CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

A literature review is a text of a scholarly paper, which includes the current knowledge including substantive findings, as well as theoretical and methodological contributions to a particular topic. Literature reviews are secondary sources, and do not report new or original experimental work. Most often associated with academic-oriented literature, such reviews are found in academic journals, and are not to be confused with book reviews that may also appear in the same publication. Literature reviews are a basis for research in nearly every academic field. A narrow-scope literature review may be included as part of a peer-reviewed journal article presenting new research, serving to situate the current study within the body of the relevant literature and to provide context for the reader. In such a case, the review usually precedes the methodology and results sections of the work.

Producing a literature review may also be part of graduate and post-graduate student work, including in the preparation of a thesis, dissertation, or a journal article. Literature reviews are also common in a research proposal or prospectus (the document that is approved before a student formally begins a dissertation or thesis). The main types of literature reviews are: evaluative, exploratory, and instrumental. A fourth type, the systematic review, is often classified separately, but is essentially a literature review focused on a research question, trying to identify, appraise, select and synthesize all high-quality research evidence and arguments relevant to that question. A meta-analysis is typically a systematic review using statistical methods to
effectively combine the data used on all selected studies to produce a more reliable result.94

Following is the review of literature related to present research arranged in conceptual manner.

**Works on Social Support.**

**Lijuan Zhang; Shupeng Zhang; Ying Yang; Caina Li** (2017)95, in their article ‘Personality and Individual Differences’ hold that the present study seeks to examine the effect of attachment orientations on dispositional gratitude and whether it would be mediated by self-esteem and perceived Social Support. Nine-hundred-and-twenty-eight Chinese college students completed the Self-esteem Scale (SES), the Multidimensional Perceived Social Support Scale (MPSSS), the Experiences in Close Relationships Inventory (ECR), and the Gratitude Resentment and Appreciation Test (GRAT). It was revealed that both attachment avoidance and attachment anxiety were negatively associated with dispositional gratitude. Medialional analyses showed that attachment avoidance was indirectly related to dispositional gratitude through perceived Social Support and self-esteem, whereas attachment anxiety exerted effect on dispositional gratitude both directly and indirectly through self-esteem. These findings highlight the importance of attachment security for cultivating virtues such as dispositional gratitude and contribute to a more complete understanding of self- and other-representations.

**Raknes Solfrid** (2017)96 in Negative Life Events, Social Support, and Self-Efficacy in Anxious Adolescents opines that to examine the prevalence and correlates of anxiety in a community sample of adolescents. Knowing the prevalence and characteristics of anxious
adolescents is valuable to improve anxiety prevention strategies and interventions. Cross-sectional data about anxiety were collected via a school survey from a community sample of Norwegian adolescents aged 12–17 (N = 1719). Based on scores from the Spence Children's Anxiety Scale, the adolescents were categorized as not anxious or anxious. Logistic regression analysis was performed to access the impact of each factor on the likelihood that participants would report an elevated level of anxiety. A total of 22% of the adolescents were categorized as anxious. Female gender, experienced negative life events, low Social Support, and low self-efficacy were associated with elevated level of anxiety. The high prevalence of anxiety in adolescents demonstrates the importance of improved prevention interventions targeting anxious adolescents. We argue that addressing is the responsibility of not only the individual adolescents and their families but also schools, school health services, and policy makers. School-based interventions that increase Social Support and self-efficacy would probably be particularly beneficial for anxious adolescents.

