## STUDY 1



\*Introductory Statement This study is conducted by Dr Margaret Samahita from the School of Economics, University College Dublin. What is this research about? I aim to understand the opinions of Americans. Why have you been invited to take part? You have been contacted because you are an adult aged over 18 years living in the US. How will your data be used? Your answers are anonymous; only aggregate results will be published. What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study? You will fill out a 10 minute survey using your desktop computer. How will your privacy be protected? No personal data is collected and all information is fully anonymous. What are the benefits of taking part in this research study? Your responses will help researchers better understand Americans' opinions. You may also earn a small bonus for correctly answering questions in the survey. What are the risks of taking part in this research study? There are no foreseeable risks to taking part in this study. Can you change your mind at any stage and withdraw from the study? Yes, if you wish to withdraw at any point, simply close the survey window. How will you find out what happens with this project? Future updates to the project will be available by contacting the researcher. Contact details for further information margaret.samahita@ucd.ie I have read and understood the above and want to participate in this study. ) No

What is your	Prolific ID	? Please	note	that t	his	response	should	auto-fil	l with	the
correct ID										

*What is your age (in years)?	
*What is your gender?	
Male Male	
○ Female	
Non-binary / other	
Prefer not to say	
*What is your ethnicity?	
○ White	
Black or African American	
Hispanic or Latino	
Asian or Pacific Islander	
Native American or American Indian	
Other	
Prefer not to say	
*What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
Some high school or less	
High school diploma or GED	
Some college, but no degree	
Associates or technical degree	
Bachelor's degree	
Graduate or professional degree (MA, MS, MBA, PhD, JD, MD, DDS etc.)	
Prefer not to say	

*Please estimate your gross annual salary.
Less than 25,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 25,000 USD and less than 50,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 50,000 USD and less than 75,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 75,000 USD and less than 100,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 100,000 USD and less than 125,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 125,000 USD and less than 150,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 150,000 USD and less than 175,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 175,000 USD and less than 200,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 200,000 USD and less than 225,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 225,000 USD and less than 250,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 250,000 USD and less than 275,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 275,000 USD and less than 300,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 300,000 USD
Prefer not to say
*What best describes your employment status?
Working full-time
Working part-time
Unemployed and looking for work
A homemaker or stay-at-home parent
Student
Retired
Other
*In which state do you currently reside?
Select one 🗸
*What type of community do you live in?
Large city
Suburb near a large city
Small city or town
Rural area

*Please tell ι	ıs, in gen	eral, how	willing or	unwilling	you are t	o take risk	ζS.			
0 Completely unwilling to take risks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Very willing to take risks
*In political n	natters, p on this sc	eople tal ale, gene	k of 'the le rally spea	eft' and 'th king?	ne right'. F	low would	I you plac	е		
0 The Left	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 The right
*What is you	r political	affiliatior	1?							
Democra	at									
Independ	dent									
Republic	can									
Other										
*What is you	r religion	?								
Christian	n									
Catholic										
Jewish										
Muslim										
Buddhist	t									
Hindu										
None/Atl	heist/Agnos	tic								
Other										
Prefer no	ot to say									

We would like to know, for each of the following issues, your assumptions regarding the kind of people who agree with the statement. Please consider your response carefully. We will pick one of these questions at random and pay you depending on whether you are correct, based on the responses of real study participants. A correct answer will earn you a bonus of \$2. \*Suppose someone states that they agree with the HIGHLIGHTED statement (choosing 6 or 7 on a 1-7 agreement scale). Which of the options do you think is more likely regarding... i) their education and ii) their income? Please consider your response carefully. We will pick one of these questions at random and pay you depending on whether you are correct, based on the responses of real study participants. A correct answer will earn you a bonus of \$2. i) Education ii) Income Has never Is attending Has a college attended Earns less than Earns between Earns over college college degree \$50k/year \$50k-\$100k/year \$100k/year Racism is NOT a systemic issue and aused only by individuals' prejudices [Repeated for all fifteen statements] You will now be asked additional questions related to the issues you saw previously. Please read the statements carefully since we may reverse the way it is stated. We would like to know your position in relation to a number of issues. \*Where do you stand on the following issue? 1 Promoting the All family traditional structures

(including

polyamory)

should be

equally recognised in society

[Repeated for all fifteen statements]

family

structure is

good for

society

Please let us know if you experienced any issue in the study, for example if anything was unclear or did not work (optional).

Thank you for participating in this study.

This study aims to investigate the opinions held by Americans from different social backgrounds.

Bonus earnings will be calculated within the next few weeks and any bonus payment will be paid directly through your Prolific account.

If you wish to remove your data or have any question regarding the study, please contact the researcher through your Prolific account.

Please click the button below to be redirected back to Prolific and register your submission. In case needed, the completion code is C9XKRCHM.

