

Appendices for Knowing is Disturbing: Emotions and Public Attitudes under Digital Autocracy

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Appendix A Additional details of data collection and sample

A.1 Online survey experiment setup, sampling sources, and validity check

To obtain the sample for our survey experiment, we partnered with Qualtrics, a US-based market research company. For our study, the Qualtrics management team reached out to a pool of at least 5.6 million respondents in mainland China through eight partner online panels, market research, and advertisement services with either direct access to the country or partnered with local sample providers. [Table A1.1](#) provides information about these cooperating partners that were commissioned to field our study, including the name, panel size/reach in China, recruitment measures, measures to ensure response quality, and reward mechanisms. Our survey was first set up and managed by Qualtrics and was distributed to the partners to recruit local internet-connected respondents from China, after pretesting (N=11), a pilot study (N=101), and final adjustments. The potential respondents of our study were mainly app users and gamers, who were shown invitations to participate in our survey via advertisements, offer walls, pop-ups, and other built-in intercepts. Through these partner panels and services, participants receive rewards, including point rewards, virtual currency, and other non-cash payments upon successfully completing the survey. Each of the partners employed at least some measures to detect and block bots and suspicious responses based on proxies and IP addresses. These serve as the first step to mitigate, although not completely eliminate the issue of response validity.

Given the rising concerns of artificial dataset produced by GenAI that could potentially render our sample invalid, for the current study, Qualtrics' project management team and the authors have collaborated to implement an additional round of vetting of the recruitment process and response quality, to ensure the basic validity of the collected responses, such that the responses are indeed generated by humans and that each response is given with a sufficient level of prudence. Specifically, we set up a list of criteria to ensure the balance and quality of the sampled responses, including quotas, explicit consent, attention checks, detection for speeders, and fraud based on IP

addresses. Responses that failed to fulfill any of the criteria were excluded at different stages of the survey. In total, 6,931 participants who qualified for the study responded to the initial invitation reached out to them. Among these participants, 736 were excluded *before* officially taking the survey due to the quota limit. A further 193 participants were excluded because they failed to agree with the consent questions. In addition, 255 participants were excluded *during* the survey due to failing the attention check, i.e., they were directed to the site with a notification of the end of the survey. Another 1,240 participants were removed after completing the questionnaire due to built-in detectors of the survey system for speeders and fraud. In the end, we retained a final sample of 4,507 for the analysis. [Table A1.2](#) summarizes responses that were removed based on the exclusion criteria.

We acknowledge that such mechanisms, even if implemented at full scale, are no silver bullet, as long as data are collected in an online environment. Nevertheless, given the institutional, regulatory, and technical constraints for empirical research on contentious topics in a politically closed environment such as China, anonymous online survey remains an important measure to explore and gauge public opinion in the country with its own merit ([Huang, Intawan, and Nicholson 2023](#); [Huang and Yeh 2019](#); [Jee and Zhang 2025](#); [Yang 2024](#)). Previous research employing a similar methodology in the Chinese context has shown robust findings in political attitudes. We join these scholarly efforts to uphold and advance survey-based research, but also urge caution in collecting, handling, and interpreting data collected online.

Table A1.1 Information about online panels and services in cooperation with Qualtrics for our study

Name	Size of Panel in China	Recruitment measure	Measure for response validity	Reward mechanism
Tap Research	94K, with ~13K monthly users	Through a network comprised of a diverse collection of apps and games	App user profile checks plus user-level quality score, including device fingerprinting (via mobile Ad IDs), IP checks, browser cookies, and VPN/proxy blocking; Behavioral scoring, trap questions, and attention checks	Respondents earn in-app rewards that can only be redeemed in the app they are using and are always tied to their identity
Pollfish	~531K respondents	Recruitment is done by an affiliate network (global Software Development Kit or SDK for Android, iOS, Unity, React Native, etc.), Via its app-integrated RDE system to recruit the mobile-active Chinese population	Use AI and machine learning algorithms to detect and remove bots, straightliners, and speeders. IP/device fingerprinting and VPN filtering to enhance fraud prevention	Non-cash rewards such as premium content or app-specific bonuses
MiDQ	~4,950,000 respondents, large enough to not have abnormal characteristics	Maintained panels, social media, and apps, including mobile survey apps	Digital safeguards: CAPTCHA, IP- and device fingerprinting to prevent duplicate or bot responses; Trap questions or red herrings to identify inattentive users; Behavior screening: reject responses that are too fast or exhibit straightlining patterns; Post-survey cleaning and scoring: remove incomplete submissions, suspicious responses, and outliers; quality or trust score of each response	Point rewards that can be exchanged for money
Dalia research (now part of PureSpectrum)	Partnered with 12 sample providers located in China	Mobile- and app-based recruitment using mobile intercept	Behavioral and device metrics/fingerprinting; real-time scoring to	Digital redeemable rewards like e-

GRL research	Partnered with 2 sample providers located in China	methodology via SDK Web or mobile intercepts using banners, pop-ups; proprietary or third-party panels	reject low-quality respondents Attention checks and trap questions; geo-validation checks	vouchers and gift cards Non-cash payments
Adscend Media	Do not specify, but operate worldwide, including China	Offer walls inserted in partner apps, websites, or games	Total fraud defense, including internal manual vetting, bad user detection & filtration of known VPNs, proxies, and bots, abnormal behavior detection & filtration	Redeemable credits, e.g., virtual currency, in-game items, gift cards.
Research for Good Inc.	Do not specify	Mobile apps & games, social media, and email panel	Bot detection, digital fingerprinting, SecureGeoIP™, proxy/VPN detection and IP filtering, CAPTCHA tests; suspicious activity flags and suspicious profile reviews; red herrings, honey pots, and other proven behavioral tactics	Combination of personal rewards, such as cash, gift cards, credits, and donations made to Action Against Hunger
ySense	~4.3K users in China	Promotion on online forums or search traffic to attract online users who want to earn small payments by doing tasks like online surveys, watching videos, or ads, etc.	Pre-screening for qualified users, CAPTCHA, and device checks to block bots and automated sign-ups	Cash or gift cards

Table A1.2 Summary statistics of excluded survey participants

Exclusion criteria	N
Quota full	
...region	390
...age	346
Consent	
...form	172
...age >=18	21
Attention check	255
Speeder (less than 6 min)	1,231
Fraud	9
Total	2,424

A.2 Sampling statistics and distribution comparison

Due to the non-probabilistic nature of the sampling procedure, quotas based on age, gender, and region were set to align with the national census benchmark. [Table A2.1](#) provides summary statistics of the survey sample. The demographic characteristics of our sample largely resemble those of the national population, except for education, rural representation, and CCP membership (see [Table A2.2](#)). Like many other online surveys in China, our sample overrepresents better-educated, urban populations, and those who are Communist Party members, which leads to caution against generalizing the results to the overall population ([Huang, Intawan, and Nicholson 2023](#); [Jee and Zhang 2025](#); [Yang 2024](#)).

Table A2.1 Summary statistics of the survey sample

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min.	Max.
Age	42.00	15.00	18.00	84.00
Gender	0.51	1.60	0.00	99.00
Education	3.60	0.79	1.00	5.00
Ethnic minority	0.06	0.23	0.00	1.00
Monthly income	6.60	1.60	1.00	10.00
Rural	0.08	0.27	0.00	1.00
CCP membership	0.25	0.43	0.00	1.00
Overseas experience (Yes)	0.37	0.48	0.00	1.00
Political ideology: nationalism	0.72	0.15	0.00	1.00
Political ideology: liberalism	0.42	0.13	0.00	1.00
VPN savvy	0.31	0.46	0.00	1.00
Conservation	0.60	0.16	0.00	1.00
Big Five: Openness	0.57	0.18	0.00	1.00
Big Five: Conscientiousness	0.60	0.19	0.00	1.00
Big Five: Neuroticism	0.44	0.18	0.00	1.00
Big Five: Extraversion	0.55	0.19	0.00	1.00
Big Five: Agreeableness	0.52	0.15	0.00	1.00
Life Satisfaction	8.10	1.50	0.00	10.00

Note: Sample size N= 4,507. Political ideology, VPN savvy, conservation, and the Big Five personality traits are normalized.

Table A2.2 Comparison of survey sample and national population distribution

Characteristics	Sample N=4507	National population ¹
Age		
... 18-24	15%	11% ²
... 25-34	20%	12%
... 35-44	21%	14%
... 45-54	18%	17%
... 55+	26%	27%
Gender		
... Male	51%	51%
... Female	49%	49%
... Other	0%	
Region		
... central	19%	26%
... eastern	47%	40%
... northeastern	8%	7%
... western	26%	27%
Education		
... Primary or less	2%	28%
... Junior secondary	7%	39%
... Senior	29%	17%
... Undergraduate	56%	18% ³
... Postgraduate	6%	
Rural		
... No	92%	64%
... Yes	8%	36%
Ethnic minority		
... No	94%	91%
... Yes	6%	9%
CCP member		
... No	75%	93%
... Yes	25%	7%

Note: 1. Statistics for national population based on Statista ([2024, 2025](#)), and China's 7th national census ([National Bureau of Statistics 2021](#)).
2. This age category covers 15 and 24. 3. This education category covers both undergraduate and postgraduate.

A.3 Fieldwork interview setup and reflexive note

In spring 2023, we conducted fieldwork in China’s major metropolitan areas, including first-tier cities like Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Shenzhen, as well as new first-tier cities like Hangzhou and Xi’an. The fieldwork and the interviews were planned and organized by the authors. Using the snowballing technique, one of the authors carried out 50 semi-structured, in-depth interviews with 64 Chinese citizens across 10 different geographical and jurisdictional localities. Given the restrictions and security risks of doing empirical research in a politically closed environment like China ([Ollier-Malaterre et al. 2025](#)), the trust-based snowballing technique appeared to be the safest option to reach potential interviewees with the highest protection for both the interviewees and the researchers. This recruitment approach allows interviews about contentious and opaque topics like ours to be built up on a trusted foundation, mediated through informants and their networks. To create an environment for genuine conversation, all except one interview were conducted in person in a secure environment. All interviewees explicitly delivered informed consent at the beginning of the interview. All except four interviews were recorded and stored in a digital recorder without connection to any network, and were deleted immediately after transcription. The only online interview was conducted during the fieldwork due to logistics constraints and was completed via one of the US-based video conferencing services through an encrypted VPN. [Tables A3.1](#) and [A3.2](#) summarize the interviewees’ characteristics and interview background.

Notably, fourteen of the 50 interviews were conducted in a group format, typically involving two interviewees, and never more than three. This raises the question about the extent to which interviewees would deliver sufficiently authentic responses in the presence of other interviewees, especially when asked about politically sensitive questions. Despite the precautionary measures depicted above, we acknowledge that conducting interviews, particularly in a group format like the ones we carried out, may entail potential biases due to the strong social desirability effect and the subsequent self-censorship and preference falsification. Therefore, we took extra caution when

interpreting the results, by paying attention to the specific setting in which each group interview was formed, each interviewee's background, the relationship between the interviewees in the same interview, as well as between them and the author as interviewer, apart from the substantive contents delivered through verbal and nonverbal expressions before, during, and after the interview. In fact, all group interviews were created naturally, i.e., they were requested by the interviewees themselves, as they were reached out to by us and informed about the topic of the interview. It turns out that the interviewees in the group interviews commonly share close and trusted relationships with each other; they are commonly couples, siblings, or long-term friends, who know each other over a substantial period of time. As such, interviewees felt comfortable enough to be interviewed together with the other person(s) they themselves selected and asked to join. We observed that in most group interviews, participants remained open and engaged, in some circumstances, also direct and critical, despite the presence of the other interviewee(s).³ Nevertheless, we took extra notes throughout all interviews – group or individual – and during the analysis, particularly when the genuineness of the interviewee's account was called into question. For example, interviewees of the four manually recorded interviews were particularly cautious and reserved already at the beginning of the interview. Their responses throughout the interview were colored with a layer of evasiveness and aloofness, their facial and body gestures somewhat tensed and unnatural.⁴ While it could not fully resolve the challenge of insincere responses, this extra note-taking provided us with a more contextualized and sharper tool for interpreting the results.

³ See, for example, comments for INTPS01, INTPS02, INTPS22 as cited in the main text.

⁴ See, for example, comments for INTPS26, INTPS47 as cited in the main text.

Table A3.1 Summary statistics of interviewees' background

Characteristics		Mean ¹	Min	Max	Percentage	N
Age		29	25	48		
Gender	Female				56%	36
	Male				44%	28
Education	Primary education or less				0%	0
	Junior secondary education or equivalent				6%	4
	Senior secondary education or equivalent				0%	0
	Undergraduate or equivalent				45%	29
	Postgraduate above				49%	31
Employment type	Governmental institutions ²				14%	9
	Public institutions				16%	10
	State-owned enterprises				13%	8
	Employees in the private sector				44%	28
	Self-employed				9%	6
Contact type	Unemployed				5%	3
	Old contact				53%	34
	First-time contact				47%	30
Total # of interviewees						64

Note: 1. Two participants with unknown ages are excluded from the mean age calculation. 2. Governmental institutions include government agencies, party departments, police, and courts at both local and central levels.

