Moral Conviction X Social Consensus - Fall 2024

Start of Block: Ethical Standards of Judgement Questionnaire

Q1 Please answer the following questions by selecting the choice that best reflects **how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

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|  | Strongly Disagree (1) | Disagree (2) | Neither Agree or Disagree (3) | Agree (4) | Strongly Agree (5) |
| When people disagree over ethical matters, I strive for workable compromises (1) |  |  |  |  |  |
| When thinking of ethical problems, I try to develop practical, workable alternatives (2) |  |  |  |  |  |
| It is of value to societies to be responsive and adapt to new conditions as the world changes (3) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Solutions to ethical problems usually are seen as some shade of grey (4) |  |  |  |  |  |
| When making an ethical decision, one should pay attention to others' needs, wants, and desires (5) |  |  |  |  |  |
| The purpose of the government should be to promote the best possible life for it's citizens (6) |  |  |  |  |  |

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Q2 Please answer the following questions by selecting the choice that best reflects **how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.**

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|  | Strongly Disagree (1) | Disagree (2) | Neither Agree or Disagree (3) | Agree (4) | Strongly Agree (5) |
| Solutions to ethical problems are usually black and white (1) |  |  |  |  |  |
| A person's actions should be described in terms of being right or wrong (2) |  |  |  |  |  |
| A nation should pay the most attention to it's heritage, it's roots (3) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Societies should follow stable traditions and maintain a distinctive identity (4) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uttering a falsehood is wrong because it wouldn't be right for anyone to lie (5) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Unethical behavior is best described as a violation of some principle of the law (6) |  |  |  |  |  |

End of Block: Ethical Standards of Judgement Questionnaire

Start of Block: Initial Measures

Q297 Please read and answer the following questions carefully.

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Q298 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q208 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

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|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

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| There are very important ethical aspects to universal health care () |  |
| Universal health care clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Universal health care could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My beliefs on universal health care are a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on universal health care is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on universal health care is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on universal health care is based on moral principles () |  |

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Q216 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

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Q195 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

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|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

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| There are very important ethical aspects to exercising () |  |
| Exercising clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Exercising could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| Exercising is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on exercising is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on exercising is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on exercising is based on moral principles () |  |

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Q302 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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Q303 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

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|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

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| There are very important ethical aspects to trans sports participation () |  |
| Trans sports participation clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Trans sports participation could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is based on moral principles () |  |

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Q305 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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Q304 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

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|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

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|  | -50 | -40 | -30 | -20 | -10 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |

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| There are very important ethical aspects to using AI in the workplace () |  |
| Using AI in the workplace clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| AI in the workplace could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is based on moral principles () |  |

End of Block: Initial Measures

Start of Block: PRAGMATIC/PRACTICAL BLOCK

Q1 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q2 **[Universal Health Care]**  
  
Some countries guarantee healthcare to all citizens for free through Universal Health Care (UHC). Just guaranteeing UHC through the law isn’t enough though. The big question is, who will pay for UHC?  
  
The answer is the U.S. government. The U.S. government already spends a significant amount of its gross domestic product on healthcare, totaling over 18.3% in 2022. In comparison, some of our peer countries with UHC like Canada (12.2%) and Japan (11%) spend a lot less. Surprisingly, our estimated lifespans are noticeably shorter (78.5 years, vs 82.6 and 84.45, for Canada and Japan).  
  
More healthcare coverage helps American citizens directly. UHC leads to lower healthcare costs, lower infant and maternal mortality, and better average health everywhere. The effects of an increase in healthcare access through statewide Medicaid expansion have already been seen. Compared to states that did not expand access, they eliminated catastrophic medical costs, lowered medical debt, lowered depression, and increased perception of health.  
  
Health care today costs too much, and America has been spending more money to get worse outcomes. This is unacceptable. American citizens should demand UHC from their government. That way, everyone can benefit from an increased life-span and a greater quality of life.

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Q15 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q16 **[Exercising]**  
   
 Activities for physical fitness are known as exercise. One problem is that over 45% of American adults do not get enough exercise. Should Americans exercise more?  
   
 Exercise has real practical benefits. Not exercising leads to a 30% higher rate of diabetes, and a 50% higher rate of hypertension. These serious illnesses are awful. Avoiding them is a smart choice. Having a higher quality of life is really worth it. Exercise can also be really cheap. Anyone can choose to walk more. Sit-ups and push-ups are free. Youtube has easy tutorials. Even using the stairs can help a little bit. Exercise is very practical.  
   
 America is a diverse country, and we don’t agree on everything. Living longer is one thing we can all appreciate. You can live longer by exercising! Exercise reduces risk of death per year about 20-35%.  
   
 Exercise is very practical and has obvious benefits. Exercise is for everyone, not just athletes or the rich. Thus, Americans should exercise more.

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Q315 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q316 **[Trans Sports Participation]**  
   
 Sports are physical activities or games done for fun and to compete against others. Many sports have weight and gender rules. However, these rules were not made with trans women in mind. Should trans women be banned from competing in ‘women’s’ sports?  
   