Melanie P J Schellekens; Rie Tamagawa; Laura E Labelle; Michael Speca; Joanne Stephen; Elaine Drysdale; Sarah Sample; Barbara Pickering; Dale Dirkse; Linette Lawlor Savage; Linda E Carlson. (2017) in their article ‘Mindfulness-Based Cancer Recovery (MBCR) Versus Supportive Expressive Group Therapy (SET) for Distressed Breast Cancer Survivors: Evaluating Mindfulness and Social Support as Mediators’ analyse that despite growing evidence in support of mindfulness as an underlying mechanism of mindfulness-based interventions (MBIs), it has been suggested that nonspecific therapeutic factors, such as the experience of Social Support, may contribute to the positive effects of MBIs. In the present study, we examined whether change in
mindfulness and/or Social Support mediated the effect of Mindfulness-Based Cancer Recovery (MBCR) compared to another active intervention (that is, Supportive Expressive Group Therapy (SET)), on change in mood disturbance, stress symptoms and quality of life. A secondary analysis was conducted of a multi-site randomized clinical trial investigating the impacts of MBCR and SET on distressed breast cancer survivors (MINDSET). We applied the causal steps approach with bootstrapping to test mediation, using pre- and post-intervention questionnaire data of the participants who were randomised to MBCR (n = 69) or SET (n = 70). MBCR participants improved significantly more on mood disturbance, stress symptoms and Social Support, but not on quality of life or mindfulness, compared to SET participants. Increased Social Support partially mediated the impact of MBCR versus SET on mood disturbance and stress symptoms. Because no group differences on mindfulness and quality of life were observed, no mediation analyses were performed on these variables. Findings showed that increased Social Support was related to more improvement in mood and stress after MBCR compared to support groups, whereas changes in mindfulness were not. This suggests a more important role for Social Support in enhancing outcomes in MBCR than previously thought.

Jonas Hansson; Anna-Karin Hurtig; Lars-Erik Lauritz; Mojgan Padyab, (2017) in ‘Swedish Police Officers' Job Strain, Work-Related Social Support and General Mental Health’ investigated the association between psychosocial job characteristics and general mental health among police officers and the extent to which Social Support at work plays a role in this association. The findings are based on a cross-sectional survey. A written questionnaire was assessed by 714 police officers volunteered to participate in the study.
The participants completed a series of validated instruments assessing job demand, control and Social Support at work (JDCS); general mental health (GHQ); and socio-demographic characteristics. High job strain was associated with low levels of work-related Social Support. Moreover, poor mental health was associated with low levels of work-related Social Support, active work and high job strain. The joint effect of high job strain and low levels of work-related Social Support had a significant effect on poor mental health. Work-related Social Support buffered job strain to some extent. Workforce health promotion policies should attempt to reduce job strain and emphasise the importance of work-related Social Support. Knowledge about police officers' general mental health and policymakers' support for police officers may have positive effects on the performance of the police force.

Nwoke, Mary Basil; Onuigbo, Evelyn N; Odo, Victor Okechukwu (2017), in ‘Social Support, Self-Efficacy and Gender as Predictors of Reported Stress among Inpatient Caregivers’, examined the predictive role of Social Support, self-efficacy and gender on self-reported stress among inpatients' caregivers. One hundred and sixty eight (36 males and 132 females) inpatients' caregivers were sampled from University of Nigeria Teaching Hospital (97) and Niger Foundation Hospital (71) all in Enugu, Nigeria. Three instruments were used for the data collection, namely, Multidimensional Scale of Perceived Social Support (MSPSS), New General Self Efficacy Scale (NGSES), and the Perceived Stress Scale (PSS). The study adopted a cross sectional design and Multiple Regression was used for data analysis. Results showed that Social Support negatively predicted inpatient caregivers' reported stress ($\beta = -.28, p < .001$). Gender significantly predicted stress among the inpatients' caregivers ($\beta = .35, p < .001$). Findings were discussed and implications of the study highlighted.
Liu Xiaoqun Does (2017) in Perceived Social Support Mediate or Moderate the Relationship between Victimisation and Suicidal Ideation among Chinese Adolescents? holds that bullying is a common problem in school. Engagement in bullying has been known to have many adverse effects, even including suicide. Examining which factor will moderate or mediate the pathway from victimisation to suicidal ideation is needed to develop effective intervention initiatives. This study aimed to examine the mediator and moderator roles of perceived Social Support in the relationship between victimisation and suicidal ideation. The participants in the study were 946 Chinese adolescents (402 girls, 544 boys) who ranged in age from 11 to 16 years old. The results showed that 48.1% of these adolescents reported being bullied in school. Victimisation was positively correlated with suicidal ideation. There was evidence that perceived Social Support buffered, as well as partially mediated, the relationship between victimisation and suicidal ideation. Results suggest that helping students to seek more support from their parents and peers may be an effective bullying intervention program.

