

Appendix 1. Exact Question Wording and Experimental Stimuli

1a. CCES Module

Disgust Sensitivity

The following items describe a variety of concepts. Please rate how disgusting you find the concepts described in the items, where 1 means that you do not find the concept disgusting at all and 7 means that you find the concept extremely disgusting.

Stepping on dog poop.

Standing close to a person who has body odor.

Seeing some mold on old leftovers in the refrigerator.

Shaking hands with a stranger who has sweaty palms.

Homelessness Experiment

Subjects are randomly assigned to one of the four following conditions

[Neutral Condition]

We would like to ask you some questions about homelessness. Cities around the country are increasingly struggling with how to deal with growing homeless populations during a time of shrinking budgets. In many cities, business owners and residents have reported increased incidents of homeless people on the street. Efforts to feed the homeless have been criticized for attracting homeless camps to the area. Communities are struggling with how to care for the homeless while keeping their neighborhoods the way they want them.

[Threat Cues Condition]

We would like to ask you some questions about homelessness. Cities around the country are increasingly struggling with how to deal with growing homeless populations during a time of shrinking budgets. In many cities, business owners and residents have reported increased incidents of aggressive panhandling and vandalism. Efforts to feed the homeless have been criticized for attracting unruly homeless camps to the area. Communities are struggling with how to care for the homeless while keeping their neighborhoods safe and welcoming.

[Disease Cues Condition]

We would like to ask you some questions about homelessness. Cities around the country are increasingly struggling with how to deal with growing homeless populations during a time of shrinking budgets. In many cities, business owners and residents have reported increased incidents of public urination and littering. Efforts to feed the homeless have been criticized for attracting unsightly homeless camps to the area. Communities are struggling with how to care for the homeless while keeping their neighborhoods clean and sanitary.

[No Stimulus Condition]

[Subjects view nothing]

Policy Attitudes

How strongly do you favor or oppose each of the following policies?

- Increasing government aid to the homeless
- Providing subsidized housing for the homeless
- Banning sleeping in public areas
- Banning panhandling

Response options: Strongly favor, Somewhat favor, Slightly favor, Neither favor nor oppose, Slightly oppose, Somewhat oppose, Strongly oppose

1b. MTurk Study

Disgust Sensitivity

The following items describe a variety of concepts. Please rate how disgusting you find the concepts described in the items, where 1 means that you do not find the concept disgusting at all and 7 means that you find the concept extremely disgusting.

- Stepping on dog poop.
- Standing close to a person who has body odor.
- Seeing some mold on old leftovers in the refrigerator.
- Shaking hands with a stranger who has sweaty palms.
- Accidentally touching a person's bloody cut.
- Seeing a cockroach run across the floor.
- Sitting next to someone who has red sores on their arm.

Attributions

There are many homeless people in the United States today. How much would you say each of the following causes people to become homeless?

- Laziness
- Factors outside of their control
- Their choice to be homeless
- Lack of affordable housing
- Greedy rich people
- Drug Use

Response options: A great deal, Some, A little, None

Policy Attitudes

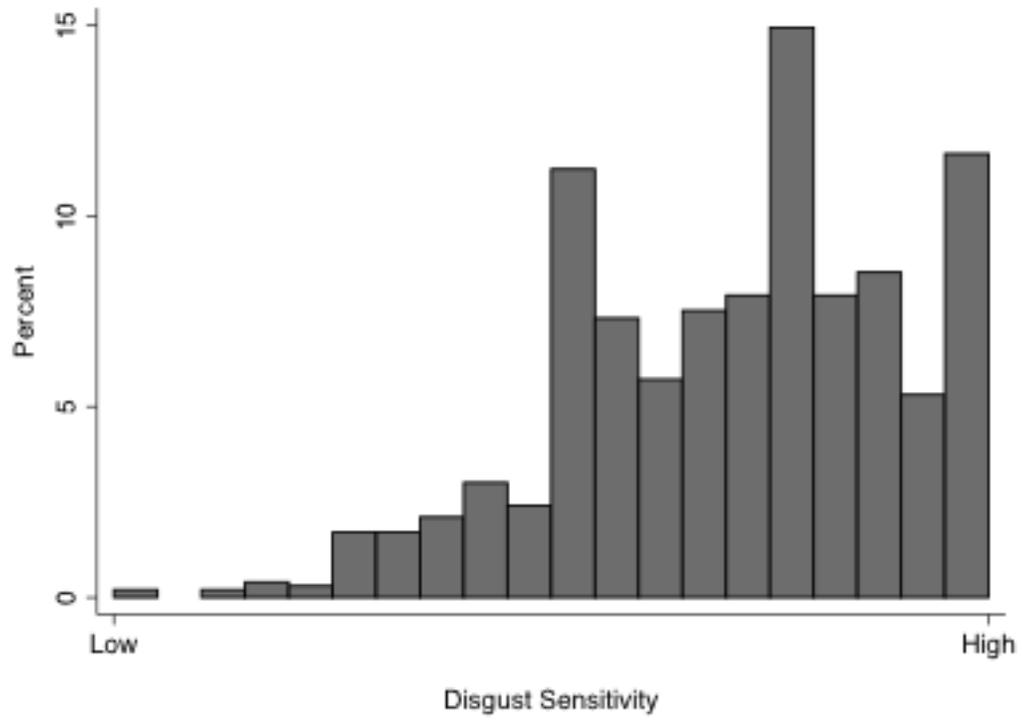
How strongly do you favor or oppose each of the following policies?

