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Title: Group Closeness: 1997 National Election Study Pilot Report

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Dataset: 1997 NES Pilot Study

Abstract:

The purpose of this report is to examine the reliability and validity of the group “closeness” items included in the 1997 NES Pilot Study. These measures of group identification form part of a larger effort in the Pilot Study to learn more about group dynamics in American politics. This report describes differences in response patterns attributed to the different formats and question wordings, gauges the stability of responses to these items across the 1996-1997 panel, and assesses the extent to which these items actually capture what we mean by “group identity”. The report concludes with recommendations concerning the group closeness items and how best to measure group identification.