Lu Weixu; Hampton Keith N (2017) in ‘Beyond the Power of Networks: Differentiating Network Structure from Social Media Affordances for Perceived Social Support’analyse that existing research suggests that social media use is associated with higher levels of social capital—the resources contained within a person's network of friends, family, and other acquaintances. However, in predicting access to these resources, it has been impossible to distinguish the affordances of social media from the underlying advantage of maintaining a favorable social network of relationships on- and offline. Based on data from a representative, national survey, we compare the relationship between social network structure and various activities on Facebook for one type of
resource: informal Social Support in the form of companionship, emotional support, and tangible aid. In addition to a positive association between number of close ties, overall network size and diversity and Social Support, we find that Facebook status updates and private messaging are independently associated with perceived support. We argue that these affordances are an outcome of the “pervasive awareness” provided by social media.

Jin Kuan Kok, (2017)102 ‘Coping Abilities and Social Support of Myanmar Teenage Refugees in Malaysia’, evaluated that a high number of Myanmar refugees in Malaysia fled their home countries due to political turmoil. Officially, more than 33,000 of them are children below the age of 18. Psychological distress for teenage refugees was reported, but the study of coping abilities and Social Support employed by teenage refugees is lacking. We have used a concurrent mixed method approach to collect data from 115 Myanmar adolescent refugees from six different education centres around Klang Valley in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Adolescent Coping Scale and the Social Support Measure were used to measure coping abilities and Social Support of the teenage refugees. Two open-ended questions and a focus group interview were designed to collect qualitative data from the research participants. Results showed that subscales Non-Productive Coping were significantly correlated with Social Support Measure at $p < .01$. Findings from the qualitative analysis revealed that financial, social and academic were the three main challenges. The coping strategies used by the participants were problem-focused, avoidance and Social Support. Our participants also utilized personal conviction such as religion and cultural values as coping strategies. Social support is a much needed aspect which could further enhance their coping abilities.
Mohammad Saeed Shafiei; Meysam Nematollahi (2016)\textsuperscript{103} in ‘Supporting Individual and Society As one of the Principles of Citizenship Rights in Islamic Republic of Iran’, find that citizenship rights is an obvious issue and one must defend the rights of citizens; but at the same time, we must consider the social realities of a society. When one speaks of the rights of citizens in a society, it does not Mean to abide it and this right must be respected especially by government officials. To achieve this objective, the emphasis on understanding, implementation, and observance of citizenship rights should become as a culture and the government should do its supportive measures and efforts fairly and accurately so that social anomalies that are rooted in the lack of abiding citizenship rights, do not spread in the society. Therefore, it should be said that citizens, society, and the government are the three vertices if citizenship rights triangle, as the existence of all vertices is necessary. In this article, we discuss the concepts of citizenship rights and evaluate and assess the supporting principles of the individual and society which are considered as the government’s duties. The reason for studying this issue is to find out why to support individual and society rights? Is this support a citizenship right? The aim of this study is to review citizenship rights including socio-political rights, economic rights and social welfare, judicial and cultural rights as well as supporting principles of the individual and society. To do this study, articles, and various books were studied and fundamentals of supporting the individual and society were developed and extracted. This review showed that supporting individual and community are including citizenship rights, and has been emphasized in all laws and international conventions.

\textbf{Locus of Control in Politics.}
Mohamed M Mostafa (2016) in ‘Post-Materialism, Religiosity, Political Orientation, Locus of Control and Concern for Global Warming: A Multilevel Analysis across 40 Nations’, investigated factors influencing concern for global warming among 40 nations. Due to the hierarchical nature of the data, the study uses multilevel and Bayesian multilevel modeling to cross-culturally test the influence of nations' wealth, CO2 emissions, post-materialistic tendencies, religiosity, political orientation, and Locus of Control on concern for global warming. The results from 40 nations contradict the affluence hypothesis. The general pattern of the results shows that concern for global warming is a global phenomenon and not unique to the wealthy nations. We also found that concern for global warming is driven by religiosity, political orientation and internal Locus of Control. The findings of this paper highlight the importance of simultaneously assessing individual- and contextual-level variables in determining concern for global warming across nations.

