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The Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index: Why Wonder woman should become a postdoc and wear white socks with sandals

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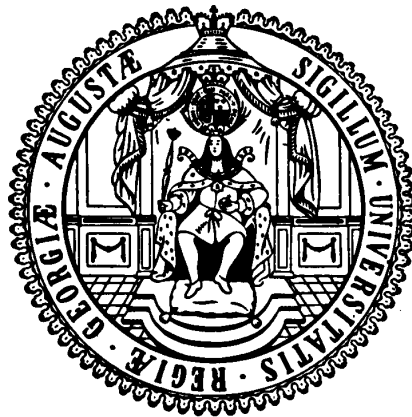
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Courant Research Centre

‘Poverty, Equity and Growth in Developing and Transition Countries: Statistical Methods and Empirical Analysis’

Georg-August-Universität Göttingen
(founded in 1737)



Discussion Papers

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The Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index

Why Wonder Woman Should Become a Postdoc and Wear White Socks with Sandals*

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November 16, 2019

Abstract

“The job of a ‘measure’ or an ‘index’ is to distill what is particularly relevant for our purpose, and then to focus specifically on that. . . That is not an easy task.” Sen (1989)

And that is precisely our aim. In this paper, a measurement for multidimensional exposure to Stephan Klasen is developed for the first time ever. We use our exposure measure to test theoretical predictions on its effects on worldview, life perspectives, and various welfare measures. In our sample, the exposure degree to Stephan Klasen varies significantly, with a slight majority identified as “exposed” according to our first-of-its-kind Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. Our results show that being exposed to Stephan Klasen increases: 1) tolerance overall (and in particular towards macroeconomists, statisticians and people wearing socks with sandals), 2) preference of postdocs over PhDs in times of scarcity, 3) self-perceived wealth, and 4) a person’s consciousness towards global problems such as inequality, poverty, and climate change. Furthermore, we show that specific habits such as signing emails with initials, social media usage, and brushing teeth can partly explain the Stephan Klasen effect. The data allow us to draw some highly relevant policy conclusions. We conclude that while caution on the causal interpretation of our estimates is needed, our exercise confirms years of qualitative evidence which has unequivocally indicated the multidimensional benefits of being exposed to Stephan Klasen.

Keywords: Habit formation, Multidimensional index, Role model

JEL Classification: D03, I31

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1 Introduction

The behavior and opinion of other people have been shown to influence our beliefs and the way we make decisions. As examples: television “Novelas” change divorce rates in Brazil (Chong and Ferrara 2009), videos of people with similar backgrounds increase savings of Ethiopian farmers (Bernard et al. 2014), and female political leaders increase educational attainment of Indian girls (Beaman et al. 2012). Along this line of thinking, we might even begin to wonder whether Scrooge McDuck has captained recent western economic growth more significantly than John D. Rockefeller. Although the importance of role models has captured the attention of academics and policymakers alike, this relationship has hardly been examined within the context of academia itself. Academia would be a novel extension to previous research in this area and is of particular relevance because of the relative intensity of the relationships with the role models, a prime example being the outstanding influence of the researcher of this study, Stephan Klasen (henceforth SK). Our aim is therefore to assess the effect of exposure to this great role model on some traces of behavior, social preferences, and welfare of people who are spread around 35+ countries. As no single indicator can capture the multiple dimensions of the influence of the work and contact to SK, we have developed the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index (henceforth MSKEI). The MSKEI considers both exposure and exposure intensity of invitees of SK’s Farewell Lecture. This allows us to incorporate various indicators to capture the dimensions of role model exposure.

Research on role models has mainly relied on experimental evidence using videos, the presence of real models, and natural experiment setups. Bernard et al. (2014) find that being exposed to videos of individuals who have been successful in setting up businesses or agricultural activities increases aspirations, investment into children’s education, savings and use of credit among exposed individuals. Another study by Meier et al. (2019), run on Amazon Mechanical Turk, confronts individuals with a video in which successful women and men talk about their positive experiences after engaging in competitions. This study finds that the female role model video closes the gender gap in tournament entry, while the male role video widens the gap compared to a placebo video. In a similar vein, the presence of real-life role models has shown that own-gender experts can influence aspirations, career choices, and educational attainment (Nauta et al. 1998; Richman et al. 2011; Stout et al. 2011; Riley 2017). Macours and Vakis (2014) employ real-life successful leaders in Nicaraguan communities to talk to project beneficiaries. Those exposed to a leader possess higher individual aspirations and show higher investment levels compared to project beneficiaries who did not interact with one.

One can think that such brief exposures – such as seeing a video, reading about a role model, or a one-time exposure to a role model – may not reflect real life, in which exposure is more enduring. Therefore, additional studies use natural experiments to draw further evidence. TV exposure is related to divorce rates in Brazil (Chong and Ferrara 2009), and roll out of cable television seems to be linked to changes in attitudes (e.g. domestic violence) and behavior (e.g. school enrollment) in India (Jensen and Oster 2009). Likewise, Beaman et al. (2012) show that villages in India with visible female leadership close the gender gap in regard to aspirations and educational attainment,

and girls spend less time on household chores. With such compelling evidence, the eternal question of endogeneity goes through the roof and reaches the very subject matter of this paper: Was *Wonder Woman* the cause for Stephan Klasen's pioneering research on gender? Or did he enjoy the movie because of confounders that led to his research questions? The reader will find more evidence on this and other fascinating themes in the text.¹

To answer how multidimensional exposure to a role model affects behavior, social preferences, and welfare, we conducted an online survey with over 350 invitees of SK's Farewell Lecture at the end of October 2019. The survey was distributed via email, participants had one week to answer and were asked to send a picture while they were filling in the survey (see Appendix). Although our sample likely suffers from social desirability bias, we believe that self-completion maintained anonymity (bad luck for those who are the single representatives of their countries of origin). This method also ensured confidentiality, encouraging individuals to answer truthfully (we cannot control over-exposed to Pinocchio as children). The empirical analysis supports the hypothesis that greater exposure to SK leads to improved welfare outcomes, affects preferences, and even alters the behavior of individuals. As well-trained economists, we stress the stringently positive and non-normative nature of these conclusions. We show that higher SK exposure correlates strongly with preferences for Santa Claus, unicorns, socks with sandals, and RCTs – all independently of each other, of course. David Hume once summarized similar results to Sir Isaac Newton: “Different strokes for different folks!”² The paper also confirms our premise that exposure to SK is extremely enriching. The fact that we reach this conclusion as friends (as well as admirers of SK's attitudes towards the world), will decrease the scientific value of our conclusion, but will certainly increase its sincerity.

We make three main contributions to the literature on role models. This is the first study, to the best of our knowledge, employing a multidimensional measure of exposure to a role model - the MSKEI. This index can now be used for future (certainly highly relevant) research. Further, the duration of exposure captures one of the longest interventions, in some cases up to 50 years. Moreover, the behavioral outcomes are viewed in the light of similarity to the role model, revealing how exposure not only transforms into behavioral change but into adoption of actual character traits of the role model.

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents the underlying theoretical framework before Section 3 describes the sampling of the data and the construction of the measures of exposure. It focuses particularly on the scientific nature of the MSKEI; we show that it is an *OK* measure, *SK*! Section 4 explains the empirical strategy and shows the results. Concluding remarks and suggestions for further research are presented in Section 5.

¹After this cutting-edge review of the literature, skeptics and other unicorn-like heterodoxies are left with the question of whether reading Dostoevsky is more or less dangerous than playing videogames, according to such role models.

²This is obviously a fake reference; we expect people to notice it or to check this footnote.

2 Framework

Consider a young researcher entering Goettingen University, the place on earth with allegedly the greatest potential for SK exposure. Let the time of entry be normalized to zero. The researcher experiences utility from scientific output s and from SK exposure x . If utility $u(s, x) > 0$, then the utility function exhibits positive and non-increasing marginal utility. We also allow for the special case of a purely output-minded guy, in which SK exposure is no fun, $\partial u/\partial x = 0$. At any unit of time (let's say per day) there exists a physical maximum of SK exposure, which is normalized to 1, such that x can be imagined as the share of the time unit (i.e. the day) with SK exposure. The goal of the young researcher is to maximize intertemporal utility

$$\int_0^T u(s, x)e^{-\rho t} dt, \quad (1)$$

in which ρ is the time preference rate and T is the fixed end of the contract of the young researcher. For most researchers, $T \in [2, 12]$ years. This means that T is certainly far away from infinity, an unfortunate fact that prevents confinement of the analysis to a steady state (which would be reached only for $t \rightarrow \infty$).

The young researcher has to decide how to divide his time between SK exposure and SK-free time. His or her scientific output evolves according to

$$\dot{s} = [\epsilon_1 x^\alpha + \epsilon_2(1 - x)] s^\gamma, \quad (2)$$

in which \dot{s} is the new scientific output per time unit (e.g. lines of stata code or lines of a manuscript written per day). For $\epsilon_1 > 0$ and $\alpha > 0$ (which is henceforth assumed), there exist two motives for SK exposure: direct utility gains and scientific success. With α we control for the feature that there are potentially decreasing returns in SK exposure, $0 < \alpha \leq 1$. The parameter $\epsilon_2 > 0$ measures scientific productivity that the young researcher possesses independently of SK exposure. Naturally, we assume $\epsilon_1 > \epsilon_2$. With $\gamma > 0$ we allow for increasing returns to scale in scientific production (e.g. that the second paper is written more easily than the first one).

As an external effect of SK exposure, the young researcher may change his views, preferences, beliefs, or habits h such that

$$\dot{h} = \theta x \left(1 - \frac{h}{h^{SK}} \right). \quad (3)$$

Here SK's habits are given by h^{SK} and the parameter θ is a character trait that controls the speed of habit formation. Equation (3) implies that, researchers with any given initial habits $h(0)$ would completely assimilate for $t \rightarrow \infty$. However, as already mentioned, time is bounded by i) T such that it depends on personal independence (which is higher for lower θ) and ii) daily exposure x how quickly the young researcher assimilates. Notice that beliefs or habits have no impact on s . This implies the strong assumption that beliefs about, for example, the importance of unicorns, macroeconomists, or foreign aid does not affect scientific productivity.

Perhaps the greatest limitation of the simple model is that SK-behavior is taken exogenously. This means that Stephan Klasen's habits h^{SK} are given and are invariant to exposure to young researchers. It also means that – within limits – x can be perfectly controlled by the young researcher. An alternative approach would be that exposure is determined bilaterally by SK and the young researcher, which would require a Nash- or Stackelberg-solution of a differential game. Such an approach would be perhaps more realistic, but it would also increase the complexity of the problem beyond simple analytic reasoning, and is thus left for future research.

The young researcher maximizes the value of his or her research stay in Goettingen subject to (1) and (2). Notice that we assume here some bounded rationality since the young researcher fails to take (3) into account, i.e. he or she ignores the impact of SK exposure on habit formation. However, given that scientific output is independent of beliefs and beliefs as such do not enter the utility function, this is a relatively innocuous form of bounded rationality. The solution of problem (1) and (2) requires the maximization of the associated current value Hamiltonian:

$$H = u(s, x) + \lambda [\epsilon_1 x^\alpha + \epsilon_2(1 - x)] s^\gamma, \quad (4)$$

in which λ is the shadow value of scientific output created in Goettingen.

The first order condition for optimal exposure is

$$(1 - x) \left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \lambda \{ \epsilon_1 \alpha x^{\alpha-1} - \epsilon_2 \} s^\gamma \right] = 0. \quad (5)$$

Notice that this is a Kuhn-Tucker condition that takes the possibility of a corner solution explicitly into account. Inspection of (4) leads to the following conclusion:

PROPOSITION 1 *If there are no decreasing returns in scientific collaboration with SK, the young researcher should invest all of his time in SK exposure, $x^* = 1$.*

The proof solves (4) for $\alpha = 1$, noticing that $\epsilon_1 > \epsilon_2$.

PROPOSITION 2 *If there are decreasing returns in scientific collaboration with SK and the young researcher experiences no utility from SK exposure, optimal exposure is given by*

$$x^* = \left[\frac{\alpha \epsilon_1}{\epsilon_2} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}}.$$

The proof solves (4) for $\partial u / \partial x = 0$. The result is intuitive: a relatively greater independent productivity of the researcher (greater ϵ_2 / ϵ_1) or more steeply declining returns (lower α) reduce optimal exposure. We next consider the case that SK exposure is also enjoyable.

PROPOSITION 3 *If there are decreasing returns in scientific collaboration with SK and SK exposure is utility enhancing, then at any given point of time, researchers who benefit more scientifically from SK also experience greater utility from exposure to SK.*

To verify this “strategic complementarity” notice that s and λ are given for a given t . Thus, inspection of (5) reveals that greater ϵ_1/ϵ_2 requires greater x , implying lower marginal scientific returns, lower marginal utility, and higher absolute utility from SK exposure. The intuition is clear: if the researcher likes to have beers, visit the university’s canteen, or have discussions about the plausibility of unicorns or foreign aid with SK, then SK exposure is extended beyond what would be reasonable from pure scientific calculus. In other words, the researcher spends too little time on his single-authored paper.

