

Online Appendix

“In their Shoes: Empathy through Information”

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In this online appendix, we present additional statistics and results (section [A](#)), the complete surveys we administered, on the Carne y Arena study (section [B](#)), on the conceptual replication studies (sections [C](#) and [D](#)), and on contact and perceived similarity to foreign origin groups (section [E](#)), and a description of the spatial representation of perceived similarity (section [F](#)).

A Additional Tables and Figures

APPENDIX TABLE A1: CARNE Y ARENA PROTOCOL

Dallas, Texas						
	<i>On site (short run)</i>				<i>Follow-up (long run)</i>	
‘Control’	Attit	<i>Info</i>	<i>CyA</i>	(<i>n</i> = 83)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 8)
‘CyA <i>only</i> ’	<i>CyA</i>	Attit	<i>Info</i>	(<i>n</i> = 99)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 8)
‘Info <i>after</i> CyA’	<i>CyA</i>	<i>Info</i>	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 87)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 10)
Omaha, Nebraska						
	<i>On site (short run)</i>				<i>Follow-up (long run)</i>	
‘Control’	Attit	<i>Info</i>	<i>CyA</i>	(<i>n</i> = 82)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 29)
‘CyA <i>only</i> ’	<i>CyA</i>	Attit		(<i>n</i> = 83)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 34)
‘Info <i>before</i> CyA’	<i>Info</i>	<i>CyA</i>	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 63)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 28)
‘Info <i>after</i> CyA’	<i>CyA</i>	<i>Info</i>	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 74)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 24)
‘Info <i>alone</i> ’	<i>Info</i>	Attit	<i>CyA</i>	(<i>n</i> = 85)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 34)
‘Long run’	<i>CyA</i>			(<i>n</i> = 62)	Attit	(<i>n</i> = 22)
Total	(n = 718)				(n = 197)	

Notes: This table shows, across conditions, the ordering of *treatments* (Carne y Arena, *CyA*; and information, *Info*) and *measurements* (demographics [upon arrival]; attitudes in favor of migrants, *Attit*; and information retention quiz [right after receiving information]). Follow-up measures of attitudes are collected online approximately two months after the on site visit.

APPENDIX TABLE A2: DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS

	Obs.	Mean	Std. Dev.	Median	Min.	Max.
<i>Panel A: Carne y Arena (section III)</i>						
Share correct answers	914	0.472	0.316	0.500	0.000	1.000
<i>Attitude index:</i>						
On site	656	0.296	0.936	0.550	-3.928	1.701
At home	196	0.402	0.803	0.517	-3.296	1.701
<i>Panel B: Eye tracking and attention (section IV)</i>						
Total Dwell Time (ms)	601	9,308	9,212	6,724	0.000	56,027
Donation to GRF	601	0.551	0.498	1.000	0.000	1.000
<i>Panel C: Conceptual replication (section V.B)</i>						
Donations	218	38.771	27.550	40.000	0.000	100.000
<i>Panel D: Relatability (section V.C)</i>						
Relatability	425	5.038	2.885	5.000	0.000	10.000
Donations	427	37.328	25.763	40.000	0.000	100.000
<i>Panel E: Unreliable information (section V.D)</i>						
Relatability	150	5.200	2.677	5.000	0.000	10.000
Donations	150	34.280	26.952	30.000	0.000	100.000

<i>Panel F: Gender-specific relatability (section V.E)</i>						
<i>Relatability:</i>						
Women	397	5.191	2.983	5.000	0.000	10.000
Men	397	5.121	3.140	5.000	0.000	10.000
<i>Donations:</i>						
Women	397	37.186	27.558	30.000	0.000	100.000
Men	397	31.547	28.150	25.000	0.000	100.000

<i>Panel G: Charitable donations and migrations, county d-country f level (section VI)</i>						
IHS-transformed number of donations from d to f	12,978	1.967	2.216	0.881	0.000	8.002
Number of immigrants from d to f at t (in 1,000's)	88,370	0.041	0.720	0.000	0.000	95.964

<i>Panel H: Contact and similarity to Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines (section VI)</i>						
<i>Perceived similarity:</i>						
All	7,173	0.000	1.000	0.357	-2.327	2.146
Haiti	2,391	-0.223	1.006	-0.538	-2.327	2.146
Japan	2,391	0.196	1.010	0.357	-2.327	2.146
Philippines	2,391	0.026	0.938	0.357	-2.327	2.146
<i>Contact:</i>						
All	7,173	0.283	0.450	0.000	0.000	1.000
Haiti	2,391	0.134	0.341	0.000	0.000	1.000
Japan	2,391	0.435	0.496	0.000	0.000	1.000
Philippines	2,391	0.280	0.449	0.000	0.000	1.000

Notes: The table presents summary statistics for the datasets used in the main analyses. Note that the attitude indices on site (panel A) are normalized to mean zero and standard deviation one for their respective control groups; but as we have induced higher indices in the other treatment groups, the means are higher than zero, and the standard deviations different from one. By contrast, perceived similarity with foreign origins (panel E) is normalized for the entire population, so its mean is zero and standard deviation one by construction.

APPENDIX TABLE A3: BALANCE TEST, CARNE Y ARENA

	Control	CyA <i>only</i>	Info	Info <i>after</i> CyA	Info <i>before</i> CyA	Long run	Test
<i>Panel A: Dallas</i>							
	83 (30.9%)	99 (36.8%)		87 (32.3%)			
Gender							
Male	31 (37.3%)	44 (44.4%)		35 (40.2%)			0.618
Female	52 (62.7%)	55 (55.6%)		52 (59.8%)			
Birthplace							
US born	43 (51.8%)	45 (45.5%)		44 (50.6%)			0.655
Foreign	40 (48.2%)	54 (54.5%)		43 (49.4%)			
Ethnicity							
Non-Hispanic	55 (66.3%)	56 (56.6%)		47 (54.0%)			0.231
Hispanic	28 (33.7%)	40 (46.0%)		43 (43.4%)			
Ideology							
Conservative	30 (36.1%)	38 (38.4%)		34 (39.1%)			0.919
Liberal	53 (63.9%)	61 (61.6%)		53 (60.9%)			
<i>Panel B: Omaha</i>							
	82 (18.3%)	83 (18.5%)	85 (18.9%)	74 (16.5%)	63 (14.0%)	62 (13.8%)	
Gender							
Male	34 (42.5%)	33 (40.2%)	27 (32.9%)	18 (24.7%)	31 (50.0%)	19 (31.1%)	0.032
Female	46 (57.5%)	49 (59.8%)	55 (67.1%)	55 (75.3%)	31 (50.0%)	42 (68.9%)	
Birthplace							
US born	52 (63.4%)	64 (77.1%)	68 (80.0%)	51 (68.9%)	45 (71.4%)	43 (69.4%)	0.197
Foreign	30 (36.6%)	19 (22.9%)	17 (20.0%)	23 (31.1%)	18 (28.6%)	19 (30.6%)	
Ethnicity							
Non-Hispanic	64 (78.0%)	72 (86.7%)	73 (85.9%)	64 (86.5%)	51 (81.0%)	55 (88.7%)	0.455
Hispanic	18 (22.0%)	11 (13.3%)	12 (14.1%)	10 (13.5%)	12 (19.0%)	7 (11.3%)	
Ideology							
Conservative	30 (36.6%)	34 (41.0%)	28 (32.9%)	27 (36.5%)	15 (23.8%)	15 (24.2%)	0.167
Liberal	52 (63.4%)	49 (59.0%)	57 (67.1%)	47 (63.5%)	48 (76.2%)	47 (75.8%)	

Notes: This table shows the demographic composition (number of respondents and shares in %) for the Carne y Arena experiment participants, and the p -values from a Pearson test of equality of those demographic shares between treatment arms.

APPENDIX TABLE A4: INFORMATION, CARNE Y ARENA, AND ATTITUDES

	(1) Attitudes	(2) Attitudes	(3) Attitudes
<i>CyA only</i>	0.317*** (0.106)		
<i>Info after CyA</i>		0.361*** (0.103)	
<i>Info before CyA</i>			0.698*** (0.123)
Constant	0.000 (0.078)	0.000 (0.078)	0.000 (0.078)
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Observations	347	326	228

Notes: This table complements figure I. It shows estimates of various specifications of equation (5). The dependent variable is an index of attitudes in favor of migrants, normalized to mean zero and std. dev. one for the control group. The control group is always ‘Control.’ The treatment groups are: ‘CyA *only*’ in column 1; ‘Info *after* CyA’ in column 2; ‘Info *before* CyA’ in column 3. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019].

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A5: PERSISTENCE OF CARNE Y ARENA

	(1)	(2)
	only CyA	CyA
Long run <i>vs</i> short run	0.410* (0.221)	0.402*** (0.095)
Observations	187	361
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.065	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.037	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.020	< 0.01

Notes: This table shows estimates of the treatment effect of Carne y Arena on long-term (2 months) attitudes in favor of migrants. The dependent variable is the attitude index, measured either in a follow-up survey (treatment group) or on site (control group). The control group in both columns is ‘Control,’ for which we measure attitudes on site before any treatment. The treatment group in column 1 is ‘Long run,’ a group which only saw the Carne y Arena exhibit but did not receive any other treatment while on site, and for which we measure attitudes in a follow-up survey two months after the Carne y Arena visit. The treatment group for column 2 combines ‘Long run,’ ‘CyA,’ ‘Info,’ ‘CyA *then* Info,’ and ‘Info *then* CyA,’ all exposed to the Carne y Arena treatment on site, and for which we measure attitudes in a follow-up survey two months after the Carne y Arena visit (see protocol in table A1). Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values are computed using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019].

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A6: ORDER EFFECT ON ATTITUDES: ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES

	(1)	(2)	(3)
	Attitudes	Attitudes	Attitudes
Info <i>before</i>	0.337*** (0.097)	0.364** (0.115)	0.422*** (0.114)
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.001	0.002	0.000
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.000	0.002	0.000
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.000	0.000	0.000
Observations	285	222	222
Demographics	N	Y	Y
Emotional response	N	N	Y

Notes: This table complements Figure II. The dependent variable is an index of attitudes in favor of migrants, normalized to mean zero and std. dev. one for the ‘Control’ group. ‘Info *before*’ is a dummy variable equal to one for the ‘Info *before* CyA’ group, and zero for the ‘Info *after* CyA’ group. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. Demographic controls in Columns 2-3 include age, gender, and being born outside the U.S. Column 3 additionally controls for the self-reported strength of emotional response to CyA. *p*-values using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019].