Galindo Oscar; Ardila Rubén (2012) in their article ‘Psychology and Poverty: Influence of Influence of Locus of Control, Self-Efficacy and Learned Helplessness’ made a psychological study of poverty has developed to a large extent during the last 10 years. Research has been carried out and books and scientific papers have been published in several areas of psychology. Recent findings have indicated that there is a relationship between living in poverty and the development or presence of certain psychological characteristics, some of them individual (personality traits, tendency to mental disorders, differences in intelligence, and specific skills), also differences in language development, concepts acquisition, motivation, and other variables. Among the most important for social mobility are Locus of Control, self-efficacy, absence of depression, and to have
positive networks support. In this paper we present a review of the contributions of psychology for the understanding of poverty, and describe a descriptive study of self-efficacy, Locus of Control and learned helplessness, based on the hypothesis that there is a great level of helplessness in people from low socioeconomic levels. Participants were 30 people of 1 and 2 socioeconomic levels according to Sisben (a classification system used in Colombia), from Bogotá (Bosa, San Cristobal and Suba), and neighboring towns, Anolaima and La Mesa (Cundinamarca). Two scales were applied to the participants: General Self-Efficacy Scale (of Baessler and Schwarzer) and Locus of Control (Rotter); a semi-structured interview was applied to each participant in his/her home, after having established contact with community leaders and established rapport with the families. Results were in agreement with findings from other contexts concerning Locus of Control and self-efficacy. A great level of learned helplessness was found in the vocalizations of the participants. Other categories such as family dynamics, time perception and future planning are discussed based on previous scientific findings and the strategies and policies for poverty eradication at the world level. Other relevant factors were religious beliefs and the perception of politics and democracy. Findings are discussed in relation to policies for poverty eradication at the world level, and psychology's contribution for the understanding and modification of Attitudes, behaviors and cognitions associated with poverty.

Junqi Shi; Zhuo Chen, (2012)¹⁰⁶ in their article ‘Psychometric Properties of a Chinese Translation of the Political Skill Inventory’, analysed that Ferris and colleagues defined political skill in organizations as “the ability to effectively understand others at work and to use such knowledge to influence others to act in ways that enhance one's personal
and/or organizational objectives.” In this study, the psychometric properties of a Chinese translation of the Political Skill Inventory were investigated, supporting construct, convergent, discriminant, and criterion validities. The results suggested that the Chinese translation retained a four-factor structure. Political skill was positively correlated with self-monitoring, conscientiousness, political savvy, emotional intelligence, extra-version, agreeableness, and proactive personality, and was negatively correlated with trait anxiety and external Locus of Control. After controlling for age, sex, and job tenure, political skill was predictive of task performance, work contribution, and interpersonal help.

Philip N Murphy; Lisa D Riley; Abbie R Kempson; Michelle Wareing; Lindsay C Jones (2007), in ‘Illicit Drug Use and Political Involvement amongst Contemporary Young British Citizens: A Psychological Perspective’ argued that the apparent alienation of young Britons from involvement in conventional politics, as seen by their low turnout in the 2001 general election, may be partly due to the mismatch between their experience of, and Attitudes towards, illicit drugs, and the traditional policies of the mainstream parties which have favoured their continued prohibition (e.g. Lilley, 2001). In the absence of direct evidence for such a relationship, other evidence from both the illicit drug use and political literatures respectively was examined from the viewpoint of the psychological mediation of behaviour in both areas. It was concluded that illicit drug use might not be regarded as normal behaviour by young people to the extent argued by some researchers, and that given the range of personal social Meanings which users have been found to attach to this behaviour, great caution was needed when inferring social and political Attitudes in this population. Important future research could include an examination of Locus of Control and self-efficacy beliefs, especially with those involved
in active campaigning on drug related issues. Until such research is conducted, the hypothesized relationship between illicit drug use and political behaviour remains a matter of conjecture.

