Two Phenotypes

▶ Political Ideology
  ▶ Heritability estimates range from 0.32 to 0.58

▶ Political Participation
  ▶ Heritability estimates range from 0.36 to 0.60
  ▶ Fowler et al. 2008; Dawes et al. 2011; Klemmensen et al. 2011; Funk et al. 2011

▶ Both Related To Other Proposed Phenotypes
  ▶ Personality traits and IQ are believed to be mediators
World Values Survey

- Study of changing values and their impact on social and political life
- Representative national surveys in 97 societies containing almost 90 percent of the world’s population
- OECD and non-OECD countries so applicable to different contexts
Questions

- **Political Ideology**
  - *In political matters, people talk of “the left” and “the right.” How would you place your views on this scale [1...10], generally speaking?*

- **Political Participation**
  - *Below are some forms of political action that people can take. Have you done any of these activities in the last five years? [Signed a petition / Joined a boycott / Attended a peaceful demonstration / Made a financial contribution / Contacted a politician personally, in writing or through some other means / Contacted a public sector official?]*
  - *Did you vote in your country’s recent elections to the national parliament?*
Additional Potential Phenotypes

- Interest in Politics
- Partisan Attachment
- Political Efficacy
- Party Identification
- Vote Choice