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A7: TREATMENT EFFECT OF CARNE Y ARENA ON INFORMATION RETENTION

	(1) All Information	(2) Negative Information	(3) Positive Information	(4) Emotional Information
CyA	0.021 (0.031)	0.000 (0.035)	0.039 (0.041)	0.024 (0.039)
Dallas	0.085** (0.037)	0.120*** (0.041)	0.081* (0.048)	0.053 (0.045)
Constant	0.546*** (0.018)	0.500*** (0.020)	0.612*** (0.023)	0.527*** (0.022)
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.506	1.000	0.343	0.542
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.533	1.000	0.367	0.553
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.380	0.960	0.280	0.520
Observations	404	404	404	404

Notes: This table shows estimates of various specifications of equation (5), where we estimate the treatment effect of Carne y Arena on the ability of participants to retain information, controlling for differences between Dallas and Omaha participants. The control group received information *before* Carne y Arena, and the treatment group received information *after* Carne y Arena. The dependent variable is the share of correct answers on a quiz about all information exhibits in column 1 (12 questions), about a subset of exhibits which we pre-specified as ‘negative’ information in column 2 (4 questions), as ‘positive’ information in column 3 (4 questions), and as ‘emotional’ information in column 4 (4 questions). Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values are computed using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019]. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A8: INFORMATION, CARNE Y ARENA, AND ATTITUDES, DALLAS VS OMAHA

	(1) CyA <i>only</i>	(2) Info <i>after</i> CyA	(3) Info <i>before</i> CyA
<i>Panel A: Dallas and Omaha combined</i>			
Treatment	0.317*** (0.106)	0.361*** (0.103)	0.698*** (0.139)
Observations	347	326	228
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
<i>Panel B: only Dallas</i>			
Treatment	0.343** (0.138)	0.456*** (0.134)	
Observations	182	170	
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.014	< 0.01	
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.014	< 0.01	
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.020	< 0.01	
<i>Panel C: only Omaha</i>			
Treatment	0.286* (0.163)	0.249 (0.158)	0.698*** (0.152)
Observations	165	156	145
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.081	0.116	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.086	0.089	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.060	0.120	< 0.01

Notes: This table shows estimates of various specifications of equation (5) for Dallas and Omaha participants combined (panel A), for Dallas participants only (panel B), and for Omaha participants only (panel C). For comparison, panel A is an exact reproduction of table A4 (columns 1-3). The dependent variable is an index of attitudes in favor of migrants. The control group is always ‘Control.’ The treatment groups are: ‘CyA *only*’ in column 1; ‘Info *after* CyA’ in column 2; ‘Info *before* CyA’ in column 3 (see protocol in table A1). Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values are computed using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019]. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A9: INFORMATION, CARNE Y ARENA, AND ATTITUDES, HETEROGENEITY

	(1) CyA <i>only</i>		(2) Info <i>after</i> CyA		(3) Info <i>before</i> CyA	
Baseline:	0.317***	(0.106)	0.361***	(0.103)	0.698***	(0.123)
Hispanic:	0.252	(0.195)	0.294	(0.188)	0.596*	(0.326)
non-Hispanic:	0.335***	(0.124)	0.374***	(0.121)	0.747***	(0.164)
<i>p</i> -value	0.720		0.722		0.679	
Foreign:	0.043	(0.162)	0.140	(0.156)	0.415	(0.263)
Native:	0.521***	(0.136)	0.527***	(0.132)	0.881***	(0.180)
<i>p</i> -value	0.024		0.059		0.146	
Liberal:	0.384***	(0.129)	0.436***	(0.123)	0.626***	(0.171)
Conservative:	0.256	(0.165)	0.259	(0.161)	0.580**	(0.271)
<i>p</i> -value	0.540		0.382		0.886	

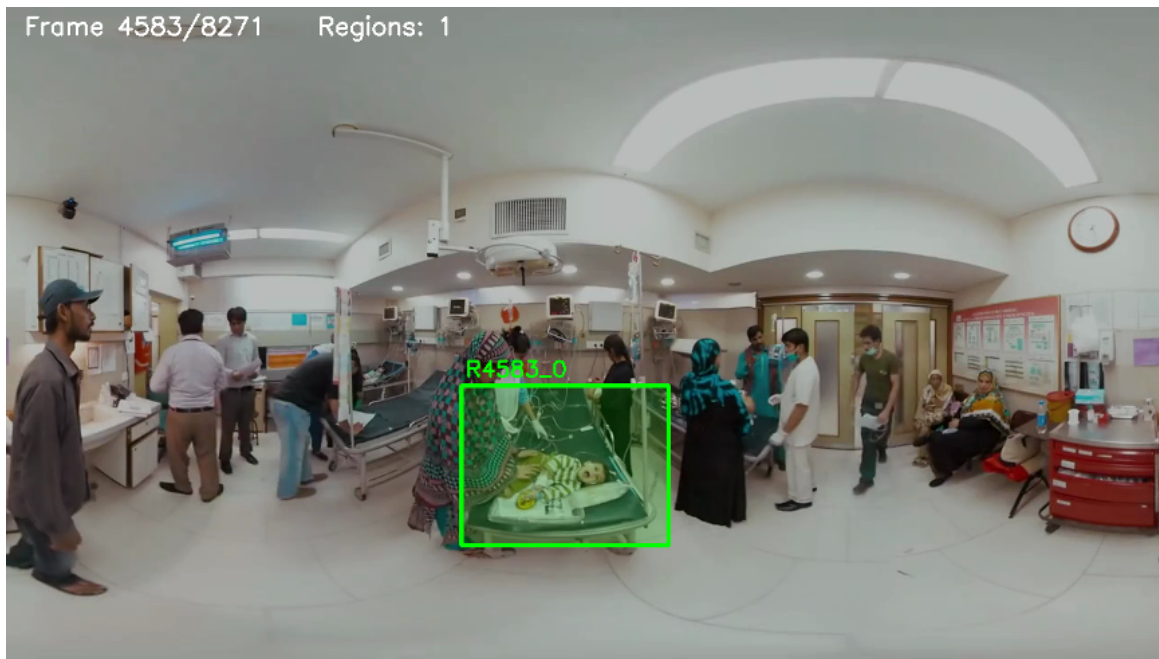
Notes: This table shows estimates of various specifications of equation (5), exploring the heterogeneity of the various treatment effects on attitudes in favor of migrants across types. Each row corresponds to a separate regression. The control group is always ‘Control.’ The treatment groups are: ‘CyA *only*’ in column 1; ‘Info *after* CyA’ in column 2; ‘Info *before* CyA’ in column 3. The top panel (Baseline) reproduces the results from table A4 for comparison. The other panels present separate regressions for each type: Hispanic versus non-Hispanic respondents, foreign versus U.S.-born respondents, and liberal versus conservative respondents. The *p*-values are from a test of equality of the treatment effects between types. Robust standard errors are in parentheses.

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A10: INFORMATION ABOUT PAKISTAN

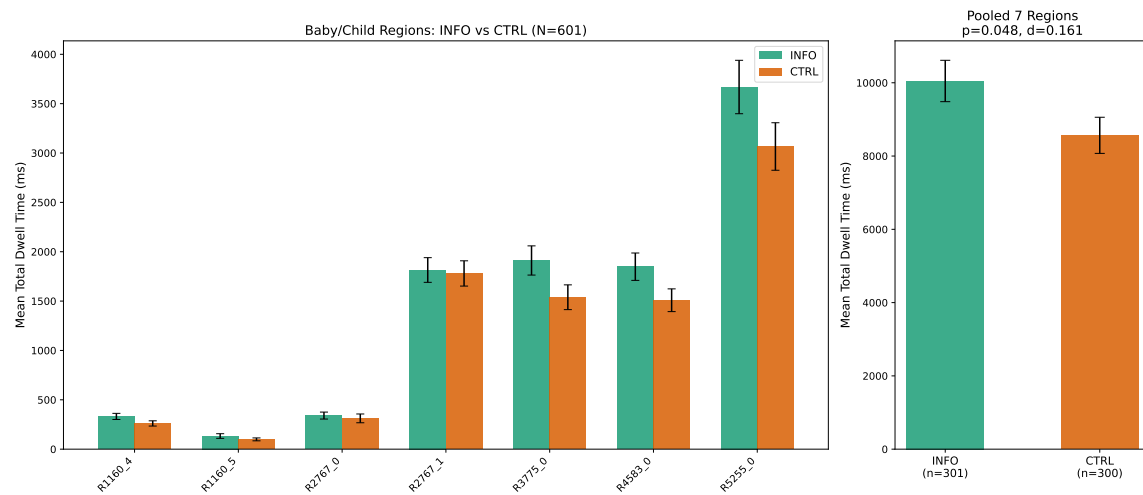
Statement
Pakistan is the fifth most populous country in the world, with about 240 million people. Its largest city, Karachi, is home to over 15 million people.
Pakistan is a developing country where about 2 in 5 people live below the poverty line, with sharp inequalities between cities and rural areas.
About 44% of school-age children in Pakistan are out of school — the second-highest number in the world in absolute terms — with girls more likely than boys to miss out on education.
A national survey found that about 3.3 million Pakistani children are trapped in child labor.
Pakistan has a low Social Mobility Index of 36.7, showing limited chances for children to improve their life circumstances.
Nearly 38% of Pakistani children under 5 are stunted due to malnutrition.
Pakistan's infant mortality rate is about 50 deaths per 1,000 live births.
Only 42% of children under five are registered at birth—meaning nearly 6 in 10 lack an official identity. Without registration, kids struggle to access services like school and healthcare.
Around 1.5 million children in Pakistan live on the streets, compared to about 770,000 homeless children in the United States. Many of these kids spend their time in unsanitary conditions such as garbage dumps.

Notes: The table shows the 9 statements we use in section [IV](#) to test the impact of information on attention.



APPENDIX FIGURE A1: REGION OF INTEREST, EXAMPLE

Notes: This figure shows a snapshot of one of the scenes in the video, with the region of interest (ROI) featuring a young child highlighted as a green rectangle.



