

Appendix Table A1. Items and descriptive statistics for the controlled variables

Variable	%	
Gender		
Male	47.6	
Female	52.4	
Level of Education		
Primary school	10.3	
Secondary school	21.9	
Vocational qualification	33.8	
Bachelor degree	24.9	
Master degree	8.5	
PhD	0.5	
Country of birth		
Australia	76.3	
Elsewhere	23.7	
Broad ethnic origin		
White	81.4	
Non-white	18.6	
Knowledge of the Court		
0 correct	38.9	
1 correct	39.5	
2 correct	16.6	
3 correct	5.0	
	Mean	Standard deviation
Age (years)	43.83	17.54
Exposure to media stories on the High Court (1=never to 5= very often)	2.49	.89
Support for the institution (1=disagree very much to 5=agree very much)	3.25	1.10
Support for the rule of law (1=disagree very much to 5=agree very much)	3.73	.94
Confidence in institutions (1=not at all to 5=a great deal)	3.23	.79
Political views (1=very conservative to 5=very liberal)	2.98	.87

Appendix Table A2. Items underlying the Indexes

Index	Items	Mean (standard deviation)
Support for the institution index (1=disagree very much to 5=agree very much) (1=not at all to 5=a great deal)	The High Court can usually be trusted to make decisions that are right for Australia as a whole	3.97 (1.08)
	The decisions of the High Court favour some groups more than others	3.36 (1.52)
	The High Court gets too mixed up in politics	3.12 (1.55)
	If the High Court started making a lot of rulings that most Australians disagreed with, it would be better to abolish the Court altogether	2.89 (1.68)
	Generally speaking, how much do you trust the High Court to operate in the best interests of the Australian people?	3.65 (1.21)
Institutional legitimacy index (1=disagree very much to 5=agree very much)	It is not necessary to obey a law you consider unjust	3.97 (.05)
	Sometimes it might be better to ignore the law and solve problems immediately rather than wait for a legal solution	3.53 (.05)
	The government should have some ability to bend the law in order to solve pressing social and political problems	3.24 (.05)
	It is not necessary to obey the laws of a government that I did not vote for	4.22 (.04)
Confidence in institutions index (1=not at all to 5=a great deal)	How much confidence do you have in the Prime Minister of Australia?	2.58 (.05)
	How much confidence do you have in the High Court of Australia?	3.45 (.04)
	How much confidence do you have in the Federal Parliament?	2.72 (1.10)
	How much confidence do you have in the Australian Defence Force?	3.94 (.97)
	How much confidence do you have in the Police?	3.74 (1.07)
	How much confidence do you have in the Criminal Justice System?	2.96 (0.04)

		%
Knowledge of the Court index (multiple choice format)	0 correct	38.9
	1 correct	39.5
	2 correct	16.6
	3 correct	5.0
How long do judges remain on the High Court of Australia?		
A. They have life tenure		
B. They retire at age 70		
C. They retire at age 80		
D. They serve for five years		
E. Don't know		
How many Justices sit on the High Court of Australia?		
A.3		
B.5		
C.7		
D.9		
E. Don't know		
Who has the last say when there is conflict over the meaning of the Constitution?		
A. The High Court of Australia		
B. The Federal Parliament		
C. The Prime Minister		
D. The Federal cabinet		
E. Don't know		

Appendix Table A3: Participant characteristics in each of the three groups

Participant Characteristic	Control	Wig Treatment	No-wig Treatment
Average Age (years)	42.5	44.2	44.7
Education			
% Primary school	12.2	11.1	7.8
% Secondary school	19.5	23.7	22.4
% Vocational qualification	32.9	32.0	36.5
% Bachelor degree	25.6	24.1	25.1
% Master degree	9.8	8.7	7.1
% PhD	0.0	0.4	1.2
Gender (% male)	48.0	45.8	49.0
% born in Australia	74.0	79.1	75.7
% white ethnic origin	80.1	81.0	83.1

Notes: A one-way ANOVA was undertaken to determine if there were any statistical differences in age across each of the three groups. Chi-square tests were undertaken to determine if there were any statistical differences in any of the remaining characteristics across the three groups. In all cases, it was found that no statistical differences existed across the three groups, indicating that the randomisation process operated as theoretically expected to balance these demographic characteristics across the groups.