Appendix A – Variable Description

### Political Awareness

Political awareness is measured as an average of responses to three questions:

1. How interested would you say you are in politics? With answers ranging from “very interested” to “not at all interested.”
2. How often does politics seem so complicated that you can’t really understand what is going on? With answers ranging from “never” to “frequently.”
3. How difficult or easy do you find it to make your mind up about political issues? With answers ranging from “very difficult” to “very easy.”

### Moral Hazard Index

The moral hazard index is an average of responses to three questions asking respondents to place themselves on a five-point scale ranging according to “what extent they agree or disagree that social benefits and services in [country] make people:

(1) … lazy

(2) … less willing to care for one another

(3) … less willing to look after themselves and their families

### Welfare Support Index

The welfare support index is a combination of five variables that ask individuals to place themselves on an 11 point scale according to whether they believe it “should not be government’s responsibility at all” or it “should be entirely government’s responsibility” to

1. Ensure a job for everyone who wants one?
2. Ensure adequate health care for the sick?
3. Ensure a reasonable standard of living for the old?
4. Ensure a reasonable standard of living for the unemployed?
5. Ensure sufficient child care services for working parents?
6. Provide paid leave from work for people who temporarily have to care for sick family members?

