**Supplementary information** for‘Confronting racism of omission: Experimental evidence of the impact of information about ethnic and racial inequalities in the United States and the Netherlands’

Table of contents

**S1**. Prolific Academic and the Longitudinal Internet Studies for Social Sciences………… 2

**S2**. Sample and population demographics………………………………………………… 3

**S3**. Post-allocation balance on key variables………………………………………………. 4

**S4**. US Treatment………………………………………………………………………….. 5

**S5**. US Control condition………………………………………………………………….. 6

**S6**. NL Treatment………………………………………………………………………….. 7

**S7**. NL Control condition………………………………………………………………….. 8

**S8**. Distribution of responses dependent variables………………………………………… 9

**S9.** Sample descriptives……………………………………………………………………. 10

**S1**. Prolific Academic and the Longitudinal Internet Studies for Social Sciences

US participants were recruited through Prolific Academic, a survey firm specializing in social science research, founded by academics in Oxford, UK. Prolific has worked with researchers at top institutions around the world and compares favorably to other survey firms that offer high-quality alternatives to Amazon Mechanical Turk (Palan and Schitter 2018). We fielded our survey experiment with Prolific’s active panel of 138,363 participants based in the US. Panelists are registered after verification of a valid e-mail address, phone number and payment method. Each panelist is assigned a unique identifier, matched with self-reported basic demographic information. They receive compensation for each survey completed, after an evaluation of their survey responses. Panelists flagged for low-quality responses more than once are removed from the panel.

Participants in the Netherlands were recruited from the *Longitudinal Internet Studies for the Social Sciences* (LISS) panel. The panel was established in 2007 with a true probability sample of 4,500 households randomly drawn from the population register by Statistics Netherlands. Panel members are invited on a monthly basis to take online questionnaires, administered by *CentERdata* (based at Tilburg University), which maintains access, ensures data quality, and keeps a record of unique panel member IDs. Panel members are provided with a computer and internet connection if necessary and paid upon completion (Leenheer and Scherpenzeel 2013). LISS data are widely used in social science research and have been found to provide a similar or better quality than reputable international surveys like the European Social Survey (Berning and Schlueter 2016; Revilla 2012; Scherpenzeel 2009, 2018).

Works cited:

Berning, Carl C., and Elmar Schlueter. 2016. “The Dynamics of Radical Right-Wing Populist Party Preferences and Perceived Group Threat: A Comparative Panel Analysis of Three Competing Hypotheses in the Netherlands and Germany.” *Social Science Research* 55:83–93.

Leenheer, Jorna, and Annette C. Scherpenzeel. 2013. “Does It Pay off to Include Non-Internet Households in an Internet Panel?” *International Journal of Internet Science* 8(1).

Palan, Stefan, and Christian Schitter. 2018. “Prolific.Ac—A Subject Pool for Online Experiments.” *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance* 17:22–27. doi: [10.1016/j.jbef.2017.12.004](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jbef.2017.12.004).

Revilla, M. A. 2012. “Impact of the Mode of Data Collection on the Quality of Survey Questions in Social Sciences.” Dissertation, Research and Expertise Centre for Survey Methodology, Universitad Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona.

Scherpenzeel, A. 2009. *Start of the LISS Panel: Sample and Recruitment of a Probability-Based Internet Panel*. Tilburg: CentERdata.

Scherpenzeel, Annette. 2018. “True Longitudinal and Probability-Based Internet Panels, Evidence from the Netherlands.” in *Social and Behavioral Research and the Internet: Advances in Applied Methods and Research Strategies*, edited by M. Das, P. Ester, and L. Kaczmirek. London: Routledge.

