

## Supplementary File

### List of items and scales

- 1) "Compared to other political ideas, what would you think about the idea of democracy?;" answers: strongly in favour, largely in favour, somewhat in favour, somewhat against, largely against, strongly against
- 2) "How satisfied are you with how democracy is working in the UK as a whole?"; answers: very dissatisfied, rather dissatisfied, rather satisfied, very satisfied
- 3) "People like me have no control over what the government does anyway"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 4) "I think it's pointless to get involved in politics"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 5) "Most people do not realize how far our lives are determined by conspiracies that are concocted in secret"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 6) "There are secret organizations that have a great influence on political decisions"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 7) "Politicians and other leading figures are only puppets of the powers behind"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 8) "There are evil, hidden forces behind the corona pandemic"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 9) "The corona crisis was exaggerated so that a few can benefit from it"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 10) "Bill Gates is partly responsible for the corona"; answers: Strongly disagree, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, strongly agree
- 11) Strong: Anti-Muslim Sentiment: "Because of the many Muslims here, I sometimes feel like a stranger in my own country", "Muslims should not be allowed to immigrate to the UK" strongly disagree, mostly disagree, mostly agree, strongly agree
- 12) Anti-Black racism: "Black people belong to an inferior race", "There is a natural hierarchy between black and white people"; answers: completely disagree, mostly agree, undecided, mostly agree, completely agree

- 13) Right-Wing Extremism Scale (sum score): “Under certain circumstances, a dictatorship best serves the national interest”; “In general, countries benefit from a strong single political party that represents the people as a whole”; “Countries need strong leaders who govern with a firm hand for the benefit of all”; “Foreigners only come here to abuse the welfare system”; “The influence of the Jews is too strong”; “We should dare to have strong nationalist feelings”; “When jobs are scarce, foreigners should be sent home”; “Today our country needs to firmly and energetically enforce its interests against other nations”; “The highest aim of UK politicians should be to ensure that the UK has the power and recognition it deserves”; “The UK is losing its identity because of the large number of foreigners”; “British people are naturally superior to other nationalities”; “The Jews just have something peculiar about them and don’t really fit in with us”; answers: completely disagree, mostly agree, undecided, mostly agree, completely agree
- 14) Education: No formal education, GCSE, National 5, A levels, HND or equivalent, Bachelors degree, Masters degree, PhD or equivalent, Other, Secondary or further education
- 15) Religious affiliation: Which religious community or denomination do you belong or identify with?
- 16) Importance of religiosity: “How important is religion in your life?”; answers: not important, not very important, rather important, very important
- 17) Religious fundamentalism: “There is only one true religion”; “Obeying the commandments of my religion is more important to me than the laws of the state in which I live”; “Only my religion is able to solve the problems of our time”; “Members of my religion should return to their religious roots”; answers: Disagree strongly, somewhat disagree, somewhat agree, agree strongly
- 18) Authoritarianism: “Troublemakers should be made very aware that they are unwanted in society”; “Important decisions in society should be left to its leaders”; “Tried and tested practices should not be called into question”; answers: completely disagree, agree a little, agree somewhat, mostly agree, completely agree
- 19) Social dominance orientation: “We should do what we can to make conditions more equal for different groups in society”; “Equality between different groups in society should be our ideal”; “Some groups of people are just more worthy than others”; “Inferior groups should stay in their place”; Answers: Scale between 1=strongly disagree and 7=strongly agree
- 20) Narcissism: “I deserve to be seen as a great personality”, “Being a very special person gives me a lot of strength”, “I manage to be the centre of attention because of my outstanding contributions”, “Most people are somehow losers”, “I want my rivals to fail”, “I get annoyed if another person steals the show from me”; answers: scale between 1=strongly disagree and 6=strongly agree
- 21) Sadism: “Hurting people would be exciting”; “People would enjoy hurting others if they gave it a try”; “I have sometimes hurt other people because I was able to”; “I’ve humiliated others to keep them in line”;

“I would enjoy hurting someone else physically, sexually, or emotionally” Answers: strongly disagree, mostly disagree, mostly agree, strongly agree

22) Interpersonal trust: “In general, people can be trusted”; answers: strongly disagree, mostly disagree, mostly agree, strongly agree

23) Take most news from social media: “I get most of my news from social media”; strongly disagree, mostly disagree, mostly agree, strongly agree

24) Trust more in posts of friends than of experts: “I trust the social media posts sent by my friends more than the opinions of experts”; answers: strongly disagree, mostly disagree, mostly agree, strongly agree

25) Talk with people who disagree with own views: “Either in person or virtually (e.g. on social media), how often do you talk about politics or current affairs with ...\_Someone/people who disagree with your views?”; Answers: never, occasionally, often, very often