Aron O'Cass (2003) in his study ‘Electoral Choice: The Effect of Voter Control and Involvement on Satisfaction and Voting Stability’, examines the electoral psychology of voters, focusing on voters' Locus of Control, perceived risk, voter decision involvement and electoral control and positive affect as determinants of political satisfaction and voting stability in elections. The results indicated that Locus of Control influences voters' perceived risk and feelings of electoral control in elections. Further, Locus of Control and perceived risk influence voter decision involvement, which in turn influences perceived electoral control. Also, voter decision involvement and positive affect influence satisfaction. These, in turn, influence the propensity to vote for the same candidate or party over time (stability of voting behavior).

Frank J Prerost (1993) in his study ‘Locus of Control as a Factor in the Appreciation of Election Year Political Cartoons’, views that Reference group membership has been viewed as the major factor influencing appreciation of political cartoons in an election year. This study examined the variable of Locus of Control in relation to appreciation of political cartoons among 80 men and 80 women undergraduates who were undecided potential voters during the 1992 presidential campaign. Internal scorers showed greater appreciation; men and women showed different patterns of response.

Jean-Charles Chebat Amp; Pierre Filiatrault (1984) in ‘Locus of Control, Economic Crisis and Political Affiliations’, investigated The relation between Locus of Control and political affiliations in the context of an economic setback. The Rotter I-E
Locus of Control Questionnaire was administered to 409 undergraduate students. Findings suggest that internals are more inclined to accept social and political changes and externals are more affected by economic crisis.

**Works on Attitude in Politics.**

**Bode, Leticia** (2017)\(^{111}\) in *Feeling the Pressure: Attitude about Volunteering and their Effect on Civic and Political Behaviors*, examines the evolving nature of volunteering among American youth, ages 12 to 17, focusing on emergent pressures to volunteer, as required by high schools or to improve one's employment or education prospects after graduation. Using survey data (\(N = 736\), Mean age = 14.78, 75.1% white, 49.1% female), it finds these pressures are prevalent, related to a desire to volunteer, and both of these motivations are positively associated with volunteering. It further concludes that volunteering supplements, rather than replaces or subsumes both online and offline political behaviors among youth. This has important implications for how we understand the role of volunteering in the youngest American age cohorts, and practical implications for educators and civic proponents in terms of determining what actually increases volunteering activity.

**Dobrowolsky Alexandra; Macdonald Fiona; Raney Tracey; Collier Cheryl N; Dufour Pascale; Bittner Amanda; Goodyear-Grant Elizabeth**, (2017)\(^{112}\) in ‘Digging Deeper into the Gender Gap: Gender Salience as a Moderating Factor in Political Attitude’ says we know how sex (rather than gender) structures political preferences, but researchers rarely take into account the salience or importance of gender identity at the individual level. The only similar variable for which, salience is commonly taken seriously is partisanship, for which direction and importance or strength are both
considered imperative for measurement and analysis. While some scholars have begun to look at factors that may influence intragroup differences, such as feminism (Conover, 1988), most existing research implicitly assumes gender salience is homogenous in the population. We argue that both the content of gender identity (that is, what specifically is gender identity, as opposed to sex) as well its salience should be incorporated into analyses of how gender structures political behaviour. For some, gender simply does not motivate behaviour, and the fact that salience moderates the impact of gender on behaviour requires researchers to model accordingly. Using original data from six provincial election studies, we examine a measure of gender identity salience and find that it clarifies our understanding of gender's impact on political Attitudes.

**Faricy Christopher** (2017) in ‘Partisanship, Class, and Attitude towards the Divided Welfare State’ analyses that the United States has a divided social welfare state split between public programs and tax subsidies for private benefits. Moreover, this separation is mapped onto divisions of political party and socioeconomic class. Democratic elites prefer creating and expanding public programs that assist the working poor and Republicans prefer using tax subsidies to help wealthier citizens pay for social services and benefits. Are these relationships among partisanship, socioeconomic class, and patterns in social spending reflected in public opinion Do Democratic voters and the working poor favor public social programs over private Are Republican voters more likely to support tax subsidies for private welfare over public spending My analysis shows that while both public spending and tax breaks enjoy similar levels of support in the aggregate, there are partisan and class differences in support for direct social spending versus tax subsidies for social welfare.
Irina Ciornei; Ettore Recchi (2017) in ‘At the Source of European Solidarity: Assessing the Effects of Cross-Border Practices and Political Attitude’ discuss the concept of European solidarity by distinguishing between transnational and international solidarity. The former refers to support for institutional arrangements aimed at sharing economic risks at the individual level, while the latter entails public agreement to share economic risks at the Member State level. We explore the joint role of cross-border interactions and political Attitudes in fostering solidarity ties among Europeans through multilevel modelling based on the 2012 Eurobarometer 77 survey. The article shows that transnational experiences do not have the same effect on different forms of European solidarity, limiting transnational and enhancing international solidarity. Egalitarian individuals are more prone to EU-wide solidarity, with cross-border practices affecting their level of solidarity, while not altering those of the rest of the population. In particular, we find that cross-border practices make egalitarians more inclined to international and less to transnational solidarity.