Table A3.2 Summary statistics of interviews

		Mean	Min	Max	Percentage	N
Duration (min)		63	21	155		
Format	Individual interview				72%	36
	Group interview				28%	14
Mode	Online				2%	1
	Offline				98%	49
Interview place (among the 49 offline)	Private place				8%	4
	Semi-public place				16%	8
	Public place				74%	37
Interview location	First-tier cities				52%	26
	New first-tier cities				14%	7
	Second-tier cities				18%	9
	Fourth-tier cities				16%	8
Total # of interviews						50

Note: “Private place” refers to a private residence, belonging either to the participant or to their friends or family. “Semi-public place” refers to a place in a public setting, such as a café or restaurant, but with a private room that separates the interview from the rest of the guests.

A.4 Interview outline

Consistent with the online survey, the primary questions of the interview focused on emotional experiences and feelings toward digital surveillance and censorship, and how these feelings influence political attitudes. The following questions were asked in each interview. Note that given the semi-structured nature of the interview, the order of each question is not strictly followed, but all themes and key questions were addressed to ensure completeness and cross-case comparison.

English translation of the Chinese version

Theme I: Perceptions of changes in government-led digitalization

1. In the past five to ten years, have you noticed any changes in your life and the surroundings brought by digital technologies, especially those implemented by the government? If yes, what are your personal experiences with these government-led digital programs?
 - 1.1 Generally speaking, do you welcome these changes? If so, why, and if not, why not?
 - 1.2 How did these changes make you feel?

Theme II: Digital control during the COVID-19 pandemic

2. Let's talk about digital initiatives implemented by the government during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the health code and the travel history code. What were your experiences with them?
 - 2.1 Were you content with these measures? If so, why, and if not, why not?
 - 2.2 How did you feel when you were subject to these digital measures?
3. During the pandemic, did you notice any information being deleted on the internet? Or were any of your own messages posted online blocked?
 - 3.1 How do you make sense of it?
 - 3.2 How did such experiences make you feel, at the moment when they occurred, and now?

Theme III: Everyday digital control & individual (emotional) experiences

4. Let's jump out of the pandemic context. Generally speaking, do you feel that you, your whereabouts, or your online activities are being constantly monitored (by government surveillance programs)?
 - 5.1 If so, are you fine with that? Why and how does it make you feel?
(Note: the interviewer will mention concrete examples, if interviewees provide a negative answer.)
 - 5.2 What's your take on privacy issues? Do you think the government is doing a good job of protecting your privacy?
5. Again, let's stay in the everyday context. When you use the internet, have you encountered censorship of any kind? If yes, how did such event(s) make you feel every time they occurred?
 - 6.1 When was the first time you ever encountered censorship, and how did that make you feel? How do you feel about this "first time" now?

6.2 What's your take on the government's intervention in censoring online content?

6. Other questions on interviewees' sociodemographic characters, personality traits, and personal values.

Original Chinese version

主题 1：有关政府数字化的理解和看法

1. 在过去五到十年间，您是否注意到数字技术，尤其是政府实施的数字技术，对您的生活和周围环境带来了任何变化？如果有，您对这些政府主导的数字化项目有哪些个人体验？

1.1 总体而言，您是否欢迎这些变化？为什么？

1.2 对这些变化您有何感受？

主题 2：新冠疫情期间的数字管控

2. 来谈谈政府在新冠疫情期间实施的例如健康码和行程码等等的数字化举措。您在使用这些措施时的体验如何？

2.1 您对这些措施满意吗？为什么？

2.2 当您受到这些措施的影响时，您的感受如何？

3. 在疫情期间，您是否注意到互联网上有任何信息被删除？或者您自己发布在网上的信息被屏蔽了？

3.1 对此您是如何解读？

3.2 当您遇到这些的时候，您当时的感受如何？您现在的感受如何？

主题 3：日常生活中的数字管控和个人（情感）经历

4. 跳出疫情的语境在日常生活中，总体来说，您是否觉得您自身，比如你的行踪或您的线上活动被（政府的监控网络）持续监视？

4.1 如果是，您觉得这样可行吗？为什么，您对此有何感受？

(注：如果受访者给出负面回答，访谈者会提及具体例子。)

4.2 您对隐私问题有何看法？您认为政府在保护您的隐私方面做得如何？

5. 还是在平日生活中，当在使用互联网时，您是否遇到过任何形式的审查？如果遇到，每次您遇到它时有何感受？

5.1 您第一次遇到审查是在什么时候？您当时经历它时心情如何？现在回想起来，您对这个“第一次”经历有什么感受？

5.2 您对政府干预审查网络内容的看法如何？

6. 其他有关受访者基本信息、个性特征及个人价值观的问题。

Appendix B Information about survey experiment

B.1 Balance table

Table B1 Balance table by treatment conditions

condition	Control N=472		Personal Both N=483		Personal Censorship N=511		Personal Censorship Public Surveillance N=520		Personal Surveillance N=512		Personal Surveillance Public Censorship N=506		Public Both N=515		Public Censorship N=489		Public Surveillance N=499		F test p value
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	
Age	42.00	15.00	41.00	15.00	43.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	42.00	15.00	0.94
Gender	0.49	0.50	0.54	0.50	0.51	0.50	0.46	0.50	0.52	0.50	0.67	0.44	0.48	0.50	0.44	0.50	0.49	0.50	0.50
Education	3.50	0.82	3.50	0.83	3.60	0.81	3.60	0.78	3.60	0.76	3.60	0.83	3.50	0.78	3.60	0.77	3.60	0.74	0.16
Ethnic Minority	0.06	0.23	0.06	0.25	0.07	0.25	0.06	0.23	0.05	0.22	0.05	0.22	0.05	0.23	0.05	0.22	0.05	0.22	0.92
Monthly Income	6.60	1.50	6.60	1.60	6.60	1.60	6.50	1.60	6.50	1.60	6.60	1.60	6.60	1.50	6.50	1.60	6.70	1.50	0.74
Rural	0.07	0.25	0.08	0.26	0.08	0.28	0.08	0.27	0.09	0.29	0.08	0.26	0.08	0.27	0.08	0.26	0.07	0.26	0.91
CCP Membership	0.24	0.43	0.25	0.43	0.26	0.44	0.24	0.43	0.25	0.43	0.24	0.42	0.28	0.45	0.26	0.44	0.24	0.43	0.80
Overseas Experience	0.34	0.47	0.39	0.49	0.39	0.49	0.37	0.48	0.36	0.48	0.39	0.49	0.35	0.48	0.39	0.49	0.39	0.49	0.62
Political ideology: Nationalism	0.72	0.15	0.73	0.14	0.73	0.15	0.72	0.16	0.71	0.15	0.72	0.15	0.72	0.15	0.72	0.16	0.72	0.16	0.75
Political ideology: Liberalism	0.42	0.13	0.42	0.13	0.42	0.12	0.42	0.13	0.43	0.13	0.42	0.12	0.42	0.12	0.43	0.13	0.41	0.13	0.41
VPN Savvy	0.28	0.45	0.31	0.46	0.30	0.46	0.33	0.47	0.28	0.45	0.35	0.48	0.30	0.46	0.31	0.46	0.34	0.47	0.22
Conservation	0.60	0.16	0.60	0.17	0.61	0.17	0.61	0.17	0.60	0.17	0.62	0.16	0.60	0.16	0.61	0.17	0.60	0.16	0.42
Big Five: Openness	0.57	0.19	0.59	0.18	0.57	0.17	0.57	0.17	0.57	0.17	0.55	0.19	0.56	0.17	0.56	0.18	0.57	0.17	0.11
Big Five: Conscientiousness	0.6	0.19	0.61	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.19	0.58	0.19	0.6	0.19	0.6	0.19	0.6	0.19	0.61	0.17	0.60
Big Five: Neuroticism	0.44	0.19	0.44	0.19	0.43	0.19	0.44	0.19	0.44	0.18	0.43	0.18	0.44	0.18	0.43	0.19	0.43	0.18	0.95
Big Five: Extraversion	0.55	0.18	0.56	0.19	0.55	0.19	0.55	0.19	0.55	0.19	0.54	0.18	0.55	0.18	0.55	0.18	0.55	0.19	0.96
Big Five: Agreeableness	0.53	0.16	0.53	0.15	0.52	0.15	0.52	0.16	0.52	0.15	0.52	0.15	0.52	0.14	0.52	0.15	0.53	0.14	0.88
Life satisfaction	8.10	1.50	8.20	1.30	8.30	1.40	8.10	1.60	8.00	1.50	8.10	1.40	8.20	1.40	8.10	1.60	8.10	1.50	0.15

Note: Statistical significance markers: * p<0.1; ** p<0.05; *** p<0.01. This table indicates successful randomization, with sociodemographic attributes and personality characteristics evenly distributed across the nine experimental conditions.

B.2 Experiment vignette

Table B2 Vignette text for experiment conditions

English Translation of the Chinese version

Vignette 1. Baseline

Please take a few minutes to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis.

Vignette 2. Public surveillance

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. **One day in a private conversation, he/she learned from a friend who works in a relevant department, that like everyone else, the moment they step outside their home, their movement and facial information are captured by cameras in public places like high-speed train stations and roadsides.** His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis.

Vignette 3. Personalized surveillance

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis. **One day by chance, he/she realized that his/her own activities are constantly being monitored and collected by digital devices installed or carried around him/her, for example, all his/her mobile payments and travel records, as well as his/her chat conversations were being recorded by relevant authorities.**

Vignette 4. Public censorship

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis. **However, he/she often finds that websites, posts, or public accounts he/she previously accessed are now unavailable due to violations of the country's regulations.**

Vignette 5. Public surveillance & Public censorship

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. **One day in a private conversation, he/she learned from a friend who works in a relevant department, that like everyone else, the moment they step outside their home, their movement and facial information are captured by cameras in public places like high-speed train stations and roadsides.** His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis. **However, he/she often finds that websites, posts, or public accounts he/she previously accessed are now unavailable due to violations of the country's regulations.**

Vignette 6. Public censorship & personalized surveillance

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. **One day by chance, he/she realized that his/her own activities are constantly being monitored and collected by digital devices installed or carried around him/her, for example, all his/her mobile payments and travel records, as well as his/her chat conversations were being recorded by relevant authorities.**

Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis.

From time to time, he/she often finds that websites, posts, or public accounts he/she previously accessed are now unavailable due to violations of the country's regulations.

Vignette 7. Personalized censorship

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis. **However, Xiao Zhang often notices his/her own online comments, posts, or likes suddenly disappearing due to violation of the country's regulations.**

Vignette 8. Personalized censorship & public surveillance

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. **One day in a private conversation, he/she learned from a friend who works in a relevant department, that like everyone else, the moment they step outside their home, their movement and facial information are captured by cameras in public places like high-speed train stations and roadsides.**

His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis. **However, Xiao Zhang often notices his/her own online comments, posts, or likes suddenly disappearing due to violation of the country's regulations.**

Vignette 9. Personalized surveillance & personalized censorship

Please take a moment to read the following text carefully:

Imagine a person, named Xiao Zhang, who is a citizen like you, living in a similar neighbourhood like yours. Every day, Xiao Zhang goes out either to work, buy groceries, or for entertainment. His/her daily life cannot function properly without his/her smartphone and PC. He/She consumes information, shares his/her life and opinions, as well as communicates with other people on a daily basis.

One day by chance, he/she realized that his/her own activities are constantly being monitored and collected by digital devices installed or carried around him/her, for example, all his/her mobile payments and travel records, as well as his/her chat conversations were being recorded by relevant authorities. Moreover, Xiao Zhang often notices his/her own online comments, posts, or likes suddenly disappearing due to violation of the country's regulations.

