# Supplementary Material

**Political Knowledge as a Moderator of the Relationship between Ideology and Resistance to Governmental Apologies**

**Study 1 Questionnaire**

How do you feel about the following sentence? Do you agree or disagree? “In international politics, it is often necessary to use military power to protect national interests.”

1 Strongly agree

2 Somewhat agree

3 Somewhat disagree

4 Strongly disagree

5 Do not know

Japan once placed East and Southeastern Asian countries under colonial rule and occupation. To what extent do you support the Japanese government’s apology to the victimized countries about its conduct during these colonial and occupational periods?

1 Strongly support

2 Somewhat support

3 Somewhat do not support

4 Do not support at all

5 Do not know

During World War II, Japan, with its military involvement, severely injured the honor and dignity of many women by forcing them to serve as comfort women. To what extent do you support the Japanese government’s apology to the victims of the so-called comfort women issue?

1 Strongly support

2 Somewhat support

3 Somewhat do not support

4 Do not support at all

5 Do not know

Immediately after the Great Kanto Earthquake, false rumors, such as “the Koreans are poisoning wells,” became widespread and led Japanese vigilantes, police, and military personnel to commit mass slaughter of Korean residents in Japan. To what extent do you support the Japanese government’s apology regarding these actions?

1 Strongly support

2 Somewhat support

3 Somewhat do not support

4 Do not support at all

5 Do not know

Below are a series of statements with which you may either agree or disagree. For each statement, please indicate the degree of your agreement/disagreement by selecting the appropriate number from ‘1’ to ‘7’.Once again, remember that your first responses are usually the most accurate.(Each item was rated on a7-point scale ranging from 1 = “Strongly Disagree/Disapprove” to 7 = “Strongly Agree/Favor”)

1. Some groups of people are just more worthy than others.

2. In getting what your group wants, it is sometimes necessary to use force against other groups.

3. It’s OK if some groups have more of a chance in life than others.

4. To get ahead in life, it is sometimes necessary to step on other groups.

5. If certain groups of people stayed in their place, we would have fewer problems.

6. It’s probably a good thing that certain groups are at the top and other groups are at the bottom.

7. Inferior groups should stay in their place.

8. Sometimes other groups must be kept in their place.

9. It would be good if all groups could be equal.

10. Group equality should be our ideal.

11. All groups should be given an equal chance in life.

12. We should do what we can to equalize conditions for different groups.

13. We should increase social equality.

14. We would have fewer problems if we treated different groups more equally.

15. We should strive to make incomes more equal.

16. No one group should dominate in society.

Please choose the correct answer for each question.

Unlike the previous questions, there are correct answers here, but they are intended to determine how well these items are known in society; there is no competition for the number of correct answers per individual. The number of correct answers does not affect the rewards. If you do not know the answer, please do not look it up but simply answer, “Do not know.”

Which of the following are requirements for becoming the Prime Minister of Japan?

1 Being a member of the House of Representatives

2 Being a member of the House of Councilors

3 Being a member of Parliament, whether a member of the House of Representatives or the House of Councilors

4 Not necessary to be a member of Parliament

5 Do not know

If a bill passed by the House of Representatives is rejected by the House of Councilors, it is reconsidered by the House of Representatives. What percentage of the members present in the House of Representatives would be required to approve the bill for it to be re-passed by the House of Representatives and become law?

1 One-third

2 More than half

3 Two-thirds

4 Three-quarters

5 Do not know

In Japan, a person who is dissatisfied with a judgment in a court of law is allowed to file a new lawsuit in a higher court. Under the current system, what is the maximum number of times a person can be tried?

1 Two

2 Three

3 Four

4 Five

5 Do not know

What Article in Japan’s Constitution contains a war-renouncing clause?

1 Article 1

2 Article 9

3 Article 17

4 Article 25

5 Do not know

Which of the following election-related activities are permitted to voters under the Public Office Election Law?

1 Campaigning by email

2 Voting via the Internet

3 Printing and distribution of websites

4 Distribution of videos supporting candidates

5 Do not know

Which industry is not subject to accepting foreign workers under the “Law to Amend the Regulation for Enforcement of the Immigration Control and Refugee Recognition Act Establishing the Ministry of Justice,” which was enacted on December 8, 2018?

1 Construction

2 Nursing care industry

3 Restaurant industry

4 Railway industry

5 Do not know

When will the name of the new era be announced?

