Supporting Information

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Alternative Parasite Stress Estimates

The main text reports analyses using estimates of national historical parasite prevalence to operationalize parasite stress. The supplementary analyses reported here describe results when alternative variables are used to operationalize parasite stress. We report results using historical parasite prevalence [i.e., analyses used in the main text (52)] and two alternative estimates. The first alternative uses nonzoonotic infectious disease estimates (14), and the second alternative uses the first component extracted from a principal component analysis on historical parasite stress, nonzoonotic infections disease, zoonotic infectious disease estimates, and 2012 WHO infectious disease deaths per country. This principal component was log-transformed to correct for positive skew. Correlations between the historical prevalence estimate reported in the main text and the nonzoonotic disease estimate and the principal component were $r = 0.54$ and $r = 0.85$, respectively, and the correlation between the nonzoonotic disease estimate and the principal component was $r = 0.86$. All nation-level results reported below control for level 1 effects of participant sex, participant age, and disgust sensitivity.

Traditionalism. The effect of national parasite stress on traditionalism was similar across operationalizations of parasite stress: historical pathogen prevalence [$t(26.54) = 4.16$, $P < 0.001$], nonzoonotic infectious disease estimate [$t(27.32) = 3.23$, $P < 0.01$], and the principal component from multiple estimates [$t(27.13) = 3.36$, $P < 0.01$]. Correlations between national traditionalism averages and the three parasite stress indices were $r = 0.70$, $r = 0.51$, and $r = 0.62$, respectively.

SDO. The effect of national parasite stress on SDO was similar across operationalizations of parasite stress: historical pathogen prevalence [$t(25.19) = 0.11$, $P = 0.91$], nonzoonotic infectious disease estimate [$t(24.86) = 0.91$, $P = 0.37$], and the principal component from multiple estimates [$t(24.97) = 0.57$, $P = 0.57$]. Correlations between national SDO averages and the three parasite stress indices were $r = -0.06$, $r = -0.17$, and $r = -0.17$, respectively.

Cross-National Variability in Disgust Sensitivity. The effect of national parasite stress on disgust sensitivity was similar across operationalizations of parasite stress: historical pathogen prevalence [$t(26.18) = 1.12$, $P = 0.28$], nonzoonotic infectious disease estimate [$t(25.69) = 0.12$, $P = 0.91$], and the principal component from multiple estimates, [$t(26.21) = 0.93$, $P = 0.36$]. Correlations between national disgust sensitivity averages and the three parasite stress indices were $r = 0.18$, $r = 0.14$, and $r = 0.11$, respectively.

Other Supporting Information Files

SI Appendix (PDF)
Dataset S1 (XLSX)