The comparative-static analysis, however, ignores that s and λ are not independent and are also evolving over time. The full dynamic solution that takes this fact into account fulfills the co-state equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial s} + \lambda [\epsilon_1 x^\alpha + \epsilon_2 (1-x)] \gamma s^{\gamma-1} = \lambda \rho - \dot{\lambda}$$

and the transversality condition $\lambda(T)s(T) = 0$. Since scientific output is non-zero, $s > 0$, the transversality requires that the value of additional scientific output is zero when the researcher’s contract in Goettingen ends. While absolutely reasonable, the condition requires a lot of planning talent from the side of the researcher and it is easily messed up by unexpected contract extensions.

Inspecting the transversality condition in conjunction with the co-state equation shows that the value of additional scientific output is monotonously declining during the researcher’s stay in Goettingen until it hits zero at T . This in turn means that λ is positive until the contract expires. Since during the career in Goettingen s increases and λ declines, the optimal evolution of exposure x is ambiguous. To see this, inspect (5) and conclude that optimal SK exposure declines over time if and only if λs^γ increases over time. Since s and λ move in the opposite direction, the movement of x is undetermined and the rest of the model can only be assessed numerically. However, since x cannot be negative we can conclude that absolute SK exposure, $X = \int_0^T x dt$ is non-decreasing for the duration of any researcher’s stay in Goettingen. This allows us to make some inferences about habits and preferences.

PROPOSITION 4 Researchers display more SK-like habits if – for a given length of stay t they benefitted more scientifically from SK exposure or – for given exposure – they stayed for a longer time in Goettingen.

While the result sounds almost trivial, it leads to an interesting hypothesis.

COROLLARY 1 Researchers who benefitted more scientifically from SK exposure or who stayed longer in Goettingen display more SK-like beliefs and attitudes.

This conclusion requires that susceptibility to SK influence on habits θ is independently distributed, and in particular, that it does not correlate with ϵ_1 or ϵ_2 . Under this reasonable assumption, the corollary follows immediately from Proposition 4 and (3). Another interesting feature is that we can invert the corollary to make inferences about Stephan Klasen’s preferences and beliefs, which would be otherwise hard to access empirically.

COROLLARY 2 Consider 2 arbitrary attitudes or beliefs z_1 and z_2 . If $z_1 \succeq z_2$ for researchers who benefitted more from SK exposure or who received longer contracts in Goettingen, then Stephan Klasen $z_1 \succeq z_2$.

In words, if researchers with greater aggregate SK exposure weakly prefer unicorns, foreign aid, messy office desks, or having macroeconomists as neighbors, then SK is likely to have these preferences as well.

3 Research Setting and Data

To analyze the impact of SK exposure, we conducted an online survey in October 2019. The survey was sent out to approximately 350 individuals, whose emails were retrieved from the list of invitees for the SK Farewell Lecture. This sampling strategy ensured that we would reach individuals who had been in contact with SK at some point. Over the course of ten days, 160 individuals responded. The response rate of 46% is considerably higher than typical response rates to online surveys, despite the fact that there were no reminder emails nor monetary incentives (Pedersen and Nielsen 2016).³

During the data collection period, the survey team faced several practical difficulties. It was crucial to keep SK unaware that the survey was taking place. Otherwise, given his strong influence on the pool of respondents, the data collected would not be reliable. We were surprised to find the extent to which SK (under the clever disguise of various email addresses) was able to *ex-ante* infiltrate the mailing lists that defined our population of interest. We had to design and implement sophisticated algorithms to temporarily exclude SK from these mailing lists during the fielding of the survey.

It is important to note that the group of respondents is by no means representative of the universe of SK's acquaintances. Selection happened at two stages: first, individuals who were invited to the farewell lecture must have left a favorable impression (or alternatively: are very important); second, individuals who responded to the survey are likely more pro-social, active, and open-minded (or just have a lot of time).⁴ Unfortunately, our data does not allow us to analyze the extent of the selection bias. The reader should keep these limitations in mind when interpreting the results (and add as many grains of salt as needed along the way).

The survey covered four sections: (a) questions that capture the degree of exposure to SK (e.g. number of years they know each other, number of beers they had together, access to SK's private phone number); (b) questions on general habits (e.g. frequency of brushing teeth, work schedule, style of answering emails); (c) questions capturing perspectives on life and the world, and finally (d) standard socio-demographic and socio-economic characteristics (e.g. age, gender, height,

³A number of survey participants filling out the survey are depicted in Appendix A.

⁴The authors of this study, although too few to influence the following econometric analysis, are a clear-cut case of double selection: they are *both* very important *and* extremely pro-social, active, and open-minded. An extensive list of references supporting this claim—while outside the scope of this article—is available from the authors upon request.

occupation, zodiac sign). Questions were presented in random order to reduce fatigue and obscure the survey’s purpose, thereby limiting potential demand effects.

Table 1: Characteristics of Respondents

| | mean | sd | min | max | p50 | count |
|------------------|--------|-------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Age | 39.12 | 10.06 | 23 | 81 | 37 | 154 |
| Female | 0.48 | 0.50 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 152 |
| Height (in cm) | 173.51 | 13.60 | 62 | 200 | 175 | 156 |
| Weight (in kg) | 71.50 | 12.86 | 50 | 105 | 70 | 150 |
| Left-handed | 0.14 | 0.35 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 159 |
| Married | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 159 |
| Children | 0.97 | 1.14 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 156 |
| Public Sector | 0.81 | 0.39 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 158 |
| Private Sector | 0.10 | 0.30 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 158 |
| Self-employed | 0.04 | 0.19 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 158 |
| Risk Preferences | 5.62 | 2.35 | 0 | 10 | 6 | 157 |
| Cat Person | 0.21 | 0.41 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 157 |
| Dog Person | 0.31 | 0.46 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 157 |
| Unicorn Person | 0.23 | 0.42 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 157 |

Respondents come from 36 different countries: 60% are from Germany and exactly one is from Christmas Island (see Table A.1 in Appendix A).⁵ Table 1 describes some other important respondent characteristics. Age varies between 23 and 81 years old, with the majority being 37 years or older. Half of the respondents are female; respondents are on average 174 cm tall (exceeding just slightly the average height of a German); weight on average was 72 kg (which is considerably less than the average weight of a German - 80 kg). In terms of animal preferences, there is a slight tendency towards dogs relative to cats or unicorns. It is noteworthy that more survey participants reacted to the question about animal preferences than standard socio-demographic questions such as age or gender. This could be an indicator that the dimensions of standard socio-demographic measures are not able to capture important characteristics of a population. Further research in this area is required to find out which additional dimensions - for example, animal preferences - should be included in the battery of socio-demographic measures.

The average respondent is married and has one child. 80% work in the public sector and 14% are left-handed. Overall, respondents could be classified as rather risk-neutral. Interestingly, different to the general population, the females among SK acquaintances are overall more risk-seeking than males, highlighting once again the exceptionally interesting profile of the species ‘SK acquaintances’. It is worth noting that the sample is not evenly distributed across zodiac signs (see Figure 1). Taurus signs are strongly underrepresented. We can only speculate about the reasons. People born under the sign of Taurus might be less keen on filling out surveys, or SK might have a general dislike for

⁵The respondent from Christmas Island will be the subject of a future case study article. The remote island had 1,843 residents according to the latest 2016 census. Through this mysterious respondent, it is by far the territory in the world most exposed to SK’s economic doctrine on a per capita basis.

Taureans.⁶

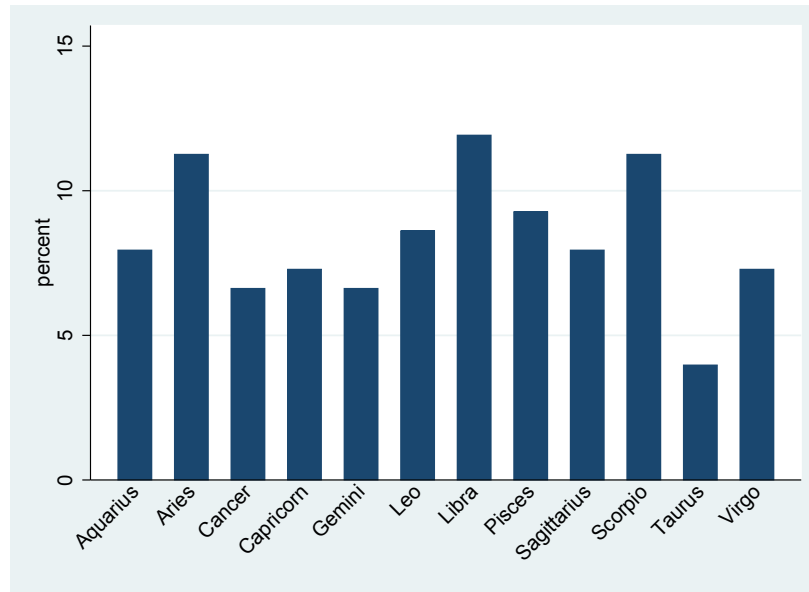


Figure 1: Distribution of Zodiac Signs

Most of the respondents filled out the survey during office time, suggesting they were particularly well concentrated (see Figure 2). Alternatively, standard neoclassical theory on the allocation of time would suggest that they are mostly engaged in low productivity activities, given the apparent low opportunity cost of filling out our survey.

⁶We consulted an expert astrologer (who prefers to remain unnamed) and learned that “like their celestial spirit animal, the bull (in Latin: Taurus), Taureans enjoy relaxing in serene, bucolic environments, surrounded by soft sounds, soothing aromas, and succulent flavors.”

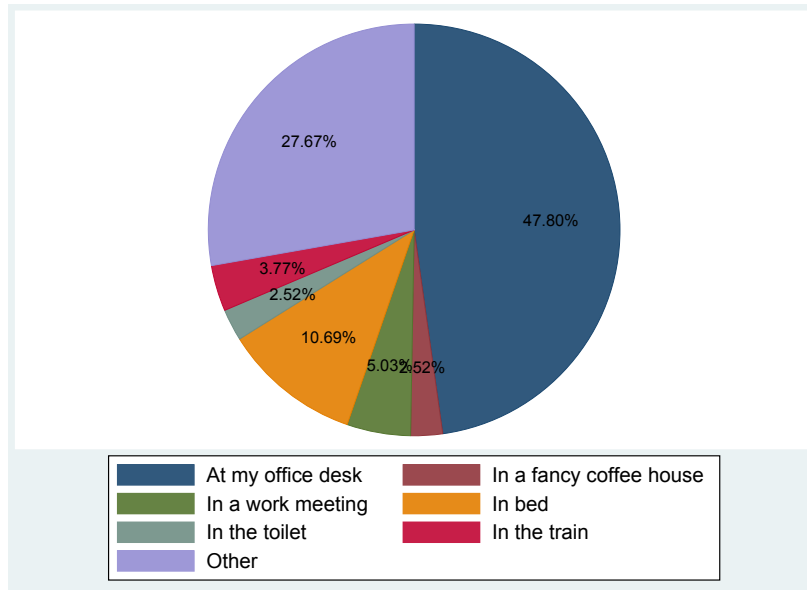


Figure 2: Location When Answering the Survey

4 Empirical Analysis

4.1 Estimation Strategy

To analyze the effect of exposure to SK on perspectives on the world and life we estimate the following linear probability model:

$$perspective_i = \theta + \beta MSKEI_i + X_i + \epsilon_i \quad (6)$$

where $perspective_i$ describes individual i 's perspective on the world, $MSKEI_i$ is individual i 's Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index - MSKEI, measuring the degree of personal exposure to SK, and X_i captures important control variables, such as gender, age, weight, and animal preferences. In the following, we first briefly describe the outcomes of interest before deriving the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index.

4.1.1 Perspectives on the World and Life

The survey asks about crucial aspects of a person's worldview. We strongly believe that these aspects capture quite well an individual's general attitude towards life. The perspectives can be roughly classified into global, social, and research-related aspects. Social aspects include important dimensions such as preferences for neighbors, Christmas gifts, and the dislike of people who wear white socks with sandals. Global aspects include preferences for GMOs, speed limits, and the separation between summer and winter time. Finally, we have research-related aspects that concern instrumental variables (IVs), randomized control trials (RCTs), and hiring decisions in academia.

Social Perspectives on Life

Table 2 depicts perspectives on social issues. Respondents clearly discriminate against heavy drinkers, with two out of three opting against having a heavy drinker as a neighbor. Interestingly, macroeconomists, policymakers, and randomistas are out of question as neighbors for one out of three respondents.⁷ Only economic historians and statisticians seem to be generally acceptable neighbors, perhaps because no one really knows what they do anyway.