## STUDY 2



correct ID

\*Introductory Statement This study is conducted by Dr Margaret Samahita from the School of Economics, University College Dublin. What is this research about? I aim to understand the opinions of Americans. Why have you been invited to take part? You have been contacted because you are an adult aged over 18 years living in the US. How will your data be used? Your answers are anonymous; only aggregate results will be published. What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study? You will fill out a 10 minute survey using your computer. How will your privacy be protected? No personal data is collected and all information is fully anonymous. What are the benefits of taking part in this research study? Your responses will help researchers better understand Americans' opinions. What are the risks of taking part in this research study? There are no foreseeable risks to taking part in this study. Can you change your mind at any stage and withdraw from the study? Yes, if you wish to withdraw at any point, simply close the survey window. How will you find out what happens with this project? Future updates to the project will be available by contacting the researcher. Contact details for further information margaret.samahita@ucd.ie I have read and understood the above and want to participate in this study. ( ) Yes O No \*What is your Prolific ID? Please note that this response should auto-fill with the

*What is your age (in years)?	
*What is your gender?	
Male Male	
○ Female	
Non-binary / other	
Prefer not to say	
*What is your ethnicity?	
○ White	
Black or African American	
Hispanic or Latino	
Asian or Pacific Islander	
Native American or American Indian	
Other	
Prefer not to say	
*What is the highest level of education you have completed?	
Some high school or less	
High school diploma or GED	
Some college, but no degree	
Associates or technical degree	
Bachelor's degree	
Graduate or professional degree (MA, MS, MBA, PhD, JD, MD, DDS etc.)	
Prefer not to say	

*Please estimate your gross annual salary.
Less than 25,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 25,000 USD and less than 50,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 50,000 USD and less than 75,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 75,000 USD and less than 100,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 100,000 USD and less than 125,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 125,000 USD and less than 150,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 150,000 USD and less than 175,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 175,000 USD and less than 200,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 200,000 USD and less than 225,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 225,000 USD and less than 250,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 250,000 USD and less than 275,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 275,000 USD and less than 300,000 USD
Greater than/equal to 300,000 USD
Prefer not to say
*What best describes your employment status?
○ Working full-time
○ Working part-time
Unemployed and looking for work
A homemaker or stay-at-home parent
Student
Retired
Other
*In which state do you currently reside?
Select one 🗸
*What type of community do you live in?
Large city
Suburb near a large city
Small city or town
Rural area

*Please tell ι	ıs, in gen	eral, how	willing or	unwilling	you are t	o take risk	ζS.			
0 Completely unwilling to take risks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Very willing to take risks
*In political n	natters, p on this sc	eople tal ale, gene	k of 'the le rally spea	eft' and 'th king?	ne right'. F	low would	I you plac	е		
0 The Left	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 The right
*What is you	r political	affiliatior	1?							
Democra	at									
Independ	dent									
Republic	can									
Other										
*What is you	r religion	?								
Christian	n									
Catholic										
Jewish										
Muslim										
Buddhist	t									
Hindu										
None/Atl	heist/Agnos	tic								
Other										
Prefer no	ot to say									

You will now be matched with another participant and be partners for the remainder of the study. One of you will be assigned the role of Participant A and the other will be Participant B.

You will then see a series of statements. After each statement, you will be asked how much you agree/disagree with it.

After you have both completed the study, the responses of Participant A will

be shown to Participant B. For example: "Your partner Participant A states that they [level of agreement] with [statement]."

The responses of Participant B will NOT be shown to Participant A.

You are Participant A.

You will now see a series of statements. After each statement, you will be asked how much you agree/disagree with it.

Remember that your responses will be shown to your partner Participant B after both of you have completed the study.

*The one-cent c	oin (i.e. the per	nny) should be	removed from (	circulation		
$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Strongly disagree						Strongly agree

## [Repeated for all fifteen statements]

You have now completed the responses that will be shown to your partner Participant B.

From here on, your responses will NOT be shown to your partner Participant B.

\*What do you think is the **majority opinion**, among all participants in this US-based survey, for each of the issues you saw earlier? Please provide your guess below.

Please read each statement below carefully since we may reverse the way it is stated compared to what you saw before.

Please consider your answers carefully. Each correct answer earns you a ticket for a lottery of \$50, to be paid out after the study.

