

# This Article Looks Quite Authoritative

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## Variables

In this section I describe the variables used in the analysis. I provide a table of summary statistics for the continuous and dummy variables used in the analysis below.

Responses to the questions “is this action terrorism?”, “was this action morally justified?”, and “was this action strategic?” were originally collected on a 1-7 scale, where 1 indicated strong agreement and 7 indicated strong disagreement. I rescale responses to between -3 and 3, where -3 now indicates strong disagreement, 0 indicates a neutral answer, and 3 indicates strong agreement.

Respondents were asked to identify their ideology as either “Very Liberal,” “Liberal,” “Moderate,” “Conservative,” “Very Conservative,” or “Don’t Know.” For analyses involving respondents’ ideology, I remove “Don’t Know” and scale answers to a -2-2 scale, where -2 indicates a very liberal respondent, and +2 indicates a very Conservative respondent.

Table 1:

Statistic	N	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Pctl(25)	Pctl(75)	Max
Ideology	3,640	3.216	1.488	1	2	4	6
Moral.Justifiaction	3,640	-1.618	1.849	-3	-3	0	3
Strategic	3,640	-0.389	2.109	-3	-3	1	3
Terroism	3,640	1.694	1.580	-3	1	3	3
Conservative.Action	3,640	0.492	0.500	0	0	1	1
Female	3,640	0.533	0.499	0	0	1	1
Casualties	3,640	0.504	0.500	0	0	1	1

## Ideology on Moral Justification

First, I examine the relationship between a respondent’s ideology and their views of the actions as morally justifiable. There is a significant positive relationship between a respondent’s ideology on a five point scale and perceptions of moral justifiability indicating that *ceretis paribus*, conservatives rated the actions as more justifiable than liberals or moderates.

The interactions between an action being conservative and a respondent’s ideology are uniformly significant and positive, indicating that respondents that are more conservative see conservative actions as significantly more justifiable than liberal actions, and vice versa.

## Ideology on strategy

In this section, I investigate the relationships between a respondent’s ideology on a five point scale, and their views of the actions as strategic.

The relationships between ideology and views of the actions as strategic are positive and significant when controlling for the interaction between ideology and whether the action was in favor of a conservative cause. This indicates, that across the board, more conservative respondents also saw the actions as more justified.

Table 2: Ideology vs Moral Justifiability

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>					
	Action is morally justifiable					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ideology	0.124*** (0.020)	0.125*** (0.020)	0.046 (0.029)	0.046 (0.029)	0.046 (0.029)	0.028 (0.028)
Conservative Action		-0.154** (0.061)	-0.694*** (0.153)	-0.692*** (0.153)	-0.698*** (0.153)	-0.697*** (0.149)
Casualties				-0.025 (0.061)	-0.028 (0.061)	-0.024 (0.060)
Female					-0.177*** (0.061)	-0.121** (0.060)
Black						0.690*** (0.090)
Hispanic						1.072*** (0.096)
Race — other						0.950*** (0.095)
Ideology $\times$ conserv. act.			0.156*** (0.041)	0.156*** (0.041)	0.157*** (0.041)	0.158*** (0.039)
Intercept	-1.981*** (0.077)	-1.910*** (0.082)	-1.639*** (0.108)	-1.627*** (0.112)	-1.534*** (0.116)	-1.831*** (0.115)
Observations	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640
R <sup>2</sup>	0.010	0.012	0.016	0.016	0.018	0.074
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.010	0.011	0.015	0.015	0.017	0.072
Residual Std. Error	1.852	1.851	1.848	1.848	1.846	1.794
F Statistic	36.802***	21.572***	19.352***	14.551***	13.330***	36.083***