- Increasing government aid to the homeless
- Providing subsidized housing for the homeless
- Banning sleeping in public areas
- Banning panhandling

Response options: Strongly favor, Somewhat favor, Slightly favor, Neither favor nor oppose, Slightly oppose, Somewhat oppose, Strongly oppose

Appendix 2. Distribution of Disgust Sensitivity Index

CCES Module



Appendix 3. Disgust Sensitivity Predicts Opinion about Exclusionary Policies

	<u>CCES</u>		<u>MTurk</u>	
	Ban Public Sleeping	Ban Panhandling	Ban Public Sleeping	Ban Panhandling
Disgust Sensitivity	0.31*** (0.07)	0.21** (0.07)	0.17** (0.07)	0.14* (0.07)
Party ID (Rep.)	-0.03 (0.05)	0.01 (0.05)	0.01 (0.07)	0.00 (0.07)
Ideology (Cons.)	0.19** (0.06)	0.21** (0.06)	0.33*** (0.08)	0.33*** (0.08)
Church Attendance	0.03 (0.05)	0.02 (0.05)	0.04 (0.05)	0.02 (0.05)
Education	0.04 (0.05)	0.06 (0.05)	0.21** (0.07)	0.18** (0.07)
South	-0.02 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.03)	--	--
Income	0.08 (0.07)	0.10 (0.07)	--	--
Income (Missing)	-0.02 (0.05)	0.01 (0.05)	--	--
Unemployed	0.07 (0.06)	-0.05 (0.06)	--	--
Male	-0.05 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.03)	0.01 (0.03)	-0.00 (0.03)
Age	0.09 (0.06)	0.06 (0.06)	0.20** (0.07)	0.12* (0.07)
Hispanic	0.02 (0.06)	0.01 (0.06)	0.09 (0.06)	0.08 (0.06)
Black	-0.05 (0.05)	-0.04 (0.05)	0.01 (0.05)	-0.02 (0.05)
Other Race	0.06 (0.06)	0.04 (0.06)	0.10* (0.04)	0.01 (0.05)
Constant	0.19* (0.07)	0.26*** (0.07)	0.01 (0.07)	0.14* (0.07)
N	454	455	504	504
R-squared	0.10	0.09	0.15	0.12

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$; cell entries are ordinary least squares regression coefficients (standard errors in parentheses). All variables are coded from 0 to 1. The column headings indicate data sources and dependent variables: higher values indicate greater support for the policy.