Original Chinese Version

短文 1. 控制组

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。

短文 2. 公共监控

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。有一天，小张偶然和在有关部门工作的朋友闲聊得知，他和周围所有人一样，从踏出家门的那一刻，他们的活动以及人脸信息就被安装在公共场所（比如高铁站、马路边）的摄像头采集记录。他/她的/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。

短文 3. 个体监控

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。

偶然有一天，他/她若有似无地察觉到自己的一举一动都被安装或携带在身边的数字设备无时无刻追踪和搜集着，比如他/她使用手机的每笔支付和行程记录、以及和别人的聊天内容都会经过数字终端被有关部门所采集。

短文 4. 公共审查

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。但是他经常会遇到这样一个情况：他/她原先习惯访问的网页、帖子或者公众号会因违反国家规定再也无法访问。

短文 5. 公共监控 & 公共审查

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。有一天，小张偶然和在有关部门工作的朋友闲聊得知，他和周围所有人一样，从踏出家门的那一刻，他们的活动以及人脸信息就被安装在公共场所（比如高铁站、马路边）的摄像头采集记录。

他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。但是他经常会遇到这样一个情况：他/她原先习惯访问的网页、帖子或者公众号会因违反国家规定再也无法访问。

短文 6. 公共审查 & 个体监控

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您所住的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。偶然有一天，他/她若有似无地察觉到自己的一举一动都被安装或携带在身边的数字设备无时无刻追踪和搜集着，比如他/她使用手机的每笔支付和行程记录、以及和别人的聊天内容都会被有关部门所采集。

他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。但是他经常会遇到这样一个情况：他/她原先习惯访问的网页、帖子或者公众号会因违反国家规定再也无法访问。

短文 7. 个体审查

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。但是小张却时常发现他/她自己在线上的发言、发帖或者点赞会因违反国家规定突然消失。

短文 8. 个体审查 & 公共监控

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。有一天，小张偶然和在有关部门工作的朋友闲聊得知，他和周围所有人一样，从踏出家门的那一刻，他们的活动以及人脸信息就被安装在公共场所（比如高铁站、马路边）的摄像头采集记录。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。但是小张却时常发现他/她自己在线上的发言、发帖或者点赞也会因违反国家规定突然消失。

短文 9. 个体监控&个体审查

请您花几分钟时间仔细阅读以下短文：

小张是一个和您背景差不多的人，住在和您类似的小区。平时小张出门上班、购物，或者参加休闲活动。他/她的日常生活离不开手机和电脑。每天他/她使用它们获取信息、分享他/她的生活和看法，以及和其他人交流。

偶然有一天，他/她若有似无地察觉到自己的一举一动都被安装或携带在身边的数字设备无时无刻追踪和搜集着，比如他/她使用手机的每笔支付和行程记录、以及和别人的聊天内容都会被有关部门所采集。同时，小张时常发现他/她自己在线上的发言、发帖或者点赞也会因违反国家规定突然消失。

B.3 Measurement of key variables

Table B3 Measurement and coding schemes for key variables

Outcome variables	
Emotions	Coding
<i>Discrete emotion</i>	1 = almost none; 5 = extreme If you were Xiao Zhang, to which extent would you feel the following emotions if you experienced the same situation described in the text? [random order] <i>Sadness, Anger, Disgust, Fear, Helplessness, Indifference, Happiness, Security, Curiosity, Surprise</i>
<i>Sentiment indices</i>	Principal components analysis based on ten discrete emotions (see appendix for more details)
Three groups	<i>Positive sentiment index, Negative sentiment index, Neutral sentiment index</i>
Attitudes	
<i>Viditious ↔ real-life situation</i>	1 = not at all; 5 = very much Regarding the vignette you just read, we would like to know your opinions on the following questions. If you were Xiao Zhang, how much could you understand the situation described? If you were Xiao Zhang, how much could you accept the situation? If you were Xiao Zhang, how satisfied would you be with the situation? If you were Xiao Zhang, how much would you support the situation? Additive scores of the four question items.
Covariates	
Age	Open box
Gender	0 = male, 1 = female, 99 = others
Education	1 = Primary education or less, 2 = Junior secondary education or equivalent, 3 = Senior secondary education or equivalent, 4 = Undergraduate or equivalent, 5 = Postgraduate and above
Ethnicity	0 = I am Han, 1 = I am ethnic minority
Monthly Income	1 = < 500, 2 = 500 – 1k, 3 = 1k – 2k; 4 = 2k – 3k, 5 = 3k – 5k, 6 = 5k – 8k, 7 = 8k – 12k, 8 = 12k – 20k, 9 = 20k – 50k, 10 = >50k
Rural vs. urban	1 = Provincial capitals/subprovincial-level cities/municipalities, 2 = Prefectural-level cities, 3 = County level, 4 = Township level, 5 = Village level (reverse) Dummy for “rural” when value equals “county,” “township,” or “village”
CCP Membership	0 = No, 1 = Yes
Oversea Experience	1 = I have never been to anywhere outside Chinese mainland, 2 = Several days or weeks, 3 = Several months, 4 = Up to 2 years, 5 = Up to 5 years, 6 = Over 5 years Dummy for “yes” when value >= 2
Political ideology: nationalism	Likert Scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree; 5 = Strongly Agree 1) Force should be used to reunify our country if conditions permit. 2) China can unilaterally impose economic and trade sanctions against other countries, as long as the sanctions advance the national interest. 3) The government ought to put as strong an emphasis on developing its military as it does on developing the economy. 4) Unless China becomes stronger, foreign countries will attempt to bully China. 5) I am very proud to be Chinese.
Political ideology: liberalism	Likert Scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree; 5 = Strongly Agree 1) In order to maintain national stability, personal freedom can be sacrificed. (reverse) 2) First come individuals, then the country; therefore, individuals are more important than the country. 3) Two or multiparty systems are unsuitable for China in its current state. (reverse) 4) The government ought not to go after those who criticize the government on the Internet as long as they are not smearing the government, even if their speech contains falsehoods. 5) The state ought to interfere with the individual’s decision to have a child, or how many children to have. (reverse)
VPN savvy	How familiar are you with virtual private network, aka VPN? Likert scale: 1 = Not familiar at all, never heard about it; 5 = Very familiar Dummy for VPN savvy when values >= 4
Personal values: Conservation	Average score over six items below. Now we will briefly describe some people. Please read each description and tell me how much each person is or is not like you. 1 = Very much like me; 6 = Not like me at all (reverse) <i>Tradition</i> 1) It is important to him/her to be humble and modest. He/she tries not to draw attention to himself/herself. 2) Tradition is important to him/her. He/she tries to follow the customs handed down by his/her culture or his/her family. <i>Security</i> 3) It is important to him/her to live in secure surroundings. He/she avoids anything that might endanger his/her safety. 4) It is important to him/her that the government ensures his/her safety against all threats. He/she wants the state to be strong so it can defend its citizens. <i>Conformity</i> 5) He/she believes that people should do what they’re told. He/she thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching. 6) It is important for him/her to always behave properly. He/she wants to avoid doing anything people would say is wrong.
Big Five: Openness	Likert scale: 1 = Strongly Disagree; 5 = Strongly Agree 1) I see myself as someone who has an active imagination.
Big Five: Conscientiousness	2) I see myself as someone who has few artistic interests. (reversed)
Big Five: Agreeableness	3) I see myself as someone who does a thorough job.
Big Five: Extraversion	4) I see myself as someone who tends to be lazy. (reversed)
Big Five: Neuroticism	5) I see myself as someone who is generally trusting.
Life satisfaction	6) I see myself as someone who tends to find fault with others. (reversed)
	7) I see myself as someone who is outgoing, sociable.
	8) I see myself as someone who is reserved. (reversed)
	9) I see myself as someone who gets nervous easily.
	10) I see myself as someone who is relaxed, handles stress well. (reversed)
	0 = extremely unsatisfied; 10 = very satisfied

Appendix C Principal Component Analysis (PCA) of emotions

C.1 PCA loadings

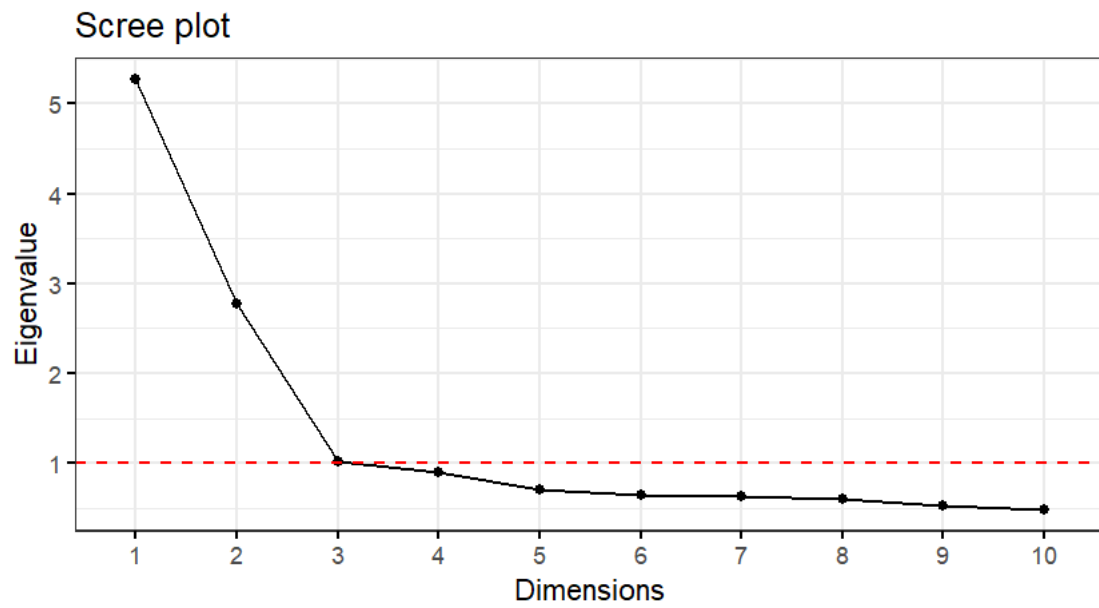
Table C1 PCA loadings

	Comp.1	Comp.2	Comp.3	Comp.4	Comp.5	Comp.6	Comp.7	Comp.8	Comp.9	Comp.10
Sadness	0.400	0.095	0.122	0.148	0.103	0.157	0.031	0.132	0.859	0.049
Anger	0.413	0.142	0.121	0.207	0.155	0.111	0.069	-0.362	-0.205	-0.733
Fear	0.396	0.115	0.147	0.146	-0.008	0.162	-0.044	0.776	-0.392	0.056
Disgust	0.417	0.139	0.187	0.160	0.133	0.004	0.008	-0.470	-0.246	0.669
DoNotCare	0.229	-0.243	0.389	-0.833	-0.008	0.195	-0.042	-0.046	-0.015	-0.039
Helplessness	0.350	0.110	-0.092	-0.186	-0.185	-0.881	0.034	0.069	0.045	-0.065
Secured	0.062	-0.586	0.114	0.187	-0.081	-0.055	0.769	0.037	-0.027	0.030
Happiness	0.108	-0.659	0.163	0.308	-0.140	-0.116	-0.629	-0.047	0.017	-0.041
Curiosity	0.220	-0.296	-0.635	-0.156	0.654	0.010	-0.047	0.059	-0.042	0.036
Surprised	0.317	-0.034	-0.558	-0.076	-0.678	0.326	0.006	-0.120	-0.012	0.028
Eigenvalue	5.264	2.768	1.018	0.898	0.705	0.642	0.633	0.605	0.527	0.484
Proportion	0.389	0.204	0.075	0.066	0.052	0.047	0.047	0.045	0.039	0.036
Cumulative	0.389	0.593	0.668	0.734	0.787	0.834	0.881	0.925	0.964	1.000

Note: Loadings deemed most important for the principal components are highlighted in bold.

C.2 PCA eigenvalue

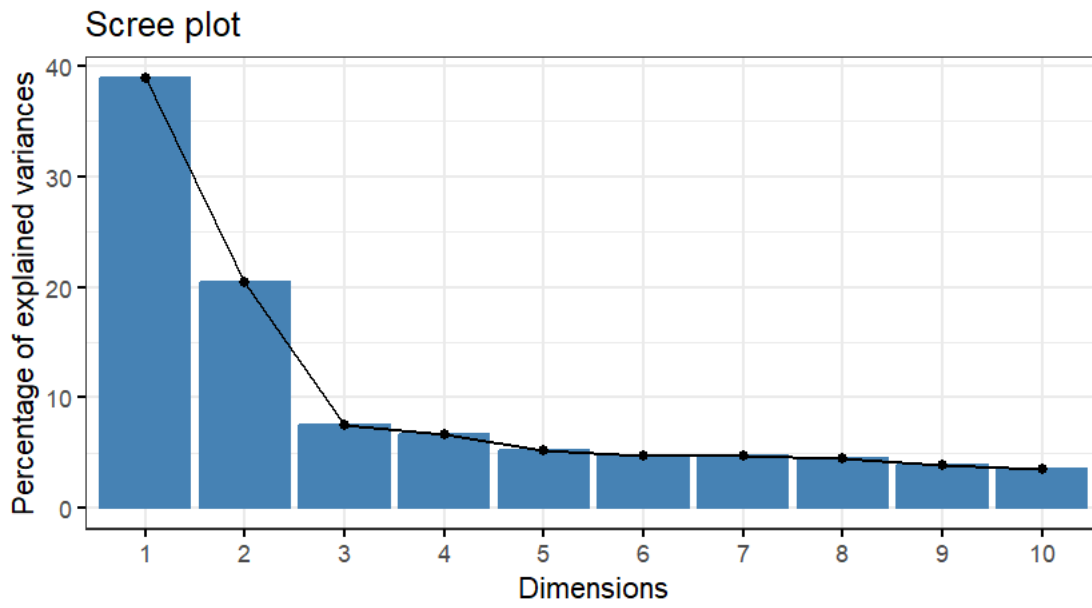
Figure C2 PCA scree plot of eigenvalues



Note: Figure C2 recommends using the first three principal components (eigenvalue > 1).