**S2**. Sample and population demographics (*n* = 2,079)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | United States |  | Netherlands |  |
|  | Population | Sample | Population | Sample |
| Gender | % | % | % | % |
| Female | 51 | 51 | 51 | 53 |
| Male | 49 | 48 | 49 | 47 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Age |  |  |  |  |
| 18-27 | 18 | 20 | 12 | 8 |
| 28-37 | 18 | 23 | 13 | 10 |
| 38-47 | 16 | 17 | 12 | 10 |
| 48-57 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 16 |
| 58+ | 31 | 24 | 50 | 56 |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Race/ethnicity |  |  |  |  |
| White | 77 | 73 | 88 | 89 |
| Black | 13 | 13 | 3 | 2 |
| Asian | 6 | 7 | 3 | 2 |
| Latino/a |  | 4 |  |  |
| Middle eastern |  | 2 |  | 2 |
| Native American |  | <1 |  |  |
| Mixed | 3 | 2 |  |  |
| Other | 1 | <1 | 6 | 6 |

*Note.* US population statistics are based on the US Census Bureau Current Population Survey (CPS). Following the CPS, the category ‘White’ includes Hispanic Whites. Dutch population statistics are based on publicly available data from Statistics Netherlands. Note that ‘race’ is not an official statistical category in the Netherlands. In calculating population statistics, the category ‘Black’ includes people with an Afro-Caribbean background, ‘Asian’ tallies up people with an ethnic Asian background.

We do not have access to population data to systematically compare sample and population statistics on the full range of indicators of socio-economic status. However, in our US sample, the unemployment rate corresponds exactly to the unemployment rate in the second quarter of 2020, 13 percent, as recorded by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The share of college-educated participants (~50% of our sample) is higher than the share of college-educated Americans (~40%) and the median income observed for our US sample, $70,000, is very close to that recorded in the 2021 Census ($70,784).

As reported in the ‘Data’ section, the Dutch sample skews toward an older demographic, which is reflected in a substantially higher rate of participants who are out of the labor force (14.5%) as compared to the national population (5.3%). The share of higher educated participants in our sample (~37%) closely corresponds to that in the Dutch population (35.8%) and the median income observed in our sample (€30,000) is an almost perfect match to the national median (€29,800), as recorded by Statistics Netherlands.

**S3**. Post-allocation balance on key variables (n = 2,079)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Sample |  |  |
| Variable | Control | Treatment | Difference |
| Male | 49.1 | 47.1 | 2.0 |
| Female | 50.8 | 52.2 | -1.4 |
| Ages 18-27 | 13.1 | 14.8 | -1.7 |
| Ages 28-37 | 16.1 | 15.8 | 0.3 |
| Ages 38-47 | 13.4 | 12.6 | 0.8 |
| Ages 48-57 | 12.7 | 14.7 | -2.0 |
| Age 58 and older | 44.8 | 42.1 | 2.6 |
| White | 80.2 | 82.0 | -1.8 |
| Black | 7.3 | 7.2 | 0.1 |
| Asian | 3.9 | 4.5 | -0.6 |
| Other | 4.0 | 2.6 | 1.4 |

*Note*. Distribution of participants in control and treatment groups over key variables, in percentages. For ease of presentation, the ‘treatment’ category combines the ‘wealth’ and ‘race’ treatment. \* *p* < .05, \*\* *p* < .01 \*\*\* *p* < .01 (two-tailed). Sample *n* = 2,079 (control *n* = 1,039; treatment *n* = 1,040).

**S4**. US Treatment

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Academic research shows:

* African Americans are often treated unequally in the United States.
* White job applicants (left bar) are 2.5 times as likely to be invited for a job interview as black applicants (right bar). Even if they send out exactly the same letter and have the same levels of education and work experience.
* Even a White applicant with a criminal record (middle bar) has a higher chance of getting a job interview than a black applicant without a criminal record.
* African American students are also less likely than White students to be placed in advanced (AP) classes. Even if they get the same test results.

**S5**. US Control condition

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Academic research shows:

* Some Americans exercise and are more physically active than others. People who get enough exercise are healthier.
* Getting enough exercise means swimming, walking or cycling for at least 2.5 hours a week. Plus a minimum of two sessions of sports or fitness that strengthen the muscles.
* Of young Americans, ages 18 to 24, about a third gets enough physical exercise. Of adults aged 25 to 44, only a quarter of people get enough exercise.
* Among people aged 45 to 64, most do not get enough exercise.