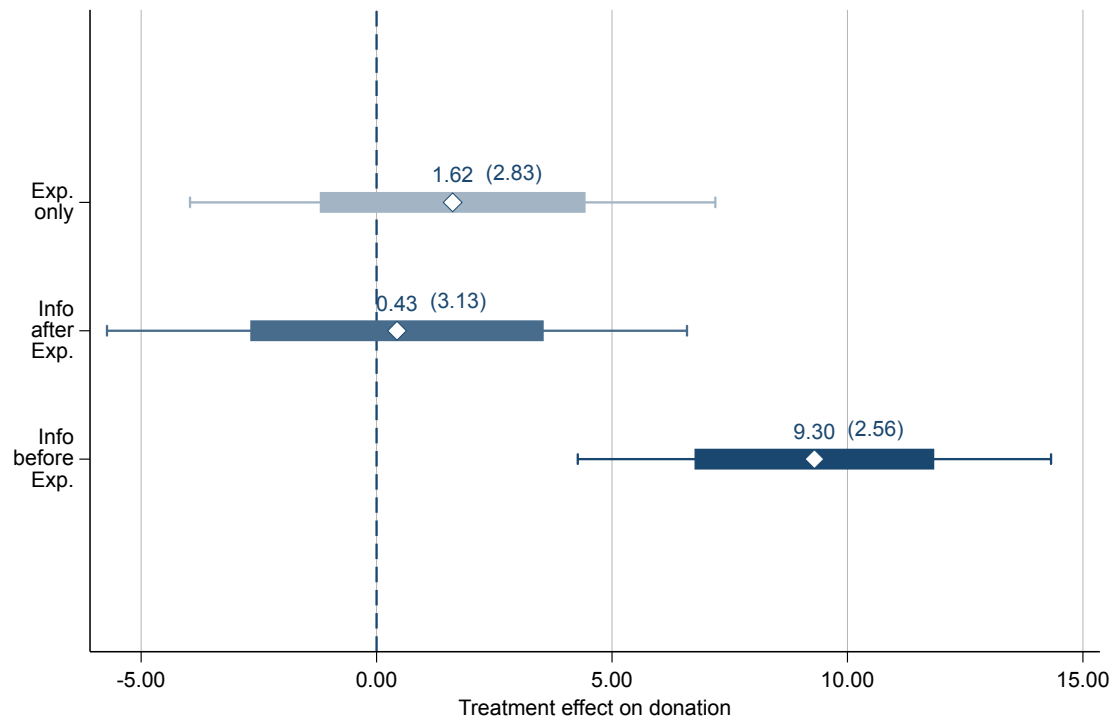
APPENDIX FIGURE A2: TOTAL DWELL TIME, INDIVIDUAL ROIS AND POOLED ROIS

Notes: This figure shows the *total dwell time* metric separately for the ‘Info *before* Experience’ (INFO) and the ‘Experience *only*’ (CTRL) conditions, for each region of interest (ROI) individually — left panel — and for all seven regions pooled together — right panel. p -values for the difference in dwell time between conditions are based on two-sided t -tests using OLS estimates with robust standard errors.

APPENDIX TABLE A11: ORDER EFFECT ON DONATIONS

	(1) Donations	(2) Donations	(3) Donations
Info <i>before</i>	9.002** (3.669)	9.092** (3.742)	10.010*** (3.700)
Constant	33.980*** (2.517)	25.779*** (6.459)	27.620*** (6.657)
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.01	0.02	0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.03	0.03	0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Observations	218	218	218
Demographics	N	Y	Y
Task Perception	N	N	Y

Notes: This table complements figure III. It shows estimates of various specifications of equation (6). The dependent variable is the amount allocated to the Indian worker. The Constant corresponds to donations in the ‘Info *after*’ treatment. Column 1 has the treatment variable only; column 2 includes demographic controls of age, gender, foreign born; column 3 includes task perception. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019]. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.



APPENDIX FIGURE A3: INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE, AND DONATIONS

Notes: This figure shows the effect of various treatments on donations, β in equation (6). The thick lines represent $\pm$ one standard error from the point estimates, and the whiskers 95% confidence intervals. Each estimate corresponds to a different regression. The control group is always 'Control.' The treatment groups are, respectively: for the top estimate, 'Experience *only*'; for the middle, 'Info *after* Experience'; for the bottom, 'Info *before* Experience.' See appendix table A12 for additional statistics.

APPENDIX TABLE A12: INFORMATION, EXPERIENCE, AND DONATIONS

	(1) Donation	(2) Donation	(3) Donation
Experience <i>only</i>	1.616 (2.833)		
Info <i>after</i> Experience		0.434 (3.127)	
Info <i>before</i> Experience			9.298*** (2.557)
Constant	33.547*** (1.857)	33.547*** (1.857)	33.547*** (1.854)
<i>p-value</i> Robust S.E.	0.57	0.89	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Wild Bootstrap	0.54	0.89	< 0.01
<i>p-value</i> Permutation test	0.66	1.00	< 0.01
Observations	273	252	420

Notes: This table complements figure A3. It shows estimates of various specifications of equation (6) on data from the Conceptual Replication. The dependent variable is the amount allocated to the Indian worker. The control group is always ‘Control.’ The treatment groups are: ‘Experience *only*’ in column 1; ‘Info *after* Experience’ in column 2; ‘Info *before* Experience’ in column 3. Robust standard errors are in parentheses. *p*-values using robust standard errors, wild bootstrap [Wu, 1986], and a permutation test [Young, 2019].

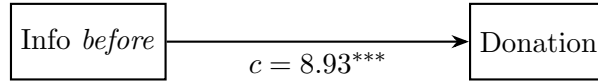
*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A13: INFORMATION, RELATABILITY, AND DONATIONS

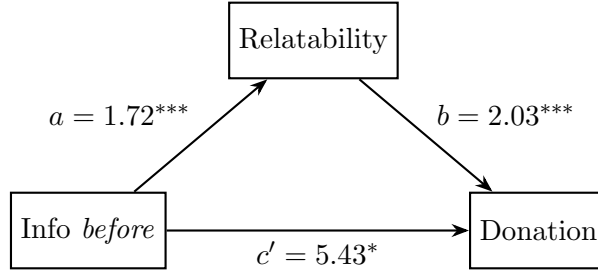
	Donations	Relatability	Donations
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Info <i>before</i>	7.203** (3.232)	0.925*** (0.336)	5.385* (3.213)
Relatability			1.966*** (0.570)
Constant	35.163*** (2.407)	4.984*** (0.250)	25.365*** (3.692)
Observations	276	276	276

Notes: This table shows the regression coefficients underlying figure IV. Column 1 gives the total effect of the ‘Info *before*’ treatment on donations (compared to the ‘Experience *only*’ treatment), arrow *c* in figure IV; column 2 gives the impact of the ‘Info *before* Experience’ treatment on relatability, arrow *a* in figure IV; the second row of column 3 gives the impact of relatability on donations, arrow *b* in figure IV, and the first row gives the direct effect of the ‘Info *before* Experience’ treatment on donations, arrow *c*’ in figure IV.

*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1.



(A) TOTAL EFFECT MODEL (c)



(B) MEDIATION MODEL: DIRECT EFFECT (c') AND INDIRECT EFFECT ($a \times b$)

APPENDIX FIGURE A4: INFORMATION, RELATABILITY, AND DONATIONS (ROBUSTNESS)

Notes: This figure explores the robustness of the results in figure IV. It shows results for the same mediation model, except that we compare the ‘Info before Experience’ and ‘Control’ conditions, instead of the ‘Info before Experience’ and ‘Experience only’ conditions in figure IV. See appendix table A14 for additional details.

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A14: INFORMATION, RELATABILITY, AND DONATIONS (ROBUSTNESS)

	Donations (1)	Relatability (2)	Donations (3)
Information <i>before</i>	8.930*** (2.995)	1.721*** (0.328)	5.433* (3.056)
Relatability			2.032*** (0.514)
Constant	33.436*** (2.132)	4.188*** (0.234)	24.925*** (2.995)
Observations	302	302	302

Notes: This table shows the regression coefficients underlying figure A4. It use the same mediation model as appendix table A13, except that we compare the ‘Info before Experience’ and ‘Control’ conditions, instead of the ‘Info before Experience’ and ‘Experience only’ conditions in appendix table A13.

*** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A15: INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA, RANKED BY RELATABILITY

Relatability	Statement
6.11	In 2022, 85% of Indian population felt that children in the country have the chance to learn and grow every day.
6.10	Over the past few decades, India has been seeing a consistent upward trend in its literacy rate.
6.03	According to the latest World Happiness Report, the United States has a significantly better ranking on the happiness index than India, with the US at 23rd place and India at 126th place .
5.85	Out-of-pocket costs make up 62.6% of health spending in India, pushing up to 39 million people into poverty annually .
5.79	People born poor in India are likely to stay poor throughout their lives. Ranking 76th in social mobility, India offers little opportunity for hundreds of millions to climb out of poverty or reach a higher income bracket.
5.72	The proportion of Indians who are finding it “very difficult” on their present household incomes reached 31% during 2021 and 2022, almost tripling since 2016 (12%).
5.71	An Indian citizen is almost 65 times more likely than a U.S. citizens to live below the poverty line, according to the 2021 statistics.
5.50	70% to 92% of people with mental disorders in India do not receive proper treatment due to lack of awareness, stigma, and shortage of professionals.
5.48	In 2022, 90% of the Indian population expressed confidence in their financial institutions or banks.
5.41	In traditional Indian society, the majority view is “ all men are NOT created equal ,” let alone women and children. Indian society is based on hierarchy, patriarchy, and endogamy. Status distinctions are important and guarded.
5.40	India’s economy has rebounded strongly from the pandemic, with GDP growth averaging 7–8% in recent years, and projections indicating sustained expansion through 2030.
5.35	Indians display lower risk taking than US and UK residents. This is driven by an attitude that possessions need to be held on to and protected.
5.15	In 2024, India has emerged as the world’s fifth-largest economy , surpassing the United Kingdom.
5.13	In 2022, over 4 in 10 Indians reported struggling to afford food in the past 12 months.
5.09	Saying “ no ” is often considered rude in India, so Indians are more likely to use indirect communication than US and UK residents.
5.06	India’s cost of living index is significantly lower than that of the UK and the US, making it more affordable for residents and expatriates.
5.00	Indians are less direct than citizens of Western countries. They are more likely to rely on environmental cues and contexts rather than expressing their opinion directly .
4.96	India’s focus on infrastructure and economic expansion is reflected in its 2023 investment levels accounting for 33.32% of GDP, outpacing the U.S. (22.3%) and the UK (17.0%).
4.93	People in India save and invest more of their income than U.S. and UK citizens. In 2023, India’s gross savings rate was >30% of GDP, significantly higher than the U.S. (17.8%) and the UK (<16%), reflecting a stronger culture of financial prudence.
4.73	In 2023, nearly half of all Indian women remained outside the workforce, limiting their financial independence despite educational gains.
4.72	Indians have a more circular concept of time than US and UK citizens. They are less focused on deadlines and efficiency, and more focused on maintaining relationships.
4.55	Indians view change and progress with suspicion. Progress is viewed as illusory and there is a tight link to the past.
4.54	The Caste system , while formally illegal, continues to impact Indian society. Jobs and marriages are often determined by one’s caste, which is determined by birth .
4.21	India ranked as the lowest country in the G20 for women.

Notes: The table shows the 24 statements we piloted in order to test their relatability to U.S. and U.K. participants. Relatability was rated on a 10-point scale. Statements are presented in descending order of mean relatability score. The horizontal line divides the list of statements into 12 reliable (above-median relatability) and 12 unreliable (below-median relatability) statements. Section V.D uses the bottom 12 *unreliable* statements.

