**S1 Table: Survey items for Experiment 1.**

Items measuring acceptance of AGW, attribution of human activity, trust, worldview and perceived expertise were averaged within each class of items to calculate the dependent variables.

*Survey items used in Experiment 1*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Measured Variable | Survey Items |
| Gender  (Male, Female) | What sex are you? |
| Age  (18 to 24 years, 25 to 34 years, 35 to 44 years, 45 to 54 years, 55 to 64 years, 55 to 64 years, 65 to 74 years) | How old are you? |
| Income  ($0-$199 per week ($0-$10,399 per year), $200-$599 per week ($10,400-$31,199 per year), $600-$1,249 per week ($31,200-$64,999 per year), $1,250 or more per week ($65,000 or more per year) ) | What is your income? |
| Attention Filter: Misinformation condition  (Neuroscience, Astronomy, Cancer treatment, Climate change, Ancient history) | What was the topic of the scientific report mentioned earlier in the news article on a previous page? |
| Climate Belief (5 item Likert scale from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree) | 1. The climate is always changing and what we are currently observing is just natural fluctuation.  2. Most of the warming over the last 50 years is due to the increase in greenhouse gas concentrations.  3. The burning of fossil fuels over the last 50 years has caused serious damage to the planet’s climate.  4. Human CO2 emissions cause climate change.  5. Humans are too insignificant to have an appreciable impact on global temperature. |
| Trust in climate scientists  (5 item Likert scale from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree) | 1. Climate scientists can be depended upon to help increase our understanding of what's happening to our climate.  2. Research that challenges the mainstream point of view is given honest treatment by the scientific community.  3. The process by which scientific papers are peer-reviewed and published is reliable.  4. Climate scientists are sincere in their research into climate.  5. I trust the things that scientists say about climate change. |
| Attention Filter  (Table, Dog, Cat, Mouse) | Which of these is not an animal? |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Free Market Support  (5 item Likert scale from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree) | 1. An economic system based on free markets unrestrained by government interference automatically works best to meet human needs.  2. The free market system may be efficient for resource allocation but it is limited in its capacity to promote social justice.  3. The preservation of the free market system is more important than localized environmental concerns.  4. Free and unregulated markets pose important threats to sustainable development.  5. The free market system is likely to promote unsustainable consumption. |
| Trust in Contrarian Scientists  (5 item Likert scale from Strongly Disagree to Strongly Agree) | 1. Scientists that challenge the mainstream view of climate change present an honest treatment of the scientific evidence.  2. Information provided by scientists that dissent from mainstream climate science is not reliable.  3. Scientists that reject the scientific consensus on global warming can be depended upon to increase our understanding of what's happening to our climate  4. Scientists who reject human-caused global warming are sincere in their scientific position  5. I do not trust the things that scientists challenging the consensus view of climate change say about climate science |
| Attention Filter  (2, 3, 4, 5, 6) | What is 2 + 3? |
| Perceived Scientific Consensus  (slider from 0 to 100%) | On a scale from 0 to 100%, how many climate scientists agree that human activity is causing global warming? |
| Contribution of human activity to following events (slider from 0 to 100%) | Use the slider to estimate the contribution from human CO2 emissions to cause each event.  1. Increase in atmospheric temperature of 0.8 degrees Celsius since 1880  2. Increase of global sea level of 20cm since 1880  3. Doubling of weather-related natural disasters over last 30 years  4. The 2010 floods in Pakistan  5. Hurricane Sandy in 2012  6. The 2013 Australian heat wave |
| Education  (High school or less, TAFE education, University graduate, Postgraduate work) | What is the highest level of education that you’ve completed and got credit for? |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Policy Support  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | 1. Signing an international treaty that requires USA to cut its carbon dioxide emissions by 90% by 2050  2. Signing an international treaty that requires USA to cut its carbon dioxide emissions by 90% by 2050.  3. Adding a surcharge to electrical bills to establish a fund to help make buildings more energy efficient and to teach U.S. citizens how to reduce energy use  4. Requiring electric utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from renewable energy sources  5o. Providing tax rebates for people who purchase energy-efficient vehicles or solar panels |
| Measured Variable (after Debriefing Text) | Survey Items |
| Attention Filter  (A, B, C, D, E) | What is the second letter of the English alphabet? |
| Perceived consensus (reversed)  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | There is significant disagreement among climate scientists that humans are causing global warming. |
| Attribution of Human Activity (reversed)  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | Recent global warming has been caused by an unusually warm sun. |
| Perceived consensus  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | An overwhelming majority of climate scientists agree that human activity is causing global warming. |
| Attribution of Human Activity  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | Observed patterns in climate change rule out the sun as a major driver of recent climate change. |
| Perceived consensus (reversed)  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | Scientists who disagree that human are causing global warming are a significant proportion of the scientific community. |
| Attribution of Human Activity  (5 point Likert scale from Strongly Support to Strongly Oppose) | Recent changes in solar activity have had a significant impact on global temperature. |
| Perceived Scientific Consensus  (slider from 0 to 100%) | On a scale from 0 to 100%, how many climate scientists agree that human activity is causing global warming? |
| Attribution of Human Activity  (slider from 0 to 100%) | Use the slider to estimate the contribution from human CO2 emissions to increases in temperature:  Increase in atmospheric temperature of 0.8 degrees Celsius since 1880 |