 One perspective for banning trans women from competing is that their biological advantages make it unfair for their opponents. Scientific research shows that trans women have a 17-30% increase in athletic performance due to experiencing male puberty.  
   
 Trans women in general have greater lean mass, power, and speed than cis women which all directly affect competition in sports. Trans women should be banned from competing in women’s sports.

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Q317 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q318 **[AI in the Workplace]**  
   
Artificial intelligence (AI) is the science of making computers that can think like humans. Nowadays, many people use AI as a replacement for traditional writing. However, should ordinary Americans use AI for a job application?  
  
One perspective is that employers are already using these tools, so workers should do the same. Research shows that more than 95% of Fortune 500 companies rely on ‘automated screening’. Additionally, AI can increase weekly application output from ~10 to 30, 40, or even 50! Many Americans will lose or quit a job at some point in their life and getting a new job is a must-have.  
  
The use of AI in job applications is practical. Using new technology to improve productivity and grow opportunity makes economic sense.

End of Block: PRAGMATIC/PRACTICAL BLOCK

Start of Block: MORAL RESPONSIBILITY BLOCK

Q1 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q2 **[Universal Health Care]**  
  
Some countries guarantee healthcare to all citizens for free through Universal Health Care (UHC). Just guaranteeing UHC through the law isn’t enough though. The big question is, who will pay for UHC?  
  
The answer is the U.S. government. The U.S. government has an obligation to fulfill its promise of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These guaranteed rights are a moral issue, and require good health.  
  
Individual health is the responsibility of every citizen. However, most normal Americans will experience an injury or illness that cannot be self-solved. Good health has no equivalent. You can choose not to replace a broken phone. However, skipping chemotherapy for cancer has a real ethical cost.  
  
Healthcare is expensive. Even hard-working Americans can struggle to get healthcare. Large healthcare costs could happen to anyone. American citizens ought to demand UHC from their government. This is a moral responsibility, helping all Americans pursue life, liberty, and happiness.

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Q16 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q17 **[Exercising]**  
   
Activities for physical fitness are known as exercise. One problem is that over 45% of American adults do not get enough exercise. Should Americans exercise more?  
  
One argument for exercise is that exercising grows moral character. Being healthy helps make connections with people. Exercise is a moral issue.  
  
America is a diverse country, and we don’t always agree. Taking care of your body is something that we can all agree on. When you exercise, you are getting healthy and living a more ethical life. Ignoring your own health and wellbeing has large moral costs.  
  
Wellness is a virtue. Exercise is good for you and moral. Americans should increase their exercise. Exercising is important for a morally correct society.

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Q319 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q320 **[Trans Sports Participation]**  
   
Sports are physical activities or games done for fun and to compete against others. Many sports have weight and gender rules. However, these rules were not made with transgender women in mind. Should trans women be banned from competing in ‘women’s’ sports?  
  
One perspective for banning trans women from competing is that these biological advantages make it unfair for their cisgender competition. Fair competition is a moral issue. Inclusion is not more important than fairness.   
  
Prioritizing the needs of women as a whole in sports above the interests of a small percent of trans athletes is ethical. Trans women should be banned from competing in women’s sports.

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Q321 Next, you will read an essay, please consider the material carefully

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Q322 **[AI in the Workplace]**  
   
Artificial intelligence (AI) is the science of making computers that can think like humans. Nowadays, many people use AI as a replacement for traditional writing. However, should ordinary Americans use AI for a job application?  
  
One view is that since jobs are a necessity, making it easier for people to get those jobs is ethical. Many Americans will lose or quit a job at some point in their life and getting a new job is a must-have. Also, many employers use AI to evaluate their workers and grow their business. It is immoral and unfair to prevent ordinary Americans from ‘leveling the playing field’ with AI themselves.  
  
The use of AI in job applications is ethical. Using new technology to improve productivity and grow opportunity is the morally right thing to do.

End of Block: MORAL RESPONSIBILITY BLOCK

Start of Block: Social Consensus - High

Q1 **[2018 Public Opinion Survey Estimation Exercise]**   In 2018, some research institutes jointly conducted a survey of American peoples' opinions about a variety of social and scientific issues, with a random sample of 2,325 ordinary American people. We would like you to try to estimate what public perception was for these issues in 2018.

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Q2 For the items below, please estimate what percentage of the general American public **(from the 2018 survey)** would **agree** on each of the following:

Q4 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q5 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

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Q323 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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Q324 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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Q7 Thank you for estimating the percentage of the general American public **in 2018** that agreed with the previous four statements! We would like you to briefly review the **actual results** of the survey below and then answer a few more related questions.

Q8 **83%** of the American Public agrees that the US government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met.  
   