APPENDIX TABLE A16: INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA AND GROUP-SPECIFIC RELATABILITY (1-25)

Female	Male	Statement
6.46	3.96	24% of women are overweight or obese.
6.27	4.03	30% of women have faced physical violence since age 15.
5.96	4.22	India's maternal-mortality ratio has fallen to 97 per 100 000 live births.
5.56	3.83	The female labor-force participation rate stands at 32.8%.
5.50	3.67	23% of Indian households are headed by a woman.
5.45	3.30	Only 0.6% of women report having had a breast-cancer screening.
7.83	8.00	91% of men have a mobile phone they can use.
7.70	7.81	Three-quarters of respondents agree that free speech is essential to democracy.
7.63	6.91	More than 80% want stronger government action against global warming.
7.54	7.47	78% want large corporations to pay higher tax rates.
7.45	6.97	89% want social-media companies to remove hateful or abusive content proactively.
7.43	6.97	59% want the government to expand public higher-education scholarships.
7.34	6.22	78.6% of women have a bank account they themselves use.
7.33	5.59	Women's life expectancy has reached 74.1 years.
7.22	6.89	65% favor raising the minimum wage to keep pace with inflation.
7.19	5.13	54% of Indian women aged 15-49 operate a mobile phone that is theirs to use.
7.15	6.87	71% support higher taxes on large businesses to fund major economic transitions.
7.10	6.62	74% of Indians support imposing a wealth tax on high-net-worth individuals.
7.08	7.11	Most Indians say that both women and men should be responsible for earning money, caring for children and making family financial decisions.
7.05	5.96	80% support the government guaranteeing free or affordable healthcare for every citizen.
6.94	7.75	72% say people should be free to criticize government policies publicly - an expansive view of political speech.
6.90	6.32	71% of currently-married women take part in key household decisions.
6.82	6.96	74% of streaming-service users want a legally enforceable code compelling platforms to block explicit content from minors.
6.80	6.15	80% support taxing companies and individuals that pollute, with the revenue redistributed to cleaner actors.
6.80	5.74	Female literacy has risen to 74.6% .

Notes: The table shows the first 25 out of 100 statements we piloted in order to test their relatability to U.S. and U.K. participants. Relatability was rated on a 10-point scale. The statements are presented in descending order of mean relatability score among female respondents. Section V.E uses the four statements selected for their specificity (relatable to women, unrelatable to men) shown in bold at the top.

APPENDIX TABLE A17: INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA AND GROUP-SPECIFIC RELATABILITY (26-50)

Female	Male	Statement
6.78	6.91	8 in 10 respondents say India should invest more in clean-energy R&D.
6.76	5.96	Women spend a daily average of 5 hours on unpaid domestic work.
6.62	6.56	69% believe that the way the world's economy works now is unfair to poorer countries.
6.61	7.05	78% want the government to prioritize climate resilience funding.
6.56	5.76	89% want social-media firms held responsible for removing abusive or hateful posts.
6.42	5.77	Contraceptive prevalence among women has climbed to 67% .
6.36	6.08	70% favor introducing a Universal Basic Income paid by the government each month to every adult.
6.36	5.92	The Arms Act in India makes self-defense the only civilian reason that routinely qualifies for a license; applicants must prove a specific danger to life. Most Indians support the strict gun control policies.
6.35	4.76	58% favor tighter controls on foreign funding of NGOs.
6.24	6.30	Nearly two-thirds endorse subsidies for solar home-rooftop systems.
6.06	5.25	72% of 13,000 respondents in an Ipsos survey support the legal right to abortion.
6.00	6.34	Male literacy has reached 87.2% .
5.97	5.55	60% support a national register to identify undocumented immigrants.
5.96	6.67	Men's labor-force participation rate is 77.1% .
5.91	5.81	56% of Indians surveyed ahead of Budget 2024 wanted the Finance Ministry to prioritize personal-income-tax cuts.
5.87	5.62	Male life expectancy now stands at 70.5 years.
5.87	6.14	60% of men own a house or land, alone or jointly.
5.84	6.21	80% of Indians say discrimination against transgender people should end, a higher share than in most of the 27 countries Ipsos surveyed.
5.75	4.85	69% favor the death penalty for convicted rapists.
5.73	5.34	68% favor gender quotas in state assemblies.
5.71	5.45	91% of surveyed Indians approved the government's ban on Chinese-origin mobile apps.
5.68	5.45	63% back decriminalizing consensual same-sex relations in all states.
5.67	5.31	7 in 10 voters endorse a national women-reservation law for Parliament.
5.61	4.34	About 43% of women report owning a house and/or land, alone or jointly.
5.54	4.75	Two-thirds of Indians polled by Pew believed that having more women politicians would improve policymaking in the country.

Notes: This table is a continuation of [Table A16](#), showing statements 26-50 (out of 100) in descending order of mean relatability among female respondents.

APPENDIX TABLE A18: INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA AND GROUP-SPECIFIC RELATABILITY (51-75)

Female	Male	Statement
5.52	5.74	56% of nearly 9600 Economic Times readers picked a personal-income-tax cut as the single thing they wanted from the 2024 Union Budget.
5.52	4.56	22% of men consume alcohol.
5.51	5.30	61% support the Citizenship Amendment Act provisions. These provide an accelerated pathway to Indian citizenship for persecuted refugees of religious minorities from Islamic countries Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who arrived in India by 2014. The eligible minorities are Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis or Christians.
5.45	4.05	High blood-glucose is reported by 12% of women.
5.44	4.85	About 62% of regular male wage-earners have no written job contract, and 53% receive no social-security benefit.
5.42	4.39	Women own 22 % of all officially registered Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises in India.
5.41	5.53	About 22.9% of men are overweight or obese.
5.39	5.26	55% Indians rank law-and-order issues above welfare in local election priorities.
5.39	5.12	51% prefer national service requirements for all 18 -year-olds.
5.39	4.82	55% of men have ever used the internet.
5.36	4.33	Spousal sexual violence has been experienced by 14% of ever-married women.
5.33	5.06	63% favor higher defense spending to strengthen national security.
5.31	3.89	63% want stricter dress codes in public schools.
5.27	3.97	57% of women have a waist-to-hip ratio signaling metabolic risk.
5.24	5.65	On Indian social media, men generate 80% of all political tweets.
5.20	4.25	48% of men record a waist-to-hip ratio in the high-risk range.
5.19	5.06	91% think banning Chinese apps and denying contracts to Chinese firms was the right way to counter Beijing.
5.17	5.09	Among male drinkers, 15% drink almost every day.
5.12	5.38	55% of Indian adults say abortion should be illegal in all or most cases.
5.10	4.30	In the 2023–24 PLFS cycle, the male unemployment rate stood at just 3.2% .
5.06	2.71	Half of Indian adults favor legal bans on religious conversion.
5.00	4.97	2 in 3 Indian men agree that a wife must obey her husband.
5.00	4.84	Fathers in the private sector still have no statutory paid paternity leave.
4.97	4.38	Anemia affects 57% of women aged 15-49 .
4.96	6.56	64% believe climate-change action will create economic growth.

Notes: This table is a continuation of [Table A16](#) and [Table A17](#), showing statements 51-75 (out of 100) in descending order of mean relatability among female respondents.

APPENDIX TABLE A19: INFORMATION ABOUT INDIA AND GROUP-SPECIFIC RELATABILITY (76-100)

Female	Male	Statement
4.96	5.44	National male unemployment measured 5.6% in May 2025.
4.94	5.54	World-Values Survey data show 62% of Indians “would not like” a homosexual neighbor; attitudinal work finds similar discomfort toward transgender neighbors.
4.91	6.00	Substantial minorities have traditional views when it comes to family responsibilities, saying men should be the primary money earners in a family and women should be the primary caregivers for children.
4.88	5.17	66% support the right of same-sex couples to adopt children.
4.88	5.07	Suicide claims 14.2 men per 100 000 annually.
4.78	4.69	Paid maternity leave in India is 26 weeks by law.
4.76	4.08	Exactly one-third of women have ever used the internet.
4.73	3.94	Only 1.2% of women have ever undergone a cervical-cancer screening.
4.68	4.76	More than a quarter of men in government service opt for voluntary retirement before the age of 55 .
4.59	5.24	Hypertension is present in 21% of women aged 15-49 .
4.57	4.10	Among mothers in the past two years, 36% received an HIV test.
4.56	4.84	42.4% of men use some form of tobacco.
4.55	4.61	Two-thirds want social-media posts that “hurt religious sentiments” removed by law.
4.50	5.36	Hypertension affects 24% of men aged 15-49 .
4.39	4.27	Overall, 63% of Indians rate preventing interfaith marriage for women as very important. Similarly, for men, 67% hold the same opinion.
4.24	3.76	64% say dissent that “hurts the nation’s image” should face legal penalties.
4.11	4.68	53% of Indians favor legal recognition of same-sex marriage.
3.92	2.28	35% of men believe wife-beating is justified under some situations.
3.87	4.65	16.8% of men have diabetes.
3.84	3.77	15% of men aged 21-29 were married before reaching the legal age of 21 .
3.67	3.97	Sexually-transmitted-infection symptoms were reported by 9% of men.
3.64	4.52	Internet use among the poorest men is only 26% .
3.62	4.77	36% believe abortion should be illegal in every case, without exception.
3.00	3.42	56% say police should have greater powers to detain without warrant in “security cases.”
2.58	2.41	45% of women still consider at least one reason for wife-beating to be acceptable.

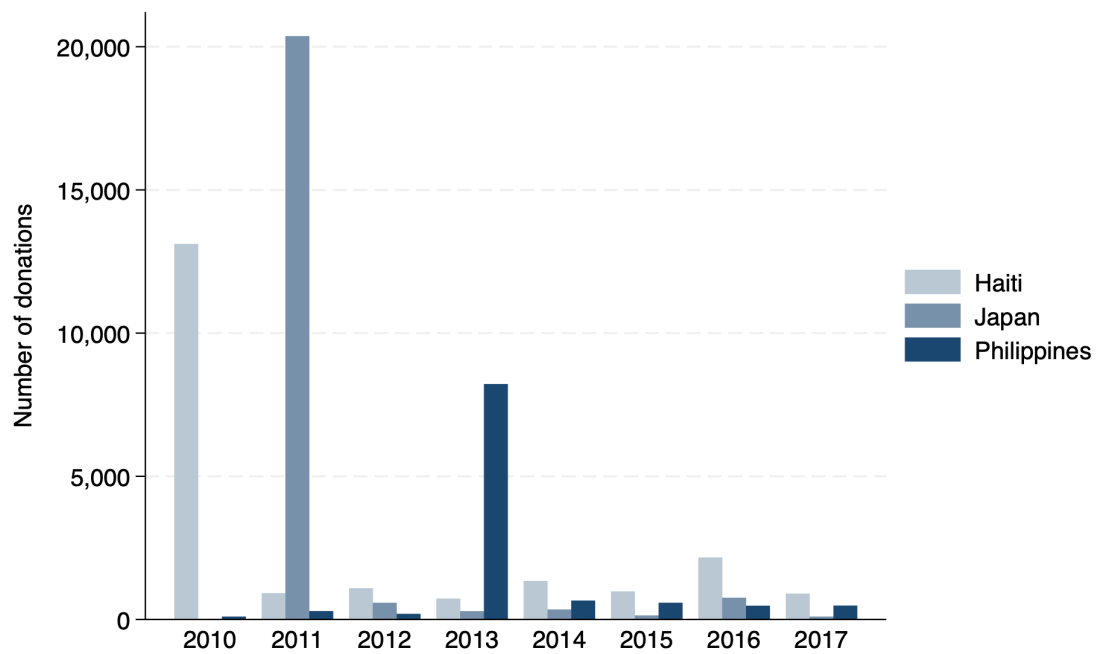
Notes: This table is a continuation of [Table A16-Table A18](#), showing statements 76-100 (out of 100) in descending order of mean relatability among female respondents.

