Appendix Supplementary Materials

Appendix.1 2014 Online Survey Questions on Foreign Socioeconomic Information

1. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the annual per capita personal income in the U.S.? [b]

   (a) 21,000 USD

   (b) 44,000 USD

   (c) 67,000 USD

   (d) 90,000 USD

2. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the unemployment rate in the U.S. in the last two years? [b]

   (a) 4.5%

   (b) 7.0%

   (c) 9.5%

   (d) 12.0%

3. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the life expectancy in Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries? [c]

   (a) 72.1

   (b) 76.1

   (c) 80.1

   (d) 84.1

4. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the average expected years of schooling in OECD countries? [c]

   (a) 11.5

   (b) 14

   (c) 16.5

   (d) 19

5. The Gini coefficient is internationally used to measure a country's income inequality. It is a number between 0 and 1, the higher the number, the more unequal is a country's income distribution. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the Gini coefficient of the U.S.? [c]

    (a) 0.317

    (b) 0.397

    (c) 0.477

    (d) 0.557

6. Home-ownership rate refers to the proportion of all occupied housing units that are occupied by owners. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the homeownership rate in the U.S.? [b]

    (a) 51%

    (b) 65%

    (c) 81%

    (d) 95%

7. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the homicide rate in the U.S. (number of homicides in every 100,000 people)? [c]

    (a) 0.9

    (b) 2.8

    (c) 4.7

    (d) 6.6

8. Which of the following numbers do you think is closest to the number of deaths due to air and water pollution per million people in the U.S.? [b]

    (a) 58

    (b) 138

    (c) 378

    (d) 698

Note: The letter at the end of each question indicates the correct answer.

Appendix.2 Wordings of Socio-Political Predisposition Questions

- *Political interest*: "How interested are you in political affairs?" The choices in the online survey experiment were: "interested," "somewhat interested," "not too interested," and "not interested" (four-point scale), and in the college survey there was another additional choice "just so so" in the middle (five-point scale).

- *Internal political efficacy*: "Do you agree with the following statement: Politics are too complicated for people like me to understand." The choices in the online survey experiment were: "agree," "somewhat agree," "somewhat disagree," and "disagree" (four-point scale), and in the college survey there was another additional choice "neither agree nor disagree" in the middle (five-point scale).

- *External political efficacy*: "Do you agree with the following statement: People like me can have an influence on the government's decision making." The choices in the online survey experiment were: "agree," "somewhat agree," "somewhat disagree," and "disagree" (four-point scale), and in the college survey there was another additional choice "neither agree nor disagree" (five-point scale).

- *National pride*: "How proud are you as a Chinese citizen?" The choices in the online survey experiment were: "proud," "somewhat proud," "not too proud," and "not proud" (four-point scale), and in the college survey there was another additional choice "just so so" in the middle (five-point scale).

- *Individualism*: Individualism was measured as the average of a respondent's degree of agreement with the following two statements, with the response to the second statement reversely coded: a) "There were first individuals and then the country, therefore individuals are more important than the country"; b) "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." The choices in the online survey experiment were: "agree," "somewhat agree," "somewhat disagree," and "disagree" (four-point scale), and in the college survey there was another additional choice "neither agree nor disagree" (five-point scale).

- *News consumption*: "How often do you follow news: almost everyday, three to four times a week, one to two times a week, once every couple of weeks, or rarely?" They were respectively coded as 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1.

- *Life satisfaction*: "How satisfied are you with your life these days, all things considered?" The question was measured on a seven-point scale in the online survey experiment and five-point scale in the college survey.

Appendix.3 Sociodemographic Information of the Online Survey Experiment Participants (October 2014)

Sociodemographics		Survey Experiment	Chinese Internet Population[*]
Region	Eastern China	59.1%	51.0%
	Central China	24.0%	26.3%
	Western China	16.9%	22.7%
Occupation	Student	25.0%	25.5%
	Self-employed	16.3%	18.6%
	Corporate office worker	21.8%	11.4%
	Corporate management	4.9%	2.5%
	Government employee	2.8%	4.8%
	Professional	13.8%	6.6%
	Manufacturing worker	3.2%	3.5%
	Service worker	3.6%	3.8%
	Migrant worker	1.7%	4.0%
	Farmer	0.5%	6.6%
	Unemployed	5.0%	10.2%
	Retired and other	1.6%	2.4%
Gender	Female	39.9%	44.0%
	Male	60.1%	56.0%
Education	Primary school	0.2%	11.9%
	Junior high school	3.0%	36.0%
	Senior high school	11.1%	31.2%
	2-year college	36.5%	10.1%
	4-year college	44.1%	10.8%
	Graduate school	5.0%	N.A.
Age	≤19	3.9%	26.0%
	20-29	80.6%	31.2%
	30-39	13.7%	23.9%
	≥40	1.9%	19.1%

* The 33rd Statistical Report of Internet Development in China (CNNIC, January 2014).

