Partisan Dehumanization in American Politics
Survey Codebook

Data collection dates:

- WVU student sample: October 16, 2016 – October 19, 2016
- MTurk sample: October 27, 2016 – October 30, 2016

Partisanship and Ideology Variables

pid3: Respondent partisan identification
[1] Democrat
[2] Independent
[3] Republican

ideo3: Respondent ideological identification
[1] Liberal
[2] Moderate
[3] Conservative

pid2: Dummy variable for Republican identification
[0] Democrat
[1] Republican
Note: Used for analysis comparing Democrats and Republicans, excluding Independents

identity: standardized composite identity score
Summary measure consisting of responses to the following items: (1) How important is being a [Democrat/Republican] to you?, (2) How well does the term [Democrat/Republican] describe you?, (3) When talking about [Democrats/Republicans], how often do you use "we" instead of "they"?, (4) To what extent do you think of yourself as being a [Democrat/Republican]?

Respondent Characteristics

age: Respondent age in years

female: Respondent gender
[0] male
[1] female

nonwhite: Respondent racial identification (WVU Student Sample Only)
[0] white
[1] nonwhite

white: self-identification as White (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Some other racial or ethnic identification
[1] White, Caucasian

black: self-identification as Black (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Some other racial or ethnic identification
[1] Black

hispanic: self-identification as Hispanic (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Some other racial or ethnic identification
[1] Hispanic

asian: self-identification at Asian (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Some other racial or ethnic identification
[1] Asian

other: self-identification as some other race or ethnicity (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Identifies as white, Black, Hispanic, or Asian (white is the baseline for race dummies)
[1] Some other racial or ethnic identification (not white, Black, Hispanic, or Asian)

edu: What is the highest level of education you have completed? (MTurk Sample Only)
[1] High school degree or less
[2] Some college
[3] 2-year degree (Associates degree)
[4] 4-year degree (Bachelors degree)
[5] Professional degree (Masters degree, etc)

employed (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Not employed full time
[1] Employed full time

income: what is your annual household income? (MTurk Sample Only)
[1] less than $10,000
[2] $10,000-$19,999
[3] $20,000-$29,999
…
[12] $150,000 or more

church: How often do you attend church or religious services? (MTurk Sample Only)
[1] Never
[2] Once or twice a year
[3] About once a month
[4] Almost every week
[5] Once a week
[6] More than once a week

married (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] Not married
[1] Married

kids: Do you have children? (MTurk Sample Only)
[0] No
[1] Yes

follow: How often do you follow news on what is happening in American government and politics?
[1] Never
[2] Rarely
[3] A few times a month
[4] About once a week
[5] Several times a week
[6] Daily

Evaluations of Democrats – Dehumanization Measures

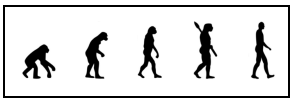
HU_dem: standardized composite of animalistic traits

Trait ratings include: cold, shallow, stingy, heart-hearted, impersonal and, reversed, humble, thorough, organized, polite, and broadminded.

HN_dem: standardized composite of mechanistic traits

Trait ratings include: jealous, fun-loving, curious, sociable, trusting and, reversed, jealous, nervous, impatient, distractible, and aggressive.

ascent_demRS: How would you rate the following groups on this scale? Democrats
[1] modern human – [5] ape; Likert points are below, and the scale is reversed and standardized; high scores correspond to more blatant dehumanization.

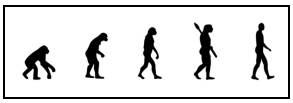


Evaluations of Republicans – Dehumanization Measures

HU_rep: standardized composite of animalistic traits
Trait ratings include: cold, shallow, stingy, heart-hearted, impersonal and, reversed, humble, thorough, organized, polite, and broadminded.

HN_ rep: standardized composite of mechanistic traits
Trait ratings include: jealous, fun-loving, curious, sociable, trusting and, reversed, jealous, nervous, impatient, distractible, and aggressive.

ascent_repRS: How would you rate the following groups on this scale? Democrats
[1] modern human – [5] ape; Likert points are below, and the scale is reversed and standardized; high scores correspond to more blatant dehumanization.



diff_ascent_partiesS: standardized difference score for party ascent measures

Social Distance

dem_social_distance: standardized composite distance score
Composite measure consisting of responses to the following questions: (1) Suppose a son or daughter of yours was getting married. How would you feel if he or she married a supporter of the Democratic Party?, (2) If you are single or weren't already married, imagine yourself marrying a supporter of the Democratic Party? High scores correspond to a desire for greater social distance.

rep_social_distance: standardized composite distance score
Composite measure consisting of responses to the following questions: (1) Suppose a son or daughter of yours was getting married. How would you feel if he or she married a supporter of the Republican Party?, (2) If you are single or weren't already married, imagine yourself marrying a supporter of the Republican Party? High scores correspond to a desire for greater social distance.

Moral Distance

moral_distance_parties: standardized composite moral distance score
Composite measure consisting of responses to the following questions: How different would you say Democrats are from Republicans when considering the following traits: (1) morality?, (2) honesty?, (3) trustworthiness?, and (4) sincerity? High scores correspond to perceptions of greater moral distance between the parties.

Party Thermometers

dem_therm: thermometer rating for the Democratic Party
[0-100]

rep_therm: thermometer rating for the Republican Party
[0-100]

diff_therm_partiesS: standardized difference score for party thermometers