APPENDIX TABLE A20: DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS, CONTACT AND SIMILARITY SURVEY

	Summary	CCES shares
	7,173	
Gender		
Female	3,531 (50.3%)	56.7%
Male	3,489 (49.7%)	43.3%
Birthplace		
Foreign	1,551 (21.6%)	17%
US born	5,622 (78.4%)	83%
Ethnicity		
Hispanic	483 (6.7%)	2.8%
Non-Hispanic	6,690 (93.3%)	97.2%
Ideology		
Liberal	3,981 (55.5%)	33.6%
Conservative	3,192 (44.5%)	66.4%

Notes: This table presents descriptive statistics for our online survey on perceived similarity, and compares the demographic composition (number of respondents and shares in %) of our survey respondents to that of the U.S. as a whole, using data from the Cooperative Congressional Election Study (CCES). Note that 153 respondents listed their gender as “other,” so that female and male responses do not add up to the total number of responses.

APPENDIX FIGURE A5: TOTAL NUMBER OF DONATIONS TO EACH COUNTRY PER YEAR



Notes: This figure shows the total number of charitable donations, from all U.S. counties combined, towards each of the three countries in our sample (Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines), over our sample period, 2010-17. The main events are: for Haiti the 2010 earthquake and subsequent cholera epidemic; for Japan the 2011 Tohoku earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear disaster; and for the Philippines the 2013 Bohol earthquake and super typhoon Yolanda.

APPENDIX TABLE A21: CONTACT, PERCEIVED SIMILARITY, AND DONATIONS

	IHS(# Donations) (1)	Similarity index (2)	IHS(# Donations) (3)
Contact	1.220** (0.496)	1.318** (0.566)	-0.034 (0.024)
Similarity index			0.319* (0.163)
First stage <i>F</i> -statistic	5.314	5.314	16.656
Weak IV-robust <i>p</i> -value	< 0.01	< 0.01	< 0.01
Observations	6223	6223	6223
First stage model	I	I	II
Model I: $Contact_{i,d,f} = \sum_{t=1880}^{2010} \gamma_t^{Cont.} I_{-r(d),f,t} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),t}}{I_{,-c(f),t}} + \delta_d^{Cont.} + \delta_f^{Cont.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Cont.}$			
Model II: $Similarity_{i,d,f} = \sum_{t=1880}^{2010} \gamma_t^{Sim.} I_{-r(d),f,t} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),t}}{I_{,-c(f),t}} + \gamma^{Sim.} Contact_{i,d,f} + \delta_d^{Sim.} + \delta_f^{Sim.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Sim.}$			

Notes: This table shows the regression coefficients underlying figure V. It quantifies the impact of contact between residents in U.S. domestic county d and foreign country f (Haiti, Japan, or the Philippines) on charitable donations from d to f when f is struck by a natural disaster, and decomposes the total effect into a direct effect, and an indirect effect mediated through an increase in perceived similarity between f and residents in d . We adapt the mediation analysis with instrumental variables from Dippel et al. [2020].

In column 1, the dependent variable is the inverse hyperbolic sine of the number of donations from d to f , and contact between f and individual i residing in d is the endogenous variable, instrumented by historical immigration shocks from f to d , controlling for county and country fixed effects. In column 2, the dependent variable is a measure of perceived similarity between individual i in county d and country f , and contact between i in d and f is the endogenous variable, instrumented by historical immigration shocks, controlling for county and country fixed effects. In column 3 donations from d to f is the dependent variable, similarity between i in d and f is the endogenous variable, instrumented by historical immigration shocks, controlling for county and country fixed effects and for contact between i in d and f . Our excluded instruments are always the $I_{-r(d),f,t} \times I_{d,-c(f),t} / I_{,-c(f),t}$'s, the interaction of historical immigration in period $t \in [1880, 2010]$ from country f towards counties outside the region of county d —an immigration push from country f —with the share of all migrants arriving in period t from countries outside the continent of country f who settle in county d —an immigration pull towards county d .

Interpretation: column 1 gives the total effect of contact on donations, arrow c in figure V; column 2 gives the impact of contact on similarity, arrow a in figure V; column 3 gives the impact of similarity on donations, arrow b in figure V, and the direct effect of contact on donations, arrow c' in figure V.

Standard errors, in parentheses, are clustered at the country and county level. We also report weak IV-robust p -values [Andrews et al., 2007]. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

APPENDIX TABLE A22: CONTACT, PERCEIVED SIMILARITY, AND DONATIONS (SINGLE INSTRUMENT)

	Donations (1)	Similarity (2)	Donations (3)
<i>Panel A: 2000 immigration instrument</i>			
Contact	0.779 (0.841)	0.781 (0.734)	-0.141 (0.225)
Similarity			1.178 (1.727)
First stage <i>F</i> -statistic	10.222	10.222	0.920
Observations	6223	6223	6223
First stage model	I	I	II
Model I: $Contact_{i,d,f} = \gamma^{Cont.} I_{-r(d),f,2000} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),2000}}{I_{,-c(f),2000}} + \delta_d^{Cont.} + \delta_f^{Cont.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Cont.}$			
Model II: $Similarity_{i,d,f} = \gamma^{Sim.} I_{-r(d),f,2000} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),2000}}{I_{,-c(f),2000}} + \gamma^{Sim.} Contact_{i,d,f} + \delta_d^{Sim.} + \delta_f^{Sim.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Sim.}$			
<i>Panel B: 2010 immigration instrument</i>			
Contact	1.062 (0.777)	1.230 (0.750)	-0.113 (0.112)
Similarity			0.956 (0.833)
First stage <i>F</i> -statistic	15.927	15.927	2.670
Observations	6223	6223	6223
First stage model	I	I	II
Model I: $Contact_{i,d,f} = \gamma^{Cont.} I_{-r(d),f,2010} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),2010}}{I_{,-c(f),2010}} + \delta_d^{Cont.} + \delta_f^{Cont.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Cont.}$			
Model II: $Similarity_{i,d,f} = \gamma^{Sim.} I_{-r(d),f,2010} \frac{I_{d,-c(f),2010}}{I_{,-c(f),2010}} + \gamma^{Sim.} Contact_{i,d,f} + \delta_d^{Sim.} + \delta_f^{Sim.} + \eta_{i,d,f}^{Sim.}$			

Notes: This table replicates the results in table A21 with a single instrumental variable. Our excluded instrument in panel A is $I_{-r(d),f,2000} \times I_{d,-c(f),2000}/I_{,-c(f),2000}$'s, the interaction of historical immigration in period 2000 from country f towards counties outside the region of county d —an immigration push from country f —with the share of all migrants arriving in period t from countries outside the continent of country f who settle in county d —an immigration pull towards county d . Our excluded instrument in panel B is constructed similarly using immigration in 2010. Standard errors, in parentheses, are clustered at the country and county level. We also report weak IV-robust p -values [Andrews et al., 2007]. *** $p < 0.01$, ** $p < 0.05$, * $p < 0.1$.

B Carne y Arena Survey Questionnaire

The printout version of the Carne y Arena questionnaire below corresponds to a respondent assigned to our control group ('Baseline') at Kaneko in Omaha, Nebraska (the questionnaire at Fair Park in Dallas, Texas, is identical but for the last page). They answer questions about their attitudes towards immigration first, receive the information treatment second, and visit Carne y Arena third. Across respondents, the ordering of those three blocks is randomized.

Email

Please enter your email address

Demographic Block

What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other

In what year were you born?

What was your TOTAL household income, before taxes, last year?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ \$0-\$9,999 | ☐ \$50,000-\$69,999 |
| ☐ \$10,000-\$14,999 | ☐ \$70,000-\$89,999 |
| ☐ \$15,000-\$19,999 | ☐ \$90,000-\$109,999 |
| ☐ \$20,000-\$29,999 | ☐ \$110,000-\$149,999 |
| ☐ \$30,000-\$39,999 | ☐ \$150,000-\$199,999 |
| ☐ \$40,000-\$49,999 | ☐ \$200,000+ |

Please indicate your marital status

- ☐ Single
- ☐ Married
- ☐ Legally separated or divorced
- ☐ Widowed

How many children do you have?

- ☐ I do not have children
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4

☐ 5 or more

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African-American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Asian or Asian-American
- ☐ Native American
- ☐ Middle Eastern
- ☐ Mixed Race
- ☐ Other

Were you born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Where were you born?

Were both of your parents born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Where was your father born?

Where was your mother born?

What is your ZIP code?

Which category best describes your highest level of education?

- ☐ Eighth Grade or less
- ☐ Some High School

- ☐ High School degree / GED
- ☐ Some College
- ☐ 2-year College Degree
- ☐ 4-year College Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree
- ☐ Doctoral Degree; Professional Degree (JD, MD, MBA)

What is your current employment status?

- ☐ Full-time employee
- ☐ Part-time employee
- ☐ Self-employed or small business owner
- ☐ Unemployed and looking for work
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Not currently working and not looking for work
- ☐ Retiree

What is your current occupation?

Even if you are not currently working, what was latest

occupation?

On policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

- ☐ Very liberal
- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Conservative
- ☐ Very conservative

In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat or an independent?

- ☐ Republican
- ☐ Democrat
- ☐ Independent

Did you vote in the last presidential election?

- ☐ Yes

☐ No

In the last presidential election, you supported:

- ☐ Joe Biden
- ☐ Donald Trump
- ☐ Other

Even if you did NOT vote, please indicate the candidate that you were most likely to have voted for or who represents your views most closely

- ☐ Joe Biden
- ☐ Donald Trump
- ☐ Other

How often do you visit art exhibitions/events?

- ☐ Very frequently
- ☐ Frequently
- ☐ Occasionally
- ☐ Rarely
- ☐ Never

Have you experienced Virtual Reality before?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Attention check

How many states are there in the U.S.?

- ☐ 5
- ☐ 50
- ☐ 100
- ☐ 10

Views on immigration

Consider the policy proposals listed below. Which ones do you think the U.S. government should implement?

Select all that apply.

- ☐ Increase the number of asylum seekers admitted to the U.S.

- ☐ Eliminate the estate tax.
- ☐ Shift from a more family-based to a more merit-based immigration system.
- ☐ Raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour.
- ☐ Cap carbon emissions to combat climate change.
- ☐ Allow employers to decline coverage of abortions in insurance plans.
- ☐ Remove barriers to domestic oil and gas drilling.
- ☐ Amend federal laws to prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation.
- ☐ Increase the number of border patrols on the US-Mexican border.
- ☐ Pass the DREAM Act, granting resident status to unauthorized immigrants who entered the US as minors.
- ☐ None of the above.

