**PAGE 1**

PRESENT TO ALL

Thank you for agreeing to participate in our survey. We are interested in how people learn and what they pick up from what they read, listen to, watch, etc. and how that might affect their attitudes toward society and politics. This study will ask variety of questions, some of which are simply about your opinions and others of which are about facts you may or may not know. Some of these questions may be difficult to answer, and you will not be judged by whether you answer correctly. We only ask that you try your best to help us with this academic research.

**PAGE 2**

PRESENT TO ALL

First, we are interested in the kinds of qualities that people think children should have. Although there are many admirable traits that people would like children to have, every person thinks that some are more important than others. Below, we are going to show you pairs of desirable qualities. While you may find that you’d like children to have both qualities, please pick the one you think is more important.

[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF QUESTIONS auth1-auth4; THEN RANDOMIZE ORDER OF auth5-auth9. RANDOMIZED BLOCK OF auth1-auth4 SHOULD ALWAYS APPEAR FIRST]

**[auth1]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Independence
* Respect for elders

**[auth2]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Obedience
* Self-reliance

**[auth3]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Curiosity
* Good manners

**[auth4]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Considerate
* Well-behaved

**[auth5]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Loyal
* Open-minded

**[auth6]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Orderly
* Imaginative

**[auth7]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Adaptable
* Disciplined

**[auth8]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Creative
* Hard-working

**[auth9]** Which quality do you think is more important for a child to have?

* Tough
* Kind

**PAGE 3**

PRESENT TO ALL

On to another topic…

**[threat]** Which of the following statements most accurately describes how you feel about society today? [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF RESPONSE OPTIONS]

* Our lives are threatened by terrorists, criminals, and immigrants, and our priority should be to protect ourselves
* It’s a big, beautiful world, mostly full of good people, and we must find a way to embrace each other and not allow ourselves to become isolated

**PAGE 4**

PRESENT TO ALL

**[attack]** How worried are you that you or someone in your family will become a victim of a terrorist attack?

* Very worried
* Somewhat worried
* Not too worried
* Not worried at all

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PRESENT TO ALL

On to another topic…

**[polinterest]** How often would you say you pay attention to politics and elections?

* Always
* Most of the time
* About half the time
* Some of the time
* Never

**PAGE 6**

PRESENT TO ALL

**[trust\_gov]** How much do you trust the government in Washington to do what’s right?

* Almost always
* Most of the time
* Some of the time
* Never

**PAGE 6**

PRESENT TO ALL

We would like to ask you a set of factual questions about politics. As a reminder, some of these questions may be difficult. You will not be judged by whether you answer correctly. If you come to one and don’t know the answer, just mark “can’t say” and move on to the next question.

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

**[know1]** What job or political office does Paul Ryan now hold?

* Chief Justice of the Supreme Court
* Prime Minister of Canada
* Speaker of the House of Representatives
* U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations
* Can’t say

**[know2]** What job or political office does Angela Merkel now hold?

* Chancellor of Germany
* Prime Minister of the United Kingdom
* Prime Minister of Poland
* Majority Leader in the U.S. Senate
* Can’t say

**[know3]** For how many years is a United States Senator elected –- that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. Senator?

* 2 years
* 4 years
* 6 years
* 10 years
* Can’t say

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PRESENT TO ALL

ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

**[know4]** Which of the following best describes party control in the U.S. Congress?

* Democrats control the House of Representatives and Republicans control the Senate
* Republicans control the House of Representatives and Democrats control the Senate
* Republicans control both the House of Representatives and the Senate
* Democrats control both the House of Representatives and the Senate
* Can’t say

**[know5]** In August 2017, alt-right protestors staged a rally on a university campus that resulted in counter-protests and one death. In which U.S. city did this occur?

* Charlottesville, Virginia
* Phoenix, Arizona
* Miami, Florida
* Raleigh, North Carolina
* Can’t say

**[know6]** Which of the following was a central issue in the federal government shutdown in January 2017?

* Immigration and border security
* Race relations and police brutality
* The corporate tax rate
* Gun control
* Can’t say

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PRESENT TO ALL

We are also interested in what issues people see covered in the news. Here’s a randomly chosen news story. The story covers one or more issues. Please read the story carefully and let us know if you have heard about any of the issues covered in this news story.

EXPERIMENTAL TREATMENT — Respondents randomly assigned to one of four conditions: (1) CONTROL, (2) DEMOCRATIC HYPOCRISY, (3) REPUBLICAN HYPOCRISY, (6) BIPARTISAN HYPOCRISY **[EACH VIGNETTE APPEARS ON ITS OWN PAGE 4]**

CONTROL ARTICLE

DEMOCRATIC HYPOCRISY ARTICLE

REPUBLICAN HYPOCRISY ARTICLE

BIPARTISAN HYPOCRISY ARTICLE

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PRESENT TO ALL

**[aware]** Had you heard this story before?

* Yes
* No

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PRESENT TO ALL

We’d like to get your feelings toward some of our political leaders and groups in society these days. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward that person or group. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel favorable toward that person or group and that you don't care too much for that person or group. You would rate the person or group at the 50 degree mark if you don't feel particularly warm or cold toward the person or group.

How would you rate: [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]

THERMOMETER WIDGET (with labels if possible; see attached for reference)

**[ftdems]** Democratic Party

**[ftreps]** Republican Party

**[ftind]** Independents

**[ftgov]** The federal government

**[ftpoor]** Poor people

**[ftnews]** The news media

**[fttech]** Corporations

**[fttrump]** Donald Trump

**[ftclinton]** Hillary Clinton

**[ftobama]** Barack Obama

**[ftteachers]** Teachers

**[ftconstruction]** Construction workers

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PRESENT TO ALL

We’d like to know a little more about how you would describe some of these same groups and political leaders.

