**Supplement**

**Table S1**

*The Four Levels in the Radicalise Game and the Manipulation Technique Each Level Represents*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Level 1: Identification | The first level of the game introduces the player to the game environment, the radical organization they ‘work’ for and its goals, and their role in this organization to recruit individuals for its cause. The level then proceeds to deliver on two key lessons: where and more importantly whom to recruit, focusing on the reasons commonly cited in literature leading to people becoming radicalized. Some of these reasons are related to motivational dynamics including a quest for identity, a search for purpose, and personal significance (Kruglanski et al., 2014; Thornton and Bouhana, 2017), the pursuit of adventure (Bartlett et al., 2010; Thornton and Bouhana, 2017), or circumstantial and environmental factors such as extended unemployment or disconnection from society due to incarceration, studying abroad, or isolation/marginalization (Bartlett et al., 2010; Doosje et al., 2016; Thornton and Bouhana, 2017). |
| Level 2: Gaining Trust | Following the identification level, the second level instructs players to start reaching out to their target for the purpose of gaining their trust through offering them acceptance and the promise of friendship (Euer et al., 2014). The objective of this level is to teach players how radical groups target vulnerable individuals when they feel uncertain by providing them with a sense of an in-group, motivating them to identify with the group and reducing their uncertainty by setting clear norms and values from this group (Doosje et al., 2016; Hogg et al., 2013). |
| Level 3: Isolation | Once the target’s trust has been gained, players must pursue the indoctrination of their target into the group’s ideology. The player is instructed to isolate the target from their old social environment by encouraging them to ‘break bridges’ with family and friends who do not belong to the group (Doosje et al., 2016). In the meantime, the player is asked to continue working on making the in-group more cohesive and strong (Stein, 2017; Swann et al., 2012). The game also introduces the player to a number of ‘catalysts’ that enforce quicker physical and psychological isolation for the target through bonding with the organization, culminating by asking the target to travel overseas to stay with at the premises of the organization (Precht, 2007).  |
| Level 4: Activation*(the finale)* | In the fourth and final level, the grooming process has gotten the target to a point of near perfect alignment with the organization’s ideology. In this level, the player experiences putting “the last nail in the coffin”, getting the player to make the target commit an act of violence as an *‘initiation ritual’* through exercising pressure and using a certain amount of coercion on the target (Doosje et al., 2016). |

**Table S2**

*Sample composition*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Variable** | *N* | *%* |
|  |  |  |
| **Gender** |  |  |
| Female | 165 | 56.7 % |
| Male | 126 | 43.3 % |
| Other | 0 | 0.00% |
|  |  |  |
| **Age** |  |  |
| 18 - 24 | 45 | 15.5 % |
| 25 - 34 | 96 | 33.0 % |
| 35 - 44 | 58 | 19.9 % |
| 45 - 54 | 55 | 18.9 % |
| 55 - 64 | 29 | 10.0 % |
| 65 - 84 | 8 | 2.8 % |
|  |  |  |
| **Education** |  |  |
| Less than high school | 6 | 2.1 % |
| High school graduate | 49 | 16.8 % |
| Some college | 62 | 21.3 % |
| 2 year degree | 24 | 8.2 % |
| 4 year degree | 91 | 31.3 % |
| Professional degree | 50 | 17.2 % |
| Doctorate | 9 | 3.1 % |
|  |  |  |
| **Employment status** |  |  |
| Employed full time | 148 | 50.9 % |
| Employed part time | 52 | 17.9 % |
| Unemployed looking for work | 18 | 6.2 % |
| Unemployed not looking for work | 29 | 10.0 % |
| Student | 15 | 5.2 % |
| Retired | 17 | 5.8 % |
| Disabled | 12 | 4.1 % |
|  |  |  |
| **Marital status** |  |  |
| Married | 109 | 37.5 % |
| Separated | 11 | 3.8 % |
| Divorced | 14 | 4.8 % |
| Never married | 155 | 53.3 % |
| Widowed | 2 | 0.7 % |
|  |  |  |
| **Racial background** |  |  |
| Asian | 11 | 3.8 % |
| Black | 10 | 3.4 % |
| White | 259 | 89.0 % |
| Other | 11 | 3.8 % |
|  |  |  |
| **Answer to "Do you think the state should provide financial benefits to the unemployed?"** |
| No | 34 | 11.7 % |
| Yes | 257 | 88.3 % |
|  |  |  |
|  | *M* | *SD* |
| **Other variables** |  |  |
| Trust in government (1-7) | 3.24 | 1.56 |
| Political ideology (1-7) | 2.69 | 1.04 |
| Concern about environment (1-7) | 5.52 | 1.30 |

**Table S3**

*Summary of Manipulativeness Measures (Per Group & Combined)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Control Group |  | Treatment Group |  | Combined |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) |  | (4) | (5) | (6) |  | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| VARIABLES | N | *M* | *SD* |  | N | *M* | *SD* |  | N | *M* | *SD* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Pre-Gameplay** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *WhatsApp Messages*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activation 1 | 156 | 5.699 | 1.267 |  | 135 | 5.822 | 1.105 |  | 291 | 5.756 | 1.194 |
| Activation 2 | 156 | 6.288 | 0.964 |  | 135 | 6.230 | 1.043 |  | 291 | 6.261 | 1.000 |
| GainTrust 1 | 156 | 4.596 | 1.573 |  | 135 | 4.326 | 1.615 |  | 291 | 4.471 | 1.596 |
| GainTrust 2 | 156 | 5.141 | 1.425 |  | 135 | 5.289 | 1.403 |  | 291 | 5.210 | 1.414 |
| Isolation 1 | 156 | 5.712 | 1.441 |  | 135 | 5.733 | 1.356 |  | 291 | 5.722 | 1.400 |
| Isolation 2 | 156 | 5.269 | 1.469 |  | 135 | 5.444 | 1.342 |  | 291 | 5.351 | 1.412 |
| *Vignettes*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 116 | 4.241 | 1.564 |  | 101 | 4.208 | 1.564 |  | 217 | 4.226 | 1.560 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 112 | 2.920 | 1.421 |  | 97 | 3.237 | 1.345 |  | 209 | 3.067 | 1.392 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 119 | 4.471 | 1.578 |  | 103 | 4.553 | 1.447 |  | 222 | 4.509 | 1.515 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 126 | 3.929 | 1.717 |  | 111 | 3.964 | 1.695 |  | 237 | 3.945 | 1.703 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 115 | 4.348 | 1.457 |  | 99 | 4.303 | 1.495 |  | 214 | 4.327 | 1.471 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 110 | 4.373 | 1.579 |  | 104 | 4.442 | 1.298 |  | 214 | 4.407 | 1.446 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 118 | 4.669 | 1.340 |  | 98 | 4.755 | 1.407 |  | 216 | 4.708 | 1.368 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 120 | 4.650 | 1.358 |  | 97 | 4.701 | 1.209 |  | 217 | 4.673 | 1.291 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 75 | 2.133 | 1.277 |  | 72 | 2.083 | 1.172 |  | 147 | 2.109 | 1.223 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 81 | 2.321 | 1.202 |  | 63 | 2 | 1.191 |  | 144 | 2.181 | 1.204 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Post-Gameplay** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *WhatsApp Messages*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activation 1 | 156 | 5.955 | 1.080 |  | 135 | 6.230 | 0.906 |  | 291 | 6.082 | 1.010 |
| Activation 2 | 156 | 6.212 | 0.873 |  | 135 | 6.481 | 0.711 |  | 291 | 6.337 | 0.812 |
| GainTrust 1 | 156 | 4.942 | 1.451 |  | 135 | 5.881 | 1.234 |  | 291 | 5.378 | 1.432 |
| GainTrust 2 | 156 | 5.468 | 1.389 |  | 135 | 6.126 | 1.075 |  | 291 | 5.773 | 1.293 |
| Isolation 1 | 156 | 5.756 | 1.374 |  | 135 | 6.326 | 0.913 |  | 291 | 6.021 | 1.215 |
| Isolation 2 | 156 | 5.538 | 1.384 |  | 135 | 6.319 | 0.843 |  | 291 | 5.900 | 1.226 |
| *Vignettes*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 117 | 4.385 | 1.502 |  | 95 | 5.158 | 1.659 |  | 212 | 4.731 | 1.617 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 110 | 3 | 1.421 |  | 109 | 3.817 | 1.656 |  | 219 | 3.406 | 1.592 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 113 | 4.301 | 1.546 |  | 96 | 5.208 | 1.421 |  | 209 | 4.718 | 1.554 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 118 | 4.203 | 1.677 |  | 100 | 4.200 | 1.875 |  | 218 | 4.202 | 1.766 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 127 | 4.591 | 1.503 |  | 105 | 5.695 | 1.218 |  | 232 | 5.091 | 1.485 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 107 | 4.355 | 1.672 |  | 105 | 5.686 | 1.146 |  | 212 | 5.014 | 1.580 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 119 | 4.790 | 1.545 |  | 100 | 5.690 | 1.161 |  | 219 | 5.201 | 1.451 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 125 | 4.528 | 1.395 |  | 100 | 5.550 | 1.067 |  | 225 | 4.982 | 1.356 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 77 | 2.286 | 1.366 |  | 77 | 2.143 | 1.325 |  | 154 | 2.214 | 1.343 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 79 | 2.430 | 1.575 |  | 58 | 2.172 | 1.142 |  | 137 | 2.321 | 1.409 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S4**

*Summary of Confidence Measures in Answers (Per Group & Combined)*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Control Group |  | Treatment Group |  | Combined |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) |  | (4) | (5) | (6) |  | (7) | (8) | (9) |
| VARIABLES | N | *M* | *SD* |  | N | *M* | *SD* |  | N | *M* | *SD* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Pre-Gameplay Confidence Measures** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *WhatsApp Messages - Confidence*  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activation 1 | 156 | 5.763 | 1.255 |  | 135 | 5.770 | 1.233 |  | 291 | 5.766 | 1.243 |
| Activation 2 | 156 | 6.147 | 1.123 |  | 135 | 6.074 | 1.182 |  | 291 | 6.113 | 1.150 |
| GainTrust 1 | 156 | 5.596 | 1.233 |  | 135 | 5.489 | 1.202 |  | 291 | 5.546 | 1.218 |
| GainTrust 2 | 156 | 5.737 | 1.060 |  | 135 | 5.689 | 1.212 |  | 291 | 5.715 | 1.132 |
| Isolation 1 | 156 | 5.936 | 1.123 |  | 135 | 5.822 | 1.190 |  | 291 | 5.883 | 1.154 |
| Isolation 2 | 156 | 5.692 | 1.273 |  | 135 | 5.615 | 1.165 |  | 291 | 5.656 | 1.223 |
| *Vignettes Questions - Confidence* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 116 | 5.241 | 1.336 |  | 101 | 5.079 | 1.433 |  | 217 | 5.166 | 1.381 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 112 | 5.375 | 1.350 |  | 97 | 5.155 | 1.310 |  | 209 | 5.273 | 1.333 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 119 | 5.261 | 1.387 |  | 103 | 5.049 | 1.353 |  | 222 | 5.162 | 1.372 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 126 | 5.063 | 1.495 |  | 111 | 4.991 | 1.430 |  | 237 | 5.030 | 1.463 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 115 | 4.974 | 1.334 |  | 99 | 4.899 | 1.374 |  | 214 | 4.939 | 1.350 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 110 | 5.036 | 1.340 |  | 104 | 4.827 | 1.333 |  | 214 | 4.935 | 1.338 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 118 | 5.254 | 1.354 |  | 98 | 4.959 | 1.243 |  | 216 | 5.120 | 1.310 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 120 | 5.133 | 1.334 |  | 97 | 4.835 | 1.367 |  | 217 | 5 | 1.354 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 75 | 5.627 | 1.505 |  | 72 | 5.431 | 1.509 |  | 147 | 5.531 | 1.505 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 81 | 5.444 | 1.440 |  | 63 | 5.413 | 1.421 |  | 144 | 5.431 | 1.427 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Post-Gameplay Confidence Measures** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *WhatsApp Messages Confidence* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activation 1 | 156 | 5.962 | 1.059 |  | 135 | 6.081 | 1.051 |  | 291 | 6.017 | 1.055 |
| Activation 2 | 156 | 6.026 | 1.089 |  | 135 | 6.304 | 0.995 |  | 291 | 6.155 | 1.054 |
| GainTrust 1 | 156 | 5.596 | 1.206 |  | 135 | 5.941 | 1.170 |  | 291 | 5.756 | 1.200 |
| GainTrust 2 | 156 | 5.692 | 1.134 |  | 135 | 6.059 | 1.111 |  | 291 | 5.863 | 1.136 |
| Isolation 1 | 156 | 5.872 | 1.123 |  | 135 | 6.230 | 1.043 |  | 291 | 6.038 | 1.100 |
| Isolation 2 | 156 | 5.827 | 1.120 |  | 135 | 6.111 | 1.077 |  | 291 | 5.959 | 1.107 |
| *Vignettes Questions Confidence* |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 117 | 5.274 | 1.381 |  | 95 | 5.484 | 1.304 |  | 212 | 5.368 | 1.348 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 110 | 5.345 | 1.455 |  | 109 | 5.312 | 1.331 |  | 219 | 5.329 | 1.392 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 113 | 5.283 | 1.326 |  | 96 | 5.469 | 1.239 |  | 209 | 5.368 | 1.287 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 118 | 5.381 | 1.420 |  | 100 | 5.180 | 1.381 |  | 218 | 5.289 | 1.402 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 127 | 5.165 | 1.320 |  | 105 | 5.648 | 1.177 |  | 232 | 5.384 | 1.277 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 107 | 5.430 | 1.388 |  | 105 | 5.514 | 1.161 |  | 212 | 5.472 | 1.278 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 119 | 5.496 | 1.371 |  | 100 | 5.490 | 1.267 |  | 219 | 5.493 | 1.322 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 125 | 5.232 | 1.333 |  | 100 | 5.620 | 1.213 |  | 225 | 5.404 | 1.292 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 77 | 5.545 | 1.569 |  | 77 | 5.857 | 1.335 |  | 154 | 5.701 | 1.460 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 79 | 5.608 | 1.295 |  | 58 | 5.431 | 1.416 |  | 137 | 5.533 | 1.345 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S5**

*Summary of Post-Gameplay WhatsApp Messages and Effect Size* (ANCOVA)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Control** | **Treatment** | **Control Mean** | **Control Std. Dev.** | **Treatment Mean**  | **Treatment Std. Dev** | **Cohen’s d** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Activation 1 | 156 | 135 | 5.96 | 1.08 | 6.23 | 0.91 | 0.27 |
| Activation 2 | 156 | 135 | 6.21 | 0.87 | 6.48 | 0.71 | 0.34 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GainTrust 1 | 156 | 135 | 4.94 | 1.45 | 5.88 | 1.23 | 0.69 |
| GainTrust 2 | 156 | 135 | 5.47 | 1.39 | 6.13 | 1.08 | 0.52 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolation 1 | 156 | 135 | 5.76 | 1.37 | 6.33 | 0.91 | 0.48 |
| Isolation 2 | 156 | 135 | 5.54 | 1.38 | 6.32 | 0.84 | 0.67 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Total* | 156 | 135 | 5.64 | 0.90 | 6.24 | 0.73 | 0.71 |

|  |
| --- |
| **Table S6***Raw Means of Manipulativeness Ratings (WhatsApp Messages)* |
|  |  | **Reliability Rating** |
| **Condition** | ***M*pre** | ***M*post** | ***M*diff** | **95% CIdiff** | **Cohen’s *d*** |
|  |  |
| **Control (*N* = 156)** |
| Activation 1 | 5.70 | 5.96 | -0.26 | -0.52 | 0.01 | -0.22 |
| Activation 2 | 6.29 | 6.21 | 0.08 | -0.13 | 0.28 | 0.08 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GainTrust 1 | 4.60 | 4.94 | -0.35 | -0.68 | -0.01 | -0.23 |
| GainTrust 2 | 5.14 | 5.47 | -0.33 | -0.64 | -0.01 | -0.23 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolation 1 | 5.71 | 5.76 | -0.04 | -0.36 | 0.27 | -0.03 |
| Isolation 2 | 5.27 | 5.54 | -0.27 | -0.59 | 0.05 | -0.19 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Overall Result** | **5.45** | **5.65** | **-0.19** | **-0.40** | **0.01** | **-0.22** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treatment (*N* = 135)** |
| Activation 1 | 5.82 | 6.23 | -0.41 | -0.65 | -0.17 | -0.40 |
| Activation 2 | 6.23 | 6.48 | -0.25 | -0.47 | -0.04 | -0.28 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GainTrust 1 | 4.33 | 5.88 | -1.56 | -1.90 | -1.21 | -1.08 |
| GainTrust 2 | 5.29 | 6.13 | -0.84 | -1.14 | -0.54 | -0.67 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolation 1 | 5.73 | 6.33 | -0.59 | -0.87 | -0.32 | -0.51 |
| Isolation 2 | 5.44 | 6.32 | -0.87 | -1.14 | -0.61 | -0.78 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Overall Result** | **5.47** | **6.23** | **-0.75** | **-0.95** | **-0.56** | **-0.92** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S7**

