

The Association Between Vaccination Status Identification and Societal Polarization (#90822)

Created: 03/14/2022 05:04 AM (PT)

Public: 09/16/2022 01:13 AM (PT)

Author(s)

Luca Henkel (University of Bonn) - luca.henkel@uni-bonn.de

Philipp Sprengholz (University of Erfurt) - philipp.sprengholz@uni-erfurt.de

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?

This study investigates the relationship between measures of group identification of individuals with their vaccination status and its association to related constructs. In particular, we explore the relationship between vaccination status identification (VSI) with other established identification scales as well as measures of inter-group differences and group homogeneity.

(H1) VSI is positively correlated with group identification as assessed by the scales of Leach et al. (2008) and Doosje, Ellemers, and Spears (1995).

(H2) VSI is positively correlated with higher perceived inter-group differences.

(H3) VSI is positively correlated with lower perceived intra-group differences (a) within the ingroup and (b) within the outgroup.

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

To measure VSI, we use the 5-item scale employed in the working paper "Understanding the trouble spot: Does vaccination status identification fuel societal polarization?" by Henkel, Sprengholz, Korn, Betsch, and Böhm (2022).

The Leach et al. (2008) group identification scale is measured using 15 items, with the wording taken from Roth and Mazziotta (2015).

The Doosje, Ellemers, and Spears (1995) scale is measured using 4 items.

For all items of the scales, 7-point Likert scales (fully disagree -- fully agree) are used.

Perceived inter-group differences are measured by displaying subjects 5 pictures of overlapping circles representing the group of vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. ("How similar do you find the groups of people that are vaccinated and not vaccinated against COVID-19?")

Perceived intra-group differences are measured by two 7-point items ("How similar are people that are vaccinated (not vaccinated) against COVID-19?")

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

There are no externally assigned conditions. Vaccination status is assessed as a quasi-experimental factor.

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

We will use Pearson correlations.

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

None.

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.

A randomly selected subset of 300 vaccinated and 300 unvaccinated German participants taking part in a longitudinal study will be invited for participation. Data collection will be open for max. 10 working days.

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

Nothing else to pre-register.