Table 2: Perspectives on Life (Social)

| | mean | sd | count |
|---|------|------|-------|
| Dislike Randomistas as Neighbors | 0.33 | 0.47 | 156 |
| Dislike Economic Historian as Neighbors | 0.09 | 0.29 | 158 |
| Dislike Policymakers as Neighbors | 0.33 | 0.47 | 157 |
| Dislike Heavy Drinkers as Neighbors | 0.68 | 0.47 | 154 |
| Dislike Sociologists as Neighbors | 0.22 | 0.42 | 157 |
| Dislike Macroeconomists as Neighbors | 0.35 | 0.48 | 156 |
| Dislike Statisticians as Neighbors | 0.14 | 0.35 | 158 |
| Dislike White Socks with Sandals | 0.67 | 0.47 | 156 |
| Degree of Social Intolerance | 0.35 | 0.19 | 159 |

On a more controversial topic, respondents were asked how much they favor white socks with sandals. There is a clear dislike towards this fashion choice among SK's acquaintances, which raises the concern of this sample being highly selective in terms of physical beauty, good taste, and healthy eyesight. From these indicators (dislike of neighbors and dislike of white socks with sandals), we derive a measure of social intolerance by taking the proportional sum of dislikes in these eight questions. This variable thus goes from 0 to 1, 1 indicating a very intolerant person, while 0 indicates a very tolerant person. SK's acquaintances seem to be relatively tolerant, on average, although there is a large dispersion (see Table 2).

Naturally, we also asked about the perfect Christmas gift. The results are interesting (see Figure 3). Overall, despite the highly educated profile of the sample, there seems to be a preference for chocolate over books and, among the books, a clear preference for an ancient Chinese philosophy book over a (much less ancient) issue of *The Review of Income and Wealth*. This is worrisome. From the Christmas gift question we derive a chocolate-over-books indicator.⁸

⁷Future research should pay more attention to the potentially high level of residential segregation faced by heavy drinking randomistas.

⁸Unfortunately, the section in our pre-analysis plan where we proposed to correlate chocolate-over-books with an individual's weight was vetoed by an ethical committee (composed exclusively of Taureans born on Christmas Island).

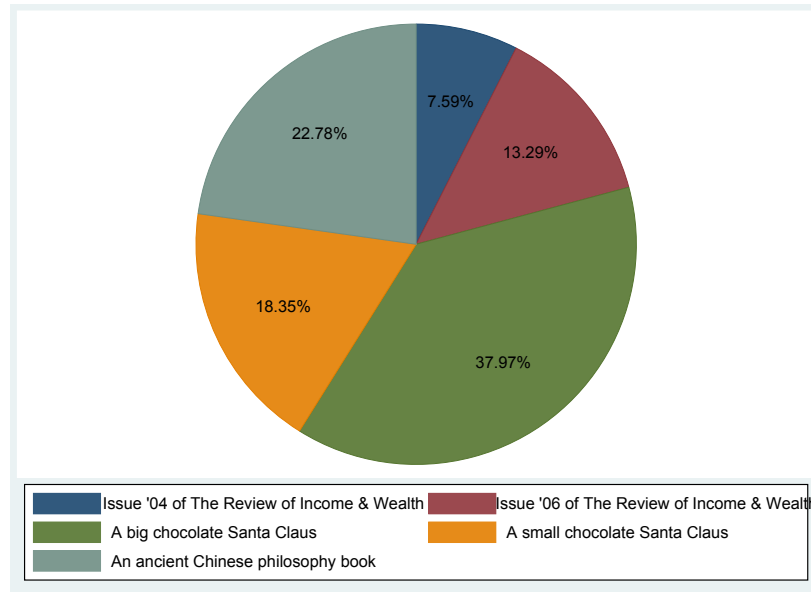


Figure 3: Perfect Christmas Gift

Global Perspectives on Life

As for more global perspectives on life, we asked a series of questions capturing the most important topics of our time, such as development aid, GMOs, separation of summer and winter time, and anthropologists earning more money than equally qualified economists. The responses are outlined in Table 3.

Table 3: Perspectives on Life (Global)

| | mean | sd | count |
|--|------|------|-------|
| In favor of development aid | 0.72 | 0.45 | 158 |
| In favor of GMO | 0.32 | 0.47 | 151 |
| In favor of summer & winter time separation | 0.37 | 0.49 | 158 |
| In favor of Autobahn speed limit | 0.62 | 0.49 | 158 |
| In favor of anthropologists earning more than economists | 0.39 | 0.49 | 158 |
| Against physicists in financial institutions | 0.28 | 0.45 | 158 |

SK's acquaintances have a clear preference for development aid but are more skeptical towards GMOs or summer/winter time separation. Most would feel uncomfortable if anthropologists would earn more than an equally qualified economist, but the majority would not oppose having physicists in financial institutions.

We also asked the respondents to indicate what they perceive to be the most serious problem the world is currently facing (see Figure 4). Two out of three respondents name climate change, inequality or poverty. The remaining one-third name referees, 'Deutsche Bahn delays', endogeneity, and the 'crowded Mensa' (university canteen in Germany) as the most serious problem. SK's acquaintances seem thus overall very critical of the current global situation.

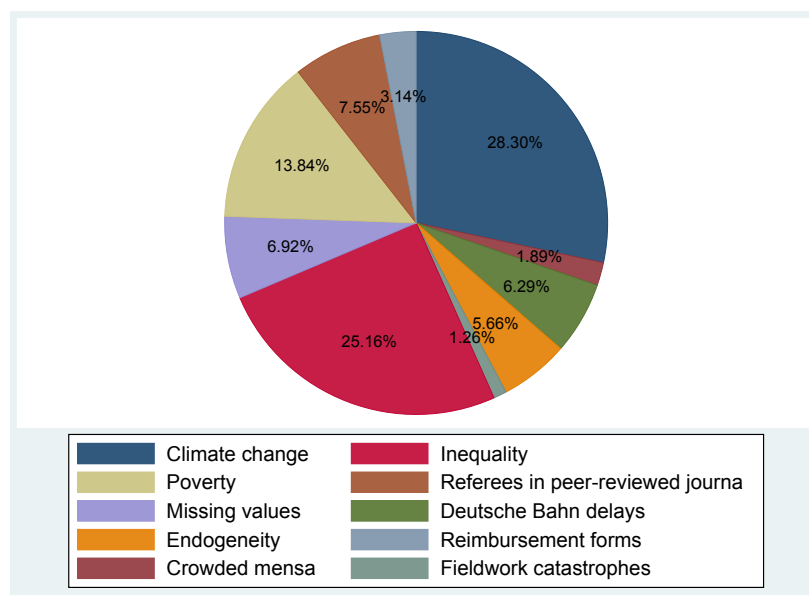


Figure 4: Most Serious Problems

Research Perspectives on Life

Perspectives on the world and life would certainly not be complete without a research component. In our survey, we are able to capture three important research related dimensions: (i) whether a bad instrumental variable (IV) is preferable to no IV at all, (ii) whether postdocs should be preferred over PhDs when jobs are scarce, and (iii) the like/dislike of randomized control trials (RCTs).

Table 4: Perspectives on Life (Research)

| | mean | sd | count |
|---|------|------|-------|
| Having a bad instrumental variable is better than having none | 0.20 | 0.40 | 157 |
| Profs should prefer postdocs over PhDs when jobs are scarce | 0.28 | 0.45 | 156 |
| In favor of RCTs | 0.64 | 0.48 | 156 |

Table 4 depicts the results. Only 20% of the respondents believe that a bad instrument is better than none. Interestingly, unicorn persons are much more likely to believe that a bad instrument is better than none (see Figure 5). Slightly more than one out of four respondents believe that jobs should be given to postdocs rather than PhDs when jobs are scarce (this is not correlated with age). Surprisingly, among SK’s acquaintances, there seems to be a general tendency towards RCTs. However, cat persons seem to have a particularly strong dislike for RCTs. We can only speculate about the underlying mechanisms.

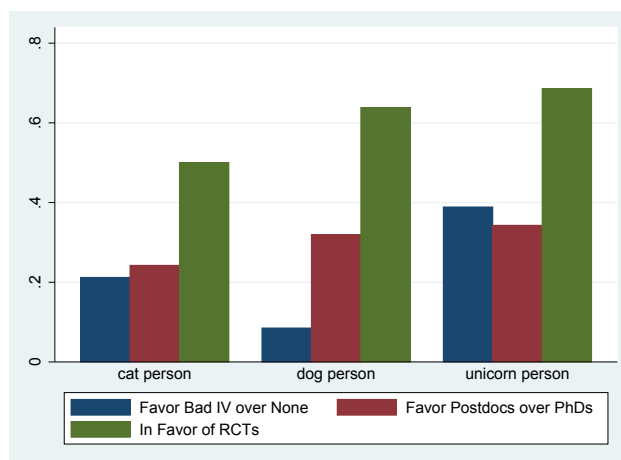


Figure 5: Animal Preferences and Research Perspectives

4.1.2 Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index - MSKEI

Analytical Strategy

In order to estimate the exposure effect to SK, we generate the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. We first identify exposure to SK by using measures of interaction with SK from the online survey and then apply the Alkire-Foster method (see Alkire and Foster 2011) to identify the *multidimensionally less-exposed* to SK.

The MSKEI combines two key pieces of information to measure exposure to SK: the incidence of exposure, the proportion of people (within our sample) who have experienced multiple exposures to SK, and the intensity of their exposure - the average proportion of (weighted) exposure they have experienced. There are many advantages of the MSKEI. Because of its robust functional form and direct measures of SK exposure, it allows for comparisons across regions of the world, as well as other key individual characteristics (zodiac signs, nerdiness, preference for socks with sandals, development aid, RCTs, and much more). Furthermore, it enables analysis of *patterns* of exposure: how much each indicator and each dimension contributes to overall SK exposure.

Components of the MSKEI:

The MSKEI is composed of three dimensions and fourteen indicators (see Figure 6). Each indicator is associated with a minimum level of SK exposure, which is used as the *SK exposure cut-off*. The 14 indicators of the MSKEI include four indicators for professional exposure, three for social exposure, and seven for general knowledge of SK. The indicators of the MSKEI were selected after a thorough consultation process involving experts of all three dimensions.

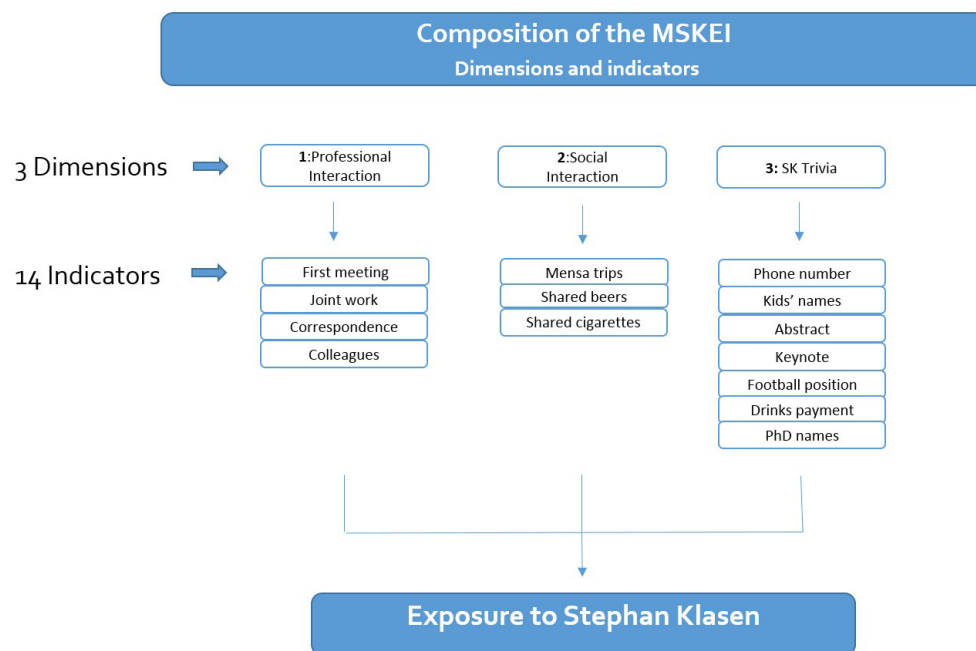


Figure 6: Composition of the MSKEI

Table 5 provides a summary of the dimensions, indicators, thresholds, and weights used in the MSKEI. The selection of the dimensions and indicator cut-offs are explained below.

1- Professional interactions: The MSKEI uses four indicators that complement each other within the professional dimension: year of meeting SK for the first time, number of joint papers with SK, last email correspondence with SK, and percentage of colleagues working with SK. In terms of exposure cut-offs for this dimension, the MSKEI requires that the respondent should have met SK

first at least by 2016, have at least one joint project, exchanged emails with SK in the last 12 months, and have at least 50% of colleagues in common.

2- Social interactions: For the social interactions dimension, the MSKEI uses the number of trips made to the Mensa with SK for lunch or coffee, number of shared beers with SK, and number of shared cigarettes with SK. In terms of exposure cut-offs for this dimension, the MSKEI requires that the respondent made at least 7 trips to the Mensa with SK, shared at least 1 beer, and shared at least 1 cigarette.

3- General knowledge: The last dimension includes indicators on general knowledge about SK: access to SK’s personal mobile number, recall of names of SK’s sons, recall of an abstract from an SK paper, recall of the name of the keynote speaker at SK’s birthday conference in June 2016, recall of SK’s position in football, recall of who paid for drinks at SK’s birthday conference in June 2016, and, last but not least, the number of names of SK’s PhD students the respondent could recall in under 10 seconds. The exposure cut-offs for this dimension are easier to construct, as all but one indicator are binary. For the recall of names of PhD students, the cut-off is 5 or more names.