**[dem\_ignorant, dem\_sincere, etc]** How well would you say the following describe **Democrats**?

**[gop\_ignorant, gop\_sincere, etc]** How well would you say the following describe **Republicans**?

PRESENT DYNAMIC GRID AS RESPONSE OPTIONS FOR EACH ITEM

DYNAMIC GRID [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very poorly | Somewhat poorly | Neither well nor poorly | Somewhat well | Very well |
| Ignorant |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sincere |  |  |  |  |  |
| Open to reason |  |  |  |  |  |
| Smug |  |  |  |  |  |
| Selfish |  |  |  |  |  |
| Patriotic |  |  |  |  |  |
| Compassionate |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hypocritical |  |  |  |  |  |

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PRESENT TO ALL

**[trump\_ignorant, trump\_sincere, etc]** How well would you say the following describe **Donald Trump**?

**[clinton\_ignorant, clinton\_sincere, etc]** How well would you say the following describe **Hillary Clinton**?

**[obama\_ignorant, obama\_sincere, etc]** How well would you say the following describe **Barack Obama**?

PRESENT DYNAMIC GRID AS RESPONSE OPTIONS FOR EACH ITEM

DYNAMIC GRID [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very poorly | Somewhat poorly | Neither well nor poorly | Somewhat well | Very well |
| Ignorant |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sincere |  |  |  |  |  |
| Open to reason |  |  |  |  |  |
| Smug |  |  |  |  |  |
| Selfish |  |  |  |  |  |
| Patriotic |  |  |  |  |  |
| Compassionate |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hypocritical |  |  |  |  |  |

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To those assigned to the **CONTROL** group:

**[control\_check]** Based on the information in the article you read earlier, which best describes Americans’ views on the economy?

* About 70% of Americans think the economy is doing well
* About 50% of Americans think the economy is doing well
* About 70% of Americans think the economy is doing poorly
* About 50% of Americans don’t have an opinion on the economy
* Can’t recall

To those assigned to the **DEMOCRATIC HYPOCRISY** group:

**[demhyp\_check]** Based on the information in the article you read earlier, which best describes Democrats’ views on the economy before and after Election Day 2016?

* Democrats’ views on the economy stayed mostly the same after Trump was elected
* Democrats became more pessimistic about the economy after Trump was elected
* Democrats became more optimistic about the economy after Trump was elected
* Democrats found the economy to be less important after Trump was elected
* Can’t recall

To those assigned to the **REPUBLICAN HYPOCRISY** group:

**[rephyp\_check]** Based on the information provided in the story, which best describes Republicans’ views on the economy before and after Election Day 2016?

* Republicans’ views on the economy stayed mostly the same after Trump was elected
* Republicans became more pessimistic about the economy after Trump was elected
* Republicans became more optimistic about the economy after Trump was elected
* Republicans found the economy to be less important after Trump was elected
* Can’t recall

To those assigned to the **BIPARTISAN HYPOCRISY** group:

**[bipart\_check]** Based on the information provided in the story, which best describes Democrats’ and Republicans’ views on the economy before and after Election Day 2016?

* Both Democrats and Republicans became more optimistic about the economy after Trump was elected
* Democrats became more optimistic about the economy after Trump was elected; Republicans became more pessimistic
* Democrats became more pessimistic about the economy after Trump was elected; Republicans became more optimistic
* Both Democrats and Republicans found the economy to be more important after Trump was elected
* Can’t recall

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PRESENT TO ALL

Finally, we would like to know more about your opinions toward our political system.

How important do you believe each of the following is to the United States maintaining a strong democracy?

DYNAMIC GRID [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not too important | Somewhat not important | Neither important nor unimportant | Somewhat important | Very important |
| **[dissent]** The rights of people with unpopular view are protected |  |  |  |  |  |
| **[electinteg]** That national elections are open and fair |  |  |  |  |  |
| **[freespeech]** That news organizations are free to criticize political leaders |  |  |  |  |  |
| **[protest]** That people have the right to non-violent protest |  |  |  |  |  |
| **[legtimacy]** That those who lose elections recognize the legitimacy of the winners |  |  |  |  |  |
| **[corruption]** That those elected to office do not use their power to advance their own financial interests |  |  |  |  |  |

PRESENT TO ALL

Now we’re going to describe various types of political systems and ask what you think about each as a way of governing this country. For each one, would you say it is a very good, fairly good, fairly bad, or very bad way of governing the United States?

DYNAMIC GRID [RANDOMIZE ORDER OF ITEMS]

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Very good | Fairly good | Fairly bad | Very bad |
| **[leader]** Having a strong leader who does not have to bother with Congress and elections |  |  |  |  |
| **[experts]** Having experts, not government, make decisions according to what they think is best for the country |  |  |  |  |
| **[military]** Having the military rule |  |  |  |  |
| **[democracy]** Having a democratic political system |  |  |  |  |

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PRESENT TO ALL

Thank you for participating in this survey and helping us with our research. This study is designed to learn more about how people react to news that other citizens are either open-minded or closed-minded when it comes to politics and leaders from political parties.    
    
As such, the news story you read in the middle of the survey was designed by the researchers based on real news articles published at *The Hill* and *Business Insider* and using real data from CBS News and Gallup polls. These articles have been modified slightly from their original text.

Thank you again for sharing your thoughts and opinions! This survey is being conducted in conjunction with researchers at Harvard University, Florida State University, and Vanderbilt University. If you have questions about the survey, please feel free to contact Dr. Marc Hetherington at marc.j.hetherington@vanderbilt.edu. Have a nice rest of the day.