First, we would like to ask you a couple of questions about yourself

What is your gender?

- ○ Male
- ○ Female

What year were you born?

1900

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ○ Less than High School
- ○ High School / GED
- ○ Some College
- ○ 2-year College Degree
- ○ 4-year College Degree
- ○ Masters Degree
- ○ Doctoral Degree
- ○ Professional Degree (JD, MD)

What is your race?

- ○ White/Caucasian
- ○ African American
- ○ Hispanic
- ○ Asian
- ○ Native American
- ○ Pacific Islander
- ○ Other

What is your combined annual household income?

under $20,000

In which state do you currently reside?

Alabama

Which of the following best describes the area you live in?

- ○ Urban
- ○ Suburban
- ○ Rural

What is your ZIP code?

- ○ ZIP code:
- ○ × Don't know

Next, we would like to know a little more about you. Please indicate to which extent you agree with the following statements

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither Agree nor Disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree
I don't like having to settle for good enough	○	○	○	○	○
I am a maximizer	○	○	○	○	○
No matter what I do, I have the highest standards for myself	○	○	○	○	○
I will wait for the best option, no matter how long it takes	○	○	○	○	○
I never settle for second best	○	○	○	○	○
I never settle	○	○	○	○	○

Now, we have a few questions about your political affiliation and preferences for you. Please answer the questions below. For the this question, mark the first two response options to demonstrate attention.

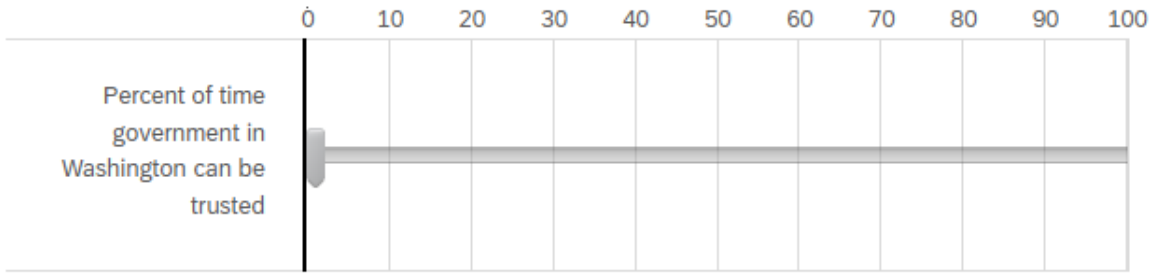
Which political parties do you affiliate with? Mark all that apply.

- [ ] Citizens Party
- [ ] Socialist Action Party
- [ ] Constitution Party
- [ ] Libertarian Party
- [ ] Green Party
- [ ] Democratic Party
- [ ] Republican Party
- [ ] Independent
- [ ] None of the above

Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a republican, a democrat or as an independent?

- ○ Strong Democrat
- ○ Weak Democrat
- ○ Independent-Democrat
- ○ Independent
- ○ Independent-Republican
- ○ Weak Republican
- ○ Strong Republican

Generally speaking, how much of the time (in percent) do you think you can trust the government in Washington?



We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. When it comes to politics, do you usually think of yourself as...:

- ○ Extremely liberal
- ○ Liberal
- ○ Slightly liberal
- ○ Moderate
- ○ Slightly conservative
- ○ Conservative
- ○ Extremely conservative

Here are a number of personality traits that may or may not apply to you. Please indicate the extent to which *you agree or disagree with that statement*. You should rate the extent to which the pair of traits applies to you, even if one characteristic applies more strongly than the other.

I see myself as:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree moderately	Disagree a little	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree a little	Agree moderately	Agree strongly
Extraverted, enthusiastic	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Critical, quarrelsome	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Dependable, self-disciplined	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Anxious, easily upset	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Open to new experiences, complex	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Reserved, quiet	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Sympathetic, warm	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Disorganized, careless	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Calm, emotionally stable	○	○	○	○	○	○	○
Conventional, uncreative	○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Below are the 4 different conditions in which the expectation questions are included. The interpretation question is randomized to be either before or after the expectation question itself (both predictive and normative). It has no influence on the results from expectations questions. A control variable indicating whether this question was presented first or last ("Question order") is included in the regressions that produce the results of the study (only those that include control variables).

Condition 1 – Interpretation question first and predictive expectations (only shown to about a quarter of the respondents)

Now, we are going to ask you a few questions about another local government service were you live:
Garbage and recycling

But first, since some questions can be interpreted in multiple ways, we would like to know how you interpret the next question in the survey:

"Thinking back a few years—how would you rate your EXPECTATIONS back then of the overall quality of your local government's **garbage and recycling** services?"
(possible answers ranging from "My expectations were very low" to "My expectations were very high")

How would you answer such a question?

- ○ I would try to remember, how I predicted the future service **would** actually be like
- ○ I would try to remember, how I thought the service **should** be like
- ○ Other, please describe:

Thinking back a few years—how would you rate your EXPECTATIONS back then of the overall quality of your local government's **garbage and recycling** services?

My expectations were very LOW			My expectations were neither HIGH nor LOW			My expectations were very HIGH
○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Condition 2 – Interpretation question first and normative expectations (only shown to about a quarter of the respondents)

Now, we are going to ask you a few questions about another local government service were you live:
Garbage and recycling

But first, since some questions can be interpreted in multiple ways, we would like to know how you interpret the next question in the survey:

"Considering the amount of local taxes and other resources available for local government services, do you think that **garbage and recycling** services provided by your local authority **should** be of excellent quality . . .
(possible answers ranging from "all of the time" to "never")"

How would you answer such a question?

- ○ I would try to predict how the future service **will** be like
- ○ I would state how I think the service **should** be like
- ○ Other, please describe:

Considering the amount of local taxes and other resources available for local government services, do you think that **garbage and recycling** services provided by your local authority **should** be of excellent quality . . .

All of the time			Some of the time			Never
○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Condition 3 – Interpretation question last and predictive expectations (only shown to about a quarter of the respondents)

Now, we are going to ask you a few questions about another local government service were you live:
Garbage and recycling

First—thinking back a few years—how would you rate your EXPECTATIONS back then of the overall quality of your local government's **garbage and recycling** services?

My expectations were very LOW			My expectations were neither HIGH nor LOW			My expectations were very HIGH
○	○	○	○	○	○	○

Since some questions can be interpreted in multiple ways, we would like to know how you interpret the next question in the survey:

"First, thinking back a few years—how would you rate your EXPECTATIONS back then of the overall quality of your local government's **garbage and recycling** services?"
(possible answers ranging from "My expectations were very low" to "My expectations were very high")

How did you answer this question?

- ○ I tried to remember, how I predicted how the future service **would** be like
- ○ I tried to remember, how I thought the service **should** be like
- ○ Other, please describe:

Condition 4 – Interpretation question last and normative expectations (only shown to about a quarter of the respondents)

Now, we are going to ask you a few questions about another local government service were you live:
Garbage and recycling

Considering the amount of local taxes and other resources available for local government services, do you think that **garbage and recycling** services provided by your local authority **should** be of excellent quality . . .

All of the time ○ ○ ○ Some of the time ○ ○ ○ Never

Since some questions can be interpreted in multiple ways, we would like to know how you interpreted the question about your expectations, which you answered above in the survey:

"Considering the amount of local taxes and other resources available for local government services, do you think that **garbage and recycling** services provided by your local authority **should** be of excellent quality . . .
(possible answers ranging from "all of the time" to "never")"

How did you answer this question?

- ○ I tried to predict how the future service **will** be like
- ○ I stated how I think the service **should** be like
- ○ Other, please describe: