Online Supplementary Materials for

**It Could Happen to You: How Perceptions of Personal Risk Shape Support for Social Welfare Policy in the American States**

**Table S1. Individuals’ Actual and Perceived Risk Exposure**

**Perceived Risk Exposure**

(Perceived Financial Insecurity)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very Secure | Secure | Somewhat Secure | Neither Secure nor Insecure | Somewhat Insecure | Insecure | Very Insecure | **Total** |
| 3.6% | 3414.22% | 5523.02% | **66****27.61%** | 2711.30% | 3213.39% | 197.95% | 62.51% | **239****100%** |
| 3.8% | 2810.98% | 3915.29% | **69****27.06%** | 2810.98% | 4718.43% | 228.63% | 228.63% | **255****100%** |
|  **Actual Risk Exposure**(Unemployment by Gender & Educational Attainment) 5.2% | 410.00% | 1025.00% | **11****27.50%** | 717.50% | 37.50% | 25.00% | 37.50% | **40****100%** |
| 5.5% | 1010.42% | 1010.42% | **27****28.13%** | 1616.66% | 88.33% | 1111.46% | 1414.58% | **96****100%** |
| 7% | 254.97% | 6613.12% | **114****22.67%** | 9218.29% | 9518.89% | 5410.73% | 5711.33% | **503****100%** |
| 7.9% | 67.60% | 78.86% | **19****24.05%** | 1721.52% | 1620.25% | 78.86% | 78.86% | **79****100%** |
| 10% | 114.29% | 00.00% | 114.29% | **2****28.57%** | **2****28.57%** | 00.00% | 114.29% | **7****100%** |
| 12.6% | 00.00% | 16.25% | 00.00% | 318.75% | 212.50% | 531.25% | **5****31.25%** | **16****100%** |
| **Total** | **108****8.75%** | **188****15.22%** | **307****24.86%** | **192****15.55%** | **205****16.60%** | **120****9.71%** | **115****9.31%** | **1,235****100%** |

*Note*: Table contains frequency and percentage of respondents in each category. Bolded values represent the modal response for *Perceived Risk Exposure* for each value of *Actual Risk Exposure*. Respondents were recruited through Survey Sampling International (SSI) in July 2014 to produce a nationally representative sample.

**Table S2a. Individual-Level Support for Increased Welfare Spending (Ordered-Logit)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | -.239\*\* (.089) | -1.276\*\* (.365) |
| Risk Orientation | -.430\*\* (.092) | -.152\*\* (.048) |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x Risk Orientation | .078\*\* (.021) | .194\*\* (.087) |
| Actual Risk Exposure | .097\* (.059) | .111\*\* (.061) |
| Democrat | .941\*\* (.126) | .858\*\* (.128) |
| Republican | -.793\*\* (.162) | -.740\*\* (.162) |
| Female | .065 (.121) | .093 (.122) |
| College Degree | .306\* (.223) | .312\* (.227) |
| Age | -.083\*\* (.034) | -.073\*\* (.034) |
| Income | -.146\*\* (.029) | -.171\*\* (.028) |
| Political Interest | .277\*\* (.095) | .310\*\* (.096) |
| Region: South | -.242\* (.152) | -.251\*\* (.152) |
| Region: Midwest | .119 (.163) | .067 (.165) |
| Region: West | -.042 (.160) | -.043 (.161) |
| μ1μ2 | -1.743 (.639).255 (.636) | -1.069 (.569).938 (.569) |
| N | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| Wald Chi2 | 219.850\*\* | 215.31\*\* |
| Log Likelihood | -1,209.506 | -1,206.222 |
| AIC/BIC | 2,451.011 / 2,532.011 | 2,444.444 / 2,526.346 |

*Note*: Cell entries are ordered logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses. \* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

**Table S2b. Individual-Level Support for Increased Welfare Spending (Ordered-Logit) – Revised Model**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | -.013 (.043)  | .164\*\* (.047)  | -.604\*\* (.157)  | -.246\*\* (.163)  |
| Risk Aversion | -.649\*\* (.192)  | -- | -.119\* (.080)  | -- |
| Risk Acceptance | -- | .658\*\* (.148)  | -- | .273\*\* (.080)  |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Aversion | .112\*\* (.038)  | -- | .092 (.155)  | -- |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Acceptance | -- | -.139\*\* (.041)  | -- | -.442\*\* (.151)  |
| Actual Risk Exposure |  |  |  |  |
|  Unemployment by  Education and Gender | .032 (.080)  | .045 (.080)  | .047 (.082)  | .061 (.081)  |
| Unemployment by Region | -.030 (.151)  | -.004 (.151)  | .020 (.151)  | .023 (.151)  |
| Unemployment by Age | -.008 (.019)  | -.001 (.019)  | -.008 (.019)  | -.002 (.019)  |
| Family Member Lost Job? | -.238\* (.184)  | -.260\* (.185)  | -.170 (.186)  | -.165 (.188)  |
| Democrat | .951\*\* (.127) | .926\*\* (.128)  | .855\*\* (.129)  | .851\*\* (.129)  |
| Republican | -.785\*\* (.162)  | -.821\*\* (.162)  | -.727\*\* (.162)  | -.769\*\* (.162)  |
| Female | .017 (.121)  | .024 (.121)  | .047 (.121)  | .055 (.121)  |
| Education | .009 (.108)  | .014 (.108)  | .008 (.110)  | .019 (.110)  |
| Age | -.120\*\* (.048)  | -.097\*\* (.049)  | -.198\*\* (.060)  | -.083\*\* (.049)  |
| Income | -.146 (.029)  | -.135\*\* (.029)  | -.189\*\* (.036)  | -.161\*\* (.030)  |
| Political Interest | .336\*\* (.094)  | .276\*\* (.097)  | .355\*\* (.095) | .291\*\* (.098)  |
| μ1 | -1.228 (1.283)  | -.019 (1.305)  | -.930 (1.285)  | -.531 (1.280)  |
| μ2 | .748 (1.279)  | 1.975 (1.304)  | 1.058 (1.284)  | 1.476 (1.279)  |
| **N** | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| **Wald Chi2** | 209.560 | 222.32 | 216.450 | 220.760 |
| **Log Likelihood** | -1,218.336 | -1,211.948 | -1,213.220 | -1,206.334 |
| **AIC/****BIC** | 2,468.672 2,550.573 | 2,455.895/ 2,537.796 | 2,458.44/ 2,540.341 | 2,444.668/ 2,526.569 |

*Note*: Cell entries are logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses.

 \* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

**Table S3. Individual-Level Support for Increased Welfare Spending (Actual Risk Exposure Omitted)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | -.267\*\* (.098) | -1.358\*\* (.443) |
| Risk Orientation | -.583\*\* (.127) | -.242\*\* (.063) |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x Risk Orientation | .096\*\* (.026) | .303\*\* (.111) |
| Actual Risk Exposure | -- | -- |
| Democrat | .912\*\* (.157) | .856\*\* (.161) |
| Republican | -.471\*\* (.221) | -.461\*\* (.221) |
| Female | -.079 (.153) | -.073 (.153) |
| College Degree | .055 (.153) | .048 (.153) |
| Age | -.112\*\* (.044) | -.108\*\* (.044) |
| Income | -.173\*\* (.037) | -.202\*\* (.306) |
| Political Interest | .615\*\* (.130) | .635\*\* (.132) |
| Region: South | -.269\* (.191) | -.230\* (.190) |
| Region: Midwest | .187 (.202) | .156 (.202) |
| Region: West | -.162 (.207) | -.181 (.209) |
| Constant | .295 (.563) | -.347 (.460) |
| N | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| Wald Chi2 | 151.840\*\* | 215.31\*\* |
| Log Likelihood | -613.497 | -1,206.222 |
| AIC/BIC | 1,254.994 / 1,326.658 | 1,261.387 / 1,333.051 |

*Note*: Cell entries are logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses.

* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

**Table S4. Individual-Level Support for Increased Welfare Spending (Unemployment by Region Omitted; Regional Dummy Variables Included)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | -.024 (.051)  | .205\*\* (.065)  | -.417\*\* (.204)  | .148 (.225)  |
| Risk Aversion | -.697\*\* (.288)  | -- | -.171\* (.114)  | -- |
| Risk Acceptance | -- | .834\*\* (.177)  | -- | .423\*\* (.093)  |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Aversion | .122\*\* (.055) | -- | .283\* (.205)  | -- |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Acceptance | -- | -.138\*\* (.045)  | -- | -.490\*\* (.178)  |
| Actual Risk Exposure |  |  |  |  |
|  Unemployment by  Education and Gender | -.088 (.116)  | -.075 (.115)  | -.080 (.119)  | -.058 (.117)  |
| Unemployment by Region | -- | -- | -- | -- |
| Unemployment by Age | -.033\* (.023)  | -.025 (.023)  | -.032\* (.023)  | -.025 (.023)  |
| Family Member Lost Job? | -.182 (.219)  | -.222 (.226)  | -.146 (.221)  | -.163 (.229)  |
| Democrat | .926\*\* (.156)  | .919\*\* (.158)  | .867\*\* (.160)  | .868\*\* (.162)  |
| Republican | -.451\*\* (.222)  | -.493\*\* (.224)  | -.435\*\* (.222)  | -.487\*\* (.224)  |
| Female | -.131 (.152)  | -.084 (.154)  | -.121 (.151)  | .075 (.154)  |
| Education | -.136 (.152)  | -.137 (.152)  | -.135 (.155)  | -.121 (.154)  |
| Age | -.206\*\* (.060)  | -.159\*\* (.062)  | -.198\*\* (.060)  | -.147\*\* (.061)  |
| Income | -.176\*\* (.037)  | -.160\*\* (.038)  | -.189\*\* (.036)  | -.189\*\* (.037)  |
| Political Interest | .729\*\* (.129)  | .613\*\* (.131)  | .736\*\* (.130)  | .613\*\* (.134)  |
| Region: South | -.308\* (.188)  | -.269\* (.193)  | -.310\*\* (.188)  | -.314\*\* (.191)  |
| Region: Midwest | .101 (.199)  | .179 (.202)  | .089 (.200)  | .136 (.202)  |
| Region: West | -.224 (.207)  | -.143 (.210)  | -.209 (.209)  | -.184 (.211)  |
| Constant | .288 (1.323)  | -1.193 (1.358)  | .267 (1.342)  | -.381 (1.347)  |
| **N** | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| **Wald Chi2** | 135.940 | 158.800 | 139.230 | 157.420 |
| **Log Likelihood** | -621.843 | -609.770  | -622.148 | -611.844 |
| **AIC/****BIC** | 1,277.686/ 1,364.706 | 1,253.54/ 1,340.56 | 1278.295/ 1365.315 | 1257.689/ 1344.709 |

*Note*: Cell entries are logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses.

 \* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table S5. Correlations** *Correlation Coefficients*  | DV: Welfare Support | IV: Perceived Risk Exposure: *Ego-centric* | IV: Perceived Risk Exposure: *Socio-tropic* | IV: Risk Aversion | IV: Risk Acceptance |
| Perceived Risk Exposure:  *Ego-centric* | -.01 | -- | .23 | .28 | -.34 |
| Perceived Risk Exposure:  *Socio-tropic* | -.11 | .23 | -- | .12 | -.09 |
| Risk Aversion | -.07 | .28 | .12 | -- | -.62 |
| Risk Acceptance | .15 | -.34 | -.09 | -.62 | -- |
| Unemployment by  Education/Gender | .05 | .20 | .04 | .04 | -.12 |
| Unemployment by Age | .09 | .01 | -.10 | -.12 | .12 |
| Unemployment by Region | -.02 | .01 | .04 | -.04 | .04 |
| Family Lost Job? | .01 | .07 | .07 | -.03 | .07 |
| Income | -.16 | -.31 | -.03 | -.06 | .10 |
| Education | -.05 | -.20 | -.05 | -.03 | .12 |
| Age | -.10 | .03 | .12 | .14 | -.15 |
| Democrat | .25 | -.06 | -.22 | -.06 | .08 |
| Republican | -.16 | -.03 | .19 | .09 | -.04 |
| Political Interest | .15 | -.18 | .02 | -.11 | .25 |
| Female | -.01 | .14 | .02 | .11 | -.14 |

**Table S6. Individual-Level Support for Increased Welfare Spending (Income x Perceived Risk Exposure Included)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | .187\*\* (.099)  | .376\*\* (.102)  | .054 (.395)  | .502 (.404)  |
| Risk Aversion | -.596\*\* (.277)  | -- | -.149\* (.116)  | -- |
| Risk Acceptance | -- | .782\*\* (.177)  | -- |  .405\*\* (.092)  |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Aversion | .099\*\* (.053)  | -- | .252\* (.202)  | -- |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Acceptance | -- | -.126\*\* (.046)  | -- | -.453\*\* (.181)  |
| Income | **.005 (.080)**  | **.007 (.081)**  | **-.158\*\* (.039)**  | **-.160\*\* (.040)**  |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Income | **-.046\*\* (.020)**  | **-.041\*\* (.019)**  | **-.107\* (.079)**  | **-.092 (.078)**  |
| Actual Risk Exposure |  |  |  |  |
|  Unemployment by  Education and Gender | -.090 (.112) | -.081 (.112)  | -.074 (.117)  | -.054 (.116)  |
| Unemployment by Region | -.176 (.202)  | -.161 (.205)  | -.150 (.202)  | -.155 (.205)  |
| Unemployment by Age | -.030\* (.022)  | -.023 (.023)  | -.030\* (.023)  | -.023 (.023)  |
| Family Member Lost Job? | -.137 (.220)  | -.191 (.226)  | -.147 (.219)  | -.167 (.227)  |
| Democrat | .930\*\* (.156)  | .923\*\* (.158)  | .859\*\* (.159)  | .859\*\* (.162)  |
| Republican | -.445\*\* (.222)  | -.481\*\* (.223)  | -.425\*\* (.222)  | -.475\*\* (.223)  |
| Female | -.161 (.152)  | -.117 (.155)  | -.153 (.152)  | -.107 (.154)  |
| Education | -.160 (.149)  | -.162 (.150)  | -.134 (.153)  | -.122 (.153)  |
| Age | -.209\*\* (.060)  | -.164\* (.061)  | -.198\*\* (.060)  | -.148 (.061)  |
| Political Interest | .721\*\* (.128)  | .609\*\* (.129)  | .727\*\* (.129)  | .605\*\* (.133)  |
| Constant | .468 (1.752)  | -.864 (1.801)  | .893 (1.738)  | .352 (1.748)  |
| **N** | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| **Wald Chi2** | 136.760 | 160.410 | 133.550 | 152.160 |
| **Log Likelihood** | -621.381 |  -609.917 | -623.501 | -613.836 |
| **AIC/****BIC** | 1,274.762/ 1,356.663 | 1,251.834/ 1,333.735 | 1,279.001/ 1,360.902 | 1,259.671/ 1,341.572 |

*Note*: Cell entries are logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses.

 \* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

 

**Risk Aversion** Model **Risk Acceptance** Model

**Figure S1. Marginal Effect of Perceived Risk Exposure (Ego-centric) on Welfare Support**

 

 **Risk Aversion** Model **Risk Acceptance** Model

**Figure S2. Marginal Effect of Perceived Risk Exposure (Socio-tropic) on Welfare Support**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Table S7. Income Interacted****DV: Welfare Support** | **Ego-Centric Risk Exposure: *Financial Insecurity*** | **Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure: *Macroeconomic Health*** |
| Perceived Risk Exposure | -.018 (.051)  | .195\*\* (.065)  | -.438\*\* (.205)  | .114 (.225)  |
| Risk Aversion | -.672\*\* (.289)  | -- | -.187\*\* (.115)  | -- |
| Risk Acceptance | -- | .798\*\* (.181)  | -- |  .415\*\* (.093)  |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Aversion | .114\*\* (.055)  | -- | .297\* (.206)  | -- |
| Perceived Risk Exposure x  Risk Acceptance | -- | -.129\*\* (.046)  | -- | -.478\*\* (.181)  |
| Income | 1.431\*\* (.732)  | 1.258\*\* (.744)  | 1.496\*\* (.734)  | 1.332\*\* (.738)  |
| Actual Risk Exposure |  |  |  |  |
|  Unemployment by  Education and Gender Unemployment by  Education and Gender x  Income | **.135 (.203)** **-.066\* (.046)**  | **.114 (.204)** **-.057 (.047)**  | **.169 (.209)** **-.072\* (.046)**  | **.142 (.209)** **-.060\* (.047)**  |
| Unemployment by Region Unemployment by Region x  Income  | **.793\*\* (.473) -.203\*\* (.090)**  | **.730\* (.473)****-.187\*\* (.091)**  | **.827\*\* (.479)** **-.206\*\* (.091)**  | **.793\*\* (.479)****-.200\*\* (.091)**  |
| Unemployment by Age Unemployment by Age x  Income | **-.112\*\* (.037)****.019\*\* (.007)**  | **-.106\*\* (.037)** **.019\*\* (.007)**  | **-.112\*\* (.037)** **.019\*\* (.007)**  | **-.110\*\* (.038)****.020\*\* (.007)**  |
| Family Member Lost Job? |  **-.117 (.491)**  | **-.203 (.509)**  | **-.106 (.501)**  | **-.219 (.532)**  |
|  Family Member Lost Job? x  Income | **.012 (.096)**  | **-.003 (.099)**  | **-.007 (.097)**  | **.013 (.102)**  |
| DemocratDemocrat x Income | **.504\* (.354)****.090\* (.069)**  | **.483\* (.354)****.093\* (.070)**  | **.435 (.358)****.092\* (.070)**  | **.426 (.360)****.094 (.071)**  |
| RepublicanRepublican x Income | **-.131 (.506)** **-.068 (.095)**  | **-.240 (.521)** **-.053 (.097)**  | **-.071 (.509)** **-.077 (.096)**  | **-.147 (.522)** **-.071 (.097)**  |
| Female | -.137 (.153) | -.098 (.156)  | -.127 (.153)  | -.090 (.156)  |
| EducationEducation x Income | -.019 (.291) -.041 (.060)  | -.050 (.292) -.033 (.061)  | .016 (.301).049 (.061)  | -.016 (.302) -.037 (.062)  |
| Age | .202\*\* (.061)  | -.156\*\* (.063)  | -.192\*\* (.061)  | -.146\*\* (.062)  |
| Political Interest | .723\*\* (.127)  | .612\*\* (.129)  | .727\*\* (.128)  | .611\*\* (.131)  |
| Constant | -5.732\* (3.597)  | -6.364\*\* (3.606)  | -6.200\*\* (3.612)  | -6.098\*\* (3.603) |
| **N** | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| **Wald Chi2** | 145.000 | 164.480 | 144.820 | 162.250 |
| **Log Likelihood** | -615.266 |  -604.153 | -615.042 | -605.469 |
| **AIC/****BIC** | 1,274.532/ 1,387.146 | 1,252.305/ 1,364.920 | 1,274.084/ 1,386.699 | 1,254.937/ 1,367.551 |
|  |  |  |  |  |

*Note*: Cell entries are logit coefficients with robust standard errors in parentheses.

 \* denotes *p* < .10, \*\* denotes *p* < .05 (one tailed test)

 

**Figure S3. Marginal Effect of Perceived Ego-Centric Risk Exposure on Welfare Support by Risk Orientation**

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**Figure S4. Marginal Effect of Perceived Socio-Tropic Risk Exposure on Welfare Support by Risk Orientation**