Moderating Factors Moral Foundations Sacredness Scale: Measuring Morality

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Contents

Introduction

In this section, I run a series of regression models to see how different demographic variables relate to people's responses on the Moral Foundations Sacredness Scale.

Here, I am interested in gender, religion, income and education, on top of politics, and the ways that they influence definitions of sacredness in the hearts and minds of the people.

I begin by loading the data available here and relevant packages.

```r
# Load data
morals <- read.csv("~/Desktop/Working/Moral-Psychology/MMorality/mfss.csv")
```

```r
library(tidyverse)
```

Clean Data

I create an average score for each foundation by averaging an individual's response to each of the questions that belong in each foundation.

Additionally, I create an individualizing and binding foundation score that reflects an average of the responses to the questions that are under each category. I further generate a difference score that reflects the difference between these two scores and use this value as the core dependent variable in the analyses.

```
### Harm ###
morals$Harm <- rowMeans(morals[, c("dogkick", "overweight", "palm")],
    na.rm = TRUE)

### Fairness ###
morals$Fairness <- rowMeans(morals[, c("cards", "ballots", "racepledge")],
    na.rm = TRUE)

### Ingroup ###
morals$Ingroup <- rowMeans(morals[, c("flagburn", "talkradio",
    "familyshun")], na.rm = TRUE)

### Authority ###
morals$Authority <- rowMeans(morals[, c("parentcurse", "handgesture",
    "rottentomato")], na.rm = TRUE)

### Purity ###
morals$Purity <- rowMeans(morals[, c("soulsell", "molesterblood",
    "stageanimal")], na.rm = TRUE)

### Individualizing and Binding items ###
morals$indiv <- rowMeans(morals[, c("dogkick", "overweight",
    "palm", "cards", "ballots", "racepledge")], na.rm = TRUE)
morals$bind <- rowMeans(morals[, c("flagburn", "talkradio", "familyshun",
    "parentcurse", "handgesture", "rottentomato", "soulsell",
    "molesterblood", "stageanimal")], na.rm = TRUE)

morals$diffscore <- morals$indiv - morals$bind

# Declare Gender as factor
class(morals$gender)
```

```
## [1] "integer"
```

```
morals$gender <- as.factor(morals$gender)
```

Fit Models

I fit five models to include politics, gender, religion, income and education, one at a time.

First, I fit the model with politics, which recreates the model that I reported in the Moral Foundations Questionnaire analysis. Each subsequent model adds the demographic variables in the order listed above.

```r
# With Politics
fit1 <- lm(diffscore ~ ideo7, data = morals)
summary(fit1)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = diffscore ~ ideo7, data = morals)
##
## Residuals:
##     Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
## -4.9667 -0.5501 -0.2167  0.4434  5.1264
##
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  0.98147    0.07812  12.564  < 2e-16 ***
## ideo7       -0.10786    0.01753  -6.153 9.75e-10 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.9865 on 1486 degrees of freedom
##   (31 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.02485,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.02419
## F-statistic: 37.86 on 1 and 1486 DF,  p-value: 9.745e-10
```

```r
# Plus Gender
fit2 <- lm(diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender, data = morals)
summary(fit2)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender, data = morals)
##
## Residuals:
##     Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
## -5.0288 -0.5473 -0.1677  0.4398  5.0619
##
## Coefficients:
##             Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  1.04672    0.08253  12.683  < 2e-16 ***
## ideo7       -0.10865    0.01750  -6.208 6.97e-10 ***
## gender2     -0.12345    0.05108  -2.417   0.0158 *
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.9849 on 1485 degrees of freedom
```

```
##    (31 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.02867,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.02736
## F-statistic: 21.91 on 2 and 1485 DF,  p-value: 4.175e-10
```

```r
# Plus Religion
fit3 <- lm(diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion, data = morals)
summary(fit3)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion, data = morals)
##
## Residuals:
##     Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
## -4.8695 -0.5036 -0.1594  0.4475  5.0227
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  0.47520    0.12559   3.784 0.000161 ***
## ideo7       -0.06201    0.01869  -3.318 0.000928 ***
## gender2     -0.07116    0.05175  -1.375 0.169273
## religion     0.11282    0.02145   5.259 1.67e-07 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.969 on 1436 degrees of freedom
##   (79 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.0405, Adjusted R-squared:  0.0385
## F-statistic: 20.21 on 3 and 1436 DF,  p-value: 7.913e-13
```

```r
# Plus Income
fit4 <- lm(diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion + income, data = morals)
summary(fit4)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion + income,
##     data = morals)
##
## Residuals:
##     Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
## -4.7568 -0.5009 -0.1710  0.4530  4.9721
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept)  0.292301   0.141408   2.067  0.03891 *
```

```
## ideo7       -0.062079   0.018642  -3.330  0.00089 ***
## gender2      -0.067458   0.051641  -1.306  0.19166
## religion      0.107107   0.021500   4.982 7.07e-07 ***
## income        0.016387   0.005874   2.790  0.00534 **
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.9667 on 1435 degrees of freedom
##   (79 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.04568,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.04302
## F-statistic: 17.17 on 4 and 1435 DF,  p-value: 9.1e-14
```

```r
# Plus Education
fit5 <- lm(diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion + income + education,
    data = morals)
summary(fit5)
```

```
##
## Call:
## lm(formula = diffscore ~ ideo7 + gender + religion + income +
##      education, data = morals)
##
## Residuals:
##     Min      1Q  Median      3Q     Max
## -4.8430 -0.4949 -0.1504  0.4445  4.9197
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -0.273693   0.179680  -1.523  0.12792
## ideo7       -0.059537   0.018492  -3.220  0.00131 **
## gender2     -0.067471   0.051208  -1.318  0.18785
## religion     0.103662   0.021331   4.860 1.30e-06 ***
## income       0.001817   0.006503   0.279  0.78004
## education    0.072179   0.014328   5.038 5.31e-07 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## Residual standard error: 0.9586 on 1434 degrees of freedom
##   (79 observations deleted due to missingness)
## Multiple R-squared:  0.06228,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.05901
## F-statistic: 19.05 on 5 and 1434 DF,  p-value: < 2.2e-16
```