**How Face-to-Face Interviews and Cognitive Skill affect Item Non-response: A randomized experiment assigning mode of interview**

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**ONLINE SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS: WORDSUM Items & Scaling**

The WORDSUM items from the General Social Survey ask respondents to choose the closest synonym from among 5 choices for the word presented in the question stem. Respondents are handed a show-card with the word in question typed in bold at the top and the choices in regular type underneath. The interviewer also reads the word and the choices out loud to the respondent.

These items have been shown repeatedly to be good indicators of cognitive skill and general intelligence (Davis, Smith and Marsden 2007; Caroll 2003; Jensen 2001; Thorndike 1942).

We scale these four items using a two-parameter item response model and calculate a latent ability score for each respondent. The range of the scale is constructed to have a mean of 0 and range from 2 to -2. Higher values indicate higher levels of cognitive skill such that the interaction with mode of interview produces **decreases** in non-response. See Malhotra et al. (2007) for a discussion of using a shortened version of the WORDSUM scale like this one.