

SSA Claiming Interventions - Study 2 (#18961)

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Author(s)

Adam Greenberg (Bocconi University) - adam.greenberg@unibocconi.it

Hal Hershfield (University of California, Los Angeles) - hal.hershfield@anderson.ucla.edu

Stephen Spiller (University of California, Los Angeles) - stephen.spiller@anderson.ucla.edu

Suzanne Shu (University of California, Los Angeles) - sbs78@cornell.edu

1) Have any data been collected for this study already?

No, no data have been collected for this study yet.

2) What's the main question being asked or hypothesis being tested in this study?

The goal of the study is to test for effects of several interventions on claiming age, and to test for heterogeneity in these effects based on a number of individual difference measures.

3) Describe the key dependent variable(s) specifying how they will be measured.

The DV we will use for claiming age is, "Now, suppose you just turned 60 years old. At what age would you prefer to start claiming your retirement benefits?"

4) How many and which conditions will participants be assigned to?

There are 9 conditions in total. In addition to the Control (1), there will be 8 interventions: (2) Framing Gains, (3) Injunctive Norm, (4) Future Self, (5) Future Self Benefits, (6) Information about Regret Commonality, (7) Query Theory, (8) Right-Tail Longevity, and (9) Descriptive Norm.

5) Specify exactly which analyses you will conduct to examine the main question/hypothesis.

Four sets of analyses will be run using ordinary least-squares regressions with claiming age as the DV:

(A) Main effects of interventions [against Control]: regress claiming age on 8 dummy variables (one for each intervention)

(B) Main effects of interventions with covariates: same as specification (A), with the addition of age (mean-centered), sex (female = 1, male = -1), and income (bin values will be converted to bin midpoints; highest bin value will be top-coded; all values will then be mean-centered) on the right-hand side

(C) Main effects of interventions with covariates plus individual difference: same specification as (B), with the addition of each of the following individual difference measures (mean-centered), one per regression: Intertemporal Discount Factor, Loss Aversion (number of loss averse choices out of 10), Future Self Continuity, Life Expectancy (imputed from Weibull distribution; procedure will follow Payne, Sagara, Shu, Appelt, and Johnson, 2013, JRU), SSA Solvency, SSA Fairness/Ownership

(D) Main effects of interventions with covariates plus individual difference and interaction with intervention: same specification as (B), with the addition of an individual difference (mean-centered) and individual difference-intervention interaction (with individual difference mean-centered) of interest. There are 3 interactions of interest (below labeled in the format CONDITION x INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCE):

1. Future Self x Future Self Continuity
2. Future Benefits x Intertemporal Discount Factor
3. Information about Regret Commonality x Loss Aversion

6) Describe exactly how outliers will be defined and handled, and your precise rule(s) for excluding observations.

N/A

7) How many observations will be collected or what will determine sample size? No need to justify decision, but be precise about exactly how the number will be determined.

The total sample will include 3000 Amazon Mechanical Turk participants, with 300 per intervention and 600 in the Control. Using Turk Prime, we will recruit participants between ages 40-60. Because there are a limited number of active participants in this age range, data collection will occur in multiple batches until 3000 participants complete the survey.

8) Anything else you would like to pre-register? (e.g., secondary analyses, variables collected for exploratory purposes, unusual analyses planned?)

N/A