Scale = Strongly agree – Strongly disagree

*Please Indicate how much you agree/disagree with the following items…*

General Belief

1. I believe positive change is possible in my community
2. There are programs in my community that contribute to change
3. There are people trying to make a difference in my community for the better
4. Communities generally progress over time
5. If something is wrong in my community, it will change for the better eventually

Individual Agency

1. If I volunteer, I believe I’m making a positive impact on my community
2. My vote counts in a local election
3. Stating my opinions out loud can help influence people’s opinions
4. I have the power to contribute to positive change in my community
5. Attempting to change my community’s views so they align with mine is worth the effort

Good, you make a good case for how what you're proposing is different from but contributes to prior research. I think I would like to see you address the individual agency vs. general belief piece a little more explicitly in the definition - I can picture what the individual agency items might look like, but it's harder to picture how you will get at such a broad general belief and still get variance in your responses. Your list of SMEs seems reasonable, and I like your choices for convergent constructs (I think locus of control is an idea you should definitely explore as you hone your definition - what is the opposite of belief in social change? Is it the belief that the world is random? Or that it is controlled by a powerful few?). You have good sources to draw from here.