	Most people strongly disagree 1	2	3	4	5	6	Most peopl strongly agree 7
Racism is a systemic issue and NOT only caused by individuals' prejudices	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
Universities should eliminate standardised testing as a requirement for admission	0	0	0	0	0	$\circ$	0
All family structures (including polyamory) should be equally recognised in society	0	$\circ$	0	0	0	$\circ$	0
Casual drug use should be legalised	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
Gender is a social construct and NOT based on biological sex	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
We should NOT defund the police and redirect funds towards social services	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
Societies should prioritize economic growth over social and ecological wellbeing	0	0	0	0	0	$\circ$	0
College is necessary to be successful	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
To check that you are paying attention, please select the number two	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
Religion is harmful for society	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
People and goods should NOT be free to move between jurisdictions with no border restrictions	0	0	0	0	0	$\circ$	0
The outcomes of your life are mostly under your control	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
White people do NOT enjoy a privilege over non-white people in this society	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$

*How important is the opinion that others hold about you to you?							
Not 1 important at all 0	O O 3	4	5	6	7 8	9	Extremely important
*Please indicate the destatements below.	egree of your a	greement o	or disagree	ment with e	each of the		
	Not at all true of me 1	2	3	4	5	6	Extremely true of me 7
I often rely on, and act upon, the advice of others.	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
I would be the last one to change my opinion in a heated argument on a controversial topic.	$\circ$	$\circ$	0	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$
Generally, I'd rather give in and go along for the sake of peace than struggle to have it my way.	0	0	0	$\circ$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$
I tend to follow family tradition in making political decisions.		$\circ$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
Basically, my friends are the ones who decide what we do together.	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$
A charismatic and eloquen speaker can easily influence and change my ideas.		0	0	$\circ$	0	0	$\circ$
I am more independent than conforming in my ways.	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$
If someone is very persuasive, I tend to change my opinion and go along with them.	$\circ$	0	0	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$
I don't give in to others easily.	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$
I tend to rely on others when I have to make an important decision quickly.	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\circ$	0	$\circ$
I prefer to find my own way in life rather than find a group I can follow.	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	0	$\bigcirc$

Please let us know if you experienced any issue in the study, for example if anything was unclear or did not work (optional).

Thank you for participating in this study.

This study aims to investigate the opinions held by Americans from different social backgrounds.

If you were Participant B, the responses of Participant A will be sent to you via Prolific message after the study is complete.

If you wish to remove your data or have any question regarding the study, please contact the researcher through your Prolific account.

Please click the button below to be redirected back to Prolific and register your submission. In case needed, the completion code is C1DAOCOL.

## STUDY 3



\*Introductory Statement
This study is conducted by Dr Margaret Samahita from the School of Economics,
University College Dublin.

What is this research about?
I aim to understand the opinions of Americans.

Why have you been invited to take part?

You have been contacted because you are an adult aged over 18 years living in the US.  $\,$ 

How will your data be used? Your answers are anonymous; only aggregate results will be published.

What will happen if you decide to take part in this research study? You will fill out a **15 minute** survey using your desktop computer.

How will your privacy be protected? No personal data is collected and all information is fully anonymous.

What are the benefits of taking part in this research study? Your responses will help researchers better understand Americans' opinions. You may also earn **a small bonus** for correctly answering questions in the survey.

What are the risks of taking part in this research study? There are no foreseeable risks to taking part in this study.

Can you change your mind at any stage and withdraw from the study? Yes, if you wish to withdraw at any point, simply close the survey window.

How will you find out what happens with this project? Future updates to the project will be available by contacting the researcher.

Contact details for further information margaret.samahita@ucd.ie

I have read and understood the above and want to participate in this stu	ıdy.
Yes	
○ No	

What is your Prolific ID? Please note that this response should auto-fill with the correct ID

*What is your age (in years)?	
*What is your gender?	
Male Male	
○ Female	
Non-binary / other	
Prefer not to say	
*What is your ethnicity?	
○ White	
Black or African American	
Hispanic or Latino	
Asian or Pacific Islander	
Native American or American Indian	
Other	
Prefer not to say	
*Are you currently attending a four-year college/university?	
Yes	
○ No	

*Please estimate your gross annual salary.							
Less than 25,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 25,000 USD and less than 50,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 50,000 USD and less than 75,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 75,000 USD and less than 100,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 100,000 USD and less than 125,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 125,000 USD and less than 150,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 150,000 USD and less than 175,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 175,000 USD and less than 200,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 200,000 USD and less than 225,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 225,000 USD and less than 250,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 250,000 USD and less than 275,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 275,000 USD and less than 300,000 USD							
Greater than/equal to 300,000 USD							
Prefer not to say							
*What is your civil status?							
Single							
Co-habiting with partner							
Married							
O Divorced/Separated							
Widowed							
Prefer not to say							
*In which state do you currently reside?							
Select one V							

*Please tell u	s, in ger	neral, hov	v willing o	or unwilling	g you are	to take ris	ks.			
0 Completely unwilling to take risks	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 Very willing to take risks
*In political m					he right'. I	How would	d you plac	ce		
0 The Left	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 The right
*What is your		l affiliatio	n?							
O Democra	it									
Independ	dent									
Republic	an									
Other										
*What is your	religion	?								
Christian										
Catholic										
Jewish										
Muslim										
Buddhist										
Hindu										
○ None/Ath	neist/Agno	stic								
Other										
Prefer no	ot to sav									