1 April 1, 2019

2 May 1, 2019

3 April 1, 2020

4 May 1, 2020

5 Do not know

In January 2019, which of the following surveys revealed that the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) conducted a one-third sampling survey in Tokyo, when it should have conducted a complete enumeration of the city?

1 Survey of Employment Trends

2 Monthly Labor Statistics Survey

3 Basic Survey on Equal Employment

4 Comprehensive survey of working conditions

5 Do not know

Which party agreed to form a parliamentary alliance with the National Democratic Party on January 24, 2019?

1 The Constitutional Democratic Party

2 Liberal Party

3 Social Democratic party

4 The Party of Hope

5 Do not know

Who is the Minister of Defense as of February 2019?

1 Yoshihide Suga

2 Takumi Nemoto

3 Takeshi Iwaya

4 Taro Kono

5 Do not know

With respect to politics, the expressions “conservative” and “progressive” (liberal) are sometimes used. Where would you locate your political views on this spectrum? Please select the most suitable number: 0 means “progressive” and 10 means “conservative.” For instance, if you feel like you are in the middle, the number 5 would be an appropriate choice. (0–5 = *Progressive*, 5 = *Neutral*, 6–10 = *Conservative*, 11 = *I do not want to answer*).

0 Progressive

1

2

3

4

5 Neutral

6

7

8

9

10 Conservative

11 Do not want to answer

Please tell us your birth year.

Please tell us your gender.

1 Male

2 Female

3 Do not want to answer

Which of these best describes your educational status?

1. Enrolled in either elementary, junior high, or high school, or withdrawn from any of them
2. Withdrawn from high school, technical college, vocational school, or junior college
3. Graduated from high school, technical college, vocational school, or junior college
4. Enrolled in or withdrawn from university
5. Graduated from university
6. Enrolled in a graduate school or withdrawn from it
7. Graduated from a graduate school

**Study 2 Questionnaire**

How do you feel about the following sentence? Do you agree or disagree? “In international politics, it is often necessary to use military power to protect national interests.”

1 Strongly agree

2 Somewhat agree

3 Somewhat disagree

4 Strongly disagree

5 Do not know

Japan once placed East and Southeastern Asian countries under colonial rule and occupation. To what extent do you support the Japanese government’s apology to the victimized countries about its conduct during these colonial and occupational periods?

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Immediately after the Great Kanto Earthquake, false rumors, such as “the Koreans are poisoning wells,” became widespread and led Japanese vigilantes, police, and military personnel to commit mass slaughter of Korean residents in Japan. To what extent do you support the Japanese government’s apology regarding these actions?

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4 Do not support at all

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Below are a series of statements with which you may either agree or disagree. For each statement, please indicate the degree of your agreement/disagreement by selecting the appropriate number from ‘1’ to ‘7’.Once again, remember that your first responses are usually the most accurate.(Each item was rated on a7-point scale ranging from 1 = “Strongly Disagree/Disapprove” to 7 = “Strongly Agree/Favor”)

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5 Do not know

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1 One-third

2 More than half

3 Two-thirds

4 Three-quarters

5 Do not know

In Japan, a person who is dissatisfied with a judgment in a court of law is allowed to file a new lawsuit in a higher court. Under the current system, what is the maximum number of times a person can be tried?

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2 Three

3 Four

4 Five

5 Do not know

What Article in Japan’s Constitution contains a war-renouncing clause?

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4 Article 25

5 Do not know

Which of the following election-related activities are permitted to voters under the Public Office Election Law?

1 Campaigning by email

2 Voting via the Internet

3 Printing and distribution of websites

4 Distribution of videos supporting candidates

5 Do not know

Who is the Minister of Defense as of August 2021 among the following?

1 Nobuo Kishi

2 Taro Kono

3 Takeshi Iwaya

4 Itsunori Onodera

5 Do not know

In which of the following countries was the delta strain, a mutant strain of the new coronavirus, first identified?

1 China

2 United Kingdom

3 Peru

4 India

5 Do not know

What is the Japanese government's target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by what percentage in 2030 compared to 2013?

1 31%

2 39%

3 46%

4 54%

5 Do not know

Which government agency is the Central Minimum Wage Council, which reported a national average minimum wage increase of 28 yen in July 2021?

1 Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry

2 Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

3 Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications

4 National Personnel Authority

5 Do not know

Which of the following was visited by President Bach of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) on July 16, 2021?