Kristjen B Lundberg; B Keith Payne; Josh Pasek; Jon A Krosnick, (2017) in ‘Racial Attitudes Predicted Changes in Ostensibly Race-Neutral Political Attitude under the Obama Administration’, opine that past research demonstrated that racial prejudice played a significant role in the 2008 presidential election, but relatively less is known about the relationship between prejudice and public opinion throughout the Obama administration. In the present research, we examined not only whether racial Attitudes were associated with evaluations of Obama and his administration, but also whether they may have influenced the development of more general political Attitudes during the early years of the Obama administration. We investigated this question using panel data from a
nationally representative sample of Americans interviewed between September 2008 and July 2010. Racial Attitudes measured prior to the election predicted early disapproval of President Obama's handling of important issues. Early disapproval of President Obama's performance, in turn, predicted later perceptions of whether the state of the nation was improving. Further, the divergence between high-prejudice and low-prejudice individuals in their perceptions of the state of the nation became greater over time, consistent with the idea that racial Attitudes were more powerfully expressed in political judgments as time passed.

Rekker, Roderik; Keijser, Loes; Branje, Susan; Meeus, Wim (2017) in their cohort-sequential longitudinal study ‘The Dynamics of Political Identity and Issue Attitudes in Adolescence and Early Adulthood’, among 1302 Dutch youths examined the dynamics of political identity (e.g., Democrat or Rightist) and issue Attitudes between age 12 and 30. Some theories propose that voters form an identity early in life that subsequently determines Attitudes. Other theories contrarily argue that Attitudes are a cause of identity. However, research on this controversy has never focused on the crucial phase of adolescence. Results revealed that youths formed an identity consistent with prior Attitudes more than vice versa. Highly educated youths most often adjusted their Attitudes to their identity, which explained an emerging education gap in identity-Attitude consistency. Finally, findings suggested that early cultural Attitudes establish an identity that may subsequently determine economic Attitudes.

Jeremy Castle (2017) in ‘Survey Experiments on Candidate Religiosity, Political Attitudes, and Vote Choice’ hold that, because identification with and affect toward social groups is a primary heuristic for citizens, the social group profiles of candidates are
important for electoral behaviour. We focus on an increasingly important element of candidates’ social characteristics: their levels of religiosity and secularism. We argue that as religious groups and identities become structured less by what religion they are and more by how religious they are (or are not), candidate religiosity and secularism should condition the impact of political orientations such as partisanship and cultural policy Attitudes on vote choice. Highly religious candidates should attract more support from Republicans and from cultural conservatives, while overtly secular candidates should appeal more to Democrats and cultural liberals. Using a survey experiment in which respondents evaluate a state legislative candidate with varying levels of religiosity and secularism, we find strong support for our argument.

Using two survey experiments Mara Ostfeld (2017)\textsuperscript{118}, in ‘The Backyard Politics of Attitude toward Immigration’ reconsidered the role that the racialized physical traits and level of assimilation of salient immigrants play in shaping Attitudes toward immigration. In the first experiment, a nationwide sample of 767 White, non-Latino adults was exposed to a story about a family of undocumented immigrants living in the Unites States who were at risk of deportation. Subjects were randomly assigned to view a version of the story in which the immigrants were depicted with light skin and stereotypically Eurocentric features, or dark skin and stereotypically Afrocentric features, and their level of assimilation to mainstream American culture was suggested to be high or low. Similar to previous research, the study's results show that assimilation has a direct effect on Attitudes toward immigration. Yet in contrast to previous studies, the radicalized physical traits proved to be a much more important factor in shaping Attitudes toward immigration than previously demonstrated. The role of an immigrant's radicalized physical traits was
replicated in a second survey experiment of 902 White, non-Latino adults. Overall, the findings shed new light on how media depictions of immigrants are affecting immigration attitudes, as well as the nuanced ways that race continues to shape public opinion in the United States today.