C.3 PCA explained variables

Figure C3 PCA scree plot of explained variances



C.4 PCA Biplot

Figure C4.1 Biplot of dimension 1 and 2

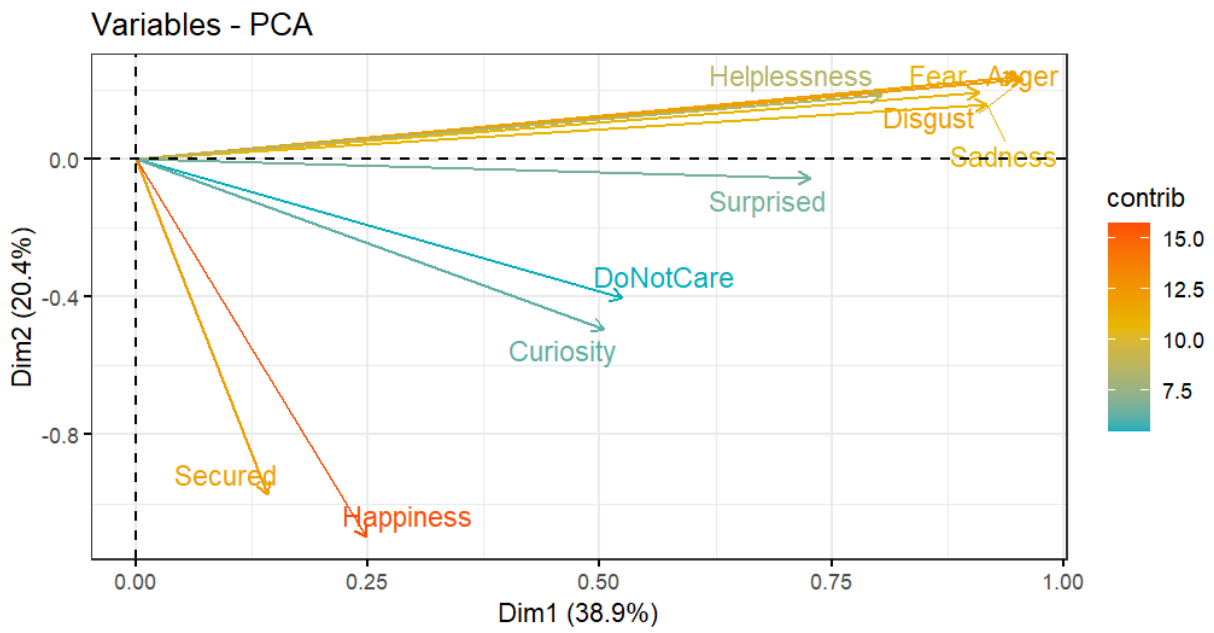
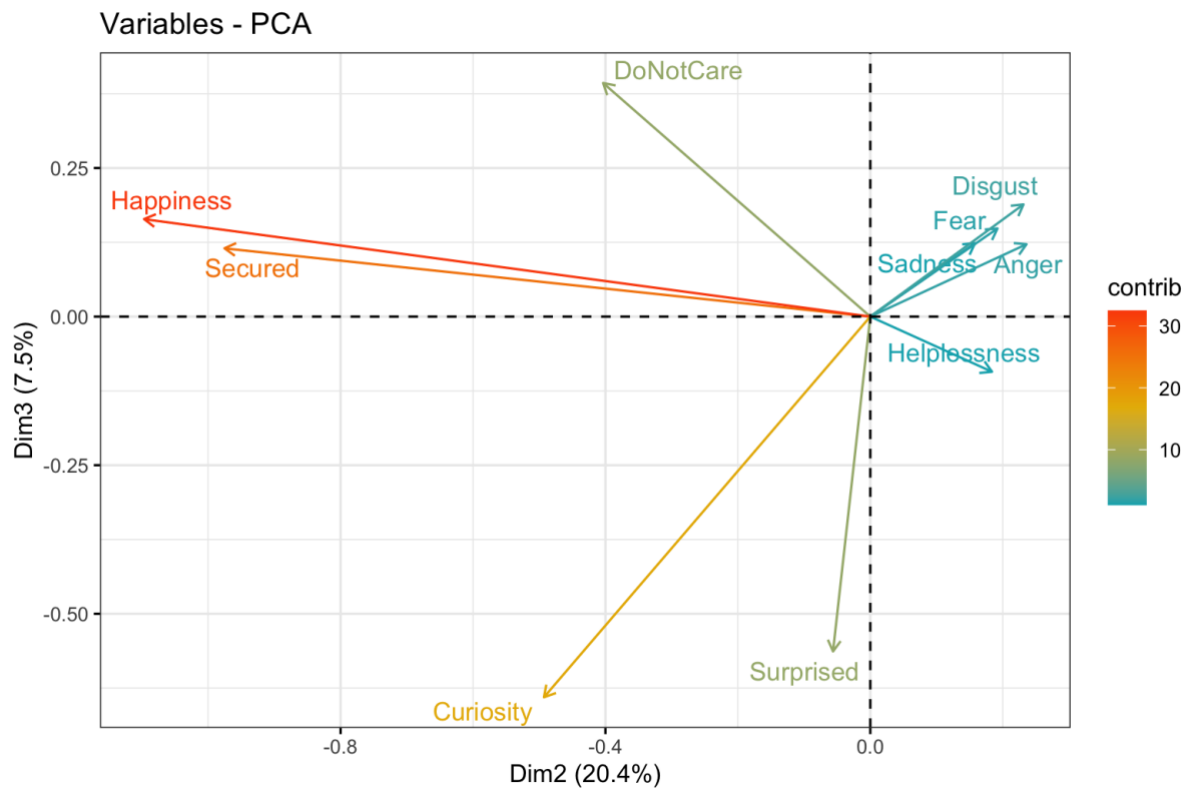


Figure C4.2 Biplot dimension 2 and 3



Appendix D Treatment effect

D.1 Average Treatment Effect

Table D1 Average treatment effect on emotions and public attitudes

Predictors	Emotional responses			Attitudinal responses	
	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Attitudes (fictitious)	Attitudes (real-life)
	Estimates	Estimates	Estimates	Estimates	Estimates
(Intercept)	0.397 *** (0.076)	-0.235 * (0.106)	-0.117 * (0.046)	14.667 *** (0.143)	15.036 *** (0.129)
Personalboth	-0.549 *** (0.107)	0.316 * (0.148)	0.174 ** (0.065)	-0.868 *** (0.202)	-0.224 (0.182)
PersonalCensor	-0.371 *** (0.106)	0.196 (0.146)	0.128 * (0.064)	-0.315 (0.199)	0.013 (0.179)
PersonalCensorPublicSurv	-0.487 *** (0.105)	0.184 (0.146)	0.183 ** (0.064)	-0.798 *** (0.198)	-0.248 (0.178)
PersonalSurv	-0.524 *** (0.106)	0.477 ** (0.146)	0.155 * (0.064)	-0.831 *** (0.199)	-0.538 ** (0.179)
PersonalSurvPublicCensor	-0.459 *** (0.106)	0.322 * (0.147)	0.114 (0.065)	-0.711 *** (0.199)	-0.210 (0.180)
PublicBoth	-0.374 *** (0.106)	0.241 (0.146)	0.025 (0.064)	-0.396 * (0.198)	-0.151 (0.179)
PublicCensor	-0.501 *** (0.107)	0.278 (0.148)	0.177 ** (0.065)	-0.440 * (0.201)	-0.238 (0.181)
PublicSurv	-0.285 ** (0.106)	0.091 (0.147)	0.089 (0.065)	-0.297 (0.200)	-0.112 (0.180)
Observations	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507
R ² / R ² adjusted	0.009 / 0.007	0.003 / 0.001	0.004 / 0.002	0.008 / 0.006	0.003 / 0.001

Note: Coefficients corresponding to Figure 2. * p<0.05, ** p<0.01, *** p<0.001.

D.2 Treatment effect (decomposed, without control)

Table D2 Main effect and interactions on emotions and public attitudes: without control

Predictors	Emotional responses						Attitudinal responses			
	Positive		Negative		Neutral		Attitude (fictitious)		Attitude (real-life)	
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
(Intercept)	0.226 *** (0.053)	0.397 *** (0.067)	-0.118 (0.077)	-0.235 * (0.105)	-0.048 (0.033)	-0.117 ** (0.044)	14.554 *** (0.098)	14.667 *** (0.125)	14.931 *** (0.092)	15.036 *** (0.122)
Surveillance [Personalized]	-0.219 *** (0.060)	-0.524 *** (0.102)	0.213 * (0.085)	0.477 ** (0.145)	0.046 (0.037)	0.155 * (0.061)	-0.553 *** (0.115)	-0.831 *** (0.189)	-0.250 * (0.103)	-0.538 ** (0.179)
Surveillance [Public]	-0.089 (0.059)	-0.285 ** (0.097)	0.012 (0.083)	0.091 (0.146)	-0.003 (0.037)	0.089 (0.064)	-0.246 * (0.110)	-0.297 (0.180)	-0.096 (0.101)	-0.112 (0.173)
Censorship [Personalized]	-0.196 ** (0.061)	-0.371 *** (0.097)	0.041 (0.084)	0.196 (0.147)	0.079 * (0.037)	0.128 * (0.064)	-0.283 * (0.113)	-0.315 (0.181)	0.065 (0.102)	0.013 (0.166)
Censorship [Public]	-0.169 ** (0.059)	-0.501 *** (0.099)	0.087 (0.083)	0.278 (0.148)	0.021 (0.036)	0.177 ** (0.063)	-0.133 (0.112)	-0.440 * (0.191)	0.022 (0.103)	-0.238 (0.178)
Surveillance [Personalized] × Censorship Personalized]		0.346 * (0.148)		-0.357 (0.209)		-0.109 (0.090)		0.278 (0.279)		0.301 (0.250)
Surveillance [Public] × Censorship [Personalized]		0.169 (0.143)		-0.103 (0.204)		-0.034 (0.091)		-0.186 (0.264)		-0.148 (0.243)
Surveillance [Personalized] × Censorship [Public]		0.566 *** (0.145)		-0.433 * (0.205)		-0.218 * (0.088)		0.561 * (0.278)		0.567 * (0.253)
Surveillance [Public] × Censorship [Public]		0.412 ** (0.143)		-0.129 (0.206)		-0.240 ** (0.089)		0.341 (0.267)		0.200 (0.250)
Observations	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507	4507
R ² / R ² adjusted	0.005 / 0.005	0.009 / 0.007	0.002 / 0.001	0.003 / 0.001	0.002 / 0.001	0.004 / 0.002	0.006 / 0.006	0.008 / 0.006	0.001 / 0.001	0.003 / 0.001

Note: * p<0.05 ** p<0.01 *** p<0.001

D.3 Average treatment effect on discrete emotions

Figure D3.1 Average treatment effect on discrete emotions (Positive)

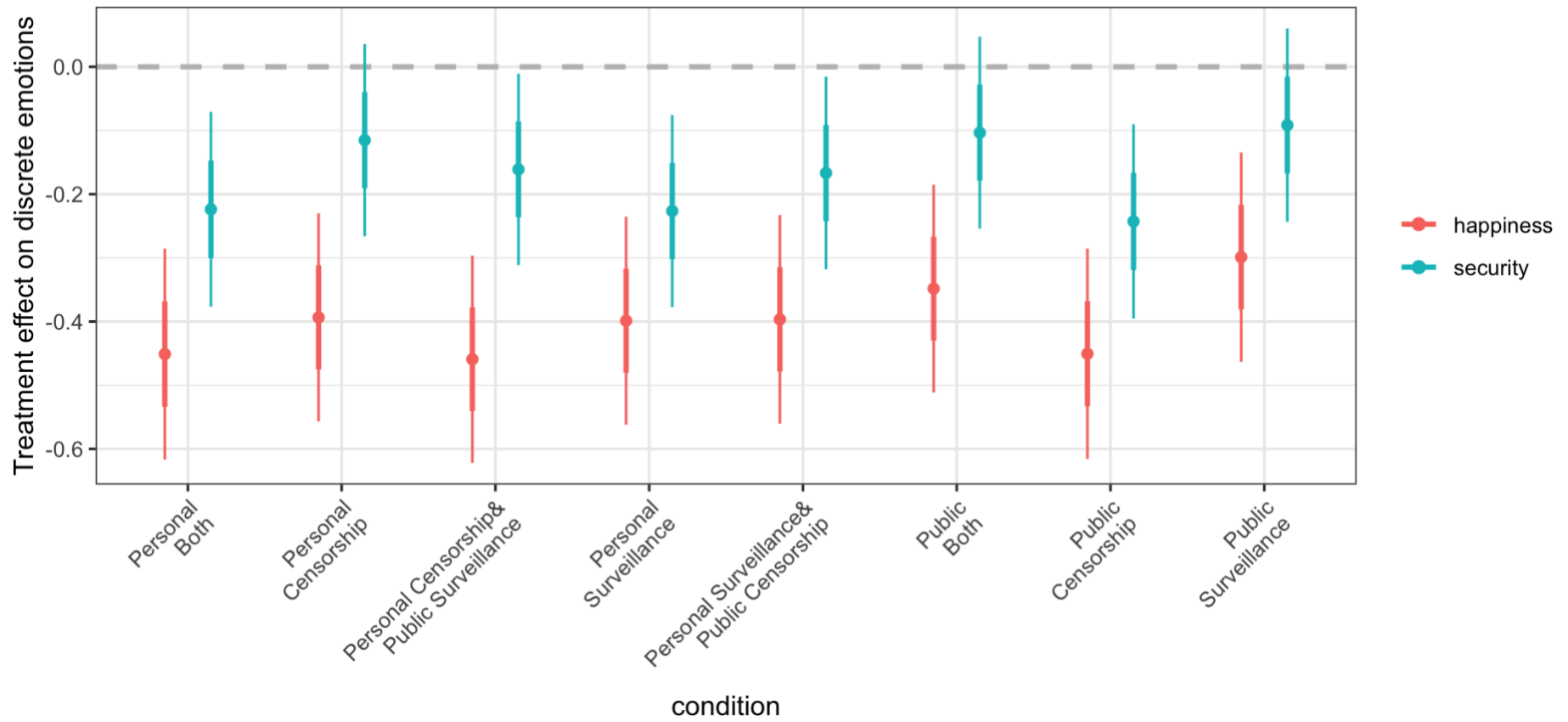


Figure D3.2 Average treatment effect on discrete emotions (Negative)