**S6**. Netherlands treatment

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Wetenschappelijk onderzoek toont aan:

* Mensen met een migratieachtergrond worden vaak niet gelijk behandeld in Nederland.
* Een werkzoekende met een oer-Hollandse naam (bijvoorbeeld Jan, linker staafje) wordt drie keer zo vaak uitgenodigd voor een sollicitatiegesprek als een werkzoekende met een Marokkaanse naam (bijvoorbeeld Khalid, rechter staafje). Ook als ze precies dezelfde sollicitatiebrief sturen en dezelfde opleiding en werkervaring hebben.
* Zelfs sollicitanten met een oer-Hollandse naam die een strafblad hebben (middelste staafje) maken meer kans op een baan dan sollicitanten zonder strafblad maar met een migratieachtergrond.
* Ook krijgen scholieren met een migratieachtergrond gemiddeld een lager schooladvies dan kinderen zonder migratieachtergrond. Zelfs als ze even goede cijfers halen.

**S7**. Netherlands control condition

Chart, bar chart

Description automatically generated

Wetenschappelijk onderzoek toont aan:

* Sommige mensen in Nederland sporten en bewegen meer dan anderen. Mensen die voldoende bewegen zijn gezonder.
* Voldoende bewegen betekent minstens 2,5 uur per week zwemmen, wandelen of fietsen. En minimaal 2 keer per week oefeningen die spieren sterker maken, zoals fitness of sport.
* Van alle kinderen tussen 4 en 12 jaar sport en beweegt meer dan de helft genoeg. Ook onder jongvolwassenen, tussen 18 en 35 jaar, doet een meerderheid voldoende aan sport en beweging.
* Van de jongeren tussen de 12 en 18 jaar bewegen de meeste niet voldoende.

**S8**. Distribution of responses dependent variables

**   **

**S9.** Sample descriptives (*n* = 2,079)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Variable | US | NL |
| *Dependent variables* | *Mean* | *Mean* |
| [Black/ethnic minority] children do not have the same opportunities for getting  ahead as White children (1-7) | 5.4 | 4.7 |
| Importance for economic success of … |  |  |
| Skin color or race (1-5) | 3.0 | 2.5 |
| Immigration or legal status (1-5) | 3.6 | 2.6 |
| It is the government’s responsibility to combat racial and ethnic discrimination (1-7) | 5.6 | 5.6 |
|  |  |  |
| *Pretreatment variables* |  |  |
| [Racial diversity / immigration] makes [country] stronger (1-7) | 5.7 | 3.7 |
| For society to be fair, differences in people's standard of living should be small (1-7) | 4.9 | 4.4 |
|  |  |  |
| *Control variables* |  |  |
| Gender |  |  |
| Male | .49 | .47 |
| Female | .50 | .53 |
| Other | <.01 |  |
| Majority group | .70 | .85 |
| Age | 44.0 | 56.9 |
| Marital status |  |  |
| Married | .50 | .55 |
| Widowed | .03 | .08 |
| Divorced or separated | .12 | .12 |
| Never married | .36 | .26 |
| Household income (annual, before taxes) |  |  |
| Less than $10,000 | .05 | .16 |
| $10,000 – 19,999 | .08 | .17 |
| $20,000 – 39,999 | .19 | .33 |
| $40,000 – 59,999 | .16 | .22 |
| $60,000 – 79,999 | .18 | .07 |
| $80,000 – 99,999 | .10 | .04 |
| $100,000 – 149,999 | .16 | .01 |
| $150,000 – 199,999 | .05 | <.01 |
| $200,000 – 349,999 | .02 | <.01 |
| $350,000 – 499,999 | <.01 |  |
| More than $500,000 | <.01 |  |
| Student (0/1) | .06 | .05 |
| Unemployed (0/1) | .13 | .15 |
| Self-placement on social ladder (1-7) | 4.2 | 4.9 |
| Family’s placement on social ladder (1-7) | 4.1 | 4.6 |
| Political orientation |  |  |
| Strong Democrat / far left | .25 | .05 |
| Democrat / left | .21 | .16 |
| Middle | .31 | .51 |
| Republican / right | .12 | .24 |
| Strong Republican / far right | .10 | .04 |