*Standardized Betas of Diff-in-Diff OLS Regressions for WhatsApp Messages, with and without individual controls.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Diff-in-Diff without Individual Controls** |  | **Diff-in-Diff with Individual Controls** |
| **Variables** | Activation | GainTrust | Isolation | Total |  | Activation | GainTrust | Isolation | Total |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Post | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* |  | 0.09 | 0.42\*\* | 0.11 | 0.21 |
|  | (0.10) | (0.15) | (0.13) | (0.10) |  | (0.13) | (0.19) | (0.17) | (0.13) |
| Treatment | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.10 | 0.02 |  | 0.04 | -0.02 | 0.11 | 0.04 |
|  | (0.11) | (0.16) | (0.13) | (0.11) |  | (0.14) | (0.20) | (0.16) | (0.13) |
| Post x Treatment | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* |  | 0.26 | 0.85\*\*\* | 0.57\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* |
|  | (0.14) | (0.21) | (0.17) | (0.14) |  | (0.18) | (0.26) | (0.21) | (0.18) |
| Political Ideology |  |  |  |  |  | -0.05 | 0.20 | 0.07 | 0.07 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.10) | (0.16) | (0.14) | (0.11) |
| Gender |  |  |  |  |  | -0.16\* | -0.22 | -0.06 | -0.15 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.09) | (0.14) | (0.12) | (0.10) |
| Age |  |  |  |  |  | 0.21 | 0.26 | 0.09 | 0.19 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.14) | (0.25) | (0.16) | (0.15) |
| Education |  |  |  |  |  | -0.11 | -0.03 | -0.24\*\* | -0.13 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.09) | (0.13) | (0.11) | (0.09) |
| Racial background |  |  |  |  |  | 0.01 | -0.00 | 0.07 | 0.02 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.17) | (0.18) | (0.19) | (0.16) |
| Employment Status |  |  |  |  |  | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.08 | -0.04 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.12) | (0.15) | (0.14) | (0.11) |
| Marital Status |  |  |  |  |  | 0.22\*\* | 0.26\* | 0.21\*\* | 0.23\*\*\* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.09) | (0.13) | (0.10) | (0.09) |
| Trust in Government |  |  |  |  |  | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.04 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.03) | (0.05) | (0.04) | (0.03) |
| Environmental concern |  |  |  |  |  | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.15\*\* | 0.09\*\* |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.04) | (0.06) | (0.06) | (0.05) |
| Unemp. benef. |  |  |  |  |  | 0.07 | 0.01 | -0.10 | -0.01 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  | (0.14) | (0.21) | (0.16) | (0.14) |
| Constant | 5.99\*\*\* | 4.87\*\*\* | 5.49\*\*\* | 5.45\*\*\* |  | 5.54\*\*\* | 4.12\*\*\* | 4.70\*\*\* | 4.79\*\*\* |
|  | (0.07) | (0.11) | (0.09) | (0.07) |  | (0.34) | (0.45) | (0.42) | (0.33) |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |  | 350 | 350 | 350 | 350 |
| R-squared | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.11 |  | 0.09 | 0.19 | 0.16 | 0.19 |
| Individual Controls | No | No | No | No |  | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |

*Notes.* Own data collection, own illustration. Diff-in-Diff with individual controls include: age (coded as >50 and <50 years old), gender (female/male), education (coded as "2 year degree", "4 year degree", or "Doctorate" for higher education vs. anything else no higher education) political ideology (<3 = conservative, >3 = liberal), racial background (white/non-white), employment status (employed part-time or full-time/not employed part-time or full-time), marital status (married/not married), trust in government (7-point scale), concern about the environment (7-point scale), and views on whether the government should provide social services to the unemployed (binary agreement with the statement as yes or no). \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

|  |
| --- |
| **Table S8***Raw Means of Confidence Ratings (WhatsApp Messages)* |
|  |  | **Reliability Rating** |
| **Condition** | ***M*pre** | ***M*post** | ***M*diff** | **95% CIdiff** | **Cohen’s *d*** |
|  |  |
| **Control (*N* = 156)** |
| Activation 1 | 5.76 | 5.96 | -0.20 | -0.46 | 0.06 | -0.17 |
| Activation 2 | 6.15 | 6.03 | 0.12 | -0.13 | 0.37 | 0.11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GainTrust 1 | 5.60 | 5.60 | 0.00 | -0.27 | 0.27 | 0.00 |
| GainTrust 2 | 5.74 | 5.69 | 0.04 | -0.20 | 0.29 | 0.04 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolation 1 | 5.94 | 5.87 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.31 | 0.06 |
| Isolation 2 | 5.69 | 5.83 | -0.13 | -0.40 | 0.13 | -0.11 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Overall Result** | **5.81** | **5.83** | **-0.02** | **-0.23** | **0.19** | **-0.02** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treatment (*N* = 135)** |
| Activation 1 | 5.77 | 6.08 | -0.31 | -0.59 | -0.27 | -0.27 |
| Activation 2 | 6.07 | 6.30 | -0.23 | -0.49 | -0.21 | -0.21 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| GainTrust 1 | 5.49 | 5.94 | -0.45 | -0.74 | -0.38 | -0.38 |
| GainTrust 2 | 5.69 | 6.06 | -0.37 | -0.65 | -0.32 | -0.32 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Isolation 1 | 5.82 | 6.23 | -0.41 | -0.68 | -0.36 | -0.36 |
| Isolation 2 | 5.61 | 6.11 | -0.50 | -0.77 | -0.44 | -0.44 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Overall Result** | **5.74** | **6.12** | **-0.38** | **-0.60** | **-0.41** | **-0.41** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S9**

*Summary of Post-Gameplay Vulnerable & Non-Vulnerable Profile Vignettes and Effect Size*(ANCOVA)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Control** | **Treatment** | **Control Mean** | **Control Std. Dev.**  | **Treatment Mean**  | **Treatment Std. Dev** | **Cohen’s *d*** |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 117 | 95 | 4.39 | 1.50 | 5.16 | 1.66 | 0.49 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 110 | 109 | 3.00 | 1.42 | 3.82 | 1.66 | 0.53 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 113 | 96 | 4.30 | 1.55 | 5.21 | 1.42 | 0.61 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 118 | 100 | 4.20 | 1.68 | 4.20 | 1.88 | 0.0019 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 127 | 105 | 4.59 | 1.50 | 5.70 | 1.22 | 0.80 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 107 | 105 | 4.36 | 1.67 | 5.69 | 1.15 | 0.93 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 119 | 100 | 4.79 | 1.55 | 5.69 | 1.16 | 0.65 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 125 | 100 | 4.53 | 1.40 | 5.55 | 1.07 | 0.81 |
| *Total Vuln. Vignettes*  | 156 | 135 | 4.28 | 1.05 | 5.12 | 1.00 | 0.81 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 77 | 77 | 2.29 | 1.37 | 2.14 | 1.33 | 0.11 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 79 | 58 | 2.43 | 1.58 | 2.17 | 1.14 | 0.18 |
| *Total Non-Vuln. Vignettes* | 156 | 135 | 2.36 | 1.47 | 2.16 | 1.25 | 0.15 |
| **Table S10***Raw Means of Vulnerability of Profile Vignettes* |
|  |  | **Reliability Rating** |
| **Condition** | ***M*pre** | ***M*post** | ***M*diff** | **95% CIdiff** | **Cohen’s *d*** |
| **Control (*N* = 156)** |
| ***Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **4.21** | **4.28** | **-0.08** | **-0.31** | **0.15** | **-0.08** |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 4.24 | 4.38 | -0.14 | -0.54 | 0.25 | -0.09 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 2.92 | 3 | -0.08 | -0.46 | 0.30 | -0.06 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 4.47 | 4.3 | 0.17 | -0.24 | 0.57 | 0.11 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 3.93 | 4.2 | -0.27 | -0.70 | 0.15 | -0.16 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 4.35 | 4.59 | -0.24 | -0.62 | 0.13 | -0.16 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 4.37 | 4.36 | 0.02 | -0.42 | 0.45 | 0.01 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 4.67 | 4.79 | -0.12 | -0.49 | 0.25 | -0.08 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 4.65 | 4.53 | 0.12 | -0.23 | 0.47 | 0.09 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Non-Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **2.23** | **2.36** | **-0.13** | **-0.43** | **0.18** | **-0.09** |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 2.13 | 2.29 | -0.15 | -0.58 | 0.27 | -0.12 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 2.32 | 2.43 | -0.11 | -0.55 | 0.33 | -0.08 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treatment (*N* = 135)** |
| ***Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **4.27** | **5.12** | **-0.85** | **-1.09** | **-0.61** | **-0.85** |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 4.21 | 5.16 | -0.95 | -1.40 | -0.50 | -0.59 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 3.24 | 3.82 | -0.58 | -1.00 | -0.16 | -0.38 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 4.55 | 5.21 | -0.65 | -1.06 | -0.25 | -0.46 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 3.96 | 4.20 | -0.24 | -0.72 | 0.25 | -0.13 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 4.30 | 5.70 | -1.39 | -1.77 | -1.02 | -1.02 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 4.44 | 5.69 | -1.24 | -1.58 | -0.91 | -1.02 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 4.76 | 5.69 | -0.93 | -1.30 | -0.57 | -0.73 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 4.70 | 5.55 | -0.85 | -1.17 | -0.53 | -0.75 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Non-Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **2.04** | **2.16** | **-0.11** | **-0.40** | **0.18** | **-0.09** |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 2.08 | 2.14 | -0.06 | -0.47 | 0.35 | -0.05 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 2.00 | 2.17 | -0.17 | -0.59 | 0.25 | -0.15 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S11**

*Standardized Betas of Diff-in-Diff OLS Regressions for Vulnerable & Non-Vulnerable Profile Vignettes, with and without individual controls.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Diff-in-Diff without Individual Controls** | **Diff-in-Diff with Individual Controls** |
| **Variables** | Vulnerable Vignettes | Non-Vulnerable Vignettes | Vulnerable Vignettes | Non-Vulnerable Vignettes |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Post | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.07 | 0.26 |
|  | (0.12) | (0.15) | (0.15) | (0.17) |
| Treatment | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.29\* | 0.07 |
|  | (0.12) | (0.14) | (0.15) | (0.17) |
| Post x Treatment | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.70\*\*\* | -0.10 |
|  | (0.17) | (0.21) | (0.21) | (0.26) |
| Political Ideology |  |  | 0.17 | 0.08 |
|  |  |  | (0.15) | (0.18) |
| Gender |  |  | -0.12 | -0.11 |
|  |  |  | (0.11) | (0.14) |
| Age |  |  | 0.29 | 0.31 |
|  |  |  | (0.18) | (0.24) |
| Education |  |  | -0.13 | -0.07 |
|  |  |  | (0.10) | (0.13) |
| Racial background |  |  | -0.06 | -0.44\*\* |
|  |  |  | (0.16) | (0.22) |
| Employment Status |  |  | 0.28\*\* | -0.17 |
|  |  |  | (0.14) | (0.16) |
| Marital Status |  |  | -0.03 | 0.07 |
|  |  |  | (0.11) | (0.14) |
| Trust in Government |  |  | 0.01 | -0.01 |
|  |  |  | (0.04) | (0.06) |
| Environmental concern |  |  | 0.03 | -0.03 |
|  |  |  | (0.05) | (0.06) |
| View on unemp. benef. |  |  | -0.15 | 0.16 |
|  |  |  | (0.14) | (0.22) |
| Constant | 4.21\*\*\* | 2.23\*\*\* | 3.99\*\*\* | 2.64\*\*\* |
|  | (0.08) | (0.10) | (0.40) | (0.46) |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 350 | 350 |
| R-squared | 0.11 | 0.01 | 0.19 | 0.04 |
| Individual Controls | No | No | Yes | Yes |

*Notes.* Own data collection, own illustration. Diff-in-Diff with individual controls include: age (coded as >50 and <50 years old), gender (female/male), education (coded as "2 year degree", "4 year degree", or "Doctorate" for higher education vs. anything else no higher education) political ideology (<3 = conservative, >3 = liberal), racial background (white/non-white), employment status (employed part-time or full-time/not employed part-time or full-time), marital status (married/not married), trust in government (7-point scale), concern about the environment (7-point scale), and views on whether the government should provide social services to the unemployed (binary agreement with the statement as yes or no). Robust standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

|  |
| --- |
| **Table S12***Raw Means of Confidence Ratings (Profile Vignettes Questions)* |
|  |  | **Reliability Rating** |
| **Condition** | ***M*pre** | ***M*post** | ***M*diff** | **95% CIdiff** | **Cohen’s *d*** |
| **Control (*N* = 156)** |
| ***Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **5.17** | **5.32** | **-0.16** | **-0.42** | **0.10** | **-0.13** |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 5.24 | 5.27 | -0.03 | -0.38 | 0.32 | -0.02 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 5.38 | 5.35 | 0.03 | -0.34 | 0.40 | 0.02 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 5.26 | 5.28 | -0.02 | -0.37 | 0.33 | -0.02 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 5.06 | 5.38 | -0.32 | -0.69 | 0.05 | -0.22 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 4.97 | 5.17 | -0.19 | -0.53 | 0.15 | -0.14 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 5.04 | 5.43 | -0.39 | -0.76 | -0.03 | -0.29 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 5.25 | 5.50 | -0.24 | -0.59 | 0.11 | -0.18 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 5.13 | 5.23 | -0.10 | -0.43 | 0.24 | -0.07 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Non-Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **5.53** | **5.58** | **-0.04** | **-0.37** | **0.28** | **-0.03** |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 5.63 | 5.55 | 0.08 | -0.41 | 0.57 | 0.05 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 5.44 | 5.61 | -0.16 | -0.59 | 0.26 | -0.12 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Treatment (*N* = 135)** |
| ***Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **4.97** | **5.46** | **-0.49** | **-0.75** | **-0.23** | **-0.45** |
| Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 5.08 | 5.48 | -0.41 | -0.79 | -0.02 | -0.30 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 5.15 | 5.31 | -0.16 | -0.52 | 0.21 | -0.12 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 3 | 5.05 | 5.47 | -0.42 | -0.78 | -0.06 | -0.32 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 4 | 4.99 | 5.18 | -0.19 | -0.57 | 0.19 | -0.13 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 5 | 4.90 | 5.65 | -0.75 | -1.10 | -0.40 | -0.59 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 6 | 4.83 | 5.51 | -0.69 | -1.03 | -0.35 | -0.55 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 7 | 4.96 | 5.49 | -0.53 | -0.88 | -0.18 | -0.42 |
| Vulnerable Vignette 8 | 4.84 | 5.62 | -0.78 | -1.15 | -0.42 | -0.61 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| ***Non-Vulnerable Vignettes*** | **5.42** | **5.67** | **-0.25** | **-0.59** | **0.09** | **-0.18** |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 1 | 5.43 | 5.86 | -0.43 | -0.89 | 0.03 | -0.30 |
| Non-Vulnerable Vignette 2 | 5.41 | 5.43 | -0.02 | -0.53 | 0.49 | -0.01 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table S13** |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| *Summary of repeated measures analysis of variance (rmANOVA) for Vulnerable & Non-Vulnerable Profile Vignettes* |
| Within Subjects Effects |
|  | **Sum of Squares** | **df** | **Mean Square** | **F** | **p** | **η²** |
| Vignette Type | 648.36 | 1 | 648.363 | 697.4 | < .001 | 0.193 |
| Vignette Type x Treatment | 29.96 | 1 | 29.961 | 32.23 | < .001 | 0.009 |
| Vignette Type x Post | 7.25 | 1 | 7.245 | 7.79 | 0.005 | 0.002 |
| Residual | 538.29 | 579 | 0.93 |  |  |  |
| Between Subjects Effects |
|  | **Sum of Squares** | **df** | **Mean Square** | **F** | **p** | **η²** |
| Treatment | 4.66 | 1 | 4.66 | 2.56 | 0.11 | 0.001 |
| Post | 22.5 | 1 | 22.5 | 12.36 | < .001 | 0.007 |
| Residual | 1054.25 | 579 | 1.82 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Table S14**

*Standardized Beta coefficients of Diff-in-Diff OLS regressions for WhatsApp posts, by control variable. The columns show the coefficients per manipulation technique (activation, trust and isolation) as well as the pooled results, per individual control variable. The first row shows the standardized Beta coefficient, the second row shows the standard error.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Diff-in-Diff without Indiv. Controls** | **Political ideology** | **Gender** | **Age** |
| **Variables** | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| Post | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.07 | 0.37\*\* | 0.13 | 0.19 | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* |
|  | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.12 | -0.18 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.14 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 |
| Treatment | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.1 | 0.02 | 0.04 | -0.07 | 0.17 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.1 | 0.02 | 0.03 | -0.07 | 0.09 | 0.02 |
|  | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.13 | -0.19 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 |
| Post x Treatment | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.28\* | 0.91\*\*\* | 0.57\*\*\* | 0.59\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* |
|  | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.17 | -0.25 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 |
| Political ideology |   |  |  |  | -0.08 | 0.08 | 0.05 | 0.02 |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  | -0.09 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.09 |  |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| Gender |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   | -0.13\* | -0.3\*\*\* | -0.05 | -0.16\*\* |   |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   | -0.07 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.07 |   |  |  |  |
| Age |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  | 0.17\* | 0.37\*\* | 0.16 | 0.23\*\* |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |  |  |  |  | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.11 | -0.1 |
| Constant | 5.99\*\*\* | 4.87\*\*\* | 5.49\*\*\* | 5.45\*\*\* | 6.02\*\*\* | 4.82\*\*\* | 5.49\*\*\* | 5.44\*\*\* | 6.05\*\*\* | 5.00\*\*\* | 5.51\*\*\* | 5.52\*\*\* | 5.97\*\*\* | 4.83\*\*\* | 5.47\*\*\* | 5.42\*\*\* |
|  | -0.07 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.07 | -0.09 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.09 | -0.08 | -0.11 | -0.1 | -0.08 | -0.08 | -0.11 | -0.1 | -0.07 |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 386 | 386 | 386 | 386 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |
| R-squared | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.04 | 0.14 | 0.09 | 0.13 | 0.03 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.03 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.12 |
|   | **Education** | **Racial background** | **Employment Status** | **Marital Status** |
| **Variables** | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Post | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.11 | 0.36\*\* | 0.16 | 0.21\* |
|  | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.14 | -0.11 |
| Treatment | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.09 | 0.02 | 0.04 | -0.06 | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.04 | -0.06 | 0.1 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.08 |
|  | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.14 | -0.11 |
| Post x Treatment | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.21 | 0.80\*\*\* | 0.55\*\*\* | 0.52\*\*\* |
|  | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.15 | -0.21 | -0.18 | -0.15 |
| Education | -0.09 | -0.08 | -0.24\*\*\* | -0.14\*\* |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |
|  | -0.07 | -0.1 | -0.09 | -0.07 |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Racial background |   |  |  |  | 0.1 | 0.12 | 0.22 | 0.15 |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |
|  |   |  |  |  | -0.13 | -0.15 | -0.16 | -0.12 |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |   |
| Employment status |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.04 |   |  |  |   |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | -0.08 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.08 |   |  |  |   |
| Marital status |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | 0.23\*\*\* | 0.38\*\*\* | 0.26\*\*\* | 0.29\*\*\* |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | -0.07 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.07 |
| Constant | 6.05\*\*\* | 4.92\*\*\* | 5.63\*\*\* | 5.53\*\*\* | 5.90\*\*\* | 4.76\*\*\* | 5.29\*\*\* | 5.32\*\*\* | 5.95\*\*\* | 4.83\*\*\* | 5.48\*\*\* | 5.42\*\*\* | 5.88\*\*\* | 4.66\*\*\* | 5.37\*\*\* | 5.30\*\*\* |
|  | -0.08 | -0.12 | -0.1 | -0.08 | -0.15 | -0.16 | -0.18 | -0.13 | -0.09 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.09 | -0.12 | -0.11 | -0.09 |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 528 | 528 | 528 | 528 |
| R-squared | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.1 | 0.12 | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.04 | 0.15 | 0.1 | 0.14 |
|   | **Trust in govt** | **Environmental concern** | **View on unemp. benef.** |  |  |  |  |
| **Variables** | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* | *Activ.* | *Trust* | *Isol.* | *Total* |  |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| Post | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* | 0.09 | 0.34\*\* | 0.16 | 0.19\* |   |  |  |  |
|  | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.1 |   |  |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.02 | -0.08 | 0.08 | 0.01 | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.1 | 0.02 | 0.03 | -0.06 | 0.1 | 0.02 |   |  |  |  |
|  | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.11 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 |   |  |  |  |
| Post x Treatment | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* | 0.24\* | 0.86\*\*\* | 0.58\*\*\* | 0.56\*\*\* |   |  |  |  |
|  | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 | -0.14 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.14 |   |  |  |  |
| Trust in Government | 0.04\* | 0.07\*\* | 0.08\*\*\* | 0.06\*\*\* |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|  | -0.02 | -0.03 | -0.03 | -0.02 |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| Environmental concern |   |  |  |  | 0.06\* | 0.07 | 0.07\* | 0.07\* |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  | -0.03 | -0.05 | -0.04 | -0.03 |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| View on unemp. benef. |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | 0.08 | -0.17 | -0.17 | -0.08 |   |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  | -0.11 | -0.15 | -0.11 | -0.1 |   |  |  |  |
| Constant | 5.87\*\*\* | 4.64\*\*\* | 5.25\*\*\* | 5.25\*\*\* | 5.64\*\*\* | 4.51\*\*\* | 5.09\*\*\* | 5.08\*\*\* | 5.92\*\*\* | 5.02\*\*\* | 5.64\*\*\* | 5.53\*\*\* |   |  |  |  |
|  | -0.1 | -0.16 | -0.13 | -0.11 | -0.2 | -0.27 | -0.25 | -0.21 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.13 | -0.11 |   |  |  |  |
|  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |   |  |  |  |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |   |  |  |  |
| R-squared | 0.03 | 0.13 | 0.1 | 0.12 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.03 | 0.12 | 0.09 | 0.11 |   |  |  |  |