1 Iwate prefecture

2 Fukushima prefecture

3 Hiroshima prefecture

4 nagasaki prefecture

5 Do not know

With respect to politics, the expressions “conservative” and “progressive” (liberal) are sometimes used. Where would you locate your political views on this spectrum? Please select the most suitable number: 0 means “progressive” and 10 means “conservative.” For instance, if you feel like you are in the middle, the number 5 would be an appropriate choice. (0–5 = *Progressive*, 5 = *Neutral*, 6–10 = *Conservative*, 11 = *I do not want to answer*).

0 Progressive

1

2

3

4

5 Neutral

6

7

8

9

10 Conservative

11 Do not want to answer

How much do you agree with the following statement? (1=very much, 4=neither, 7=very much) (1= strongly agree, 4= undecided, 7= strongly disagree)

1. I tend to downplay my wrongdoings to the other person, rather than apologize

2. I tend not to apologize because I could get into trouble for confessing

3. If I think no one will know what I have done, I am likely not to apologize

4. By not apologizing, it allows me to continue to behave as I want to behave.

5. To avoid feeling incompetent, I tend not to apologize.

6. I don’t apologize very often because I don’t like to admit that I’m wrong .

7. I don’t like to apologize because it lets the other person feel superior to me.

8. My continued anger often gets in the way of me apologizing.

We ask about other countries. The scale is 100 degrees for the most favorable feeling, 0 degrees for the most unfavorable feeling, and 50 degrees for neither favorable nor unfavorable feeling. Please indicate your feelings toward the countries listed below by giving a number between 0 and 100. If you are not familiar with the country or do not want to answer the question, please select "don't know/do not want to answer".

1. United States of America
2. United Kingdom
3. Germany
4. Russia
5. China
6. Korea
7. India
8. Iran
9. Israel
10. Australia

Please tell us your birth year.

Please tell us your gender.

1 Male

2 Female

3 Do not want to answer

Which of these best describes your educational status?

1. Enrolled in either elementary, junior high, or high school, or withdrawn from any of them
2. Withdrawn from high school, technical college, vocational school, or junior college
3. Graduated from high school, technical college, vocational school, or junior college
4. Enrolled in or withdrawn from university
5. Graduated from university
6. Enrolled in a graduate school or withdrawn from it
7. Graduated from a graduate school

**Table S1 Differences between respondents who competed the survey and those with missing values**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Respondents who answered all items | | |  | Respondents with  missing values | | |  | Welch’s t-test | | |
|  | n | mean | *SD* |  | n | mean | *SD* |  | *t* | *p* | *d* |
| Age | 1655 | 48.222 | 13.107 |  | 699 | 45.601 | 12.936 |  | -4.474 | .000 | -0.201 |
| Gender (male) | 1647 | 0.536 | 0.499 |  | 691 | 0.388 | 0.488 |  | -6.636 | .000 | -0.298 |
| Education | 1655 | 4.327 | 1.299 |  | 699 | 4.104 | 1.328 |  | -3.747 | .000 | -0.171 |
| SDO | 1655 | 3.485 | 0.843 |  | 699 | 3.629 | 0.623 |  | 4.609 | .000 | 0.184 |
| Militarism | 1603 | 2.178 | 0.894 |  | 534 | 2.112 | 0.807 |  | -1.578 | .115 | -0.075 |
| Conservatism | 1530 | 6.478 | 1.921 |  | 527 | 6.429 | 1.550 |  | -0.594 | .553 | -0.027 |
| Political knowledge | 1655 | 0.150 | 0.791 |  | 699 | -0.355 | 0.881 |  | -13.088 | .000 | -0.617 |

**Table S2** Multiple Regression Analysis with Resistance to Apologies as the Dependent Variable without Control Variables

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *b* | *SE* | *p* |
| Conservatism | 0.081 | 0.012 | 0.000 |
| Political Knowledge (PN) | -0.087 | 0.029 | 0.003 |
| Conservatism × PN | 0.060 | 0.015 | 0.000 |
| Intercept | 0.024 | 0.023 | 0.294 |
| R squared | 0.061 |  |  |
| N | 1530 |  |  |

*Note.* OLS model. Conservatism and political knowledge are centralized.