How would you rank the policies you selected in terms of priority of the U.S. government (where 1 indicates highest priority)?

Drag and drop the items to the desired order. Skip if you only chose 1 item.

» Pass the DREAM Act, granting resident status to unauthorized immigrants who entered the US as minors.

» Amend federal laws to prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender identity and sexual orientation.

- » Raise the federal minimum wage to \$15 an hour.
- » Cap carbon emissions to combat climate change.
- » Increase the number of border patrols on the US-Mexican border.
- » Eliminate the estate tax.
- » Increase the number of asylum seekers admitted to the U.S.
- » Remove barriers to domestic oil and gas drilling.
- » Shift from a more family-based to a more merit-based immigration system.
- » Allow employers to decline coverage of abortions in insurance plans.
- » None of the above.

Which of the following policies best represents your views on unauthorized immigration?

- ☐ All unauthorized immigrants should be granted full U.S. citizenship, without any conditions.
- ☐ All unauthorized immigrants should be given a pathway to earn U.S. citizenship.
- ☐ All unauthorized immigrants brought here as children should be given a pathway to earn U.S. citizenship.

- ☐ No unauthorized immigrant should be given a pathway to earn U.S. citizenship.
- ☐ All unauthorized immigrants should be deported.

We would like to make a donation of \$2 on your behalf to a good cause.

Which of the following charities would you like to donate to?

- ☐ The **Natural Resources Defense Council** (NRDC):
Works to safeguard the earth -- its people, its plants and animals, and the natural systems on which all life depends.
- ☐ The **Humane Society of the U.S.** (HSUS):
Works to end the cruelest practices toward all animals, care for animals in crisis and build a stronger animal protection movement.
- ☐ The **Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services** (RAICES):
A nonprofit agency that promotes justice by providing free and low-cost legal services to underserved immigrant children, families, and refugees.

Financial incentive

On the next page, we will show you information related to immigration and border security. You will later be asked to complete a quiz on this information.

If you answer correctly to more than 70% of quiz questions, you will be entered into a lottery for a **\$100 Amazon gift card**.

Information Treatment

In this section we will show you information related to the current situation on the Southwest border and the number and characteristics of unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S.

The statistical sources for this information, and the years it refers to, are:

Border apprehensions: **U.S. Customs and Border Protection**, Department of Homeland Security (fiscal years 2015 to 2020).

Number and characteristics of unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S.: **U.S. Census Bureau** and **Migration Policy Institute** (2015 to 2019).

Crime rates in Texas: **Texas Department of Public Safety** (2015 to 2019).

Cross-country living standards: **World Bank** (2020).

Cross-country crime rates: **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime** (2018).

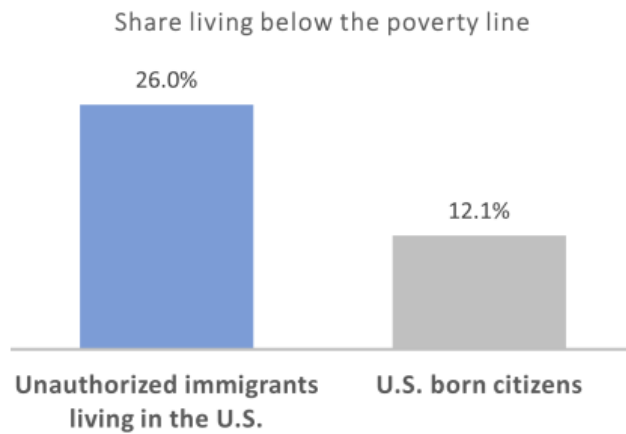
In the fiscal year 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection apprehended a total of **400,651 people** on the Southwest border.

In the fiscal year 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection seized **287,000 pounds** of drugs on the Southwest border.

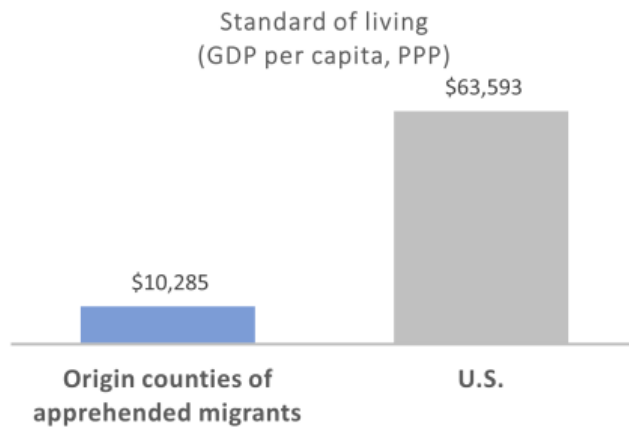
The number of unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. is about **11 million**.

Unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. are **2.5 times more likely** than U.S. born citizens to live below the poverty

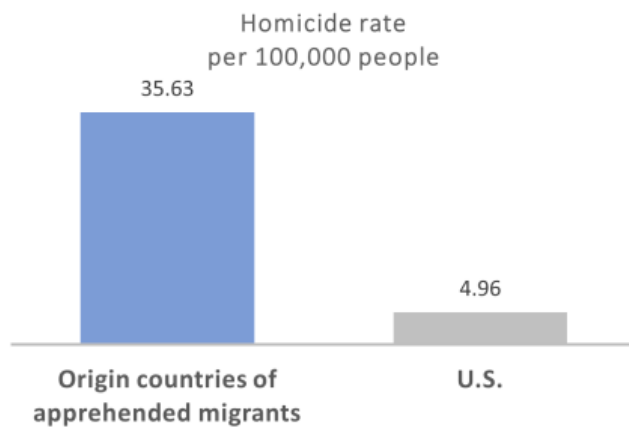
line.



The average standard of living in the top four origin countries of migrants apprehended on the Southwest border is **6 times lower** than that in the U.S.



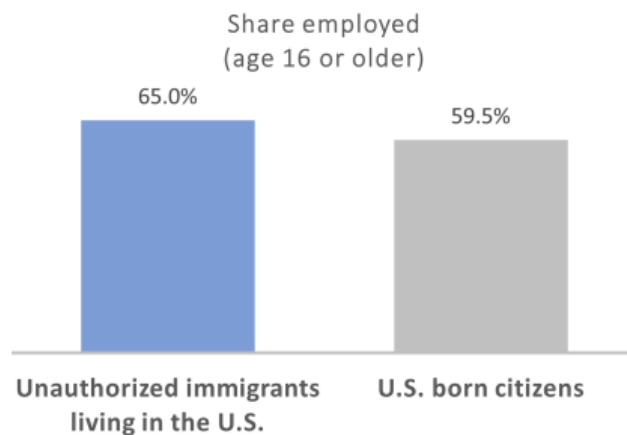
The average homicide rate in the top four origin countries of migrants apprehended on the Southwest border is **7 times higher** than that in the U.S.



In the fiscal year 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection apprehended **30,557** unaccompanied children under the age of 18 on the Southwest border.

In the fiscal years 2015 to 2020, U.S. Customs and Border Protection recorded **1,455** deaths on the Southwest border.

Unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. are **as likely** as U.S. born citizens to be employed.

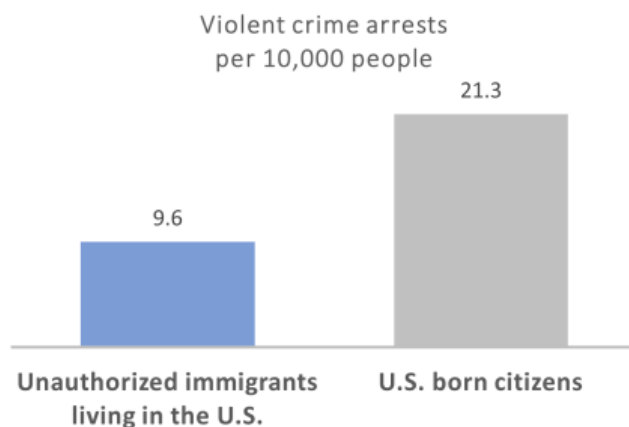


Unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S. have the following rights and obligations:

They are **required to file tax returns and pay taxes** on income earned in the U.S.

They are **NOT eligible** to receive Social Security benefits.

In Texas, unauthorized immigrants are **55% less likely** than U.S. born citizens to be arrested for a violent crime.



About **93%** of unauthorized immigrant children aged 13 to 17 who live in the U.S. are enrolled in high school.

Information Questions

Please answer the following questions based on the information you saw.

In the fiscal year 2020, how many people were apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Protection on the Southwest border?

☐ Between 180,000 and 300,000

- ☐ Between 340,000 and 460,000
- ☐ Between 660,000 and 780,000

In the fiscal year 2020, what was the volume of drugs seized by U.S. Customs and Border Protection on the Southwest border?

- ☐ Between 260,000 lbs and 350,000 lbs
- ☐ Between 10,000 lbs and 100,000 lbs
- ☐ Between 130,000 lbs and 220,000 lbs

What is the number of unauthorized immigrants living in the U.S.?

- ☐ Between 9 and 13 million
- ☐ Between 18 and 21 million
- ☐ Between 5 and 8 million

Which of the following statements is correct?

- ☐ Unauthorized immigrants are
2 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to live below the poverty line.
- ☐ Unauthorized immigrants are
3 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to live below the poverty line.

- ☐ Unauthorized immigrants are
4 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to live below the poverty line.

Which of the following statements is correct?

- ☐ The standard of living in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is about the same as that in the U.S.
- ☐ The standard of living in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is 10 times lower than that in the U.S.
- ☐ The standard of living in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is 6 times lower than that in the U.S.

Which of the following statements is correct?

- ☐ The homicide rate in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is 11 times higher than that in the U.S.
- ☐ The homicide rate in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is 7 times higher than that in the U.S.
- ☐ The homicide rate in the origin countries of apprehended migrants is 3 times higher than that in the U.S.

In the fiscal year 2020, how many unaccompanied children under the age of 18 were apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Protection on the Southwest border?

- ☐ Between 26,000 and 35,000
- ☐ Between 50,000 and 59,000
- ☐ Between 2,000 and 11,000

How many deaths did U.S. Customs and Border Protection record on the Southwest border in the fiscal years 2015 to 2020?

- ☐ Between 2,500 and 2,900
- ☐ Between 1,300 and 1,700
- ☐ Between 1,900 and 2,300

Which of the following statements is correct?

- ☐ U.S. born citizens are
2 times more likely than unauthorized immigrants to be employed.
- ☐ Unauthorized immigrants are
2 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to be employed.
- ☐ Unauthorized immigrants are
as likely as U.S. born citizens to be employed.

Are unauthorized immigrants eligible to receive Social Security benefits?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Are unauthorized immigrants required to file tax returns and pay taxes on income earned in the U.S.?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Which of the following statements is correct?