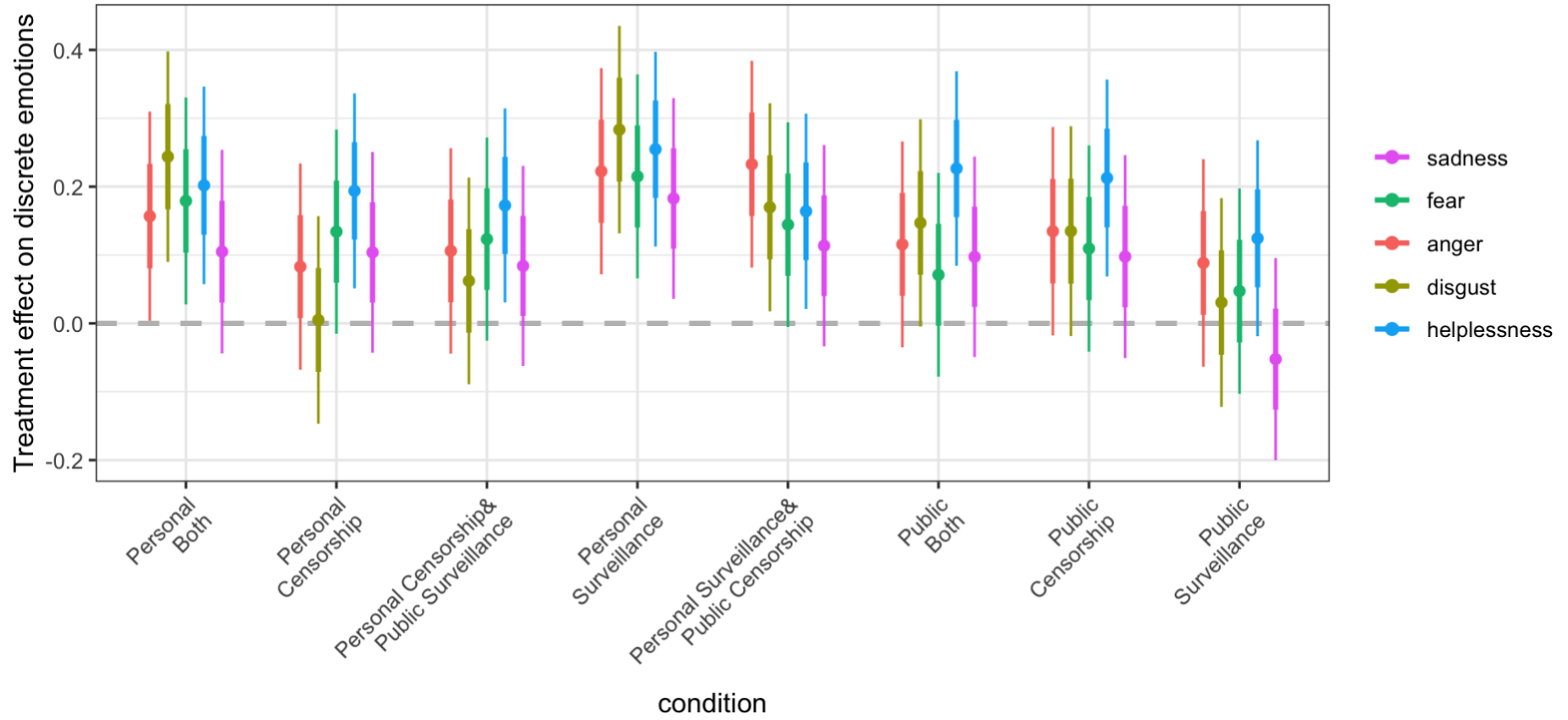
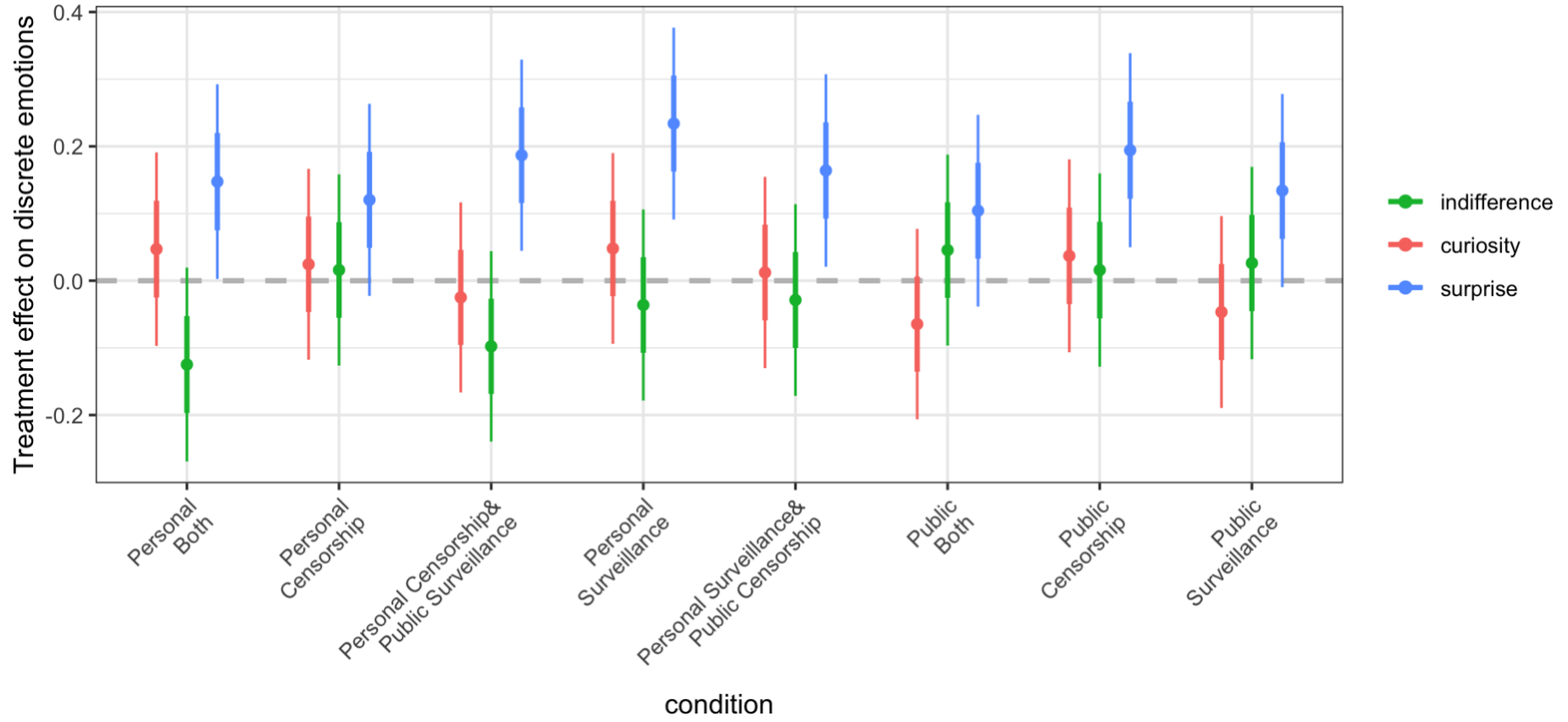


Figure D3.3 Average treatment effect on discrete emotions (Neutral)



D.4 Mediating effect

Table D4 Mediating effect of emotions on attitudes

	Effect	Public Surv	Public Both	Personal. Surv & Public Censor	Personal. Censor & Public Surv	Personal. Both	Public Censor	Personal. Censor	Personal. Surv
Negative emotions → fictitious scenario	ACME	-0.019 [-0.058, 0.015]	-0.028 [-0.068, 0.006]	-0.045 [-0.09, -0.009]	-0.029 [-0.071, 0.007]	-0.042 [-0.085, -0.004]	-0.041 [-0.082, -0.005]	-0.023 [-0.063, 0.01]	-0.063 [-0.112, -0.024]
	ADE	-0.299 [-0.616, -0.008]	-0.421 [-0.702, -0.124]	-0.697 [-1.009, -0.387]	-0.74 [-1.071, -0.402]	-0.879 [-1.193, -0.536]	-0.344 [-0.684, -0.013]	-0.377 [-0.68, -0.063]	-0.651 [-0.966, -0.336]
	Total Effect	-0.318 [-0.639, -0.028]	-0.449 [-0.733, -0.157]	-0.743 [-1.056, -0.43]	-0.769 [-1.105, -0.438]	-0.921 [-1.245, -0.583]	-0.384 [-0.723, -0.052]	-0.4 [-0.706, -0.084]	-0.715 [-1.031, -0.397]
	% Mediated	0.061	0.062	0.061	0.037	0.046	0.106	0.059	0.089
Negative emotion → real-life scenario	ACME	-0.019 [-0.054, 0.016]	-0.027 [-0.064, 0.007]	-0.044 [-0.084, -0.01]	-0.028 [-0.063, 0.006]	-0.041 [-0.079, -0.005]	-0.039 [-0.08, -0.004]	-0.023 [-0.057, 0.01]	-0.061 [-0.103, -0.024]
	ADE	-0.147 [-0.397, 0.091]	-0.135 [-0.395, 0.116]	-0.206 [-0.437, 0.055]	-0.223 [-0.493, 0.061]	-0.27 [-0.515, 0.028]	-0.149 [-0.41, 0.107]	-0.049 [-0.291, 0.198]	-0.349 [-0.612, -0.085]
	Total Effect	-0.166 [-0.417, 0.081]	-0.162 [-0.43, 0.083]	-0.25 [-0.484, 0.008]	-0.251 [-0.52, 0.023]	-0.311 [-0.554, -0.003]	-0.189 [-0.449, 0.065]	-0.072 [-0.316, 0.179]	-0.411 [-0.676, -0.142]
	% Mediated	0.114	0.166	0.176	0.111	0.131	0.209	0.317	0.149
Positive emotion → fictitious scenario	ACME	-0.18 [-0.305, -0.05]	-0.278 [-0.418, -0.145]	-0.301 [-0.438, -0.164]	-0.308 [-0.445, -0.172]	-0.381 [-0.513, -0.242]	-0.322 [-0.46, -0.188]	-0.276 [-0.401, -0.146]	-0.326 [-0.461, -0.19]
	ADE	-0.138 [-0.413, 0.166]	-0.171 [-0.468, 0.115]	-0.441 [-0.738, -0.126]	-0.461 [-0.771, -0.153]	-0.539 [-0.89, -0.216]	-0.062 [-0.377, 0.232]	-0.125 [-0.443, 0.162]	-0.388 [-0.656, -0.096]
	Total Effect	-0.318 [-0.598, -0.005]	-0.449 [-0.747, -0.146]	-0.743 [-1.072, -0.401]	-0.769 [-1.093, -0.444]	-0.921 [-1.26, -0.576]	-0.384 [-0.727, -0.061]	-0.4 [-0.724, -0.099]	-0.715 [-1.029, -0.376]
	% Mediated	0.565	0.618	0.406	0.4	0.414	0.838	0.688	0.457
Positive emotions → real-life scenario	ACME	-0.091 [-0.156, -0.032]	-0.14 [-0.206, -0.074]	-0.152 [-0.221, -0.081]	-0.155 [-0.222, -0.088]	-0.192 [-0.265, -0.12]	-0.162 [-0.233, -0.098]	-0.139 [-0.205, -0.076]	-0.165 [-0.241, -0.092]
	ADE	-0.075 [-0.325, 0.181]	-0.022 [-0.257, 0.233]	-0.098 [-0.342, 0.171]	-0.095 [-0.341, 0.159]	-0.119 [-0.387, 0.131]	-0.026 [-0.285, 0.245]	0.067 [-0.187, 0.3]	-0.246 [-0.52, 0.01]
	Total Effect	-0.166 [-0.425, 0.104]	-0.162 [-0.401, 0.096]	-0.25 [-0.488, 0.024]	-0.251 [-0.499, 0.018]	-0.311 [-0.581, -0.062]	-0.189 [-0.454, 0.082]	-0.072 [-0.318, 0.168]	-0.411 [-0.681, -0.148]
	% Mediated	0.547	0.863	0.609	0.619	0.618	0.861	1.934	0.401

Note: estimates are OLS regressions with 18 covariates. Upper and lower bounds using 95% confidence intervals are in parentheses.