Appendix.4 Summary Statistics of the Online Survey Experiment

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Going abroad	988	2.20	0.73	1	4
Socioeconomic perception	988	0.11	2.92	-12	10
Overestimation	988	0.19	0.33	0	1
Underestimation	988	0.18	0.38	0	1
Political knowledge	988	3.39	1.98	0	10
External efficacy	988	1.71	0.75	1	4
Internal efficacy	988	2.57	0.84	1	4
National pride	988	3.36	0.82	1	4
Individualism	988	2.00	0.68	1	4
Political interest	988	2.84	0.81	1	4
News consumption	988	4.03	1.22	1	5
Life satisfaction	988	4.13	1.22	1	7
Female	988	0.40	0.49	0	1
Age group	988	2.70	1.01	1	8
Education	988	4.36	0.87	1	6
Income	988	4.65	1.11	1	7
CCP member	988	0.15	0.36	0	1

Appendix.5 Additional Regression Specifications for the Online Survey Experiment

Appendix. 5A Socioeconomic Perceptions and Interest in Going Abroad (Online Survey Experiment; DV in 3 Categories)

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Socioeconomic perception	0.055*	0.054*	0.033
	(0.021)	(0.022)	(0.022)
Correction	0.045	0.043	0.043
	(0.125)	(0.126)	(0.128)
Political knowledge	0.029	0.023	0.009
	(0.033)	(0.034)	(0.035)
Female	0.174	0.151	0.318*
	(0.131)	(0.136)	(0.141)
Age group	-0.049	-0.056	-0.138*
	(0.065)	(0.066)	(0.068)
Education	0.235**	0.211**	0.164*
	(0.076)	(0.077)	(0.078)
Income	-0.163**	-0.158**	-0.048
	(0.058)	(0.059)	(0.066)
CCP member	0.108	0.128	0.258
	(0.178)	(0.178)	(0.183)
Political interest		-0.272**	-0.149
		(0.100)	(0.107)
Internal efficacy		0.288**	0.258*
		(0.101)	(0.104)
External efficacy		-0.224*	-0.192*
		(0.090)	(0.092)
National pride			-0.555***
			(0.090)
Individualism			0.463***
			(0.100)
News consumption			0.022
			(0.061)
Life satisfaction			-0.022
			(0.060)
Cut 1	-1.366**	-1.939***	-2.660***
	(0.433)	(0.484)	(0.620)
Cut 2	1.451***	0.911	0.366
	(0.433)	(0.481)	(0.615)
Observations	988	988	988

Results from ordered logit regressions; standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$

Appendix. 5B Effects of Overestimation and Correction on Interest in Going Abroad (Online Survey Experiment; DV in 3 Categories)

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Overestimate	0.642**	0.625*	0.584*
	(0.248)	(0.249)	(0.257)
Underestimate	-0.063	-0.056	0.026
	(0.244)	(0.245)	(0.248)
Correction	0.226	0.235	0.238
	(0.159)	(0.160)	(0.162)
Correction*Overestimate	-0.707*	-0.716*	-0.740*
	(0.333)	(0.334)	(0.343)
Correction*Underestimate	-0.327	-0.369	-0.358
	(0.335)	(0.336)	(0.341)
Political knowledge	0.027	0.023	0.009
	(0.034)	(0.034)	(0.035)
Female	0.190	0.162	0.330*
	(0.132)	(0.137)	(0.141)
Age group	-0.046	-0.052	-0.136*
	(0.066)	(0.066)	(0.068)
Education	0.252**	0.230**	0.183*
	(0.077)	(0.078)	(0.079)
Income	-0.162**	-0.156**	-0.048
	(0.058)	(0.059)	(0.066)
CCP member	0.094	0.115	0.236
	(0.178)	(0.179)	(0.184)
Political interest		-0.283**	-0.161
		(0.100)	(0.107)
Internal efficacy		0.282**	0.249*
		(0.101)	(0.104)
External efficacy		-0.225*	-0.194*
		(0.090)	(0.092)
National pride			-0.549***
			(0.090)
Individualism			0.479***
			(0.100)
News consumption			0.028
			(0.061)
Life satisfaction			-0.023
			(0.061)
Cut 1	-1.200**	-1.804***	-2.472***
	(0.439)	(0.488)	(0.626)
Cut 2	1.624***	1.054*	0.566
	(0.440)	(0.485)	(0.622)
Observations	988	988	988