Appendix 4. Disgust Sensitivity Does Not Predict Opinion about Aid Policies

	<u>CCES</u>		<u>MTurk</u>	
	Aid Homeless	Subsidize Housing	Aid Homeless	Subsidize Housing
Disgust Sensitivity	-0.01 (0.06)	-0.02 (0.06)	-0.04 (0.06)	-0.06 (0.06)
Party ID (Rep.)	-0.17*** (0.04)	-0.12** (0.04)	0.05 (0.06)	0.02 (0.06)
Ideology (Cons.)	-0.36*** (0.05)	-0.35*** (0.05)	-0.54*** (0.07)	-0.39*** (0.07)
Church Attendance	0.06 (0.04)	0.05 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)
Education	-0.08 (0.04)	-0.05 (0.04)	-0.18** (0.06)	-0.18** (0.06)
South	0.02 (0.02)	0.05 (0.02)	-- --	-- --
Income	-0.14* (0.06)	-0.17** (0.06)	-- --	-- --
Income (Missing)	-0.14*** (0.04)	-0.11** (0.04)	-- --	-- --
Unemployed	-0.01 (0.05)	-0.04 (0.05)	-- --	-- --
Male	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.07** (0.02)	-0.09*** (0.02)	-0.11*** (0.02)
Age	0.04 (0.05)	0.03 (0.05)	0.02 (0.06)	0.05 (0.06)
Hispanic	0.00 (0.05)	-0.04 (0.05)	-0.04 (0.05)	-0.01 (0.05)
Black	0.09* (0.04)	0.07 (0.04)	0.01 (0.05)	0.01 (0.05)
Other Race	-0.10* (0.05)	-0.06 (0.05)	0.00 (0.04)	-0.01 (0.04)
Constant	0.97*** (0.06)	0.98*** (0.06)	1.07*** (0.06)	1.04*** (0.06)
N	455	456	504	504
R-squared	0.35	0.31	0.25	0.18

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$; cell entries are ordinary least squares regression coefficients (standard errors in parentheses). All variables are coded from 0 to 1. The column headings indicate data sources and dependent variables: higher values indicate greater support for the policy.

Appendix 5. Regression Models with Group Affect

	Affect	Ban Panhandling	Ban Public Sleeping	Aid to Homeless	Subsidize Housing
Affect Towards Homeless People	--	-0.16*	-0.12*	0.36***	0.35***
	--	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Disgust Sensitivity	-0.05	0.20***	0.30***	0.01	0.00
	(0.04)	(0.10)	(0.07)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Party ID (Rep.)	-0.06*	0.00	-0.05	-0.15***	-0.11**
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Ideology (Cons.)	-0.13***	0.18**	0.17**	-0.30***	-0.29***
	(0.05)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Education	-0.07**	0.04	0.03	-0.07*	-0.03
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)
South	0.04**	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.02
	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Income	-0.10**	0.08	0.06	-0.11*	-0.12*
	(0.05)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.06)	(0.06)
Income – Missing	-0.06**	0.00	-0.03	-0.13***	-0.09*
	(0.02)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Unemployed	0.02	-0.06	0.07	-0.01	-0.03
	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Male	-0.04**	-0.02	-0.05	-0.01	-0.05**
	(0.01)	(0.03)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Age	0.10***	0.08	0.11	-0.02	-0.04
	(0.03)	(0.07)	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Hispanic	0.03	0.04	0.03	-0.01	-0.06
	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Black	0.07**	-0.03	-0.04	0.08*	0.05
	(0.02)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Other Race	-0.09***	0.00	0.03	-0.05	-0.03
	(0.03)	(0.06)	(0.06)	(0.05)	(0.05)
Church Attendance	0.09***	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.01
	(0.03)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.04)	(0.04)
Constant	0.77***	0.40***	0.29***	0.71***	0.73***
	(0.06)	(0.09)	(0.09)	(0.07)	.07
N	961	443	442	443	444
R-squared	0.14	0.10	0.11	0.40	0.36

