*Results*

The Luth survey company recruited participants to take part in the study. We set a target sample size of 1,500 participants, to be collected in two waves of 750. Luth collects data from participants in 20 minute sessions, and considers a complete survey to be one in which the participant finishes the entire 20-minute session. Because each session contains a number of studies, there is inevitably dropout between the first and last study in the session; this means that although ~1500 participants completed the total 20-minute session session, 1,573 participants completed the target study (“Predicting”) and correctly responded to our pre-registered attention check item. Similarly, although we refer to participants being split into two waves of 750, there was an error in which our survey company collected slightly too few participants in Wave 1 and slightly too many for Wave 2. The waves of the study are identified by when data collection began (4/17/19 for wave 1 and after 8:45pm PDT 4/19/19 for wave 2.)

Participants could indicate whether each of 12 factors was predictive of Democrats winning seats in the US House, predictive of Republicans winning seat in the US House, or unrelated to election outcomes. Qualtrics coded these as 1, 2, and 3. We re-coded factors rated as related to either Democrats winning and Republicans winning as 1 and unrelated to election outcomes as 0, and summed across the 12 factors.

**Wave 1 Results**

716 Wave 1 participants completed the study and correctly answered the pre-registered attention check item. This item was placed at the end of the study and required participants to correctly recall which condition they were assigned to (either rating the factors once as in the exploratory condition, or twice as in the confirmatory condition.)

We conducted an independent samples t-test to determine if the number of factors listed as relevant differed between conditions. Specifically, participants in the exploratory condition rated an average of 8.30 (*SE* = .211) factors as being related to election outcomes and those in the confirmatory condition rated an average of 8.47 (*SE* = .201) factors as being related to election outcomes. This difference was not statistically significant, *t*(714) = .56, *p* = .57.

**Wave 2 Results**

857 Wave 2 participants completed the study and correctly answered the pre-registered attention check item. This item was placed at the end of the study and required participants to correctly recall which condition they were assigned to (either rating the factors once as in the exploratory condition, or twice as in the confirmatory condition.)

We conducted an independent samples t-test to determine if the number of factors listed as relevant differed between conditions. Specifically, participants in the exploratory condition rated an average of 8.04 (*SE* = .186) factors as being related to election outcomes and those in the confirmatory condition rated an average of 8.90 (*SE* = .173) factors as being related to election outcomes. This difference was statistically significant, *t*(855) = 3.39, *p* = .0007.

**Total Sample Results**

1,573 participants completed the study and correctly answered the pre-registered attention check item. This item was placed at the end of the study and required participants to correctly recall which condition they were assigned to (either rating the factors once as in the exploratory condition, or twice as in the confirmatory condition.)

We conducted an independent samples t-test to determine if the number of factors listed as relevant differed between conditions. Specifically, participants in the exploratory condition rated an average of 8.16 (*SE* = .140) factors as being related to election outcomes and those in the confirmatory condition rated an average of 8.70 (*SE* = .132) factors as being related to election outcomes. This difference was statistically significant, *t*(1571) = 2.83, *p* = .0048. Cohen’s *d* = .143.

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Effect Size | Estimate [95% Conf. Interval]

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Cohen's d | .1425302 .0435246 .2414905