 **64%** of the American Public agrees that regular exercise is necessary for Americans.  
   
 **89%** of the American Public agrees that trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender  
   
 **78%** of the American Public agree that Americans should be able to use AI for job applications

Q9 Please answer the following questions by selecting the choice that best reflects **your level of surprise** at the results of the public survey

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|  | Not Surprised (1) | Slightly Surprised (2) | Somewhat Surprised (3) | Surprised (4) | Very Surprised (5) |
| "The US government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met." (1) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans" (3) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender" (7) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications" (8) |  |  |  |  |  |

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Q10 For the items below, please estimate what percentage of the **CURRENT**(that is, **2024**) general American public would **agree** on each of the following:

Q12 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q13 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

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Q325 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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Q326 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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End of Block: Social Consensus - High

Start of Block: Social Consensus - Low

Q339 **[2018 Public Opinion Survey Estimation Exercise]**   In 2018, some research institutes jointly conducted a survey of American peoples' opinions about a variety of social and scientific issues, with a random sample of 2,325 ordinary American people. We would like you to try to estimate what public perception was for these issues in 2018.

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Q340 For the items below, please estimate what percentage of the general American public **(from the 2018 survey)** would **agree** on each of the following:

Q341 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q342 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

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Q327 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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Q328 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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Q343 Thank you for estimating the percentage of the general American public **in 2018** that agreed with the previous four statements! We would like you to briefly review the **actual results** of the survey below and then answer a few more related questions.

Q344 **43%** of the American Public agrees that the US government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met.  
   
 **24%** of the American Public agrees that regular exercise is necessary for Americans.  
   
 **49%** of the American Public agrees that trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender  
   
 **38%** of the American Public agree that Americans should be able to use AI for job applications

Q345 Please answer the following questions by selecting the choice that best reflects **your level of surprise** at the results of the public survey

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|  | Not Surprised (1) | Slightly Surprised (2) | Somewhat Surprised (3) | Surprised (4) | Very Surprised (5) |
| "The US government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met." (1) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans" (3) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender" (7) |  |  |  |  |  |
| "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications" (8) |  |  |  |  |  |

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Q346 For the items below, please estimate what percentage of the **CURRENT**(that is, **2024**) general American public would **agree** on each of the following:

Q347 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q348 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

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Q329 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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Q330 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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End of Block: Social Consensus - Low

Start of Block: Final Measures

Q411 Please read and answer the following questions carefully.

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Q412 "Our government needs to implement Universal Health Care because basic population needs are not being met"

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Q413 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

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|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

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| There are very important ethical aspects to universal health care () |  |
| Universal health care clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Universal health care could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My beliefs on universal health care are a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on universal health care is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on universal health care is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on universal health care is based on moral principles () |  |

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| Page Break |  |

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Q414 "Regular exercise is necessary for Americans"

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

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| () |  |

Q415 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | -50 | -40 | -30 | -20 | -10 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| There are very important ethical aspects to exercising () |  |
| Exercising clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Exercising could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| Exercising is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on exercising is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on exercising is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on exercising is based on moral principles () |  |

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Q416 "Trans athletes should only be allowed to play on sports teams that match their birth gender"

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

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Q417 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | -50 | -40 | -30 | -20 | -10 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| There are very important ethical aspects to trans sports participation () |  |
| Trans sports participation clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| Trans sports participation could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on trans sports participation is based on moral principles () |  |

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Q418 "Americans should be able to use AI for job applications"

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|  | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 |

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Q419 Please read and answer the following questions carefully

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Strongly disagree | Disagree | Somewhat disagree | Neither agree nor disagree | Somewhat agree | Agree | Strongly agree |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | -50 | -40 | -30 | -20 | -10 | 0 | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| There are very important ethical aspects to using AI in the workplace () |  |
| Using AI in the workplace clearly does not involve ethics or moral issues () |  |
| AI in the workplace could be described as a moral issue () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is a reflection of my core moral beliefs and convictions () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is connected to my fundamental beliefs about right and wrong () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is a moral stance () |  |
| My position on AI in the workplace is based on moral principles () |  |

End of Block: Final Measures

Start of Block: Demographics

Q83 Now that you have completed the exercise, we would like to ask you some follow-up questions. Please complete the following items

Like\_Free\_R What are things you liked about the exercise you just completed?

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Hard\_Free\_R What are challenges you had with the exercise you just completed?

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Q25 Lastly, please answer the following demographic questions.

Pol\_High In politics people sometimes talk of ‘left’ and ‘right’. Where would you place **yourself** on a scale from 1 to 11 where 1 means extreme left and 11 means extreme right?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 3 (3) | 4 (4) | 5 (5) | 6 (6) | 7 (7) | 8 (8) | 9 (9) | 10 (10) | 11 (11) | 28 (28) | 29 (29) |  |
| Left |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Right |

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Age\_High What is your age?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Gender\_High To which gender identity do you most identify?

* Male (1)
* Female (2)
* Gender Variant/Non-conforming (3)

Race\_High How would you best characterize your race/ethnicity? (check all that apply)

* Caucasian/White (1)
* African-American/Black (2)
* Asian/Pacific Islander (3)
* American Indian/Alaska Native (4)
* Hispanic/Latino(a) (5)
* Other (6)

School\_High What is your year in school?

* Freshman (1)
* Sophmore (2)
* Junior (3)
* Senior (4)
* Other (5)

End of Block: Demographics