OTHER CHOICES?

If you do not want to be in the study, there are no other choices except not to take part in the study.

## WHAT WILL IT COST YOU TO PARTICIPATE?

There are no costs associated with taking part in the study.

## WILL YOU RECEIVE ANY REWARDS FOR TAKING PART IN THIS STUDY?

You will receive $0.35 for taking part in this study. If you decide to withdraw from the study at any time, you will still be paid in full.

## WHO WILL SEE THE INFORMATION THAT YOU GIVE?

We will make every effort to keep private all research records that identify you to the extent allowed by law.

Your information will be combined with information from other people taking part in the study. When we write about the study to share it with other researchers, we will write about the combined information we have gathered. You will not be personally identified in these written materials. We may publish the results of this study; however, we will keep your name and other identifying information private.

This study is anonymous, meaning there will be no way to identify who you are or what responses you gave. Your identity will never be connected to your responses. That means that no one, not even members of the research team, will know that the information you give came from you. Qualtrics will be set to anonymize IP addresses.

## CAN YOUR TAKING PART IN THE STUDY END EARLY

If you decide to take part in the study you still have the right to decide at any time that you no longer want to continue. You will not be treated differently if you decide to stop taking part in the study.

The individuals conducting the study may need to withdraw you from the study. This may occur if you are not able to follow the directions they give you, if they find that your being in the study is more risk than benefit to you, or if the agency funding the study decides to stop the study early for a variety of scientific reasons.

### WHAT IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, SUGGESTIONS, CONCERNS, OR COMPLAINTS?

Before you decide whether to accept this invitation to take part in the study, please ask any questions that might come to mind now. Later, if you have questions, suggestions, concerns, or complaints about the study, you can contact the investigator, Dr. Eric Groenendyk at grnendyk@memphis.edu. If you have any questions about your rights as a volunteer in this research, contact the Institutional Review Board staff at the University of Memphis at 901-678-2705.

### What happens to my privacy if I am interviewed?

No identifying information will be associated with your responses. You will simply be known as a participant ID number in a large database.

Additional questions or concerns can be addressed to either irb@memphis.edu or by calling (901) 678-2705.

Any additional attachments can be added below:

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Additional Attachments

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## Section 6 Investigator Contingency Response

When submitting your revisions to a protocol, inform the IRB how you addressed each of the contingencies for the previous version of the submission. Copy and paste the last issued contingency list in a Word document and include your response and related section/question directly underneath each respective contingency.

This document can be attached as an MS Word or a PDF file. You can also copy and paste your contingency response in the text box.  See sample document below.

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*required

Add or attach your completed **Investigator Contingency Response** document. If you have nothing to add in the text box below, please type **"N/A"**.

---

Copy and paste document content here:

NA

Or attach document here:

---

Sample documents: Example - Investigator Contingency Response.docx