Table 5: The MSKEI - Dimensions and Indicators

| Dimensions | Indicators - Exposed if ... | Cut-off | Relative wt |
|--|--|------------------|-------------|
| 1- SK Professional interactions | | | |
| First met | Year of meeting SK (1950 to 2019) | 2016 | 8.33% |
| Joint work | Number of joint papers with SK | 1 | 8.33% |
| Correspondence | Last email correspondence with SK | One year or more | 8.33% |
| Colleagues | % of colleagues working with SK | 50% | 8.33% |
| 2- SK Social interactions | | | |
| Mensa trips with SK | Number of trips made to the mensa with SK for lunch or coffee | 7 | 11.11% |
| Beers together with SK | Any adult (16 or older) has shared a beer with SK at some point | 1 Beer | 11.11% |
| Cigarettes together with SK | Any adult (18 or older) has shared a cigarette with SK at some point | 1 Smoke | 11.11% |
| 3- SK trivia | | | |
| Phone number | Access to SK’s personal mobile number | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Kids’ names | Recall of names of individuals under 18 years of age in the Klasen household | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Abstract sentence | Recall of an abstract from an SK paper | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Keynote at bday conference | Recall of name of the keynote speaker at SK’s birthday conference in June 2016 | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Football player type | Recall of SK’s football position | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Who paid for drinks | Recall of who paid for drinks at SK’s birthday conference in June 2016 | 0-1 | 4.76% |
| Name PhD students | Recall of names of SK’s PhD students in under 10 seconds | 5 or more | 4.76% |

Measurement: Notation and Definitions

The following steps are followed to construct the MSKEI:

Step 1: Data collection on exposure to SK:

Each person is assessed based on her survey responses to determine if she is below the exposure cut-off for each indicator. People below the cut-off are considered as less-exposed in that indicator.

Step 2: Choosing the indicators’ exposure cut-offs:

The MSKEI requires an exposure cut-off for each indicator. Usually, the indicators’ exposure cut-offs are noted as z_i , so that person i is considered less-exposed if their achievement in that indicator x_i is below the cut-off, that is, if $x_i < z_i$. The cut-offs for each indicator are shown in Table 5.

Step 3: Choosing the indicators’ weights:

Once the indicators and their corresponding cut-offs have been selected, the next step is to define

the weights for each indicator in the exposure measure. In the MSKEI, the three dimensions are equally weighted, so that each of them receives a 1/3 weight. The indicators within each dimension are also equally weighted. Thus, each indicator within the professional interaction dimension receives a 1/4 weight, each indicator within the social interaction dimension receives a 1/3 weight, and each indicator within the trivia dimension receives a weight of 1/7. Finally, the indicator i weight as w_i , with $\sum_{i=1}^d w_i = 1$

Step 4: Identifying the “poorly-exposed” - Choosing the exposure cut-off

Next, each person is assigned an exposure score according to her exposure in the component indicators. The exposure score of each person is calculated by taking a weighted sum of the number of exposure measures, so that the exposure score for each person lies between 0 and 14. The score increases as the number of exposure measures of the person increases and reaches its maximum of 14 when the person is *fully-exposed* to SK in all component indicators. A person who is not exposed in any indicator receives a score equal to 0.

Formally:

$$C_i = W_1 I_{1i} + W_{2i} I_{2i} + \dots + W_{di} I_{di}$$

where:

- $I_i = 1$ if a person is exposed in indicator i , 0 otherwise.
- $C_i(k)$ is the exposure score of individual i ,
- w_i is the weight attached to indicator i with $\sum_{i=1}^d W_i = 1$

A second cross-dimensional cut-off or threshold is used to identify the multidimensionally SK-exposed. We define the exposure cut-off as the minimum share of (weighted) exposure a person must surpass in order to be considered SK-exposed, which is denoted by k . In this way, someone is considered SK-exposed if their exposure score C_i is greater than the exposure cut-off k . In the MSKEI, a person is identified as SK-exposed if she has an exposure score higher than 40% of the maximum (weighted) score possible. We construct a binary indicator showing exposed-status. The variable takes the value of one for those whose exposure score is above the cut-off, and 0 otherwise. That is:

$$C_i > k, \text{ then } C_i(k) = 1, \text{ and } C_i \leq k, \text{ then } C_i(k) = 0$$

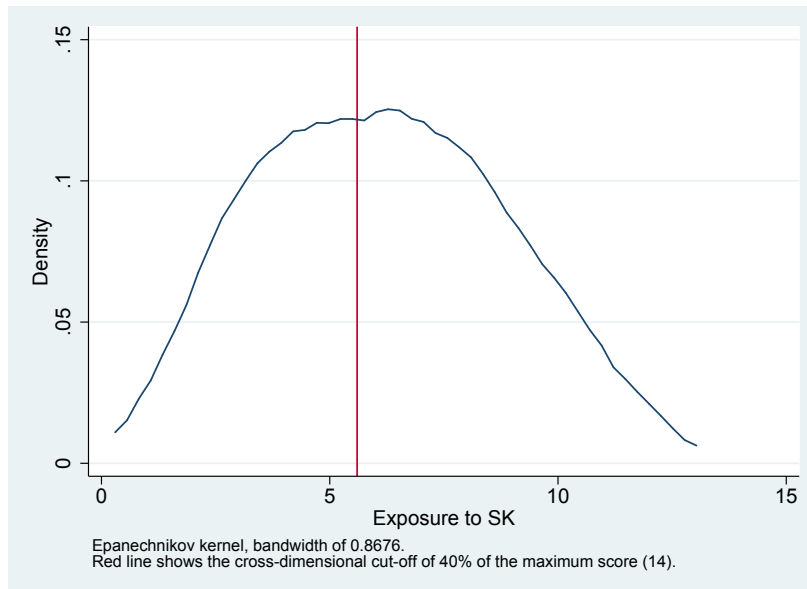


Figure 7: Density Estimation of SK Exposure (weighted score)

We now turn to the density function of the constructed SK exposure (see Figure 7). In the words of one of the coauthors: *Wow! That's a perfect bell!* Indeed, the density closely follows a normal distribution with a mean of 6 and standard deviation of 2.6. Those individuals above the cross-dimensional cut-off are identified as exposed to SK (56% of the sample). Interestingly, the nearly-perfect bell shape shows a little jump right above this cut-off. This is particularly surprising considering that the established cut-off predates data cleaning and was initially only known to two of the paper coauthors, ruling out the possibility of assignment manipulation by the researchers. Is it possible that SK's acquaintances are subconsciously aware of what it takes to achieve exposed-status, and consequently make an extra effort to achieve it, defying statistical laws? And if so, would this not convincingly validate our choice of the cut-off value, removing its arbitrary nature and thereby solving one of the long-standing issues in multidimensional measurement?⁹ These are open and highly relevant questions for further research.

Table 6: Correlation matrix. Exposure and Perceived Exposure

| | Exposure to SK | Exposed to SK | Perc. exposure (professional) | Perc. exposure (personal) |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Exposure to SK | 1 | | | |
| Exposed to SK | 0.829*** | 1 | | |
| Perc. exposure (professional) | 0.344*** | 0.258** | 1 | |
| Perc. exposure (personal) | 0.431*** | 0.431*** | 0.421*** | 1 |

* $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level.

⁹See Dotter and Klasen (2017) for a nice discussion on conceptual issues of multidimensional indices.

We end this section by further validating our continuous and binary measures of exposure with self-perceived SK exposure on a 1-10 scale in the professional and personal dimensions. As shown in the correlation matrix, our measures are highly correlated with self-perceived exposure. Moreover, self-perceived exposure in professional and personal dimensions are also highly correlated with each other (Table 6).

4.2 Results

We start by discussing the results of model 6, in which we regress social, global and research perspectives on the world and life on exposure to SK. In all tables, our explanatory variable of interest is a dummy indicating whether individuals have been exposed to SK based on the *MSKEI*. We estimate the results using a linear probability model.¹⁰

Social perspectives on life Table 7 shows the results of the effect of exposure to SK on social perspectives. In columns 1 to 5, we have different variables that reflect individual perspectives on social issues. In columns 1 and 2 the outcome variable is a dummy which equals 1 if individuals state that they dislike having macroeconomists and statisticians as neighbors. In columns 3 and 4 the variable equals 1 if the respondents state that they would prefer receiving chocolates over books for Christmas and if they dislike the combination of white socks and sandals. In column 5 the outcome of interest is a measure of social intolerance, which is defined as the proportional sum of dislikes in the eight questions about neighbors and white socks with sandals. Our results indicate that exposure to SK significantly affects individual's social perspectives. For instance, being exposed to SK reduces the probability of disliking macroeconomists and statisticians as neighbors by 20.7 and 13.7 percentage points, respectively. Additionally, the table shows that while females are generally more tolerant to having macroeconomists as neighbors, left-handed individuals are less tolerant towards statisticians. On a more crucial issue, Table 7 indicates that individuals who are exposed to SK are more favorable to the combination of white socks and sandals. One should note, however, that we cannot rule out the possibility that our results are driven by selection along this important social dimension. Overall, column 5 shows that exposure to SK makes respondents more socially tolerant. In addition, our estimates confirm that, on average, females are much more tolerant than men. In turn, there is some suggestive evidence that left-handed people are more intolerant.

Global perspectives on life We now turn to the effects of exposure to SK on global perspectives on life. Table 8 shows the results. In column 1, the outcome variable is a dummy which equals 1 if respondents state that Deutsche Bahn delays are the most serious problem that the world is currently facing. In column 2, the dummy variable equals 1 if either climate change, poverty, or inequality are chosen as the world's most serious issue. Our results indicate that exposure to SK reduces the probability that individuals consider Deutsche Bahn delays as the most serious problem, and instead increases the probability that climate change, inequality, and poverty are chosen as the

¹⁰See additional results in the Appendix B.

Table 7: Main results. SK Effect on Social Perspectives

| | (1) Macroeconomist b/se | (2) Statistician b/se | (3) Chocolate over Books b/se | (4) Socks and Sandals b/se | (5) Intolerance b/se |
|------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Exposed to SK | -0.207** (0.084) | -0.137** (0.064) | 0.040 (0.091) | -0.145* (0.082) | -0.073** (0.032) |
| Female | -0.186* (0.112) | -0.091 (0.081) | 0.267** (0.125) | -0.079 (0.136) | -0.124*** (0.040) |
| Age | -0.011*** (0.003) | -0.002 (0.003) | 0.010* (0.005) | 0.004 (0.004) | -0.002 (0.001) |
| Public Sector | 0.016 (0.102) | -0.001 (0.069) | 0.181* (0.109) | -0.153 (0.105) | -0.065 (0.043) |
| Dog Person | -0.025 (0.088) | 0.025 (0.065) | 0.133 (0.093) | 0.083 (0.086) | 0.016 (0.034) |
| Left-handed | 0.125 (0.121) | 0.186* (0.105) | 0.032 (0.125) | 0.033 (0.127) | 0.075* (0.039) |
| Height (in cm) | 0.001 (0.003) | 0.002 (0.001) | 0.005* (0.003) | -0.003 (0.002) | -0.001 (0.001) |
| Weight (in kg) | -0.006 (0.004) | -0.003 (0.003) | 0.005 (0.005) | -0.005 (0.005) | -0.000 (0.002) |
| Risk preferences | 0.013 (0.019) | 0.017 (0.013) | -0.041** (0.020) | -0.012 (0.020) | 0.010 (0.006) |
| Observations | 139 | 140 | 139 | 138 | 140 |
| R-squared | 0.125 | 0.109 | 0.125 | 0.0714 | 0.158 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. All dependent variables are binary, except for column 5. For columns 1 and 2 they take the value of 1 for disliking macroeconomists or statisticians as neighbors and 0 otherwise. In columns 3 and 4, the dependent variable takes the value of 1 if chocolates are preferred over books as Christmas presents and if the combination of white socks and sandals is disliked, and 0 otherwise. In column 5, the dependent variable is a measure of social intolerance. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children, and risk preferences.

most pressing issues. This comes as no surprise to us, as SK's most cited publications are indeed on issues of (measuring) poverty (Klasen, 2000: 631 citations) and (gender) inequality (Klasen, 2002: 748 citations), and not on Deutsche Bahn delays. However, there are two possible interpretations of our results: either exposure to SK increases an individual's consciousness about world problems or more exposed individuals are in a more privileged position and do not commute that often in Germany, which could explain their indifference towards this crucial world problem.