Results from ordered logit regressions; standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$

Appendix.6 Summary Statistics of the College Survey

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
Going abroad	1163	2.01	0.77	1	4
Socioeconomic perception	1202	0.29	2.98	-11	10
Overestimation	1202	0.24	0.43	0	1
Underestimation	1202	0.17	0.38	0	1
Political knowledge	1231	4.39	2.13	0	10
External efficacy	1209	2.03	0.91	1	5
Internal efficacy	1213	2.78	1.10	1	5
National pride	1240	3.79	0.91	1	5
Individualism	1203	2.57	1.83	1	5
Political interest	1237	3.41	0.96	1	5
News consumption	1209	3.77	1.35	1	5
Life satisfaction	1242	3.26	0.98	1	5
Female	1175	0.42	0.49	0	1
Family income	1127	4.56	1.59	0	10
CCP member	1171	0.19	0.39	0	1

Note: The "mean" for each variable is the average score of the respondents for that variable. For dichotomous variables such as "Female" and "CCP member", the mean refers to the percentage of the respondents for whom the value of the variable is 1.

Appendix.7 Additional Regression Specifications for the College Survey

Appendix.7A Socioeconomic Perceptions and Interest in Going Abroad (College Survey, DV in 3 Categories)

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Socioeconomic perception	0.068***	0.066**	0.058**
	(0.020)	(0.021)	(0.021)
Political knowledge	0.081**	0.065*	0.053
	(0.029)	(0.030)	(0.031)
Female	0.287*	0.325**	0.371**
	(0.121)	(0.124)	(0.126)
Income	0.108**	0.108**	0.112**
	(0.037)	(0.038)	(0.039)
CCP member	0.030	0.037	0.047
	(0.148)	(0.151)	(0.155)
Political interest		0.096	0.070
		(0.065)	(0.070)
Internal efficacy		0.103	0.078
		(0.056)	(0.058)
External efficacy		-0.168**	-0.130*
		(0.060)	(0.062)
National pride			-0.375***
			(0.073)
Individualism			0.204**
			(0.071)
News consumption			0.128**
			(0.048)
Life satisfaction			-0.051
			(0.065)
Cut 1	-0.134	0.072	-0.692
	(0.223)	(0.316)	(0.495)
Cut 2	2.205***	2.443***	1.777***
	(0.235)	(0.327)	(0.499)
Observations	1073	1053	1036

Results from ordered logit regressions; standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$

Appendix.7B Effects of Overestimation on Interest in Going Abroad (College Survey, DV in 3 Categories)

	(1)	(2)	(3)
Overestimate	0.345*	0.338*	0.308*
	(0.142)	(0.144)	(0.146)
Underestimate	-0.322*	-0.319	-0.291
	(0.160)	(0.164)	(0.168)
Political knowledge	0.077**	0.060*	0.049
	(0.029)	(0.030)	(0.031)
Female	0.281*	0.323**	0.369**
	(0.121)	(0.124)	(0.126)
Income	0.109**	0.110**	0.113**
	(0.037)	(0.038)	(0.039)
CCP member	0.040	0.050	0.060
	(0.148)	(0.151)	(0.155)
Political interest		0.098	0.071
		(0.066)	(0.070)
Internal efficacy		0.113*	0.086
		(0.057)	(0.058)
External efficacy		-0.169**	-0.132*
		(0.060)	(0.062)
National pride			-0.372***
			(0.073)
Individualism			0.206**
			(0.071)
News consumption			0.131**
			(0.048)
Life satisfaction			-0.052
			(0.065)
Constant	-0.135	0.097	-0.646
	(0.228)	(0.318)	(0.497)
Constant	2.207***	2.472***	1.827***
	(0.239)	(0.329)	(0.500)
Observations	1073	1053	1036

Results from ordered logit regressions; standard errors in parentheses. *** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$