*Note:*

\*p&lt;0.1; \*\*p&lt;0.05; \*\*\*p&lt;0.01

Table 3: Ideology Vs Perceptions of Actions as Strategic

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>					
	Action is strategic					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ideology	0.027 (0.023)	0.029 (0.023)	0.072** (0.033)	0.072** (0.033)	0.073** (0.033)	0.066** (0.032)
Conservative Action		-0.169** (0.069)	0.123 (0.172)	0.132 (0.172)	0.122 (0.172)	0.120 (0.172)
Casualties				-0.134* (0.069)	-0.141** (0.069)	-0.135** (0.069)
Female					-0.297*** (0.069)	-0.279*** (0.069)
Black						0.076 (0.104)
Hispanic						0.406*** (0.111)
Race — other						0.330*** (0.109)
Ideology $\times$ conserv. act.			-0.085* (0.046)	-0.087* (0.046)	-0.085* (0.046)	-0.084* (0.046)
Intercept	-0.488*** (0.086)	-0.410*** (0.092)	-0.557*** (0.121)	-0.493*** (0.126)	-0.337*** (0.131)	-0.422*** (0.133)
Observations	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640
R <sup>2</sup>	0.0004	0.002	0.003	0.004	0.009	0.014
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.0001	0.001	0.002	0.003	0.008	0.012
Residual Std. Error	2.081	2.080	2.079	2.078	2.073	2.069
F Statistic	1.391	3.708**	3.614**	3.661***	6.661***	6.640***

*Note:*

\*p&lt;0.1; \*\*p&lt;0.05; \*\*\*p&lt;0.01

## Ideology on Perceptions of actions as terrorism

In this section, I investigate the relationships between Ideology on a five-point scale, and perceptions of the actions as terrorism.

Across all of the models, moving a respondent rightwards along the ideology scale is associated with a decrease in their agreement of the actions as terrorism, suggesting that more conservative respondents identify the actions as less terroristic. The interactions between ideology and an action being conservative are significant and negative, indicating that conservatives are much less ready to identify conservative actions as terrorism, and vice versa.

Table 4: Estimates of Effect of Partisanship on Terrorism

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>					
	Action is terrorism					
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ideology	−0.212*** (0.017)	−0.213*** (0.017)	−0.141*** (0.025)	−0.142*** (0.025)	−0.141*** (0.025)	−0.136*** (0.025)
Conservative Action		0.084 (0.052)	0.576*** (0.131)	0.563*** (0.130)	0.560*** (0.130)	0.554*** (0.130)
Casualties				0.187*** (0.052)	0.185*** (0.052)	0.183*** (0.052)
Female					−0.109** (0.052)	−0.140*** (0.052)
Black						−0.347*** (0.078)
Hispanic						−0.172** (0.084)
Race — other						−0.457*** (0.083)
Ideology × conserv. act.			−0.142*** (0.035)	−0.139*** (0.035)	−0.138*** (0.035)	−0.136*** (0.034)
Intercept	2.340*** (0.065)	2.302*** (0.070)	2.054*** (0.092)	1.965*** (0.095)	2.022*** (0.099)	2.140*** (0.100)
Observations	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640
R <sup>2</sup>	0.039	0.040	0.045	0.048	0.049	0.060
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.039	0.040	0.044	0.047	0.048	0.058
Residual Std. Error	1.578	1.578	1.574	1.572	1.571	1.562
F Statistic	149.569***	76.107***	56.584***	45.803***	37.557***	29.203***

*Note:*

\*p<0.1; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p<0.01

## Ideology on Moral Justification

Table 5: Ideology vs Moral Justifiability

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
	Action is morally justifiable			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Ideology	−0.114 (0.079)	−0.105 (0.079)	−0.375*** (0.111)	−0.375*** (0.111)
Conservative Action	−0.207** (0.082)	−0.202** (0.082)	−0.155 (0.113)	−0.156 (0.113)
Casualties	0.573*** (0.102)	0.579*** (0.102)	0.322** (0.143)	0.322** (0.143)
Female		−0.143** (0.061)	−0.364*** (0.115)	−0.363*** (0.115)
Black				−0.025 (0.061)
Hispanic				
Race — other				
Ideology × conserv. act.				
Intercept				
factor_ideo5Conservative / V. Conservative:conservative_action			0.544*** (0.158)	0.544*** (0.158)
factor_ideo5Liberal / V. Liberal:conservative_action			−0.080 (0.164)	−0.079 (0.164)
factor_ideo5Not Sure:conservative_action			0.530*** (0.204)	0.529*** (0.204)
Constant	−1.537*** (0.058)	−1.471*** (0.064)	−1.370*** (0.078)	−1.358*** (0.084)
Observations	3,640	3,640	3,640	3,640
R <sup>2</sup>	0.017	0.018	0.024	0.024
Adjusted R <sup>2</sup>	0.016	0.017	0.023	0.022
Residual Std. Error	1.847	1.845	1.840	1.841
F Statistic	20.803***	16.994***	12.971***	11.368***

*Note:*

\*p&lt;0