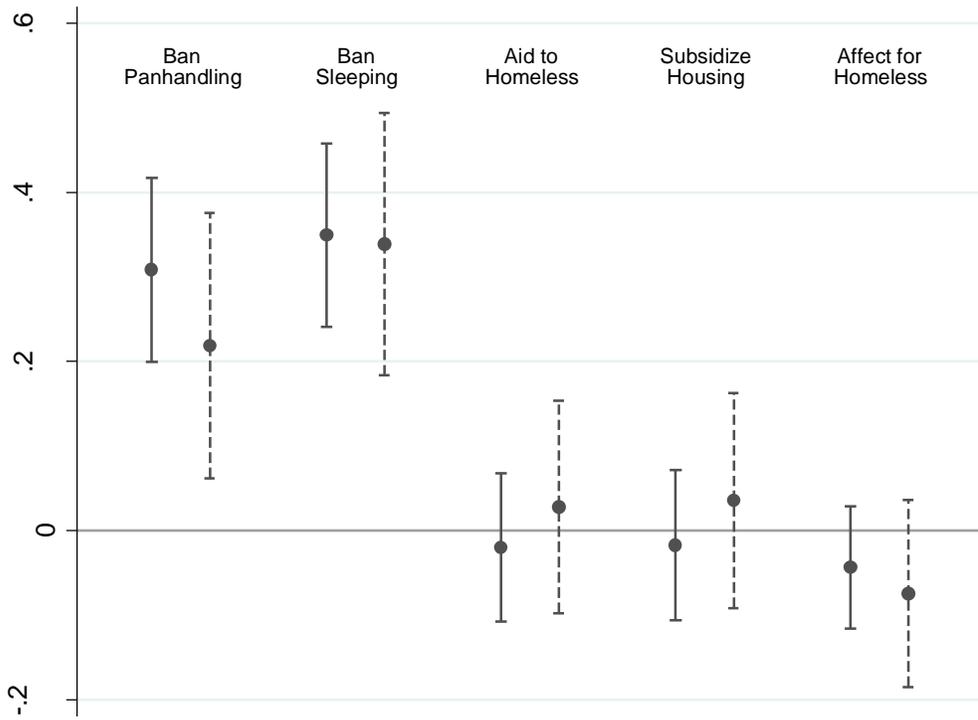
*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$; one-tailed. Cell entries are ordinary least squares regression coefficients (standard errors in parentheses). All variables are coded from 0 to 1. The column headings indicate data sources and dependent variables: higher values indicate greater support for the policy.

Appendix 6. Disease Cues Amplify the Effect of Disgust Sensitivity on Exclusionary Policies

	Ban Panhandling	Ban Public Sleeping	Aid Homeless	Subsidize Housing
Disgust Sensitivity	0.21*** (0.07)	0.33*** (0.07)	-0.02 (0.06)	-0.01 (0.06)
Disease Cues × Disgust Sensitivity	0.25* (0.14)	0.13 (0.14)	-0.02 (0.11)	-0.07 (0.11)
Threat Cues × Disgust Sensitivity	0.07 (0.14)	-0.05 (0.14)	0.09 (0.11)	0.10 (0.11)
Disease Cues Condition	-0.18* (0.10)	-0.11 (0.10)	0.07 (0.08)	0.10 (0.08)
Threat Cues Condition	0.00 (0.10)	0.07 (0.10)	-0.06 (0.08)	-0.07 (0.08)
Party ID (Rep.)	0.05 (0.04)	0.04 (0.04)	-0.16*** (0.03)	-0.11*** (0.03)
Ideology (Cons.)	0.17*** (0.05)	0.17*** (0.05)	-0.34*** (0.04)	-0.35*** (0.04)
Education	0.03 (0.04)	0.03 (0.04)	-0.08* (0.03)	-0.04 (0.03)
South	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
Income	0.13** (0.05)	0.12* (0.05)	-0.16*** (0.04)	-0.14*** (0.04)
Income – Missing	0.04 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)	-0.12*** (0.03)	-0.10*** (0.03)
Unemployed	0.00 (0.04)	0.04 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)
Male	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.03 (0.02)	-0.03* (0.02)	-0.07*** (0.02)
Age	0.11** (0.05)	0.12** (0.05)	0.00 (0.04)	0.00 (0.04)
Hispanic	-0.02 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.04)	0.02 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.04)
Black	-0.03 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.04)	0.10*** (0.03)	0.08** (0.03)
Other Race	0.03 (0.04)	0.06 (0.04)	-0.09** (0.03)	-0.07* (0.03)
Church Attendance	-0.02 (0.03)	0.04 (0.03)	0.05* (0.03)	0.07** (0.03)
Constant	0.26*** (0.06)	0.13* (0.06)	0.99*** (0.05)	0.96*** (0.05)
N	844	844	844	847
R-squared	0.10	0.12	0.34	0.29

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$; one-tailed. Cell entries are ordinary least squares regression coefficients (standard errors in parentheses). All variables are coded from 0 to 1. The column headings indicate dependent variables: higher values indicate greater support for the policy. Data drawn from CCES. In baseline condition, subjects read nearly identical news media description of homeless people except no disease (or threat) cues are included.

Appendix 7. The Effect of Disgust Sensitivity Does Not Differ between Control Conditions



Note: Graph displays the effect of disgust sensitivity on each attitude by control condition. Solid lines represent the true control (no stimulus) condition while dashed lines represent the neutral condition.