**Nathan W Allen (2017)**, in ‘Ummah or Tribe? Islamic Practice, Political Ethnocentrism, and Political Attitudes in Indonesia’ suggests that existing research has uncovered a link between religious practice and political ethnocentrism. Religious individuals are relatively inclined to both support policies that benefit their own ethnic group and support political competitors seeking to represent them. These findings are broadly consistent with a large body of literature that examines the relationship between religion and ethnic prejudice. To date, empirical research has concentrated overwhelmingly on Western, Christian contexts. There is, however, reason to believe that Islamic practice may produce more universalistic beliefs and Attitudes. This paper examines the relationship between religious participation and political ethnocentrism in Indonesia, this world’s largest Muslim-majority country. Using survey data collected during the lead-up to the 2009 national elections, this paper examines the relationship between religious practice and expressed preference for co-ethnic political leadership. It finds that a respondent’s self-reported level of religious activity strongly correlates with stated preference for co-ethnic leadership. These findings bolster confidence that the relationship between religious participation and ethnocentrism holds beyond Western Christian contexts. For Indonesia, deepening Islamic practice could thus predict a rise in ethnocentrism, threatening the country’s reputation for tolerance.
Gerry Stoker (2017), in ‘Complacent Young Citizens or Cross-Generational Solidarity? AN Analysis of Australian Attitudes to Democratic Politics’, analyses that negativity towards mainstream politics is at an all-time high, with young people often targeted as the issue. However, are young people really to blame for political malaise?

This article seeks to make sense of contemporary debate about political disenchantment in Australia using a cluster analysis to compare levels of complacency across generational cohorts. In this, we find no evidence to support the idea that Australians of any age cohort are complacent about their democracy. Although, there is some evidence of attitudinal differences between cohorts, criticisms of the practice of politics are also widely shared. Moreover, a majority of citizens appear to favour a mix of reforms combining mechanisms to open-up representative politics with opportunities for more direct intervention. To this end, we rebuke the narrative of a specific apathetic or disconnected Australian age cohort.

Niels Spierings (2017), in ‘Gender, Populist Attitudes and Voting: Explaining the Gender Gap in Voting for Populist Radical Right and Populist Radical Left Parties’, suggests that empirical studies have demonstrated that compared to almost all other parties, populist radical right (PRR) parties draw more votes from men than from women. However, the two dominant explanations that are generally advanced to explain this disparity – gender differences regarding socio-economic position and lower perceptions regarding the threat of immigrants – cannot fully explain the difference. The article contends that it might actually be gender differences regarding the conceptualisation of society and politics – populist Attitudes – that explain the gender gap. Thus, the gap may be due, in part, to differences in socialisation. The article analyses EES 2014 data on
voting for the populist radical right and the populist radical left in nine European countries. Across countries, the gender gap in voting for the PRR is indeed partly explained by populist Attitudes. For populist radical left parties, the results are less clear, suggesting that populism has different Meanings to voters on the left and on the right.

**Thomas J Johnson** (2017) in ‘Blinded by the Spite? Path Model of Political Attitudes, Selectivity, and Social Media’, holds that despite fears that selective exposure and selective avoidance could deepen polarization and negatively affect the democratic process, few studies have directly studied this phenomenon. This study explores whether selective exposure and avoidance to blogs, social network sites, and Twitter directly influence confidence in Congress and the president or more indirectly through polarization. This study suggests that fears of selective exposure, selective avoidance, and polarization infecting the democratic process appear overstated. First, polarization was positively related to confidence in Congress and the president. Second, selective exposure to social media sites strengthens confidence in the president and in Congress. Twitter boosts confidence in Congress. Third, selective avoidance had a negative influence on other measures, which suggests people seek both information that challenges their views as well as ones that supports them. Finally, selective exposure and avoidance proved weak indicators of polarization. Instead, strength of partisanship is the stronger predictor of confidence in Congress and the president.