**Table S3** **Moderation effects of political knowledge** **on SDO-mediated models of conservatism and resistance to apology**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | SDO | | |  | Resistance to apology | | |
|  | *b* | *SE* | *p* |  | *b* | *SE* | *p* |
| Conservatism | 0.134 | 0.010 | 0.000 |  | 0.036 | 0.013 | 0.047 |
| Political Knowledge (PN) | –0.140 | 0.027 | 0.000 |  | –0.033 | 0.028 | 0.237 |
| SDO |  |  |  |  | 0.388 | 0.027 | 0.000 |
| Conservatism × PN |  |  |  |  | 0.037 | 0.015 | 0.13 |
| Intercept | –0.025 | 0.021 | 0.243 |  | –0.027 | 0.022 | 0.230 |
| R squared | 0.112 |  |  |  | 0.174 |  |  |
| N | 1487 |  |  |  | 1487 |  |  |

*Note.* OLS model. Conservatism and political knowledge are centralized.

**Table S4** Correlation Matrix of Each Variable Using Spearman's Method

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age | 1.000 | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |
| Gender (male) | .014 |  | | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | *Note. \*\* p < .01, \* p < .05* |
| Education | –.165 | \*\* | | .207 | \*\* | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| SDO | –.239 | \*\* | | .108 | \*\* | .044 | \* | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Militarism | –.146 | \*\* | | .217 | \*\* | .050 | \*\* | .372 | \*\* | 1.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Conservatism | –.039 |  | | .012 |  | –.000 |  | .243 | \*\* | .207 | \*\* | 1.000 |  |  |  |  | |
| Political knowledge | .222 | \*\* | | .236 | \*\* | .168 | \*\* | –.204 | \*\* | .025 | \*\* | –.000 |  | 1.000 |  |  | |
| Resistance to apologies | –.093 | \*\* | | .079 | \*\* | –.008 |  | .389 | \*\* | .333 | \*\* | .202 | \*\* | –.091 | \*\* | 1.000 | |
|  | Age | | | Gender (male) | | Education | | SDO | | Militarism | | Conservatism | | Political knowledge | | Resistance to apologies | |

**Table S5** Response time of political knowledge items

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | mean | median | SD |
| The requirements for becoming Prime Minister | 39.044 | 26.675 | 48.039 |
| Re-adoption of a law by the House of Representatives | 24.117 | 14.721 | 38.782 |
| Three-tiered judicial system | 15.509 | 9.796 | 22.805 |
| The clauses that renounce war in the Japanese constitution | 8.077 | 5.276 | 10.169 |
| Online election campaigns | 30.019 | 20.511 | 36.686 |
| The name of the current Minister of Defense | 18.157 | 10.967 | 19.555 |
| The country where the Delta strain of the novel coronavirus was first identified | 11.627 | 7.144 | 14.902 |
| the Japanese government's greenhouse gas reduction target for fiscal year 2030 | 13.424 | 8.261 | 20.871 |
| Government agency to which the Central Minimum Wage Council belongs | 16.505 | 12.138 | 15.096 |
| The city that the International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Bach visited | 12.043 | 7.954 | 14.095 |

**Table S6** Descriptive Statistics and Correlation Matrix of Each Variable (Study 2)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Age | 1.000 | |  | | | | | | | | | | | | | |  | |
| Gender (male) | .011 |  | | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | *Note. \*\* p < .01, \* p < .05* |
| Education | –.062 | \* | | .126 | \*\* | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| SDO | –.113 | \*\* | | .183 | \*\* | .012 |  | 1.000 | |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Militarism | –.006 |  | | .179 | \*\* | .026 | \*\* | .303 | \*\* | 1.000 |  |  |  |  |  |  | |
| Conservatism | .071 | \*\* | | .039 |  | –.019 |  | .137 | \*\* | .104 | \*\* | 1.000 |  |  |  |  | |
| Political Knowledge | .137 | \*\* | | .101 | \*\* | .197 | \*\* | –.028 | \*\* | .104 | \*\* | .053 | \* | 1.000 |  |  | |
| Resistance to apologies | .026 |  | | .154 | \*\* | –.036 |  | .362 | \*\* | .328 | \*\* | .221 | \*\* | .134 | \*\* | 1.000 | |
| SD | 11.709 | | | 0.498 | | 1.262 | | 0.772 | | 0.825 | | 1.701 | | 2.057 | | 0.901 | |
| mean | 40.617 | | | 0.545 | | 4.189 | | 2.864 | | 2.230 | | 6.150 | | 5.029 | | –0.008 | |
| n | 1643 | | | 1643 | | 1643 | | 1643 | | 1579 | | 1533 | | 1644 | | 1394 | |
|  | Age | | | Gender (male) | | Education | | SDO | | Militarism | | Conservatism | | Political knowledge | | Resistance to apologies | |