Research perspectives In what follows, we discuss the results of exposure to SK on polarizing academic issues. Results are presented in columns 1 to 3 of Table 9. Outcome variables equal 1 if respondents agree that a bad instrumental variable is preferable to no instrumental variable, that postdocs should be given priority over Ph.D. students when jobs are scarce, and that they support randomized control trials. A couple of interesting results are shown. First, the results indicate that while dog persons are more skeptical about having bad instrumental variables, taller individuals are more prone to support RCTs. Interestingly, SK exposure is associated with a preference of postdocs over Ph.D. students in times of crisis, which is not explained by socio-demographic characteristics,

Table 8: Main results. SK Effect on Global Perspectives

| | (1) Deutsche Bahn delays b/se | (2) Global problem b/se |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Exposed to SK | -0.086* (0.044) | 0.168** (0.076) |
| Female | -0.017 (0.066) | 0.018 (0.115) |
| Age | -0.002 (0.002) | 0.014*** (0.004) |
| Public Sector | -0.031 (0.054) | 0.113 (0.094) |
| Dog Person | -0.028 (0.047) | 0.173** (0.082) |
| Left-handed | 0.009 (0.062) | -0.041 (0.108) |
| Height (in cm) | 0.001 (0.002) | -0.005 (0.003) |
| Weight (in kg) | -0.001 (0.003) | 0.000 (0.005) |
| Risk preferences | 0.009 (0.010) | 0.005 (0.017) |
| Observations | 140 | 140 |
| R-squared | 0.0710 | 0.194 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Klasen Exposure Index. The dependent variable in column 1 takes the value of 1 if Deutsche Bahn delays were chosen as the most serious problem the world faces and 0 otherwise, whereas in column 2 it takes the value of 1 if climate change, poverty or inequality was chosen as the most serious problem that the world faces and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children and risk preferences.

such as respondent's age. The results are not only statistically significant, but economically meaningful, with exposed individuals being 15.7 percentage points more likely to give priority to postdocs when jobs are scarce.

Table 9: Main results. SK Effect on Research Perspectives

| | (1) Bad IV over none b/se | (2) Postdoc over PhD b/se | (3) In favor of RCTs b/se |
|------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Exposed to SK | -0.025 (0.072) | 0.157** (0.075) | 0.069 (0.086) |
| Female | 0.092 (0.114) | 0.047 (0.123) | 0.160 (0.129) |
| Age | -0.002 (0.004) | -0.006 (0.004) | -0.007 (0.005) |
| Public Sector | -0.013 (0.085) | 0.125 (0.088) | -0.135 (0.097) |
| Dog Person | -0.138** (0.068) | 0.041 (0.088) | -0.101 (0.091) |
| Left-handed | 0.071 (0.109) | -0.038 (0.109) | -0.084 (0.124) |
| Height (in cm) | 0.001 (0.002) | -0.002 (0.003) | 0.007*** (0.002) |
| Weight (in kg) | 0.002 (0.005) | 0.007 (0.005) | -0.003 (0.005) |
| Risk preferences | 0.015 (0.016) | 0.009 (0.017) | -0.001 (0.020) |
| Observations | 139 | 138 | 138 |
| R-squared | 0.0463 | 0.0783 | 0.0705 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to SK based on the Multidimensional Klasen Exposure Index. Dependent variables take the value of 1 if a bad IV is believed to be better than none at all (column 1), if professors should give priority to postdocs when jobs are scarce (column 2), and if RCTs are supported (columns 3), and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children, and risk preferences.

4.3 Extended Analysis

4.3.1 Can Habit Formation Explain the Exposure Effect?

So far, our empirical analysis suggests that exposure to SK has an effect on a wide range of social, global and research perspectives on life and the world. A natural next question is: to which extent can this result be explained by similarities in habits between the respondent and SK? This selection mechanism could operate either from the demand side—with SK selecting individuals with more similar habits—or from the supply side—with individuals whose habits are more similar to SK’s self-selecting and being more exposed to him. To further investigate this possibility, we now turn to the role of individual habits as a potential channel explaining the effect of exposure to SK on an individual’s perspectives. We employ a range of individual habits such as preferred movie, percentage of office desk still available, duration of last meeting, email signature, number of coffee

cups per day, and starting time of work, among others.

Table 10: Habits

| | mean | sd | count |
|---|---------|----------|-------|
| What is the proportion of your office desk surface that is still visible? | 48.46 | 27.47 | 159 |
| How many minutes did your last professional meeting take? | 53.06 | 43.45 | 157 |
| How many unanswered emails do you have in your inbox? | 7181.84 | 80622.07 | 154 |
| How many cups of coffee do you usually have in a day? | 2.56 | 1.99 | 157 |
| Arrives at work before 09:00 | 0.34 | 0.48 | 157 |

Table 10 shows the summary statistics for these variables. Respondents have on average 48% of their office desk available, raising concerns about the organization patterns of individuals in our sample. Professional meetings are rather long, lasting on average 53 minutes (perhaps because a large chunk of this time is spent looking for documents in the 52% of cluttered desk space). As for the number of coffee cups per day, in our sample, respondents drink on average 2.5 cups of coffee. This relatively low intake of caffeine might potentially be related to the low proportion arriving at work before 9:00 (34%).

Table 11: How did you sign your last email?

| | pct |
|------------------------|--------|
| I did not sign | 5.66 |
| Initials | 3.77 |
| My first and last name | 20.75 |
| My first name | 63.52 |
| My last name | 1.26 |
| My nickname | 3.14 |
| Someone else's name | 1.89 |
| Total | 100.00 |
| Observations | 159 |

As for the similarities in behavior, Table 11 shows that only 3.8% of respondents signed their last email using their initials, with the majority opting for a more informal “first name” approach. On a more controversial note, around 1.9% of SK’s acquaintances reveal that they signed their last email using someone else’s name. Possible reasons for that are only speculative.

Table 12 shows individual responses on movie preferences. Around one fourth of respondents state that they prefer series over movies. 36% state that *A Beautiful Mind* is their preferred choice, which is not entirely surprising as most of our sample is composed of economists. *Wonder Woman*, which is *allegedly* SK’s preferred movie¹¹, was chosen by only 6.58% of our sample.

We now test whether similarity to SK is the mechanism underlying the exposure effect found earlier. We construct a set of similarity variables: (1) a dummy capturing whether the respondent’s favorite movie is *Wonder Woman*, (2) a dummy capturing whether the respondent signs emails with

¹¹One of the author’s own observations during a long transatlantic flight.

Table 12: Favorite Movie

| | pct |
|---------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>A Beautiful Mind</i> | 36.84 |
| <i>Alexander</i> | 3.29 |
| <i>Bodyguard</i> | 7.89 |
| <i>Lion King</i> | 19.08 |
| What is a movie? I only watch series. | 26.32 |
| <i>Wonder Woman</i> | 6.58 |
| Total | 100.00 |
| Observations | 152 |

initials, (3) the % of desk space still visible, (4) a dummy for whether the respondent *never* spell-checks emails, (5) the number of unanswered emails in the respondent’s inbox, and (6) a dummy for whether the respondent’s last professional meeting was short (less than 15 minutes). These similarity variables are based on years of qualitative data collection and close observation of SK’s most secret habits. Without a doubt, SK enjoys *Wonder Woman*, signs emails with his initials, used to have only 0.001% of desk space visible, never spell-checks his emails (but leaves very few unanswered), and is famous for his short and super-efficient meetings.

In addition to these similarity measures, we also add to our regressions several *placebo* variables. These variables capture more or less random behavioral traits which have no close association with SK’s own behavior. If our identification strategy is valid, the MSKEI should robustly control for these placebo variables. They are: (1) a dummy for whether the respondent starts working before 09:00, (2) the means of transport to work, (3) a dummy for whether daily coffee intake is above the sample median, (4) a dummy for whether the respondent brushes teeth twice a day, and (5) the respondent’s preferred social media channel.

We rerun our main regressions on social perspectives on life, global perspectives on life, and research perspectives. We control first for the similarity variables and later for the placebo variables. All regressions include the usual set of socio-demographics, whose coefficients are not shown, due to space limitations.

Social perspectives on life Table 13 shows the estimates for social perspectives. SK exposure continues to reduce the likelihood that people dislike macroeconomists and statisticians as neighbors (even though on column 2, the effect on macroeconomists becomes imprecisely estimated). Interestingly, people who sign emails with their initials are much less likely to dislike macroeconomists, perhaps because using a codified signature correlates with a higher tolerance for the obscure algebraic formulations that plague articles of that sub-field. Otherwise, we find in column 4 an astonishingly huge positive correlation between being a fan of *Wonder Woman* and preferring chocolates over books for Christmas. Future research should investigate this issue further. Columns 7 and 8 reveal that the effect of SK exposure on the support of white socks with sandals is *not* robust to the inclusion of the extended controls (this result came as a relief for all the authors involved!). What we

find instead is that respondents whose main social media channel is Tinder are much more tolerant towards white socks with sandals relative to the omitted group of Facebook users. Whether this bizarre preference helps or hinders their success rate on Tinder remains an important gap in the literature. Finally, we find that when controlling for similarity measures, the negative exposure effect on intolerance remains. But it vanishes once the placebo variables are included, even though none of the placebos are highly significant on their own.

Overall, the vast majority of the placebo variables has no explanatory power for the chosen outcomes. This gives us extra confidence in the validity of our identification strategy.

Global perspectives on life We now turn to global perspectives on life in Table 14. When controlling for the additional variables, the negative effect of SK exposure on the likelihood of viewing Deutsche Bahn delays as the world’s most pressing problem remains highly significant and actually increases in absolute magnitude. Surprisingly, traveling to work by train has no effect on this issue, possibly indicating large spillovers in terms of frustration and outright despair among the broader public. To be sure, we cannot exclude the possibility that some train commuters switch to walking as a response to the frequent delays. In any case, the estimates are sensible: for example, respondents with a higher number of unanswered emails – and thus with more work to do – are more concerned about Deutsche Bahn delays (which, in case we haven’t mentioned yet, are really very frequent and have been kind of getting out of hand lately...).

In columns 3 and 4, we find that people more exposed to SK continue to rate more often climate change, poverty, or inequality as the world’s most serious issue. The coefficient in column 4 turns insignificant but its magnitude is comparable to the baseline regression.

Research perspectives Finally, in Table 15, we address the robustness of the findings on research perspectives. The only significant effect of SK exposure was on preferring postdocs over PhDs when jobs are scarce. We find in column 3 that this effect is robust to controlling for similarity, but turns insignificant when placebo behaviors are added (column 4). By far our favorite finding from Table 15 is that people who brush teeth twice a day are 29 percentage points more likely to be in favor of RCTs (column 6).

Table 13: Mechanisms: Similarity and SK Effect on Social Perspectives

| | Macroeconomist | | Statistician | | Chocolate over books | | White socks with sandals | | Intolerance | |
|--|----------------|----------|--------------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------|---------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) | (7) | (8) | (9) | (10) |
| Exposed to SK | -0.165* | -0.133 | -0.168** | -0.191** | 0.028 | 0.177 | -0.135 | -0.070 | -0.070** | -0.028 |
| | (0.090) | (0.119) | (0.069) | (0.087) | (0.095) | (0.117) | (0.088) | (0.114) | (0.034) | (0.044) |
| <i>Similarity:</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Same favorite movie | -0.106 | -0.323 | 0.091 | 0.070 | 0.312 | 0.512*** | -0.207 | -0.238 | -0.081 | -0.110 |
| | (0.144) | (0.215) | (0.131) | (0.238) | (0.189) | (0.173) | (0.196) | (0.241) | (0.059) | (0.080) |
| Signs email with initials | -0.287*** | -0.332** | -0.128 | -0.089 | -0.162 | -0.203 | -0.171 | -0.115 | -0.042 | -0.059 |
| | (0.106) | (0.137) | (0.080) | (0.074) | (0.300) | (0.272) | (0.218) | (0.187) | (0.053) | (0.063) |
| % of desk visible | -0.002 | -0.003 | -0.002* | -0.003* | -0.002 | -0.003 | -0.001 | -0.002 | -0.000 | -0.001 |
| | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.001) | (0.001) | (0.002) | (0.003) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.001) | (0.001) |
| Email spell-checked: Never | 0.076 | -0.038 | 0.015 | 0.007 | -0.027 | 0.043 | 0.142 | -0.037 | 0.075** | 0.058 |
| | (0.095) | (0.123) | (0.068) | (0.095) | (0.092) | (0.121) | (0.090) | (0.105) | (0.036) | (0.047) |
| Unanswered emails | -0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | 0.000 | -0.000 | 0.000 | 0.001*** | 0.000 | 0.000 |
| | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.001) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) | (0.000) |
| Short meeting | 0.118 | 0.260* | -0.118* | -0.105 | -0.211* | -0.128 | -0.148 | -0.127 | -0.033 | -0.021 |
| | (0.109) | (0.132) | (0.068) | (0.096) | (0.118) | (0.133) | (0.114) | (0.129) | (0.033) | (0.044) |
| <i>Placebo:</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Arrives at work before 09:00 | | 0.140 | | -0.017 | | 0.215* | | -0.202 | | 0.034 |
| | | (0.136) | | (0.086) | | (0.122) | | (0.127) | | (0.049) |
| <i>Transport to work (Ref. = Car)</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Train | | -0.104 | | 0.257 | | 0.036 | | -0.100 | | -0.019 |
| | | (0.228) | | (0.156) | | (0.218) | | (0.211) | | (0.083) |
| Come on, it is Sunday! | | 0.009 | | -0.017 | | -0.150 | | 0.075 | | 0.059 |
| | | (0.369) | | (0.148) | | (0.231) | | (0.256) | | (0.095) |
| Cycling | | -0.149 | | 0.039 | | 0.136 | | -0.135 | | -0.073 |
| | | (0.169) | | (0.109) | | (0.184) | | (0.173) | | (0.074) |
| Other | | -0.166 | | 0.000 | | -0.400 | | 0.372* | | -0.083 |
| | | (0.273) | | (0.142) | | (0.351) | | (0.218) | | (0.090) |
| Walking | | -0.202 | | 0.021 | | 0.009 | | 0.128 | | -0.063 |
| | | (0.191) | | (0.104) | | (0.199) | | (0.195) | | (0.073) |
| Coffee intake above average | | 0.215* | | 0.019 | | 0.045 | | 0.140 | | 0.046 |
| | | (0.111) | | (0.079) | | (0.119) | | (0.118) | | (0.041) |
| Oral hygiene: 2x a day | | 0.236 | | -0.038 | | -0.058 | | 0.202 | | -0.007 |
| | | (0.150) | | (0.097) | | (0.149) | | (0.146) | | (0.055) |
| <i>Social media, most used (Ref. = Facebook)</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| Instagram | | -0.214 | | -0.206 | | 0.141 | | 0.127 | | 0.039 |
| | | (0.156) | | (0.133) | | (0.153) | | (0.154) | | (0.056) |
| Spam | | -0.239 | | -0.152 | | -0.056 | | -0.117 | | -0.085 |
| | | (0.176) | | (0.125) | | (0.161) | | (0.180) | | (0.064) |
| Tinder | | -1.258 | | -0.474 | | 0.180 | | -1.686*** | | -0.678* |
| | | (0.859) | | (0.586) | | (0.680) | | (0.592) | | (0.350) |
| Twitter | | -0.161 | | -0.185* | | -0.018 | | 0.061 | | -0.004 |
| | | (0.139) | | (0.107) | | (0.130) | | (0.136) | | (0.045) |
| Observations | 124 | 100 | 125 | 101 | 124 | 101 | 124 | 100 | 125 | 101 |
| R-squared | 0.188 | 0.316 | 0.157 | 0.291 | 0.191 | 0.346 | 0.135 | 0.276 | 0.240 | 0.353 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to SK based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. All dependent variables are binary. For columns 1 and 2 they take the value of 1 for disliking macroeconomists or statisticians as neighbors and 0 otherwise. In column 3 and 4, the dependent variable takes the value of 1 if chocolates are preferred over books as Christmas presents and if the combination of socks and sandals is disliked, and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children, and risk preferences.

