Personality traits and hostility on social media (#264766)

Author(s)
This pre-registration is currently anonymous to enable blind peer-review.
It has 3 authors.

Pre-registered on:
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1) Have any data been collected for this study already?
No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?
H1 - Personality traits predict the types of online political discussion networks that people engage in.
H1a - The more a) extraverted or b)open to experience individuals are, the more likely they are to engage in online diverse political discussion networks.
H1b - The more a) agreeable or b) neurotic individuals are the more likely they are to engage in online homophilic political discussion networks.
H1c - Conscientiousness will not predict differences in the types of online political discussion networks that people engage in.

RQ1 - Which personality traits predict perceiving oneself as a victim of online hostility?
RQ2 - Which personality traits are more predictive of confrontational responses to perceived online hostility?
RQ3 - How do results vary across three countries (UK, Poland, Spain)?

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.
Survey question measuring type of online political discussion network: "Thinking of the people you interact with on social media, how different do you find their opinions to be from yours?" With responses coded as mostly homophilic, more homophilic than diverse, mostly diverse, more diverse than homophilic and not engaging in interactions on social media. Don't knows will be excluded

Survey question measuring perceptions of being the victim of online hostility: "Has anyone ever used hostile language (insults, threats etc.) towards you on social media?" Responses are Yes or No (Don't knows excluded).

Survey question to measure response to perceived online hostility (only administered to those who answered Yes to previous question): "Q. Thinking of the last time somebody used hostile language (eg. insults, threats etc) against you on social media, what was your reaction, did you? Responses are: 1. Avoid confrontation; 2. Confront them (Don't knows excluded).

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?
All respondents have an equal opportunity to answer all questions in the survey. Participants are not allocated into treatment groups.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.
Personality traits will be the main independent variable and will be measured using the Ten-Item Personality Index standard battery. Following standard practice, we will measure each of the big five personality traits: Extraversion, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, Openness, and Neuroticism.

To test H1 and H1a, H1b and H1c, multinomial regression models will predict type of online political discussion networks by type of personality traits. Controls will include: age, gender, education, political interest, frequency of in-person political discussion.

To analyse RQ1, binary logistic regression models will predict perceptions of having been a victim of online hostility by type of personality traits. Controls will include: age, gender, education, political interest, frequency of in-person political discussion, type of online political discussion network.

To analyse RQ2, binary logistic regression models will predict responses to perceived online hostility by personality traits, among respondents who declare having been victims of hostility. Controls will include: age, gender, education, political interest, frequency of in-person political discussion, type of online political discussion network.

To explore RQ3, results will be replicated and compared in the three country samples (UK, Poland, Spain).

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.
Non-social media users will not be administered the questions in the survey about social media use.

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.
Target sample size is 1,500 in Great Britain, 1,500 in Poland and 1,500 in Spain, collected to ensure representativeness on key quotas for age, gender, place of residence, region, education level.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)
Dependent on considerations of sufficient sample size and statistical power, additional analyses will consider the association between personality

traits and types of engagement in particular social media platforms.

BUNDLE
This pre-registration is part of a bundle which includes:
#264,947 - https://aspredicted.org/2z8y7g.pdf - Title: 'The Age of Political Sectarianism' #264,964 - https://aspredicted.org/j45rb9.pdf - Title: 'Ideological congruence and support for breaching democratic norms'