D.5 Treatment effect heterogeneity

In the main analysis, we show that the exposure to information revealing the intrusive nature of digital control instruments, regardless of the type and their combination, all lead to an increase in negative emotions, deterioration of positive emotions (Hypothesis 1), and a decrease in attitudes toward government use of digital technologies (Hypothesis 2). To further explore how treatment effects vary among different subgroups and/or individuals, we analyzed heterogeneous treatment effects (HTE) using causal forest, a non-parametric machine-learning approach ([Athey, Tibshirani, and Wager 2019](#)). Compared to traditional methods for HTE, such as regression-based interactions, causal forest is flexible and suitable for estimating conditional average treatment effects (CATEs) across high-dimensional covariates with confidence intervals via honest trees (sample splitting) ([Wager and Athey 2018](#)). Given that our study contains eight treatment conditions, one control condition, and multiple emotional and attitudinal outcomes, as well as a number of 18 covariates, we opted for the multi-arm/multi-outcome causal forest method, which was designed to handle this design. [Table D5](#) shows the measure of importance each covariate contributes to the prediction, based on the frequency and effectiveness (i.e., reduction in prediction error) the specific covariate is used in splitting across the trees. The scores indicate that a large proportion of the variation of treatment effects on emotions and attitudes is attributed to age, personality traits such as openness and conscientiousness, personal values such as conservation, and political orientation such as liberalism and nationalism.

Table D5 Variable importance from multi-arm causal forest

Covariates	Positive	Negative	Neutral	Fictive	Real
age	0.080	0.118	0.104	0.078	0.112
gender	0.010	0.014	0.012	0.011	0.013
education	0.038	0.010	0.091	0.033	0.030
ethnicity	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
monthly income	0.019	0.053	0.036	0.020	0.043
CCP membership	0.006	0.008	0.015	0.004	0.013
rural	0.000	0.001	0.003	0.002	0.010
overseas experience	0.050	0.014	0.011	0.023	0.013
nationalism	0.059	0.076	0.052	0.039	0.075
liberalism	0.037	0.125	0.068	0.303	0.106
vpn savvy	0.003	0.023	0.007	0.006	0.009
foreign source consumption	0.033	0.065	0.062	0.027	0.047
conservation	0.231	0.115	0.067	0.063	0.168
openness	0.083	0.059	0.092	0.079	0.052
conscientiousness	0.214	0.046	0.113	0.147	0.144
neuroticism	0.040	0.101	0.059	0.034	0.042
extraversion	0.026	0.036	0.085	0.047	0.039
agreeableness	0.021	0.054	0.064	0.036	0.030
life satisfaction	0.051	0.082	0.059	0.049	0.057

Note: the top five most influential covariates in prediction for each treatment effect are marked in bold.

Relevant HTE to the experiment

In the original experiment, one basic assumption is that the awareness or knowledge of digital control is deemed comparable across all experimental conditions through randomization. However, different pre-existing knowledge of or experiences with digital surveillance and censorship could still affect respondents exposed to the same treatment condition in a different way. Previous research suggests that such pre-existing knowledge and experiences are often associated with one's education level and communist party affiliation ([Guriev and Treisman 2020](#); [Xu, Kostka, and Cao 2022](#)). In addition, relevant knowledge and experiences can be shaped by other factors such as age, VPN savviness, consumption of foreign information, and overseas experiences. [Figure D5.1-D5.4](#) show the results of heterogeneous treatment effects across the selected covariates using multi-arm causal forest method.

Overall, treatment effects of all types of digital control on positive emotions vary significantly across education level, age, overseas experiences, and consumption of foreign sources. Respondents who receive higher degrees, with overseas experiences, and more actively consume foreign information reported a much *stronger decrease* in positive emotions than respondents with

lower degrees, who never traveled abroad, and who consume little to no first-hand foreign sources. Similarly, non-CCP members and people who often use VPN also show slightly stronger responses in sinking positive feelings. Treatment effects on public attitudes toward state digital practices exhibit similar patterns to the ones on positive emotions ([Figure D5.4-D5.5](#))

Notably, across all emotional and attitudinal outcomes, the general trend indicates that the older the respondents, the milder the treatment effects. Older respondents retain more positive emotions and fewer negative emotions, while showing more favorable attitudes toward digital governance compared to younger respondents. Interestingly, respondents aged 30-35 reported the strongest decrease in positive sentiment and attitudes (fictitious scenario) after exposure to the treatments. The results suggest that, as the generation who grew up with the creation and expansion of digital control, the Chinese Millennials (those who were born in the 80s and 90s) remain a critical population group relative to their younger and older counterpart.

Treatment effects of all types of digital control on negative emotions vary, particularly along the consumption level of foreign information. [Figure D5.2](#) suggests that people who actively search for foreign sources tend to be less receptive or sensitive to the treatment in terms of an increase in negative emotions than people who have never been exposed to foreign sources. This suggests that frequent consumption of foreign information may have informed people about the repressive potential of digital control, therefore preventing them from developing negative feelings when encountering similar messages again.

Figure D5.1 Heterogeneous treatment effect on positive emotions

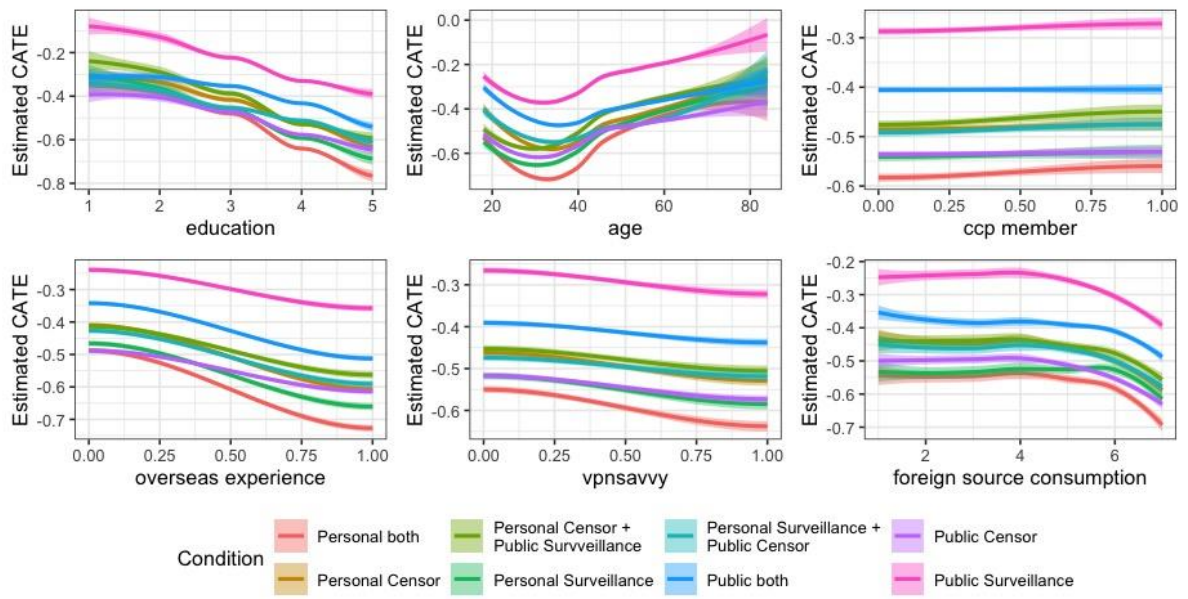


Figure D5.2 Heterogeneous treatment effect on negative emotions

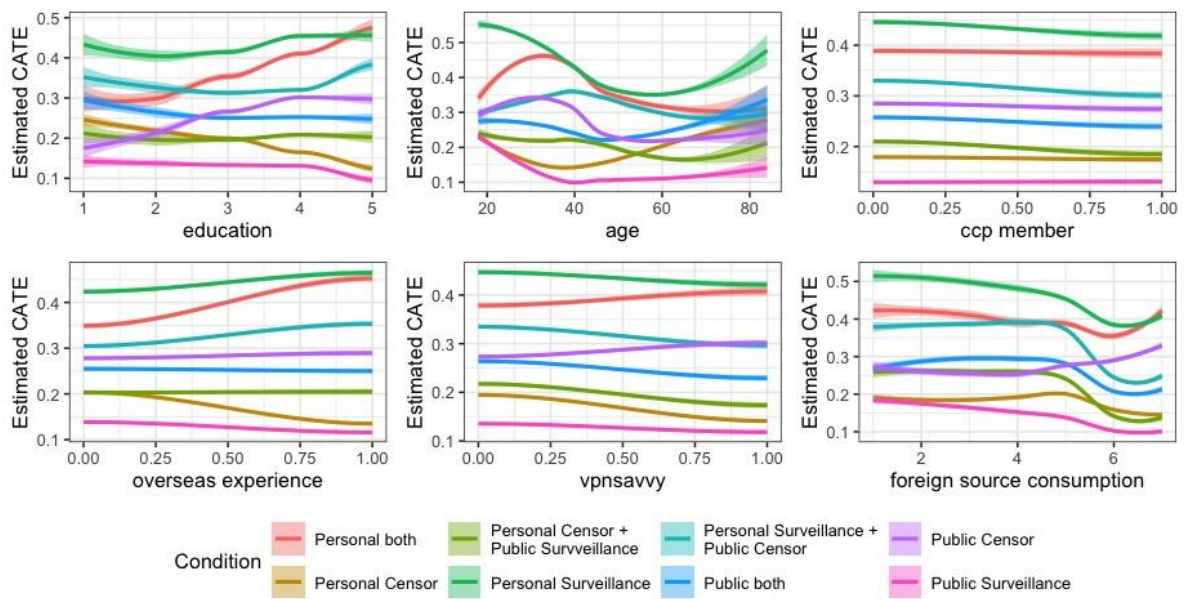


Figure D5.3 Heterogeneous treatment effect on neutral emotions

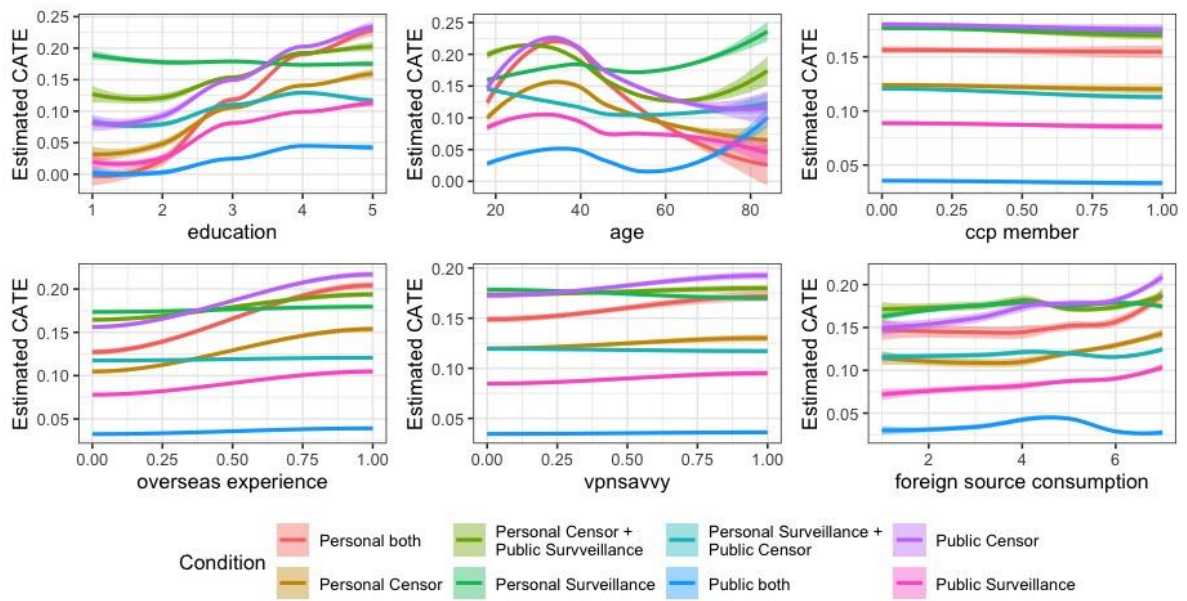


Figure D5.4 Heterogeneous treatment effect on public attitudes towards digital governance (fictitious scenario)