- ☐ In Texas, unauthorized immigrants are 1.5 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to be arrested for a violent crime.
- ☐ In Texas, unauthorized immigrants are 2 times more likely than U.S. born citizens to be arrested for a violent crime.
- ☐ In Texas, unauthorized immigrants are 55% less likely than U.S. born citizens to be arrested for a violent crime.

What share of unauthorized immigrant children of age 13 to 17 are enrolled in high school?

- ☐ Between 30% and 40%
- ☐ Between 70% and 80%
- ☐ Over 90%

How sure are you about your answers to the above questions?

- ☐ Very sure
- ☐ Sure
- ☐ Somewhat sure
- ☐ Unsure
- ☐ Very unsure

Intermediate Carne y Arena Page

You have **completed Part 1**.

You can now enter the Carne y Arena exhibit!

Please remember to **come back for Part 2** after the exhibit.

You can now continue to Part 2.

Emotional Response to Carne y Arena

How would you describe your "Carne y Arena" experience in a few words / sentences?

How strong was your emotional reaction to "Carne y Arena", on a scale from 1 (neutral) to 10 (very strong)?

How would you rate the artistic value of the "Carne y Arena" experience, on a scale from 1 to 10?

End Page: Went to Carne y Arena

We thank you for participating in this study!

As a token of our appreciation, we offer you a chance to receive a **FREE annual membership** to KANEKO.

In about 2 weeks, we will send you an email with a chance to receive a free membership, and we will invite you to answer a few additional questions. Please check your email.



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C Conceptual Replication Studies Survey Questionnaire

The following printout corresponds to the second conceptual replication study (section [V.C](#)). The questionnaire for first conceptual replication study (section [V.B](#)) is identical, except that no question on relatability is asked on page 3. The following questionnaire corresponds to the “experience *only*” condition.

Study 2 and 3

Bot Screening Please answer the following questions to confirm that you are not a bot.

Please enter your prolific ID here:

We are recruiting workers from India to count the number of objects in a set of pictures. Their data will be used to help researchers validate a task. We will pay this group of workers the average wage on the respective country's platform.

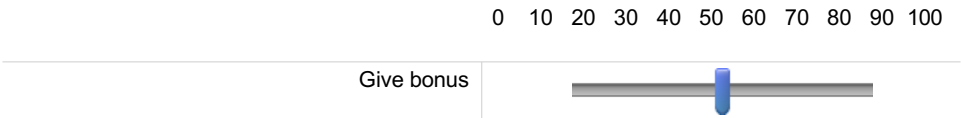
For your help on this survey, in addition to your base payment, you will entered into a lottery for the prospect of winning one of two (three) \$100 Amazon gift cards.

Here is some information about the workers recruited from India.

In the following part we will present you with 10 examples of the tasks assigned to Indian workers. In these examples, they are asked to count and report the number of 0's in each of the pictures. **Indian workers will complete 60 of these tasks—which will take between 1 and 2 hours—for a payment of \$7.**

Keep in mind that the workers will actually have to complete 60 of these tasks by counting the number of zeros in each.

You will be entered to win a \$100 Amazon gift card. If you win the \$100 gift, we will pair you with a randomly selected Indian worker who was recruited to complete the task. You can use some of the \$100 gift card to increase the compensation of the Indian worker in the form of a bonus. How much of the \$100 gift card would you be willing to give to the worker?



To what extent do you feel like you understand and relate to the circumstances of the Indian workers?



How annoying/draining do you consider the task to be?

1 = not

10 = very

annoying/draining at all

annoying/draining

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Click and drag the slider



What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other

In what year were you born?

What was your TOTAL household income, before taxes, last year?

- ☐ \$0-\$9,999
 - ☐ \$10,000-\$14,999
 - ☐ \$15,000-\$19,999
 - ☐ \$20,000-\$29,999
 - ☐ \$30,000-\$39,999
 - ☐ \$40,000-\$49,999
 - ☐ \$50,000-\$69,999
 - ☐ \$70,000-\$89,999
 - ☐ \$90,000-\$109,999
 - ☐ \$110,000-\$149,999
 - ☐ \$150,000-\$199,999
 - ☐ \$200,000+
-

Please indicate your marital status

- ☐ Single
 - ☐ Married
 - ☐ Legally separated or divorced
 - ☐ Widowed
-

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

- ☐ White
 - ☐ Black or African-American
 - ☐ Hispanic or Latino
 - ☐ Asian or Asian-American
 - ☐ Native American
 - ☐ Middle Eastern
 - ☐ Mixed Race
 - ☐ Other
-

Were you born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
-

Where were you born?

▼ Afghanistan ... Zimbabwe

Were both of your parents born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
 - ☐ No
-

Where was your father born?

▼ United States ... Zimbabwe

Where was your mother born?

▼ United States ... Zimbabwe

Which category best describes your highest level of education?

- ☐ Eighth Grade or less
 - ☐ Some High School
 - ☐ High School degree / GED
 - ☐ Some College
 - ☐ 2-year College Degree
 - ☐ 4-year College Degree
 - ☐ Master's Degree
 - ☐ Doctoral Degree; Professional Degree (JD, MD, MBA)
-

What is your current employment status?

- ☐ Full-time employee
- ☐ Part-time employee
- ☐ Self-employed or small business owner
- ☐ Unemployed and looking for work
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Not currently working and not looking for work
- ☐ Retiree

What is your current occupation?

Even if you are not currently working, what was latest occupation?

On policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

- ☐ Very liberal
- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Conservative
- ☐ Very conservative

D Information about India Survey Questionnaire

The printout below corresponds to the information treatment, about India, in both conceptual replication studies (sections [V.B](#) and [V.C](#)). In the first replication study (section [V.B](#)) it is presented to participants in both conditions, ‘Information *before*’ and ‘Information *after*.’ In the second replication study (section [V.C](#)) it is presented to participants in the ‘Information *before* Experience’ condition.

In this section we will show you information related to social and economic conditions in India.
The statistical sources for this information are:

World Bank
World Risk Poll
Gallup
Published Academic Papers

According to the 2021 World Risk Poll, nearly one in four (23%) Indians were “very worried” that the water they drink could cause them serious harm.

The proportion of Indians who are finding it “very difficult” on their present household incomes reached 31% during 2021 and 2022, almost tripling since 2016 (12%).

In 2022, over 4 in 10 Indians reported struggling to afford food in the past 12 months.

In 2024, India has emerged as the **world's fifth-largest economy**, surpassing the United Kingdom.

India's cost of living index is significantly **lower** than that of the UK and the US, making it **more affordable** for some residents and expatriates.

In 2023, the number of internally displaced Indians due to conflict and violence alone was 613,000.

Indians display **lower risk taking** than US and UK residents.

The **Caste system**, while formally illegal, continues to impact Indian society. Jobs and marriages are often determined by one's caste, which is determined by **birth**.

India's focus on infrastructure and economic expansion is reflected in its 2023 investment levels accounting for **33.32%** of GDP, outpacing the U.S. (22.3%) and the UK (17.0%).

People in India save and invest more of their income than U.S. and UK citizens. In 2023, India's gross savings rate was **30%** of GDP, significantly higher than the U.S. (17.8%) and the UK (16%), reflecting a stronger culture of financial prudence

India ranked as the **lowest** country in the G20 to be a woman.

India's young women are **just as optimistic** about their local job prospects as men of the same age.

In 2022, **90%** of the Indian population expressed confidence in their financial institutions or banks.

Despite the shocks of COVID-19 and the war in Ukraine, in 2022, 57% of Indians felt that their living standards were getting better.

In 2022, **85%** of Indian population felt that children in the country have the chance to learn and grow every day.

E Contact and Similarity Survey Questionnaire

Across respondents, for questions on both perceived similarity and contact, the ordering of specific foreign origins is randomized. In the printout below, the respondent answers questions about Japan first, Haiti second, and the Philippines third. Other respondents have different country orderings.

Prolific ID

What is your Prolific ID?

Please note that this response should auto-fill with the correct ID

`${e://Field/PROLIFIC_PID}`

Demographic Block

What is your gender?

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female
- ☐ Other

In what year were you born?

What was your TOTAL household income, before taxes, last year?

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ \$0-\$9,999 | ☐ \$50,000-\$69,999 |
| ☐ \$10,000-\$14,999 | ☐ \$70,000-\$89,999 |
| ☐ \$15,000-\$19,999 | ☐ \$90,000-\$109,999 |
| ☐ \$20,000-\$29,999 | ☐ \$110,000-\$149,999 |
| ☐ \$30,000-\$39,999 | ☐ \$150,000-\$199,999 |
| ☐ \$40,000-\$49,999 | ☐ \$200,000+ |

Please indicate your marital status

- ☐ Single
- ☐ Married
- ☐ Legally separated or divorced
- ☐ Widowed

How many children do you have?

- ☐ I do not have children
- ☐ 1
- ☐ 2
- ☐ 3
- ☐ 4

☐ 5 or more

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

- ☐ White
- ☐ Black or African-American
- ☐ Hispanic or Latino
- ☐ Asian or Asian-American
- ☐ Native American
- ☐ Middle Eastern
- ☐ Mixed Race
- ☐ Other

Were you born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Where were you born?

Were both of your parents born in the United States?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Where was your father born?

Where was your mother born?

Which category best describes your highest level of education?

- ☐ Eighth Grade or less
- ☐ Some High School
- ☐ High School degree / GED
- ☐ Some College
- ☐ 2-year College Degree
- ☐ 4-year College Degree
- ☐ Master's Degree

☐ Doctoral Degree; Professional Degree (JD, MD, MBA)

What is your current employment status?

- ☐ Full-time employee
- ☐ Part-time employee
- ☐ Self-employed or small business owner
- ☐ Unemployed and looking for work
- ☐ Student
- ☐ Not currently working and not looking for work
- ☐ Retiree

What is your current occupation?

Even if you are not currently working, what was latest occupation?

On policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?

- ☐ Very liberal
- ☐ Liberal
- ☐ Moderate
- ☐ Conservative
- ☐ Very conservative

In politics, as of today, do you consider yourself a Republican, a Democrat or an independent?

- ☐ Republican
- ☐ Democrat
- ☐ Independent

Attention check

How many states are there in the U.S.?

- ☐ 5
- ☐ 100
- ☐ 50
- ☐ 10

County

What is the FIPS code of your current county of residence?

If you are unsure, here is one way to look up your FIPS code:

Use your zip code or town/ city to look up your FIPS code on this page:

<https://www.zipinfo.com/search/zipcode.htm> (check the box "county name and FIPS code" on the top left).

Your FIPS code will be a 5-digit number, possibly starting with 0. **Please note that your FIPS code is not your ZIP code! Please ensure that your FIPS code is correct. If it does not match your device location, we may be forced to terminate your survey.**

For how many years have you lived in this county?

- ☐ Just moved in the last year
- ☐ 1-5 years

- ☐ 5-10 years
- ☐ 10-20 years
- ☐ 20-30 years
- ☐ 30+ years

Big 5 Quiz

Next, we would like to ask you some questions about your personality.

