

# IDEOLOGIES SHAPE OUTSIDERS' SUPPORT FOR BOTH ADVANTAGED AND DISADVANTAGED GROUPS IN CONFLICT

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## Summary

Uninvolved outsiders may choose to intervene in an external group conflict by taking collective action.

Willingness to take such action is shaped by outsiders' ideologies of social dominance (SDO) and right-wing authoritarianism (RWA).

Outsiders who endorse these ideologies are more willing to support an advantaged group in conflict.

Outsiders who reject these ideologies are more willing to support a disadvantaged group in conflict.

## Background

Perceived injustice, perceived efficacy of the ingroup, and especially identification with the ingroup are well-established psychological motivators for collective action by members of groups engaged in intergroup conflict. (e.g., van Zomeren, Postmes, & Spears, 2008).

Third-parties within a context of intergroup conflict have been theorised to align themselves with and take action on behalf of different groups in conflict (Subašić, Reynolds, & Turner, 2008).

However, less is known how uninvolved outsiders, who lack information about the context of conflict, may be motivated to take action.

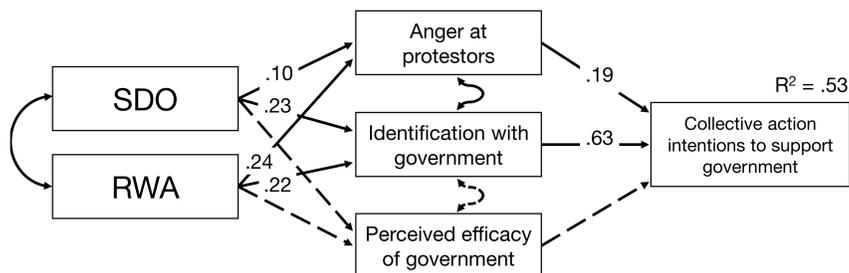
Ideologies structure individuals' views and ideals about the social world. Stable personal ideologies of social dominance (SDO; Pratto, Sidanius, Stallworth, & Malle, 1994) and right-wing authoritarianism (RWA; Altemeyer, 1981) may shape outsiders' appraisals of intergroup conflict and the groups engaged in that conflict. Specifically, endorsement or rejection of these ideologies may lead to perceived injustice on behalf of, perceived efficacy of, and a sense of shared identity with groups in conflict that also endorse or reject these ideologies. Such appraisals may lead outsiders to subsequent collective action in support of that group.

## Study 1: Ideologies shape anger, identification, and intentions across groups and contexts

162 US residents read about intergroup conflict between advantaged and disadvantaged groups in two distinct contexts: Greece and Russia.

### Results for the advantaged government group:

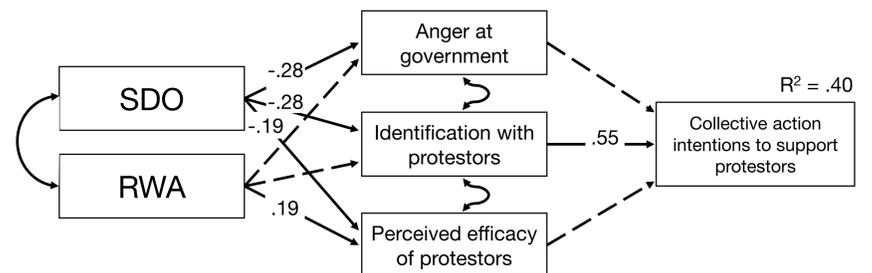
SDO and RWA positively predicted antecedents of collective action in support of the government, across both contexts.



$\chi^2(3, N = 162) = 5.82, p = .121, CFI = 0.98, AGFI = 0.92, RMSEA = 0.08, SRMR = 0.03$

### Results for the disadvantaged citizen protestor group:

SDO negatively predicted antecedents of collective action in support of the citizen protestors, across both contexts.



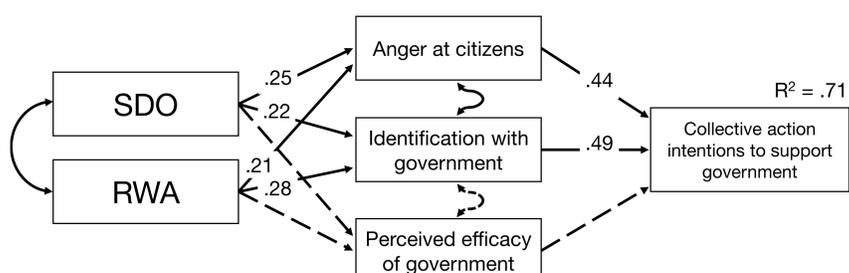
$\chi^2(3, N = 162) = 8.44, p = .038, CFI = 0.97, AGFI = 0.88, RMSEA = 0.11, SRMR = 0.04$   
Solid lines indicate significant paths,  $p < .05$

## Study 2: Pre-existing ideologies can shape outsiders' appraisals of a novel context

154 US residents completed a longitudinal study. At Time 1, we measured SDO and RWA. At Time 2, participants read about a group conflict between the government and citizens in the fictional country of Silaria, and completed collective action measures for each group.

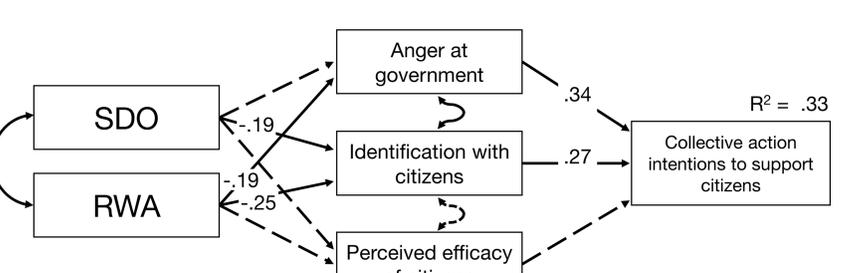
SDO and RWA predicted antecedents of collective action in support of each group, replicating and extending the results of Study 1. Pre-existing ideologies shaped outsiders' appraisals of a novel context and subsequent collective action intentions for both groups in that context.

### Results for the advantaged government group:



$\chi^2(3, N = 154) = 2.73, p = .436, CFI = 1.00, AGFI = 0.96, RMSEA = 0.00, SRMR = 0.01$

### Results for the disadvantaged citizen group:



$\chi^2(3, N = 154) = 8.62, p = .035, CFI = 0.97, AGFI = 0.87, RMSEA = 0.11, SRMR = 0.05$