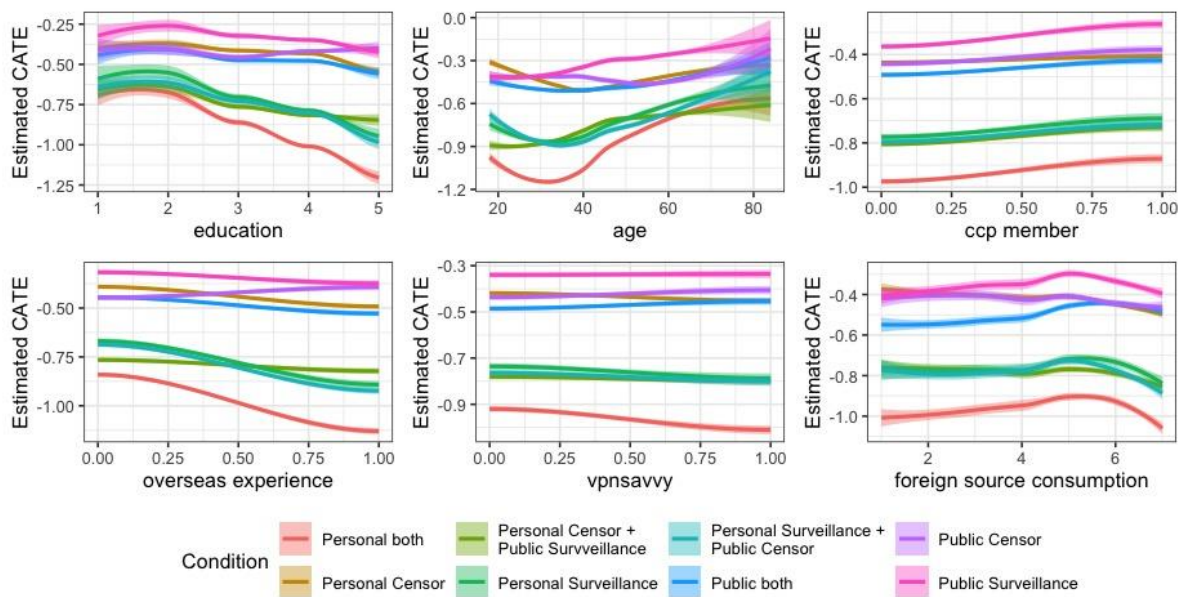
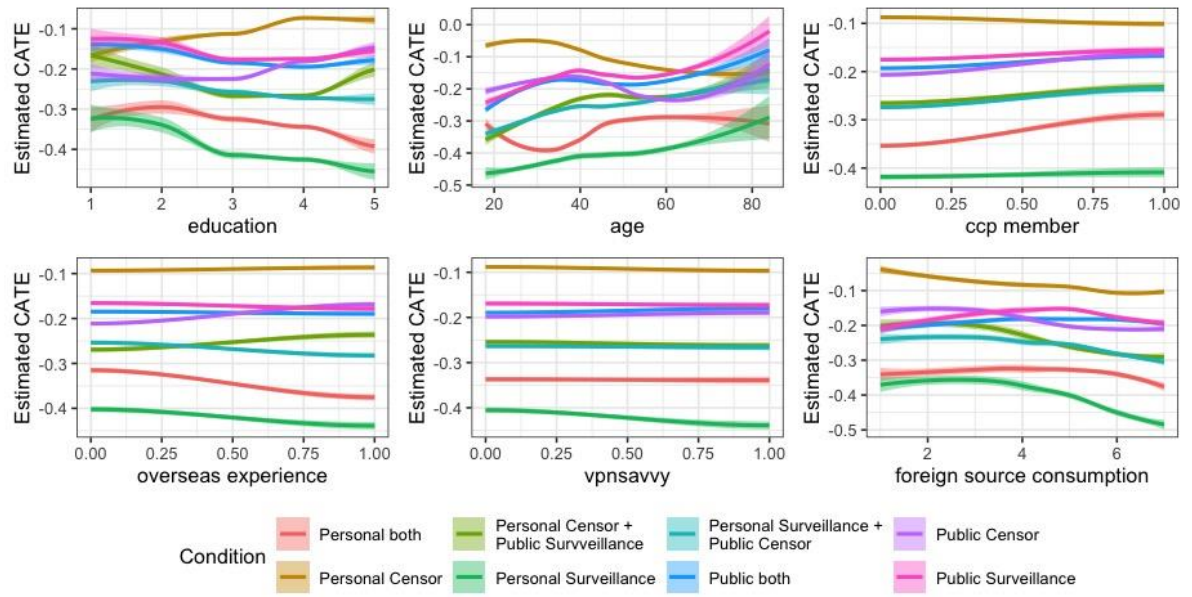


Figure D5.5 Heterogeneous treatment effect on public attitudes towards digital governance (real-life scenario)



Appendix E Survey questionnaire

English translation of the Chinese version

Section 0: Screener

[Age] Q1. How old are you?

Open answer

[Gender] Q2. Which gender, if any, do you identify with?

- Male
- Female
- Others

[Location/Province] Q3. In which province is your current long-term residence located?

Selecting from a drop-down list of all provincial-level administrative divisions

Section I: Covariates

[Topics of interest] Q4. How much are you interested in the following topics?

Please rate 1 = "Not interested at all" - 5 = "extremely interested"

Economics and development	<input type="radio"/> Not interested at all <input type="radio"/> a little interested <input type="radio"/> moderately interested <input type="radio"/> quite interested <input type="radio"/> extremely interested
Politics and current affairs	<input type="radio"/> Not interested at all <input type="radio"/> a little interested <input type="radio"/> moderately interested <input type="radio"/> quite interested <input type="radio"/> extremely interested
Science and technologies	<input type="radio"/> Not interested at all <input type="radio"/> a little interested <input type="radio"/> moderately interested <input type="radio"/> quite interested <input type="radio"/> extremely interested

[Overseas Experiences] Q5. Have you ever visited any place outside the Chinese mainland? If so, how long in total?

- I have never been anywhere outside the Chinese mainland
- Several days or weeks
- Several months
- Up to 2 years
- Up to 5 years
- Over 5 years

Branch if the answer to Q5 is NOT "I have never been to anywhere outside the Chinese mainland", then

5a). Please specify which country or region outside the Chinese mainland you have visited for the longest period of time?

[open text]

[Media use I] Q6 Do you actively search for information or reports directly from abroad (i.e., reports not reprinted by the Chinese media)? If so, how often?

- almost everyday
- three or four times a week
- once or twice a week
- once or twice a month
- once or twice a year
- only once or twice in my life
- Never

[Media use II/VPN savvy] Q7. How familiar are you with virtual private network, aka VPN?

- Not familiar at all, never heard about it
- Not familiar at all, but heard about it
- Slightly familiar
- Quite familiar
- Very familiar

[Media use III] Q8. When browsing information online, how often do you express yourself by commenting, reposting or giving "likes"?

- Never
- Seldom
- Sometimes
- Often

Branch if answer to Q8 is NOT “Never”, then

8a) Compared to the last five to ten years, is there any change in the frequency of your commenting, reposting or giving “likes” online?

- Significantly increased
- Somewhat increased
- Stayed the same
- Somewhat decreased
- Significantly decreased

[Political Efficacy] Q9. From your personal perspective, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please rate 1 = “strongly disagree” - 5 = “strongly agree”

Internal efficacy

- | | |
|---|--|
| - I have the confidence to take active part in a discussion about political issues. | ○ Strongly disagree ○ Disagree ○ Neither disagree nor agree ○ Agree ○ Strongly agree |
| - I am good at understanding and assessing important political issues. | ○ Strongly disagree ○ Disagree ○ Neither disagree nor agree ○ Agree ○ Strongly agree |

External efficacy

- | | |
|--|--|
| - I think that government officials will attach importance to citizens’ attitudes and views. | ○ Strongly disagree ○ Disagree ○ Neither disagree nor agree ○ Agree ○ Strongly agree |
| - I think that suggestions to the government will be adopted. | ○ Strongly disagree ○ Disagree ○ Neither disagree nor agree ○ Agree ○ Strongly agree |

[Political Ideology/Nationalism] Q10. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please rate 1 = “strongly disagree” - 5 = “strongly agree”

- Force should be used to reunify our country if conditions permit.
- China can unilaterally impose economic and trade sanctions against other countries, as long as the sanctions advance the national interest.
- The government ought to put as strong an emphasis on developing its military as it does on developing the economy.
- Unless China becomes stronger, foreign countries will attempt to bully China.
- I am very proud to be a Chinese.

[Political Ideology/Liberalism] Q11. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please rate 1 = “strongly disagree” - 5 = “strongly agree”

- In order to maintain national stability, personal freedom can be sacrificed. (reverse)
- First come individuals, then the country; therefore, individuals are more important than the country.
- Two or multiparty systems are unsuitable for China in its current state. (reverse)
- The government ought not to go after those who criticize the government on the Internet as long as they are not smearing the government, even if their speech contains falsehoods.
- The state ought to interfere with the individual’s decision to have a child, or how many children to have. (reverse)

[Personal Value/Conservation] Q12. Now we will briefly describe some people. Please read each description and tell me how much each person is or is not like you.

Please rate 1 = Very much like me, 2 = Like me, 3 = Somewhat like me, 4 = A little like me, 5 = Not like me, 6 = Not like me at all

- It is important to him/her to be humble and modest. He/she tries not to draw attention to himself/herself.
-

-
- Tradition is important to him/her. He/she tries to follow the customs handed down by his/her culture or his/her family.
 - It is important to him/her to live in secure surroundings. He/she avoids anything that might endanger his/her safety.
 - It is important to him/her that the government ensures his/her safety against all threats. He/she wants the state to be strong so it can defend its citizens.
 - He/she believes that people should do what they're told. He/she thinks people should follow rules at all times, even when no one is watching.
 - It is important for him/her to always behave properly. He/she wants to avoid doing anything people would say is wrong.
-

[Personality Traits] Q13. To what extent do the following statements apply to you?

Please rate 1=not applies at all = 5=fully applies

- I see myself as someone who has an active imagination.
 - I see myself as someone who has few artistic interests. (reversed)
 - I see myself as someone who does a thorough job.
 - I see myself as someone who tends to be lazy. (reversed)
 - I see myself as someone who is generally trusting
 - I see myself as someone who tends to find fault with others. (reversed)
 - I see myself as someone who gets nervous easily.
 - I see myself as someone who is relaxed, handles stress well. (reversed)
 - I see myself as someone who is outgoing, sociable.
 - I see myself as someone who is reserved. (reversed)
-

[Life satisfaction] Q14. How satisfied are you with your life, in general?

Please rate

0 Extremely unsatisfied - **10** Very satisfied

[Attention check] Please insert your age: *open answer*

Section II: Experiment Treatment

(see Appendix B Table B2 for details)

Section III: Outcome Variables

[Emotion reaction] Q15. If you were Xiao Zhang, to which extent would you feel the following emotions if you experienced the same situation described in the text? (*Random order*)

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| - Sadness | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Anger | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Disgust | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Fear/Worry | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Helpless/resigned | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - I don't care | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Happy | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Secured | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Curious | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
| - Surprised | <input type="radio"/> Almost none <input type="radio"/> a little <input type="radio"/> moderately <input type="radio"/> quite a bit <input type="radio"/> extremely |
-

[Emotion reaction additional] Q15a. Are there any other feelings that occurred to you that were not listed above? Please specify what it is and how strong you felt.

- No, all my feelings are listed above
- Yes, they are _____

[Attitude fictitious] Q16. Regarding the vignette you just read, we would like to know your opinions on the following questions.

- If you were Xiao Zhang, how much could you **understand** the situation described?
Please rate 1 (Cannot understand at all) – 5 (Fully understand)
- If you were Xiao Zhang, how much could you **accept** the situation?
Please rate 1 (Not accepting at all) – 5 (Fully accepting)
- If you were Xiao Zhang, how **satisfied** would you be with the situation?

Please rate 1 (Very unsatisfied) – 5 (Very satisfied)

- If you were Xiao Zhang, how much would you **support** the situation?

Please rate 1 (Not supporting at all) – 5 (Strongly supporting)

[Attitude real-life] Q17. Now we'd like to know your opinions toward the following statements.

- Overall, how much do you **understand** the government's social information collection and management through digital technologies in the past five to ten years?

Please rate 1 (Cannot understand at all) – 5 (Fully understand)

- Overall, how much do you **accept** the government's social information collection and management through digital technologies in the past five to ten years?

Please rate 1 (Not accepting at all) – 5 (Fully accepting)

- Overall, how much are you **satisfied** with the government's social information collection and management through digital technologies in the past five to ten years?

