July 13, 2020

*Manuscript: Exposure to asylum seekers and changing support for the radical right: A natural experiment in the Netherlands*

Dear editor,

Please find enclosed a submission to *PLOS ONE* titled, “Exposure to asylum seekers and changing support for the radical right: A natural experiment in the Netherlands”.

Our study is a quantitative study on changes in support for the radical right in the Netherlands against the background of the 2015 refugee crisis. As a result of this refugee crisis, some voters experienced a sudden influx of asylum seekers in their neighbourhood and others did not. To evaluate the impact of local exposure to asylum seekers on support for the radical right we use a large-scale individual-level panel survey enriched with detailed information about where refugees were housed from the Central Agency for the Reception of Asylum Seekers (COA). We find that especially among residents who became more exposed to asylum seekers in their neighbourhood, support for the radical right increased.

We have chosen to submit our manuscript to ***PLOS ONE*** because we believe the topic of our research, the impact of the 2015 refugee crisis on support for the radical right, may be of interest for a broad multi-disciplinary audience.

I will serve as the corresponding author for this manuscript. I have assumed responsibility for keeping my co-authors informed of our progress through the editorial review process, the content of the review, and any revisions made.

Sincerely,

Jochem Tolsma

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