Table 14: Mechanisms: Similarity and SK Effect on Global Perspectives

| | Deutsche Bahn delays | | Global problem | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| Exposed to SK | -0.124** (0.049) | -0.150** (0.067) | 0.195** (0.084) | 0.116 (0.117) |
| <i>Similarity:</i> | | | | |
| Same favorite movie | 0.084 (0.105) | 0.114 (0.140) | 0.050 (0.180) | 0.087 (0.246) |
| Signs email with initials | -0.053 (0.112) | -0.053 (0.127) | -0.232 (0.193) | -0.187 (0.223) |
| % of desk visible | 0.000 (0.001) | -0.000 (0.001) | -0.001 (0.002) | -0.000 (0.002) |
| Email spell-checked: never | -0.074 (0.051) | -0.138** (0.068) | -0.022 (0.087) | -0.023 (0.118) |
| Unanswered emails | 0.000*** (0.000) | 0.001* (0.000) | 0.000 (0.000) | 0.000 (0.001) |
| Short meeting | -0.024 (0.058) | -0.089 (0.076) | -0.009 (0.100) | 0.021 (0.133) |
| <i>Placebo:</i> | | | | |
| Arrives at work before 09:00 | | -0.091 (0.073) | | -0.125 (0.128) |
| <i>Work: means of transport (Ref.= Car)</i> | | | | |
| Train | | 0.068 (0.126) | | 0.027 (0.221) |
| Come on, it is Sunday! | | 0.310* (0.173) | | -0.050 (0.303) |
| Cycling | | 0.051 (0.099) | | -0.003 (0.173) |
| Other | | 0.225 (0.171) | | 0.022 (0.300) |
| Walking | | 0.033 (0.109) | | -0.034 (0.191) |
| Coffee intake above average | | 0.004 (0.067) | | -0.156 (0.117) |
| Oral hygiene: 2x a day | | -0.002 (0.081) | | 0.043 (0.142) |
| <i>Social media, most used (Ref.= Facebook)</i> | | | | |
| Instagram | | 0.166* (0.097) | | -0.268 (0.170) |
| Spam | | -0.026 (0.098) | | -0.224 (0.173) |
| Tinder | | 0.152 (0.507) | | -0.439 (0.889) |
| Twitter | | -0.062 (0.078) | | -0.097 (0.137) |
| Observations | 125 | 101 | 125 | 101 |
| R-squared | 0.168 | 0.362 | 0.229 | 0.315 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to SK based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. Dependent variable in column 1 takes the value of 1 if Deutsche Bahn delays were chosen as the most serious problem the world faces and 0 otherwise, whereas in column 2 it takes the value of 1 if climate change, poverty or inequality was chosen as the most serious problem that the world faces and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children, and risk preferences.

Table 15: Mechanisms: Similarity and SK Effect on Research Perspectives

| | Bad IV over none | | Postdoc over PhD | | In favor of RCTs | |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Exposed to SK | -0.050 (0.077) | -0.152 (0.107) | 0.188** (0.082) | 0.144 (0.105) | 0.054 (0.094) | 0.123 (0.118) |
| <i>Similarity:</i> | | | | | | |
| Same favorite movie | 0.314 (0.213) | 0.082 (0.217) | 0.229 (0.201) | 0.329 (0.256) | -0.021 (0.214) | -0.325 (0.298) |
| Signs email with initials | -0.021 (0.198) | -0.029 (0.218) | -0.388*** (0.095) | -0.316** (0.127) | 0.148 (0.228) | 0.106 (0.264) |
| % of desk visible | -0.000 (0.001) | -0.001 (0.002) | -0.000 (0.001) | 0.002 (0.002) | -0.001 (0.002) | -0.001 (0.002) |
| Email spell-checked: never | 0.024 (0.081) | -0.003 (0.115) | -0.126 (0.089) | -0.145 (0.117) | -0.085 (0.099) | -0.093 (0.126) |
| Unanswered emails | 0.000 (0.000) | 0.001 (0.001) | -0.000 (0.000) | -0.000 (0.001) | 0.000* (0.000) | 0.001 (0.000) |
| Short meeting | -0.004 (0.094) | -0.031 (0.115) | 0.003 (0.092) | 0.022 (0.116) | -0.133 (0.114) | 0.022 (0.154) |
| <i>Placebo:</i> | | | | | | |
| Arrives at work before 09:00 | | -0.009 (0.106) | | -0.025 (0.116) | | 0.025 (0.132) |
| <i>Work: means of transport (Ref. = Car)</i> | | | | | | |
| Train | | -0.121 (0.211) | | 0.064 (0.209) | | -0.049 (0.244) |
| Come on, it is Sunday! | | 0.106 (0.328) | | 0.173 (0.204) | | -0.522* (0.281) |
| Cycling | | -0.272* (0.161) | | 0.149 (0.153) | | -0.124 (0.208) |
| Other | | -0.298 (0.229) | | 0.193 (0.316) | | 0.136 (0.299) |
| Walking | | -0.322** (0.148) | | 0.336* (0.175) | | -0.077 (0.223) |
| Coffee intake above average | | -0.039 (0.102) | | 0.076 (0.108) | | 0.203 (0.130) |
| Oral hygiene: 2x a day | | -0.064 (0.134) | | -0.190 (0.148) | | 0.292** (0.144) |
| <i>Social media, most used (Ref. = Facebook)</i> | | | | | | |
| Instagram | | 0.199 (0.183) | | -0.117 (0.194) | | -0.186 (0.176) |
| Spam | | -0.094 (0.129) | | -0.055 (0.168) | | -0.177 (0.192) |
| Tinder | | -0.517 (0.755) | | -0.684 (0.676) | | 0.157 (0.631) |
| Twitter | | -0.044 (0.115) | | -0.061 (0.136) | | 0.013 (0.148) |
| Observations | 124 | 101 | 123 | 99 | 123 | 100 |
| R-squared | 0.0980 | 0.277 | 0.164 | 0.269 | 0.134 | 0.235 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to SK based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. Dependent variables take the value of 1 if a bad IV is believed to be better than none at all (column 1), if Professors should give priority to Postdocs over PhDs when jobs are scarce (column 2) and if RCTs are supported (column 3), and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children, and risk preferences.

4.3.2 Welfare Implications

While we can see that exposure to SK clearly affects a person’s perspectives on life, the welfare implications are less apparent. We collected a number of important welfare indicators: the length of lunch breaks (more specifically: whether they exceed one hour), whether a person is married (the welfare implications of marriage status were heavily debated among the authors and are now left up to the reader), the number of children, the number of cars, the number of bank accounts, and a subjective wealth measure.¹²

Table 16: Welfare Indicators

| | mean | sd | min | max | p50 | count |
|---------------------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Long lunch break | 0.13 | 0.33 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 158 |
| Married | 0.52 | 0.50 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 159 |
| Num children | 0.97 | 1.14 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 156 |
| Num cars | 0.76 | 0.78 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 156 |
| Num bank accounts | 2.73 | 1.75 | 1 | 15 | 2 | 157 |
| Subj. wealth status | 6.97 | 1.74 | 1 | 10 | 7 | 153 |

Table 16 describes these variables. Only 13% of the respondents have a lunch break which exceeds one hour. Every second respondent is married. The average respondent has one child, owns one car and has two bank accounts. Respondents perceive themselves as rather wealthy (on average level of 7 out of 10); however, there is substantial variation.

When analyzing the impact of SK exposure on welfare indicators, surprisingly few effects can be found (see Table 17). It seems only to have a positive effect on perceived wealth status. One can speculate about the underlying reason. Either exposure to SK helped people to follow a higher income career trajectory or people with higher exposure to SK are particularly optimistic. We favor the second explanation, given that we find no effects of SK exposure on the number of cars nor on the number of bank accounts. Table 18 shows that the positive exposure effect on subjective wealth is robust to the inclusion of similarity and placebo variables. Some of the new controls are interesting in their own right. We find strong positive wealth effects for fans of *Wonder Woman*, people who have short meetings, and those whose favorite social media network is “Spam”. In contrast, signing emails with one’s initials correlates negatively with subjective wealth.

There are other interesting findings with important policy implications: left-handed and heavier people have longer lunch breaks; dog persons are more likely while shorter persons are less likely to be married. Furthermore, among SK acquaintances, females have a lower likelihood to have children (!). While it is in principle very important to take a sufficiently long lunch break to recharge energy, the time should be used wisely. The denser the food, the longer the eater is supposed to chew on it. Moreover, the frequency of afternoon snacks can be significantly decreased by prolonged chewing during lunch, as convincingly shown by Higgs and Jones (2013). Since left-handed people have

¹²Wording of the subjective wealth measure: *Imagine a ladder. On this ladder, there are 10 ascending steps: 1 indicates the lowest income group and 10 the highest income group. In your country of residence, in what group is your household? (Answer an integer between 1 and 10).*

longer lunch breaks, it could be an indicator that they take their chewing time more seriously.¹³ Nevertheless, it is at first alarming that more corpulent people are out of their offices for a longer period around noon, potentially meaning they eat more. Since the average weight of our sample size is considerably lower than that of an average German, we conclude that having longer lunch breaks is most likely a signal of chewing as much as required and not highly correlated with being overweight.

Turning to the high correlation between dog people and marriage, policy implications depend on the interpretation of the welfare implication of marriage. Dog people are obliged to regularly walk their dogs, and consequentially have a high rate of social contact with other dog people. Due to the pre-existing shared interest of dogs, it logically follows that these people have a high baseline level of attraction, and therefore a higher chance to mate and marry. If it is aimed at increasing (decreasing) marriages, being an owner of a dog should be facilitated (restricted) by the government.