*Notes.* Individual controls include: age (coded as >50 and <50 years old), gender (female/male), education (coded as "2 year degree", "4 year degree", or "Doctorate" for higher education vs. anything else no higher education) political ideology (<3 = conservative, >3 = liberal), racial background (white/non-white), employment status (employed part-time or full-time/not employed part-time or full-time), marital status (married/not married), trust in government (7-point scale), concern about the environment (7-point scale), and views on whether the government should provide social services to the unemployed (binary agreement with the statement as yes or no). Robust standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

**Table S15**

*Standardized Beta coefficients of Diff-in-Diff OLS regressions for vulnerable & non-vulnerable vignettes, by control variable. The first row shows the standardized Beta coefficient, the second row shows the standard error.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **Diff-in-Diff without Indiv. Controls** | **Political ideology** | **Gender** | **Age** | **Education** | **Racial background** |
| **Variables** | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. |
|  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |
| Post | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.21 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.13 |
|  | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.14 | -0.17 | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.15 |
| Treatment | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.30\*\* | 0.05 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.05 | -0.21 |
|  | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.13 | -0.17 | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 |
| Post x Treatment | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.67\*\*\* | -0.1 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 |
| -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.2 | -0.25 | -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.21 |
| Political View |   |   | 0.19\* | 0.03 |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |
|  |   |   | -0.1 | -0.13 |   |   |  |  |   |   |   |   |
| Gender |   |   |  |  | -0.13 | -0.17 |  |  |   |   |   |   |
|  |   |   |  |  | -0.09 | -0.11 |  |  |   |   |   |   |
| Age |   |   |  |  |   |   | 0.16 | 0.23 |   |   |   |   |
|  |   |   |  |  |   |   | -0.13 | -0.18 |   |   |   |   |
| Education |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  | -0.15\* | -0.15 |   |   |
|  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  | -0.09 | -0.11 |   |   |
| Racial background |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   | -0.25\* | -0.46\*\* |
|  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   | -0.14 | -0.19 |
| Constant | 4.21\*\*\* | 2.23\*\*\* | 4.07\*\*\* | 2.07\*\*\* | 4.26\*\*\* | 2.31\*\*\* | 4.19\*\*\* | 2.20\*\*\* | 4.29\*\*\* | 2.32\*\*\* | 4.43\*\*\* | 2.65\*\*\* |
|  | -0.08 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.11 | -0.09 | -0.11 | -0.08 | -0.1 | -0.1 | -0.12 | -0.16 | -0.21 |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 386 | 386 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |
| R-squared | 0.11 | 0.01 | 0.16 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.02 |
|  | **Employment status** | **Marital status** | **Trust in govt** | **Environmental concern** | **View on unemp. benef.** |  |  |
| **Variables** | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. | Vuln. Vign. | Non-vuln. Vign. |  |  |
|  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| Post | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.16 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.13 | 0.08 | 0.13 |  |  |
|  | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.13 | -0.16 | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.15 |  |  |
| Treatment | 0.08 | -0.2 | 0.09 | -0.13 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.06 | -0.19 | 0.06 | -0.19 |  |  |
|  | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.13 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 | -0.12 | -0.14 |  |  |
| Post x Treatment | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.76\*\*\* | 0.01 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 | 0.77\*\*\* | -0.02 |  |  |
| -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.18 | -0.22 | -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.21 | -0.17 | -0.21 |  |  |
| Employment Status | 0.20\*\* | -0.15 |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| -0.09 | -0.11 |  |  |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| Marital Status |   |   | 0.1 | 0.18 |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|   |   | -0.09 | -0.11 |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| Trust in govt |   |   |  |  | 0.03 | 0.01 |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  | -0.03 | -0.04 |  |  |   |   |  |  |
| Environmental concern |   |   |  |  |   |   | -0.03 | -0.03 |   |   |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |   |   | -0.03 | -0.04 |   |   |  |  |
| View on unemp. benef. |   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  | -0.14 | -0.25 |  |  |
|   |   |  |  |   |   |  |  | -0.12 | -0.19 |  |  |
| Constant | 4.06\*\*\* | 2.34\*\*\* | 4.16\*\*\* | 2.08\*\*\* | 4.11\*\*\* | 2.20\*\*\* | 4.36\*\*\* | 2.37\*\*\* | 4.33\*\*\* | 2.45\*\*\* |  |  |
|  | -0.11 | -0.12 | -0.1 | -0.11 | -0.13 | -0.15 | -0.2 | -0.25 | -0.13 | -0.2 |  |  |
| Observations | 582 | 582 | 528 | 528 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 | 582 |  |  |
| R-squared | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.01 |  |  |

*Notes.* Individual controls include: age (coded as >50 and <50 years old), gender (female/male), education (coded as "2 year degree", "4 year degree", or "Doctorate" for higher education vs. anything else no higher education) political ideology (<3 = conservative, >3 = liberal), racial background (white/non-white), employment status (employed part-time or full-time/not employed part-time or full-time), marital status (married/not married), trust in government (7-point scale), concern about the environment (7-point scale), and views on whether the government should provide social services to the unemployed (binary agreement with the statement as yes or no). Robust standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\* p<0.01, \*\* p<0.05, \* p<0.1

**Figure S1.**

*WhatsApp Posts Confidence Measure.*



*Note.* Violin and density plots of pre-post difference scores for the mean confidence in answers on questions of WhatsApp posts.

**Figure S2.**

*Vulnerable Vignettes Confidence Measure.*

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*Note.* Violin and density plots of pre-post difference scores for the mean confidence in answers on questions of vulnerable vignettes.

**Figure S3.**

*Non-Vulnerable Vignettes Confidence Measure.*

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*Note*.Violin and density plots of pre-post difference scores for the mean confidence in answers on questions of non-vulnerable vignettes.