THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA at CHAPEL HILL

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To: Isaac Mehlhaff and Marc Hetherington
Political Science

From: Office of Human Research Ethics

Date: 4/29/2022
RE: Notice of IRB Exemption
Exemption Category: 2.Survey, interview, public observation,3. Benign Behavioral intervention
Study #: 22-1021

Study Title: A Group-Based Approach to Measuring Polarization

This submission, Reference ID 357087, has been reviewed by the Office of Human Research Ethics and was determined to be exempt from further review according to the regulatory category cited above under 45 CFR 46.104.

Study Description:

Purpose: To develop and validate a new measurement of polarization.

Participants: Approximately 1,000 adult (age 18+) workers recruited through Amazon's Mechanical Turk crowdsourcing marketplace.

Procedures (methods): Web-based survey administered through the Qualtrics online survey platform.

Investigator's Responsibilities:

If your study protocol changes in such a way that exempt status would no longer apply, you should contact the above IRB before making the changes. There is no need to inform the IRB about changes in study personnel. However, be aware that you are responsible for ensuring that all members of the research team who interact with subjects or their identifiable data complete the required human subjects training, typically completing the relevant CITI modules.

The IRB will maintain records for this study for 3 years, at which time you will be contacted about the status of the study.

The current data security level determination is Level II. Any changes in the data security level need to be discussed with the relevant IT official. If data security level II and III, consult with your IT official to develop a data security plan. Data security is ultimately the responsibility of the Principal Investigator.

Please be aware that approval may still be required from other relevant authorities or "gatekeepers" (e.g., school principals, facility directors, custodians of records), even though the project has

determined to be exempt. .