Table 17: Main Results. SK Effect on Welfare

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | Long lunch break | Married | Num of children | Num of cars | Num of bank accounts | Subj. wealth status |
| | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se |
| Exposed to SK | 0.027 (0.061) | 0.094 (0.076) | 0.102 (0.156) | 0.069 (0.128) | 0.310 (0.271) | 0.744** (0.309) |
| Female | 0.069 (0.076) | -0.139 (0.129) | -0.444* (0.256) | -0.241 (0.206) | -0.558 (0.365) | -0.484 (0.381) |
| Age | -0.003 (0.004) | 0.023*** (0.003) | 0.051*** (0.010) | 0.021*** (0.007) | 0.005 (0.015) | 0.060*** (0.021) |
| Public sector | -0.013 (0.075) | -0.046 (0.087) | -0.292 (0.198) | -0.014 (0.172) | -0.919* (0.525) | -0.032 (0.427) |
| Dog person | -0.019 (0.060) | 0.221*** (0.080) | 0.161 (0.152) | -0.118 (0.130) | -0.100 (0.266) | -0.027 (0.276) |
| Left-handed | 0.204* (0.110) | 0.065 (0.124) | 0.244 (0.226) | 0.146 (0.235) | 0.584 (0.671) | -0.422 (0.389) |
| Height (in cm) | -0.002 (0.002) | -0.004** (0.002) | -0.012*** (0.004) | -0.000 (0.004) | -0.010 (0.008) | -0.005 (0.010) |
| Weight (in kg) | 0.008** (0.003) | 0.000 (0.006) | 0.001 (0.010) | -0.004 (0.008) | 0.000 (0.012) | -0.009 (0.016) |
| Risk preferences | -0.002 (0.013) | -0.002 (0.016) | 0.048 (0.035) | 0.008 (0.037) | 0.098 (0.081) | -0.076 (0.071) |
| Observations | 141 | 141 | 140 | 138 | 140 | 136 |
| R-squared | 0.0913 | 0.312 | 0.352 | 0.122 | 0.117 | 0.223 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index.

¹³ Alternatively, left-handed people may be relatively less skilled in the use of cutlery.

Table 18: Mechanisms: Similarity and SK Effect on Welfare

| | Subj. wealth status | |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| | (1) | (2) |
| Exposed to SK | 0.835** (0.333) | 1.256*** (0.366) |
| <i>Similarity:</i> | | |
| Same favorite movie | 0.706 (0.492) | 1.496** (0.695) |
| Signs email with initials | -0.705 (0.562) | -1.262** (0.495) |
| % of desk visible | 0.006 (0.006) | 0.012 (0.008) |
| Email spell-checked: never | -0.202 (0.331) | -0.138 (0.442) |
| Unanswered emails | -0.003* (0.001) | -0.004 (0.003) |
| Short meeting | 0.150 (0.408) | 0.895** (0.422) |
| <i>Placebo:</i> | | |
| Arrives at work before 09:00 | | 0.074 (0.371) |
| <i>Work: means of transport (Ref. = Car)</i> | | |
| Train | | -1.050 (0.663) |
| Come on, it is Sunday! | | -0.556 (0.795) |
| Cycling | | -0.294 (0.491) |
| Other | | 0.042 (1.022) |
| Walking | | -0.316 (0.546) |
| Coffee intake above average | | 0.544 (0.411) |
| Oral hygiene: 2x a day | | -0.247 (0.448) |
| <i>Social media, most used (Ref. = Facebook)</i> | | |
| Instagram | | 0.186 (0.512) |
| Spam | | 0.942** (0.433) |
| Tinder | | -1.970 (2.965) |
| Twitter | | 0.456 (0.450) |
| Observations | 120 | 96 |
| R-squared | 0.305 | 0.508 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index.

4.4 Discussion

Our analyses reveal some very interesting findings. Being exposed to SK seems to reduce the intolerance towards macroeconomists, statisticians, and people wearing white socks with sandals (it is well known that these three groups still suffer considerable discrimination in our society). Furthermore, our results indicate that while, on the one hand, exposure to SK increases a person's consciousness towards global problems, such as inequality, poverty, or climate change, on the other hand it seems to blind individuals to more local, yet certainly no less important issues, such as Deutsche Bahn delays. Concerning academic decision-making, exposure to SK seems to result in a preference of postdocs over PhDs in times of job scarcity. Finally, individuals who are more exposed to SK feel on average wealthier.¹⁴ In our preferred specification, the exposure effect is nearly as strong as the well-known *Wonder-Woman* effect (see Table 18).

Without question, these findings can have far-reaching policy implications, but caution is provided. There are endogeneity concerns that might challenge a causal interpretation of our findings. Particularly, the reader might be concerned about reverse causality. SK might have a preference for individuals who are more tolerant, more concerned about global as opposed to local problems, and who are more optimistic with regards to their wealth status. Alternatively, individuals with this specific profile might self-select into being more exposed to SK.

We are confident that this is not an issue for our analysis. Social tolerance, concerns for global problems, as well as optimism, are traits that develop over time and are not pre-determined. They are affected by education, experience, and mental states (Strunk et al. 2006; Sharot 2011; Berggren and Nilsson 2016). Furthermore, the richness of our data allows us to control for a number of potential confounding factors. Reassuringly, when we add a set of *placebo* behavioral variables to our model, we find that, in the vast majority of cases, they have no explanatory power. The similarity to SK—through habit formation or selection—is sometimes a mechanism for the exposure effect, but not always. In sum, our analyses suggest that exposure to SK operates in rich and complex patterns, and we can only hope that future research will fully uncover them.

5 Conclusion

We start this conclusion with an observation of teamwork, efficiency, and abundance of labor. On October 14, 2019, the first email was sent regarding the idea of the MSKEI paper. After that, nine seemingly-underworked junior academics designed a questionnaire, found even more underworked student assistants to program it, broke data confidentiality rules and manipulated email-lists to collect responses, convinced hardworking colleagues to take part in the survey (most of them being on the payroll of the taxpayer at the point in time, since nearly half of the respondents filled it out at the office), worked in day-and-night shifts on the paper. . . , and here we stand on November 16, 2019! This also raises doubts as to why people would need three years or more to finish a PhD –

¹⁴This might also be driven by social tolerance. For example, Inglehart et al. (2013) show that tolerance increases people's subjective well-being.

roughly extrapolating this paper's time, it could easily be done in 6-12 months. Furthermore, if you take into account that you, as a junior researcher, can find ways to convince the leading German economist in 2017 to write the theoretical foundations of your paper...

Relying on its first-of-its-kind Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index, which identifies slightly more than half of SK's acquaintances as exposed to him, we are able to uncover that, in line with theoretical predictions, exposure increases: 1) tolerance overall, and in particular towards macroeconomists, statisticians, and people wearing socks with sandals 2) preference of postdocs over PhDs in times of scarcity 3) self-perceived wealth, and 4) a person's consciousness towards global problems such as inequality, poverty, and climate change. While all four conclusions are supported by qualitative evidence, note that the latter is backed up by Google Scholar citations, as Stephan Klasen's most cited publications are indeed on issues of (measuring) poverty (Klasen 2000: 631 citations) and (gender) inequality (Klasen 2002: 748 citations).

Our results show that further research should be carried out on astrology and social networks. As anticipated by one member of the survey team, Aries should rule the world (it is the head sign of the zodiac, so this is obvious from the get-go). It is a relief (for that member, at least) that the social network of Stephan Klasen is heavily influenced by Aries. Myth in general needs more attention in economists' research since nearly one quarter of the respondents are unicorn persons - showing their open-mindedness to each and everything on this planet earth and even other planets (except maybe for heavy drinkers and macroeconomists). In line with this is also the finding that over 50% like Santa Claus, even though general belief outside of economics is that Santa is a mythical person. The last and most convincing point of worrying more about mythology is that nearly two-thirds of the respondents are in favor of RCTs. One quick note on the rise of China: we should also possibly talk more about Christmas Island as both countries are equally represented among the survey participants.

We end this groundbreaking article with several policy recommendations. First, the government should closely regulate activity on Tinder, since we find a disturbing complacency for white socks with sandals among Tinder users. Second, everyone should see *Wonder Woman* as there are large untapped positive externalities. *Wonder Woman* fans are more likely to prefer chocolate over books for Christmas (a very healthy habit) and report much larger levels of perceived material wealth. Third, left-handed people—a too-often ignored minority—should enjoy longer lunch breaks. Fourth, academics should all get a regular workshop (let's say every three to six months) on self- and time-management in order to reshape their habits. We can only speculate how much potential for improvement and efficiency lies in increasing the visibility of the desk surface, shortening meetings, or by either answering more frequently to emails or simply stopping answering emails altogether (how else can you explain that the world did not come to an end if all of the respondents obviously do not respond at all? Or is there an outlier? And who is this outlier?). In addition, simply coming to the office at a "normal" time could also help, since only every third person comes before 9:00.

Last but not least, no amount of rigorous econometric evidence can come close to our unshakable conviction that exposure to Stephan Klasen is highly beneficial both from an individual and societal

perspective. Everyone should try at least once. And then come back for some more.

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A Descriptive Statistics

Table A.1: Country of Origin

| | pct |
|------------------|--------|
| Armenia | 0.65 |
| Austria | 1.30 |
| Belgium | 0.65 |
| Brazil | 3.25 |
| Canada | 1.30 |
| China | 0.65 |
| Christmas Island | 0.65 |
| Colombia | 2.60 |
| Ecuador | 0.65 |
| Gambia, The | 0.65 |
| Germany | 61.04 |
| Greece | 0.65 |
| India | 2.60 |
| Indonesia | 1.95 |
| Italy | 1.95 |
| Kazakhstan | 0.65 |
| Lebanon | 0.65 |
| Morocco | 0.65 |
| Netherlands | 1.30 |
| Nicaragua | 0.65 |
| Norway | 0.65 |
| Other | 0.65 |
| Pakistan | 1.95 |
| Philippines | 0.65 |
| Portugal | 0.65 |
| Russia | 1.30 |
| Slovakia | 0.65 |
| Spain | 0.65 |
| Sri Lanka | 0.65 |
| Switzerland | 0.65 |
| Syria | 0.65 |
| Taiwan | 0.65 |
| Turkey | 1.30 |
| Ukraine | 0.65 |
| United States | 2.60 |
| Vietnam | 1.30 |
| Total | 100.00 |
| Observations | 154 |

B Results

Table B.1: Additional Results. SK Effect on Social Perspectives

| | (1) Dislike Heavy Drinkers as Neighbors b/se | (2) Dislike Policymakers as Neighbors b/se | (3) Dislike Randomists as Neighbors b/se | (4) Dislike Sociologists as Neighbors b/se | (5) Dislike Economic Historians as Neighbors b/se | (6) Chocolate over Books b/se |
|------------------|--|--|--|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| Exposed to SK | -0.059 (0.081) | -0.051 (0.081) | 0.057 (0.088) | -0.037 (0.070) | -0.005 (0.058) | 0.040 (0.091) |
| Female | 0.139 (0.129) | -0.274** (0.111) | -0.218* (0.116) | -0.215** (0.097) | -0.015 (0.066) | 0.267** (0.125) |
| Age | 0.008* (0.005) | -0.001 (0.004) | -0.007 (0.005) | -0.005 (0.004) | -0.001 (0.002) | 0.010* (0.005) |
| Public Sector | -0.100 (0.095) | 0.086 (0.096) | -0.125 (0.103) | -0.165* (0.097) | -0.070 (0.071) | 0.181* (0.109) |
| Dog Person | -0.016 (0.091) | 0.018 (0.088) | -0.061 (0.092) | 0.015 (0.079) | 0.131** (0.065) | 0.133 (0.093) |
| Left-handed | -0.051 (0.131) | 0.148 (0.120) | 0.093 (0.129) | 0.095 (0.112) | -0.027 (0.062) | 0.032 (0.125) |
| Height (in cm) | -0.000 (0.002) | -0.008*** (0.002) | -0.001 (0.002) | -0.000 (0.002) | 0.001 (0.002) | 0.005* (0.003) |
| Weight (in kg) | -0.001 (0.004) | 0.001 (0.005) | 0.002 (0.005) | 0.005 (0.004) | 0.002 (0.003) | 0.005 (0.005) |
| Num Children | 0.054 (0.041) | -0.076* (0.044) | -0.048 (0.043) | -0.047 (0.034) | -0.014 (0.023) | 0.005 (0.042) |
| Risk preferences | 0.022 (0.020) | 0.009 (0.019) | -0.005 (0.019) | 0.020 (0.015) | 0.005 (0.009) | -0.041** (0.020) |
| Constant | 0.369 (0.325) | 1.754*** (0.493) | 0.878 (0.577) | 0.259 (0.435) | -0.259 (0.329) | -1.105* (0.623) |
| Observations | 137 | 139 | 139 | 140 | 140 | 139 |
| R-squared | 0.116 | 0.0996 | 0.105 | 0.164 | 0.0740 | 0.125 |

Notes: *, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stepan Klawn based on the Multidimensional Stepan Klawn Exposure Index. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children and risk preferences.