Please rate 1 (Very unsatisfied) – 5 (Very satisfied)

- Overall, how much do you **support** the government's social information collection and management through digital technologies in the past five to ten years?

Please rate 1 (Not supporting at all) – 5 (Strongly supporting)

[Censorship experiences] Q18. Have you ever experienced being deleted banned or blocked?

- Yes
- No

Branch if the answer to Q18 is yes, then

18a) In which of the following situations have you experienced deletion, ban or blocking, please select all that apply:

- Political sensitive
- Posting advertisement
- Sharing external links
- Collective actions
- Incivility
- Copyright infringement and piracy
- Others, please specify _____

[Privacy attitude I] Q19. To which extent do you agree or disagree with the following attitudes?

- | | |
|--|--|
| - There are two sides of using digital technologies. Individual freedom and privacy on the one hand, public safety and interests on the other. Advances in digital technology mean that the former needs to be sacrificed. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |
| - In our country individuals have little privacy to speak of. I can do nothing but accept the reality. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |
| - Privacy is important to me no matter what. I take measures to protect my privacy if necessary. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |
| - I am an ordinary person (laobaixing), a law-abiding citizen, therefore I have nothing to hide. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |

[privacy attitude II] Q20. To which extent do you agree or disagree with the following attitudes?

- | | |
|---|--|
| - I trust our government. If government agencies track and collect information about me, I am willing to cooperate. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |
| - I don't trust businesses. They are trying very hard to get my information and violate my privacy. | <input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree <input type="radio"/> Disagree <input type="radio"/> Neither disagree nor agree <input type="radio"/> Agree <input type="radio"/> Strongly agree |

Section IV: Demographic, socio-economic variables

[Location Type] Q21. Which of the following types does your current long-term residence belong to?

- Provincial capitals/subprovincial-level cities/municipalities
- Prefectural-level cities
- County level

- Township level
- Village level

[Education] Q22. What is the highest level of education you received or are about to complete?

- Primary education or less
- Junior secondary education or equivalent
- Senior secondary education or equivalent
- Undergraduate or equivalent
- Postgraduate and above

[Income] Q23. What is your monthly income (CNY), including salaries, bonuses, after deducting taxation and social security?

- < 500
- 500 – 1k
- 1k – 2k
- 2k– 3k
- 3k – 5k
- 5k – 8k
- 8k – 12k
- 12k – 20k
- 20k – 50k
- >50k

[Financial situation] Q24. How has your personal economic and financial situation changed in the last one to two years?

- Gotten much better
- Gotten somewhat better
- Stayed about the same
- Gotten somewhat worse
- Gotten much worse

[Ethnicity] Q25. Are you Han or an ethnic minority?

- I am Han
- I am an ethnic minority

[CCP member] Q26. Are you a member of the Chinese Communist Party?

- Yes
- No

Original Chinese version
第零部分：筛选条件

[年龄]1.您的年龄是？

[开放式]

[性别]2.请选择您的性别:

- 男性
- 女性
- 其他

[地理位置]3. 您的长期居住地隶属以下哪个省或直辖市？

[选择省份]

第一部分：协变量

[兴趣话题]4.您对下列话题是否感兴趣？

请打分 1 = 毫无兴趣 - 5 = 极度感兴趣

经济与发展	<input type="radio"/> 毫无兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 少许感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 比较感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 相当感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 极度感兴趣
政治与时事	<input type="radio"/> 毫无兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 少许感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 比较感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 相当感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 极度感兴趣
科学与技术	<input type="radio"/> 毫无兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 少许感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 比较感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 相当感兴趣	<input type="radio"/> 极度感兴趣

[海外经历]5.您是否曾经到访过中国内地之外的地方，如果有，总共多长时间？

- 我从未到过中国内地之外的地方
- 几天或几周
- 几个月
- 不超过两年
- 不超过五年
- 超过五年

分支问题：如果 5 当中“我从未到过中国内地以外的地方”没有被选,则显示该问题.

5a).请列出您到访过时间最久的国家或地区（除中国内地之外）。

[开放式文本]

[媒体使用 1]6.您平时会主动查阅来自国外的消息或新闻报道吗（不包括国内媒体的引用或转述），如果会，有多经常呢？

- 几乎每天
- 一周三四次
- 一周一两次
- 一个月一两次
- 一年一两次
- 至今只关注过一两次
- 从未关注过

[媒体使用 2/VPN 熟练度]7. 您熟悉虚拟专用网络或虚拟私人网络（又名 VPN）吗？

- 完全不熟悉，从未听说过
- 完全不熟悉，但听说过
- 略有了解
- 比较熟悉
- 非常熟悉

[媒体使用 3]8.当您在网络上浏览信息时，您多经常通多评论、转发或点赞来表达您的观点喜好？

- 从来没有
- 很少

- 偶尔
- 经常

分支问题：如果 8 中的“从来没有”没有被选，则显示以下问题：

8a) 和过去五到十年间相比，您评论、转发或者点赞的频率有何变化？

- 明显变多
- 相对变多
- 保持不变
- 相对减少
- 明显减少

[政治效能感]9.从您自身的角度出发，您多大程度上同意或反对以下论述？

请打分 1 = 强烈反对 - 5 = 强烈同意

内部效能感

我有信心积极参加关于政治问题的讨论。 ○ 强烈反对 ○ 反对 ○ 既不反对也不同意 ○ 同意 ○ 强烈同意
 我善于理解和评估重要的政治议题。 ○ 强烈反对 ○ 反对 ○ 既不反对也不同意 ○ 同意 ○ 强烈同意

外部效能感

我认为政府官员会重视公民的态度和意见。 ○ 强烈反对 ○ 反对 ○ 既不反对也不同意 ○ 同意 ○ 强烈同意
 我觉得向政府提出的建议会被采纳。 ○ 强烈反对 ○ 反对 ○ 既不反对也不同意 ○ 同意 ○ 强烈同意

[政治意识形态/民族主义]10.您在多大程度上同意或反对以下论述？

请打分 1 = 强烈反对 - 5 = 强烈同意

- 如果条件允许，应使用武力实现祖国统一。
- 只要能促进国家利益，中国可以单方面对其他国家实施经济和贸易制裁。
- 政府应该像重视经济发展一样重视军事发展。
- 除非中国变得强大，否则外国将试图欺压中国。
- 作为一个中国人，我感到非常自豪。

[政治意识形态/自由主义]11.您在多大程度上同意或反对以下论述？

请打分 1 = 强烈反对 - 5 = 强烈同意

- 为了维护国家稳定，可以牺牲个人自由。
- 首先是个人，然后是国家，因此个人比国家更重要。
- 两党制或多党制不适合中国的现状。
- 政府不应该抓捕那些在互联网上批评政府的人，只要他们不是在抹黑政府，即使他们的言论含有虚假成分。
- 国家应该影响个人是否生育以及生几胎的决定。

[个人价值]12.现在我们会简要地描述一类人。请阅读每一段描述，并评判这样的人在多大程度上和您有相似性。

请打分 1 = 非常像我, 2 = 像我, 3 = 有些像我, 4 = 略微像我, 5 = 不像我, 6 = 完全不像我

- 对他来说谦逊温和很重要。他试图不引起别人的注意。
- 对他来说传统是重要的。他试图保持自己从文化或者家庭得来的风俗习惯。
- 对他来说，生活在安全的环境中很重要。他回避任何可能危及安全的事情。
- 对他来说，政府确保他的安全以防范所有威胁很重要。他希望国家强大能够保护自己的公民。
- 他认为人们应该听从指挥。他觉得人们即便在没有他人在场的情况下也应时刻遵守规则。
- 他认为举止得体很重要。他尽量避免做那些人们认为不对的事情

[人格特质]13.以下论述在多大程度上适用于您本人？

请打分 1 = 完全不符合 - 5 = 完全符合

我认为自己是一个拥有活跃想象力的人。
 我认为自己是一个没有什么艺术兴趣的人。
 我认为自己是一个做事很仔细周到的人。
 我认为自己是一个倾向于偷懒的人。
 我认为自己是一个总体上信任他人的人。
 我认为自己是一个善于发现他人不足的人。
 我认为自己是一个容易紧张的人。
 我认为自己是一个放松的人，能很好地处理压力。

我认为自己是一个外向的人，善于交际。
我认为自己是一个拘谨的人。

[生活满意度]14.您对您的生活总体上满意吗？

请打分

0 极度不满 - 10 极度满意

[注意力检测]请您再次输入年龄：[开放式]

第二部分：实验

(see Appendix B Table B2 for details)

第三部分：结果变量

[情绪反应]15.如果您是短文中的小张，在遇到短文中的情况时，您多大程度上会有以下感受？

随机顺序

- | | | | | | |
|-------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| - 伤心 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 愤怒 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 厌恶 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 害怕 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 无奈 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 无所谓 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 快乐 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 安全 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 好奇 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |
| - 惊讶 | <input type="radio"/> 几乎没有 | <input type="radio"/> 有一点 | <input type="radio"/> 适度 | <input type="radio"/> 相当 | <input type="radio"/> 极度 |

[其它情绪反应]15a).当您在阅读短文时，您是否还有其它上述并未提及的感受？如有，请描述它以及所感受到的程度。

没有，以上已涵盖我的所有感受

有的，它（们）是_____

[公众态度：假设情境]16.同样基于刚刚您阅读的短文，我们想了解您对以下问题的看法。

-
- 如果您是小张，您是否能**理解**所遇到的情况？
请打分 1分（完全不能理解）- 5分（完全理解）
- 如果您是小张，您多大程度上**接受**所遇到的情况？
请打分 1分（完全不能接受）- 5分（完全可以接受）
- 如果您是小张，您对所处情况的**满意**程度是多少？
请打分 1分（非常不满意）- 5分（非常满意）
- 如果您是小张，您是否**支持**所处情况？
请打分 1分（非常反对）- 5分（非常支持）
-

[公众态度：真实情境]17.现在我们像了解您对以下问题的看法。

-
- 总的来说，您是否能**理解**政府在过去五到十年间通过科技手段进行的社会信息收集与管理？
请打分 1分（完全不理解）- 5分（完全理解）
- 总的来说，您是否能**接受**政府在过去五到十年间通过科技手段进行的社会信息收集与管理？
请打分 1分（完全不能接受）- 5分（完全可以接受）
- 总的来说，您对政府在过去五到十年间通过科技手段进行的社会信息收集与管理是否**满意**？
请打分 1分（非常不满意）- 5分（非常满意）
- 总的来说，您是否**支持**政府在过去五到十年间通过科技手段进行的社会信息收集管理？
请打分 1分（非常不支持）- 5分（非常支持）
-

[审查经历]18.您本人是否有过被删帖、禁言或者封号的经历？

- 遇到过
- 没有

分支问题：如果 Q18 选择“遇到过”，则显示下列问题

18a).请问您在什么情况下有遇到过删帖、禁言或者封号，请选择所有适用选项？

政治话题

- 发布广告
- 分享外部链接
- 集体行动
- 使用不文明用语
- 发布有版权争议的内容
- 其他，请注明_____

[隐私态度 1]19.您在多大程度上同意或反对以下态度?

- 数字科技的使用有两面性。一方面是个人的自由和隐私，另一方面是公共安全和利益。数字科技的进步意味着需要牺牲前者。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意
- 在我们国家个人没有什么隐私可言，我什么都做不了只能接受现实。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意
- 无论如何隐私对我来说都很重要，必要情况下我会采取措施保护自己的隐私。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意
- 我是一个普通老百姓、一个守法公民，因此没有什么需要隐瞒的。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意

[隐私态度 2]20.您在多大程度上同意或反对以下态度?

- 我相信咱们的政府，只要是政府机构追踪搜集我的信息，我都愿意配合。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意
- 我不信任企业，它们现在都在想方设法地获取我的信息，侵犯我的隐私。 强烈反对 反对 既不反对也不同意 同意 强烈同意

第四部分：人口社会经济变量

[位置类型]21.您的居住地属于以下哪一级别行政区?

- 省会城市/副省级城市/直辖市
- 地级市
- 县
- 镇
- 村

[教育水平]22.您目前拥有的或正在攻读的最高学历是?

- 小学学历或更低
- 初中及类似学历
- 高中及类似学历
- 本科及类似学历（含专科）
- 研究生及以上学历

[收入水平]23.您的税后月收入水平如何（包括工资福利）?

- < 500
- 500 – 1000
- 1000 – 2000
- 2000 – 3000
- 3000 – 5000
- 5000 – 8000
- 8000 – 12000
- 12000 – 20000
- 20000 – 50000
- >50000

[经济情况]24.在过去一两年间您的个人财务状况有什么变化?

- 改善很多
- 有些改善

- 保持不变
- 有些恶化
- 恶化很多

[民族身份] 25. 您是汉族还是少数民族？

- 汉族
- 少数民族

[是否党员] 26. 您是否是共产党员？

- 是
- 否

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