

Political Phenotypes

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Two Phenotypes

- ▶ Political Ideology
 - ▶ Heritability estimates range from 0.32 to 0.58
 - ▶ Alford et al. 2005; Hatemi et al. 2008; Hatemi et al. 2010; Funk et al. 2011
- ▶ 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

- ▶ 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