Table B.2: Additional Results. SK Effect on Global Perspectives I

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
|-----------------|---------|---------|--------------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Aid | GMO | Winter/Summer sep. | Speedlimit | Anthro over econ | Physicians in fin. |
| | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se |
| Exposed to SK | -0.010 | -0.042 | -0.009 | -0.017 | -0.032 | -0.119 |
| | (0.081) | (0.088) | (0.086) | (0.087) | (0.088) | (0.082) |
| Female | -0.027 | -0.004 | -0.153 | 0.244* | 0.002 | 0.004 |
| | (0.112) | (0.138) | (0.121) | (0.128) | (0.141) | (0.128) |
| Age | 0.005 | 0.001 | 0.009 | -0.001 | -0.008* | -0.009* |
| | (0.004) | (0.005) | (0.005) | (0.006) | (0.004) | (0.005) |
| Public Sector | -0.077 | -0.068 | 0.033 | -0.009 | -0.012 | -0.025 |
| | (0.082) | (0.116) | (0.103) | (0.115) | (0.115) | (0.098) |
| Dog Person | 0.123 | 0.034 | 0.095 | -0.103 | 0.006 | -0.112 |
| | (0.079) | (0.096) | (0.094) | (0.093) | (0.098) | (0.080) |
| Left-handed | -0.129 | 0.061 | -0.111 | -0.034 | 0.030 | 0.039 |
| | (0.115) | (0.124) | (0.110) | (0.127) | (0.125) | (0.115) |
| Height (in cm) | -0.000 | 0.002 | -0.007*** | 0.002 | 0.003 | 0.002 |
| | (0.003) | (0.002) | (0.002) | (0.003) | (0.002) | (0.003) |
| Weight (in kg) | 0.003 | 0.003 | 0.007 | 0.001 | -0.003 | 0.004 |
| | (0.004) | (0.005) | (0.005) | (0.005) | (0.006) | (0.005) |
| Num Children | 0.030 | 0.002 | -0.025 | 0.088* | 0.060 | 0.065 |
| | (0.046) | (0.045) | (0.046) | (0.049) | (0.046) | (0.043) |
| Riskpreferences | 0.021 | -0.003 | -0.001 | -0.036* | 0.004 | -0.010 |
| | (0.017) | (0.018) | (0.018) | (0.020) | (0.019) | (0.018) |
| Constant | 0.271 | -0.308 | 0.804 | 0.229 | 0.303 | 0.148 |
| | (0.564) | (0.587) | (0.567) | (0.667) | (0.590) | (0.547) |
| Observations | 140 | 133 | 139 | 140 | 140 | 140 |
| R-squared | 0.0923 | 0.0323 | 0.101 | 0.0736 | 0.0325 | 0.0791 |

Notes:*, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. Dependent variables take the value of 1 if person is in favor of various statements and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children and risk preferences.

Table B.3: Additional Results. SK Effect on Global Perspectives II

| | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) |
|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| | Climate | Inequality | Poverty | Referees | Endogeneity |
| | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se | b/se |
| Exposed to SK | 0.113 (0.075) | 0.029 (0.077) | 0.027 (0.070) | -0.063 (0.051) | -0.017 (0.041) |
| Female | -0.171 (0.122) | 0.212* (0.116) | -0.023 (0.097) | -0.012 (0.062) | -0.025 (0.047) |
| Age | 0.006 (0.004) | 0.003 (0.005) | 0.005 (0.004) | -0.002 (0.002) | -0.005** (0.002) |
| Public Sector | 0.092 (0.102) | -0.041 (0.102) | 0.062 (0.072) | 0.044 (0.053) | -0.002 (0.044) |
| Dog Person | 0.076 (0.092) | 0.052 (0.085) | 0.046 (0.073) | 0.076 (0.056) | -0.054 (0.040) |
| Left-handed | -0.085 (0.105) | -0.080 (0.100) | 0.124 (0.106) | 0.108 (0.086) | -0.063** (0.026) |
| Height (in cm) | -0.007*** (0.002) | 0.002 (0.002) | -0.000 (0.002) | 0.002 (0.002) | 0.001 (0.001) |
| Weight (in kg) | -0.004 (0.004) | 0.005 (0.004) | -0.001 (0.004) | -0.000 (0.003) | -0.001 (0.002) |
| Num Children | 0.066 (0.042) | -0.037 (0.043) | -0.017 (0.036) | 0.011 (0.027) | 0.018 (0.018) |
| Riskpreferences | -0.005 (0.017) | 0.012 (0.017) | -0.002 (0.015) | 0.009 (0.010) | -0.009 (0.008) |
| Constant | 1.506*** (0.541) | -0.684 (0.564) | -0.034 (0.457) | -0.295 (0.319) | 0.247 (0.214) |
| Observations | 140 | 140 | 140 | 140 | 140 |
| R-squared | 0.139 | 0.0522 | 0.0377 | 0.0747 | 0.0688 |

Notes:*, **, *** significant at the 0.1, 0.5 and 0.01 level. Robust standard errors in parenthesis. Exposed to SK is a dummy indicating exposure to Stephan Klasen based on the Multidimensional Stephan Klasen Exposure Index. Dependent variables take the value of 1 if person chose the respective option as the most serious problem the world is facing and 0 otherwise. All estimations control for gender, age, public sector employment, dog person, being left-handed, height, weight, number of children and risk preferences.

C Instructions

Surprise survey for Stephan Klasen's Farewell Lecture

Thank you for deciding to participate in the survey for Stephan Klasen's gift on his Farewell Lecture, on November 16, in Göttingen.

We would really appreciate if you take 10-15 minutes to answer the following questions.

1. How much are you in favor of Development Aid?

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

2. How do you reach your workplace today / or normally?

Mark only one oval.

- Walking
- Cycling
- By car
- By train
- Other
- Come on, it is Sunday today!

3. Which sector are you working in?

Mark only one oval.

- Private
- Public
- Self-employed
- None of the above

4. Which of the following was a keynote speaker at Stephan Klasen's 50th birthday conference?

Mark only one oval.

- Rolf-Georg Köhler
- Stephan Klasen
- Amartya Sen
- Ayrton Senna
- Eliana La Ferrara

5. On this list are various groups of people. Could you please mention any that you would like/not like to have as neighbours?

Mark only one oval per row.

| | Don't like as neighbour | Like as neighbour | Do not know / cannot say |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Theoretical economists | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Randomistas | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Economic historians | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Policymakers | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Heavy drinkers | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Sociologists | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Macroeconomists | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Statisticians | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Benevolent dictators | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

6. Who is your favorite politician?

Mark only one oval.

- Nelson Mandela
- José Mujica
- Rolf-Georg Köhler
- Justin Trudeau
- Donald Trump
- None of the above

7. How would you describe yourself? Are you generally willing to take risks, or do you try to avoid taking risks? Please choose a number on the scale between 0 and 10, where the value 0 means "always trying to avoid risks" and the value 10 means "fully prepared to take risks".

Mark only one oval.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

8. How many joint papers did/do you have?

9. What type of person are you?

Mark only one oval.

- dog person
- cat person
- unicorn person
- None of the above

10. When did you meet Stephan Klasen for the first time?

11. In which country were you born?

12. What is your gender ?

Mark only one oval.

- Male
- Female
- Non-binary
- Prefer not to say
- Other

13. How nerdy are you on a scale from 0-10?

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Low | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | High |

14. Do you let your emails typically be spell- and grammar-checked?

Mark only one oval.

- Yes, always
- Most of the times
- Every now and then
- Never – why would I?

15. How many minutes did your last professional meeting take?

16. At what time do you typically start working? Example: If you start working at 3pm, please indicate it as 15:00.

Example: 8:30 AM

17. How much are you in favor of GMO?

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

18. What is the proportion of your office desk surface that is still visible? (in %)

19. **What is your current marital status?**

Mark only one oval.

- Married
- Living together as married
- Divorced
- Separated
- Widowed
- Single
- Actively using online dating apps

20. **How many times did you go to mensa together with Stephan Klasen?**

21. **What is the proportion (%) of your friends that have been or are currently working with Stephan Klasen?**

22. **What do you think is your exposure to Stephan Klasen on a professional level ?**

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Low | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | High |

23. **How often do you brush your teeth?**

Mark only one oval.

- More than twice a day
- Twice a day
- Once a day
- Few times per week
- You don't want to know

24. **How many bank accounts do you have?**

25. **What are the two last digits of Stephan Klasen's mobile phone number?**

26. **Imagine a ladder. On this ladder, there are 10 ascending steps: 1 indicates the lowest income group and 10 the highest income group. In your country of residence, in what group is your household? (Answer an integer between 1 and 10)**

27. **With which hand do you write, paint etc?**
Mark only one oval.

- Left
- Right
- Both

28. **How many cars does your household own?**

29. **How many of Stephan Klasen's former or current PhD students can you name in 10 seconds? (Please write down a number)**
Don't cheat! Google is watching!

30. **What is your favorite Soccer Club?**
Mark only one oval.

- Hertha BSC
- Borussia Mönchengladbach
- Hannover 96
- New England Revolution
- Juventus Turin
- None of the above

31. **How much are you in favor of people wearing white socks and sandals?**
Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

32. How much are you in favor of the separation of summer and winter time?

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

33. As a University soccer player, Stephan Klasen was a mythical:

Pick the correct option

Mark only one oval.

- Striker
- Defender
- Coach
- Goalkeeper
- All of the above
- I have no clue!

34. Below, there is a list of some problems. Please indicate which of the following problems you consider the most serious one for the world as a whole?

Mark only one oval.

- Poverty
- Inequality
- Climate change
- Endogeneity
- Referees in peer-reviewed journals
- Fieldwork catastrophes
- Deutsche Bahn delays
- Reimbursement forms
- Crowded mensa
- Missing values

35. Make your best guess: which of the following sentences are from a paper abstract by Stephan Klasen?

Mark only one oval.

- A - These outdated institutions both raise unemployment and lower growth rates. The truth of propositions such as these depends on which labor market institutions really are bad for unemployment and growth, and which are not.
- B - This is most visible in labor markets, but also visible across a range of dimensions of gender inequality. After documenting these developments, the paper suggests causes for this change before suggesting policies to tackle remaining gender inequalities more effectively.
- C - Of particular interest is the new research literature that investigates the impact of widening wage inequality on race and gender wage gaps.

36. What is your age?

37. What are names of Stephan Klasen's kids?

Check all that apply.

- Lucas
- Rolf-Georg
- Nicolas
- Bruno
- Nelson

38. How many cups of coffee do you usually have in a day?

39. What social media channels do you use most?

Mark only one oval.

- Twitter
- Facebook
- Instagram
- Tinder
- SPAM

40. Which conference type are you?

Mark only one oval.

- Go there for food and coffee
- Networking
- Appreciating the interior design of the conference's building
- I don't go to conferences
- The one who has a hangover when presenting

41. What is your favorite movie?

Mark only one oval.

- Wonder Woman
- A beautiful mind
- Alexander
- Lion King
- Bodyguard
- What is a movie? I only watch series.

42. What do you think is your exposure to Stephan Klasen on a personal level?

Mark only one oval.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Low High

43. How many unanswered emails do you have in your inbox?

44. How much are you in favor of RCTs?

Mark only one oval.

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Not at all in favor Very much in favor

45. How many beers did you drink together with Stephan Klasen?

46. What is your height (in cm)?

47. How did you sign your last email?

Mark only one oval.

- My first name
- My last name
- My first and last name
- My nickname
- Initials
- Someone else's name
- I did not sign

48. **When did you send the last email to Stephan Klasen?**

Mark only one oval.

- This week
- Last week
- Last month
- Between one month and six months ago
- Between six months and a year ago
- More than a year ago
- I never wrote him per email :(

49. **What is the perfect Christmas gift you would like to receive?**

Mark only one oval.

- A small chocolate Santa Claus
- A big chocolate Santa Claus
- An ancient Chinese philosophy book
- A 2004 issue of The Review of Income and Wealth
- A 2006 issue of The Review of Income and Wealth

50. **What is your zodiac sign?**

Mark only one oval.

- Aries
- Taurus
- Gemini
- Cancer
- Leo
- Virgo
- Libra
- Scorpio
- Sagittarius
- Capricorn
- Aquarius
- Pisces

51. **How much are you in favor of a 130 km/h speed limit on the Autobahn?**

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

52. **Where are you filling out this survey?**

Mark only one oval.

- In bed
- In a work meeting
- At my office desk
- In the toilet
- At the beach
- In a fancy coffee house
- In the train
- Other

53. **In the closing conference dinner of Stephan Klasen's 50th birthday, the drinks were:**

Mark only one oval.

- Paid by the guests at above market rates
- Paid by the guests at subsidized prices
- Free for the guests
- Free for the guests, but limited to tap water
- I wasn't there
- I can't remember, so it must be option c!

54. **Do you agree, disagree or neither agree nor disagree with the following statements?**

Mark only one oval per row.

| | Agree | Neither | Disagree |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| When jobs are scarce, scientists should have more right to a job than sport athletes. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| When jobs are scarce, professors should give priority to postdocs over PhD students. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| If an anthropologist earns more money than an equally qualified economist, it's almost certain to cause problems. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| Having a bad instrumental variable (IV) is better than having no IV at all. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |
| There should be no physicists allowed in financial institutions. | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> |

55. **What is your weight (in kg)?**

56. **How long is your lunch break?**

Mark only one oval.

- Less than 30min
- Between 30 and 60min
- Between 60 and 90min
- 2 hours
- I don't take a break and eat at my desk

57. **How much are you in favor of a voucher when paying for the bathroom at train stations?**

Mark only one oval.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | |
| Not at all in favor | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> | Very much in favor |

58. **Do you have any children? If yes, specify the number of children. If no, answer 0.**

59. **How many cigarettes did Stephan Klasen ask you for?**

Thank you for participating! We hope to see you at the Farewell Lecture.

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