Supplemental Information for "Income Inequality Influences Perceptions of Legitimate Income Differences" by Kris-Stella Trump

Supplemental Information I.

The information treatments provided to participants in the survey experiments.

Experiment 2:

Occupation	Mean annual salary in 2010
Chairman of a large national corporation	$11,400,000
Member of the cabinet in the federal government	$199,700
Doctor in general practice	$173,860
Owner of small shop	$74,580
Skilled factory worker	$33,770
Unskilled factory worker	$24,240
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, AFL-CIO, Payscale.com	

Experiment 3:

Yrke	Genomsnittlig månadslön (SEK)
VD av ett stort nationellt företag	1 100 000
Riksdagsledamot	58 300
Läkare	57 400
Ägare av en liten butik	31 300
Yrkesutbildad fabriksarbetare	26 300
Ej yrkesutbildad fabriksarbetare	22 900
Uppgifterna gäller 2011 och kommer från Statistiska Centralbyrån samt LO.	

Experiment 4:

Occupation	Average annual salary in 2012
Chairman of a large national corporation	$15,100,000
Member of the cabinet in the federal government	$199,700
Doctor in general practice	$180,850
Owner of small shop	$94,180
Skilled factory worker	$34,500
Unskilled factory worker	$24,620
Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Executive Schedule, Equilar.Inc	

Supplemental Information II.

Additional analysis of Experiment 2: adding an interaction variable between the information treatment and partisan identity reveals that both Democrats and Republicans upward adjust their perceptions of fair income inequalities after receiving the information treatment. The point estimate of the interaction effect with Republican identity is positive and suggests that Republicans may react twice as strongly as Democrats to the information treatment; this is consistent with the fact that conservatives generally tend to score higher on the system justification motivation. However, the small number of Republicans (80/407) in this sample prevents any firm conclusions about this possible heterogeneity of the treatment effect between partisan subgroups.

Dependent variable:	**Recommended inequality**			
	Model 1		Model 2	
	Coef	*S.E.*	*Coef*	*S.E.*
Information treatment	**0.43**	0.13	**0.44**	0.12
Partisan identity: Republican	0.39	0.20	0.23	0.19
Information*Republican	0.42	0.29	0.45	0.28
Belief in Just World scale			**0.18**	0.07
Perception of inequality (log)			**0.23**	0.03
Intercept	**2.11**	0.09	**0.73**	0.27
N	402		402	
Adjusted R^2	0.07		0.17	

Table S1. Results of survey experiment with American sample: interaction with partisan identity. The information treatment presents participants with information on actual income inequality in the United States, informing the participant that inequality is higher than they previously thought. Inequality preference is measured as log(highest suggested income/lowest suggested income). Coefficients that are statistically significant at the 95% confidence level are shown in bold.

Supplemental Information III.

Treatment [control] paragraph used in Experiment 4 to experimentally increase the motivation to believe the world is just. Source: Kay et al. (2009).

"Since the 1950's, a group at Harvard University, in Cambridge, has been using current political and international trends to predict patterns of population movements. Recent reports by this group of experts have indicated that people who wish to move out of the United States will find it increasingly difficult [easy] to do so, in the coming years. Thus, even if the number of Americans wishing to leave and settle elsewhere remains constant, we should expect a significant slow-down [increase] over the next few years in terms of those who actually are able to do so."

Supplemental Information IV

Balance tables

The descriptive statistics columns show unadjusted shares and means by treatment condition. The p-values are obtained through entering the demographic variables in a linear multivariate regression with treatment condition as outcome variable, performed separately for each experiment.

Experiment 1	**More unequal**	**Less unequal**	**p-value**
Age (mean)	28.8	31	0.82
Gender (share female)	0.54	0.41	0.33
Race (share white)	0.50	0.59	0.64
Belief in just world (mean)	3.34	3.10	0.35
Partisanship (share Republican)	0.31	0.11	0.09
Experiment 2	**Control**	**Information**	**p-value**
Age (mean)	30	30	0.57
Gender (share female)	0.38	0.35	0.55
Race (share white)	0.80	0.74	0.29
Belief in just world (mean)	3.30	3.19	0.26
Partisanship (share Republican)	0.22	0.17	0.50
Education (share w/ college degree)	0.54	0.55	0.69
Perceived inequality (log of the ratio of highest to lowest perceived income)	3.56	3.53	0.85
Experiment 3	**Control**	**Information**	**p-value**
Age (mean)	26	27	0.87
Gender (share female)	0.60	0.60	0.29
Belief in just world (mean)	2.88	2.76	0.06
Partisanship (voted right-wing last election)	0.24	0.29	0.33
Education (share w/ college degree)	0.43	0.51	0.20
Perceived inequality (log of the ratio of highest to lowest perceived income)	1.80	1.65	0.21
Experiment 4	**Control**	**Threat condition**	**p-value**
Age (mean)	31	30	0.27
Gender (share female)	0.38	0.36	0.57
Race (share white)	0.70	0.71	0.57
Belief in just world (mean)	3.36	3.35	0.86
Partisanship (share Republican)	0.22	0.18	0.25
Education (share w/ college degree)	0.51	0.56	0.09
Perceived inequality (log of the ratio of highest to lowest perceived income)	3.66	3.55	0.30