Below you will see a number of statements, each of which starts with "I see myself as someone who." For each statement, please indicate how much you agree with this.

I see myself as someone who:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree a little	Neutral; no opinion	Agree a little	Agree strongly
... Tends to be quiet.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Is compassionate, has a soft heart.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Tends to be disorganized.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Worries a lot.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Disagree strongly	Disagree a little	Neutral; no opinion	Agree a little	Agree strongly
... Is fascinated by art, music, or literature.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

I see myself as someone who:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree a little	Neutral; no opinion	Agree a little	Agree strongly
... Is dominant, acts as a leader.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Is sometimes rude to others.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Has difficulty getting started on tasks.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Tends to feel depressed, blue.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Has little interest in abstract ideas.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

I see myself as someone who:

	Disagree strongly	Disagree a little	Neutral; no opinion	Agree a little	Agree strongly
... Is full of energy.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Assumes the best about people.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Disagree strongly	Disagree a little	Neutral; no opinion	Agree a little	Agree strongly
... Is reliable, can always be counted on.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Is emotionally stable, not easily upset.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐
... Is original, comes up with new ideas.	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

Perceived_Similarity

We asked **immigrants from 3 different countries** to fill out the same personality quiz and computed their standardized scores on five major personality traits.

Next, we will ask you how you think your personality traits compare to theirs.

If your guess is correct, you will be entered into a lottery for a **\$100 Amazon gift card**.

How do you think your personality traits compare to the traits of people **from Japan**?

- ☐ You have **0 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **1 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **2 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **3 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **4 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **5 out of 5** traits in common.

How do you think your personality traits compare to the traits of people **from the Philippines**?

- ☐ You have **0 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **1 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **2 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **3 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **4 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **5 out of 5** traits in common.

How do you think your personality traits compare to the traits of people **from Haiti**?

- ☐ You have **0 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **1 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **2 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **3 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **4 out of 5** traits in common.
- ☐ You have **5 out of 5** traits in common.

Contact

We would now like to ask about your close friends and family members, neighbors, workplace acquaintances, and others with whom you regularly interact (i.e. speak with at least once a month).

For each of the groups below, please check the box if a member of that group is in the respective category of people you interact with.

5/29/23, 4:29 PM

Qualtrics Survey Software

	Close friends and family members	Neighbors	Workplace acquaintances	Others with whom I regularly interact	Service or hospitality workers	No interactions
Japanese Americans	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Close friends and family members	Neighbors	Workplace acquaintances	Others with whom I regularly interact	Service or hospitality workers	No interactions
Filipino Americans	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

	Close friends and family members	Neighbors	Workplace acquaintances	Others with whom I regularly interact	Service or hospitality workers	No interactions
Haitian Americans	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐	☐

End

You have completed the survey. Thank you for your participation!

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F Spatial Representation of Perceived Similarity

To showcase the relevance and versatility of our measure of perceived similarity, and its potential as a tool to study social perceptions, we extend our analysis of perceived similarity between a respondent and a given foreign country, a *bilateral* measure, to a *multilateral* measure. We apply a simple multidimensional scaling method to represent in a two-dimensional space the positions of Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines, relative to the respondents.⁴³ This approach is similar to the ‘spatial’ mental representation of memories in neuroscience [see for instance [Pantelis et al., 2008](#)].

We then compare, across political affiliations, the mental representations of those three countries in a two-dimensional space. We partition respondents into five political groups: very conservative, conservative, moderate, liberal, and very liberal. For each group, we represent in two-dimensional space the positions of Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines, relative to the (group average) position of the respondents. The resulting spatial representations are presented in figure [A6](#). A clear picture emerges. Liberal respondents live in a ‘smaller world’ than conservative respondents: not only do liberals perceive themselves as more similar to all foreign origins, but they also perceive those foreign origins to be more similar to each other than conservatives. Interestingly, the increased perceived similarity among liberals compared to conservatives is strongest for countries that all respondents, liberals and conservatives, perceive as less similar (Haiti and, to a lesser degree, the Philippines). For Japan, which is perceived as the most similar, perceptions differ much less between liberals and conservatives. This may be due to the fact that Japan is a wealthy country, and therefore perceived as more similar to anyone in the U.S., a wealthy country too.

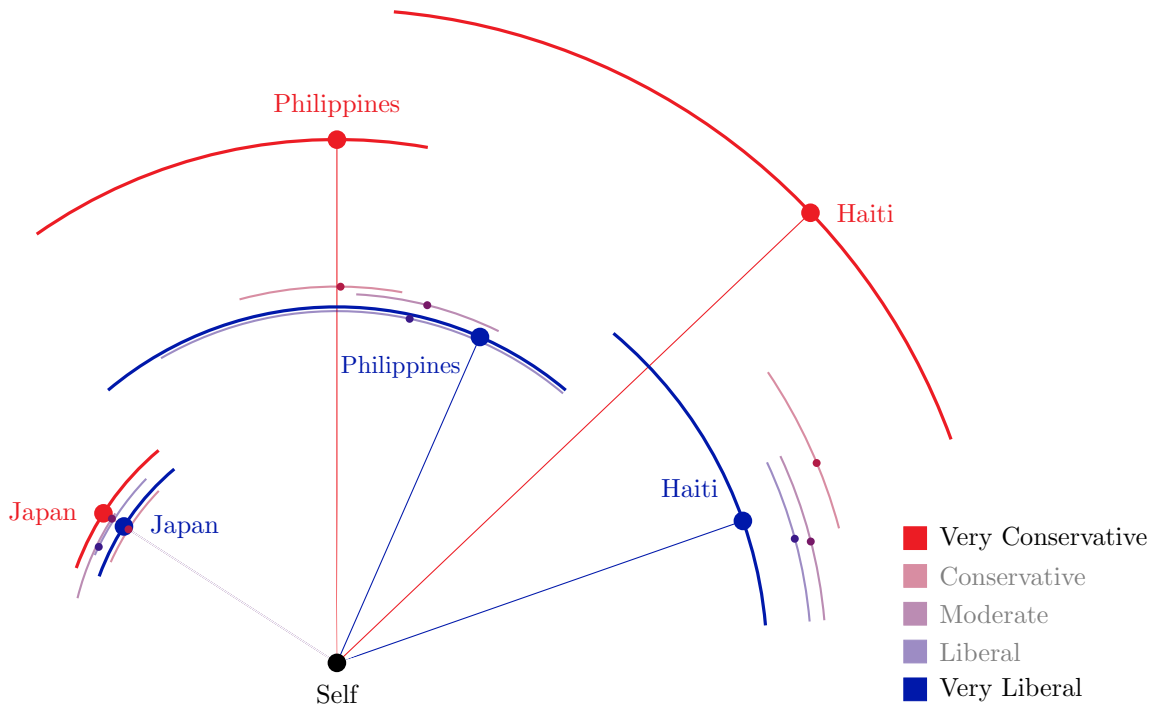
Those results suggest a complementary explanation for the findings in [Enke et al. \[2022\]](#) who show that universalists allocate their altruism over short and long social distances more uniformly than communitarians: universalists—identified by their liberal political views in our survey—may simply perceive all social distances to be shorter compared to communitarians—identified by their conservative political views. In our conceptual framework of section [II](#), universalists correspond to witnesses with a larger $\|\mathbf{a}_{\alpha(\mathcal{C})}(w)\|$, who are more likely to feel empathy towards any protagonist.

Overall figure [A6](#) paints a more subtle picture of the role played by perceived similarity than our purely bilateral analysis. We leave a deeper exploration of these more complex interactions across multiple groups and the analysis of the topography of social inter-group connections for future research.

⁴³For each respondent i , we use their perceived similarity to Japan, Haiti, and the Philippines on a scale from 0 to 5 to define the distance between i and each foreign country f : $Distance_{i,f} \equiv 5 - Similarity_{i,f}$. We then assume that i and f can be represented by their (x, y) coordinates in a 2-dimensional space, s.t.

$$Distance_{i,f} = \sqrt{(x_i - x_f)^2 + (y_i - y_f)^2}.$$

With at least three respondents who live in the same “topography,” i.e. for whom Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines have the same coordinates, we can solve for those coordinates, up to a translation and a rotation. Intuitively, if some respondents perceive both Haiti and the Philippines to be similar and Japan to be dissimilar, while others perceive Japan to be similar and both Haiti and the Philippines to be dissimilar, we infer that Haiti and the Philippines are close to each other, while Japan is far. We apply this method separately for respondents partitioned into five political groups.



APPENDIX FIGURE A6: MULTILATERAL PERCEIVED SIMILARITY

Notes: The figure presents a two-dimensional spatial representation of the relative positions of respondents (self), Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines, according to our perceived similarity measure. We partition the set of respondents into five political groups according to their stated political ideology: ‘very conservative,’ ‘conservative,’ ‘moderate,’ ‘liberal,’ and ‘very liberal.’ For each group separately, we perform a two-dimensional scaling exercise, where we define the distance between respondent i and country f as $Distance_{i,f} = 5 - Similarity_{i,f}$. The bilateral distances within each group are presented in appendix table A23. ‘Self’ is the centroid of all respondents within each group. We arbitrarily normalize the direction towards Japan for all groups (Northwest).

APPENDIX TABLE A23: 2-DIMENSIONAL REPRESENTATION OF PERCEIVED DISTANCES

Perceived bilateral distances:				
Panel A: very conservative respondents				
	Japan	Philippines	Haiti	
Self	0.373	0.694	0.867	
Japan		0.589	1.028	
Philippines			0.642	
Panel B: conservative respondents				
	Japan	Philippines	Haiti	
Self	0.333	0.507	0.694	
Japan		0.428	0.919	
Philippines			0.677	
Panel C: moderate respondents				
	Japan	Philippines	Haiti	
Self	0.361	0.501	0.654	
Japan		0.508	0.935	
Philippines			0.608	
Panel D: liberal respondents				
	Japan	Philippines	Haiti	
Self	0.380	0.502	0.647	
Japan		0.496	0.949	
Philippines			0.642	
Panel E: very liberal respondents				
	Japan	Philippines	Haiti	
Self	0.323	0.463	0.564	
Japan		0.540	0.825	
Philippines			0.447	

Notes: We partition respondents to our survey on contact and similarity into five political groups ('very conservative,' 'conservative,' 'moderate,' 'liberal,' and 'very liberal') according to their answer to the question "On policy matters, where do you see yourself on the liberal/conservative spectrum?" Using our measure of perceived similarity between respondent i and foreign country f (from 0 to 5), we define $Distance_{i,f} = 5 - Similarity_{i,f}$. For each group separately, we perform a two-dimensional scaling exercise, and recover the positions of each respondent, Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines. For each group, the table presents the matrix of bilateral distances between the centroid of all respondents ('Self'), Haiti, Japan, and the Philippines. We omit the diagonal ($Distance_{k,k} = 0$ by construction), and the lower triangle ($Distance_{k,l} = Distance_{l,k}$). We use those bilateral distances to construct figure A6.