	First, you will now be matched with another participant and be partners for the remainder of the study.								
	You will then see a series of statements. After each statement, you will be asked how much you agree/disagree with it.								
	After you hav your partner.	ve <u>both</u> comple	eted the study	, your respons	es will be show	ın to			
		they will see: "Y vith [statement].		tes that they <b>[y</b>	our level of				
	You will also s	see your partner	's responses af	ter the study.					
	You will now s	s a self-identified	atements. Afte	r each stateme	nt, you will be a	sked			
	Remember the	u agree/disagree at your respons you have comp	ses will be sho		rtner, a Democ	erat,			
	*The one-cent	coin (i.e. the per	nny) should be	removed from	circulation				
	1 Strongly disagree	2	3	4	5	6	7 Strongly agree		
[Rep	peated for all	fourteen sta	tements]						
		be asked addition			sues you saw				
		sted in studying uxury beliefs"?		uxury beliefs".	Have you ever l	heard			
	Yes								
	○ No								

the purpose of this study, luxury beliefs are defined as "ideas and opinions confer status on the rich at very little cost, while taking a toll on the er class. The chief purpose of luxury beliefs is to indicate evidence of believer's social class and education."  you think of any examples of "luxury beliefs"?	
you think of any examples of "luxury beliefs"?	
s selected:]	
said that you have heard of the term "luxury beliefs". How would you define you were asked to explain it to a friend/family member? Please keep it to 1-2 ences, only a brief <b>definition</b> is needed, you will be asked to give examples e next question.	
ou know any examples of "luxury beliefs"?	
the purpose of this study, luxury beliefs are defined as "ideas and opinions confer status on the rich at very little cost, while taking a toll on the er class. The chief purpose of luxury beliefs is to indicate evidence of believer's social class and education."	
en this definition, would you like to revise your examples of "luxury beliefs"?	
	said that you have heard of the term "luxury beliefs". How would you define you were asked to explain it to a friend/family member? Please keep it to 1-2 ences, only a brief definition is needed, you will be asked to give examples e next question.  You know any examples of "luxury beliefs"?  Ithe purpose of this study, luxury beliefs are defined as "ideas and opinions confer status on the rich at very little cost, while taking a toll on the er class. The chief purpose of luxury beliefs is to indicate evidence of believer's social class and education."

[End branch]

You will soon be presented with a series of statements and asked to identify which, if any, is a luxury belief as per the definition "ideas and opinions that confer status on the rich at very little cost, while taking a toll on the lower class. The chief purpose of luxury beliefs is to indicate evidence of the believer's social class and education."

At the end of the study, a lottery for an additional \$100 bonus will be conducted. You will earn 1 lottery ticket for each answer that matches the **majority** opinion in this US-based survey. Therefore, please consider your answers carefully since each correct answer will increase your chance of winning the \$100 bonus.

opinions that confer status on the rich at very little cost, while taking a toll on the lower class. The chief purpose of luxury beliefs is to indicate evidence of the believer's social class and education."?

Please consider your answers carefully since each answer that matches the majority opinion will increase your chance of winning the \$100 bonus.

Societies should prioritise economic growth over social and ecological well-being

Societies should prioritise social and ecological well-being instead of economic growth

\*Which of the following is a luxury belief, as per the definition "ideas and

[Repeated for all fourteen statements]

Neither

In the next section, we would like to hear your thoughts on 1 of the statements presented. There are **no right or wrong answers**; we are <u>genuinely interested in your personal opinion</u>. Please take your time and respond thoughtfully, providing your full consideration.

Please consider the following statement.									
Casual drug use should be legalised									
*How important is the issue discussed in the statement to you?									
$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$	$\circ$					
1 Not important at all	2	3	4	5 Extremely important					
*Imagine a scenario where									
statement. How do you th	nink it will affect t	he following groups	in society?						
	Harmed	١	Veutral	Helped					
Lower and working classes	$\circ$		0	$\circ$					
Middle class	$\circ$		$\bigcirc$	$\circ$					
Upper-middle and upper classes	$\circ$		0	$\circ$					
*What do you think of <b>son</b>				t					
with the statement indica education) or other chara		t that person's status	s (income,						
Please let us know if you experienced any issue in the study, for example if									
anything was unclear or did not work (optional).									

Thank you for participating in this study.

This study aims to investigate the opinions held by Americans from different social backgrounds.

The responses of your partner will be sent to you via Prolific message after the study is complete.

Bonus earnings will be calculated within the next few weeks and any bonus payment will be paid directly through your Prolific account.

If you wish to remove your data or have any question regarding the study, please contact the researcher through your Prolific account.

Please click the button below to be redirected back to Prolific and register your submission. In case needed, the completion code is C15Q1C36.