**Christina Mölders; Niels Van Quaquebeke** (2017)‘Some Like it Hot: How Voters’ Attitude towards Disrespect in Politics Affects their Judgments of Candidates’, analyse that in public debates, political candidates often attack their opponents disrespectfully. Research revealed mixed effects of such behaviour on voters’ candidate judgments. In
order to understand these results, we argue that it is necessary to consider onlookers’
genral attitude towards disrespect in politics. Across an experimental design (N=229)
and a field study (N=199), we found that voters who consider disrespect a “necessary
evil” in the political arena judged disrespectful politicians more favourably with regard to
both communion and agency. Furthermore, they displayed a higher intention to vote as
well as actually voted more in favour of disrespectful candidates compared to voters who
disapproved of disrespect in politics. The results show that the success of a disrespectful
communication strategy substantively depends on the audience.

Mark Littler (2017) in ‘Rethinking Democracy and Terrorism: A Quantitative
Analysis of Attitudes to Democratic Politics and Support for Terrorism in the UK,
suggests that the relationship between democracy and terrorism remains a source of
significant debate, with academic evidence suggesting that democracy both inhibits and
encourages acts of terrorism and political violence. Accepting this apparent contradiction,
this paper argues that a more nuanced approach to understanding political systems,
focussing on the subjective perceptions of individual actors, may allow these differences
to be reconciled. Using regression analysis undertaken with UK data from the European
Values Study, the results shows how Attitudes to politics may frame assessments of the
intrinsic valence—or attractiveness—of political participation, support for terrorism, and the
implications this may have for both counter-terrorism and counter-extremism policy.

Ching-Hsing Wang (2016) in ‘Personality Traits, Political Attitudes and Vote Choice:
Evidence from the United States’, analyses that past studies have documented the
significant relationships between personality traits and voter turnout, but we know less
about whether personality traits influence individual vote choices. This study examines
whether such attitudinal factors as party identification, feeling thermometers toward the candidates, policy preferences and executive approval mediate the effects of personality traits on vote choice in the United States. Using data from ANES 2012, this study finds no direct relationship between personality traits and vote choice. More importantly, the results reveal that through previously mentioned attitudinal factors, higher levels of extraversion, conscientiousness and emotional stability indirectly decrease the probability of voting for Obama, whereas a higher level of openness to experience indirectly increases the probability of voting for Obama. Nevertheless, agreeableness only exerts an indirect, positive influence on vote choice via executive approval. Overall, this study provides insight into the relationship between personality traits and vote choice and makes up for the insufficiency in the study of personality and voting behaviour.

Susan Banducci; Laurel Elder; Steven Greene; Daniel Stevens, (2016) in ‘Parenthood and the Polarisation of Political Attitudes in Europe’ suggest that becoming a parent can affect the lives of men and women by introducing salient new social roles and identities, altered social networks and tighter constraints on financial resources and time. Even though modern family life has evolved in many important respects, parenthood continues to shape the lives of men and women in very different ways. Given that parenthood can change the lives of men and women in profoundly different ways, it seems that it would bring about changes in the way women and men think about politics and policy issues. Using data from the Wave 4 of the European Social Survey, this article investigates how parenthood, and the distinctions of motherhood and fatherhood, influence Attitudes. The findings suggest that parenthood can have a polarising effect on
Attitudes, and that the polarising effect is most evident in countries where there is less support from the state for parental responsibilities.

**Troy Gibson; Christopher Hare** (2016)\(^{127}\), in ‘Moral Epistemology and Ideological Conflict in American Political Behavior’ hold that, the nature and extent of polarization in the American electorate remains fiercely disputed. This study investigates the depth of ideological and value cleavages in political behavior by examining the influence of adherence to three categories of moral epistemology: pre-modern (morality is absolute, and stems from the guidance of a supernatural source), modern (morality is absolute, and can be determined through scientific and rational Means), and postmodern (morality is non-absolute, and stems from the subjective values of individuals or groups). Multiple correspondence analysis and multiple regression are used to analyze data from Pew's 2008 U.S. Religious Landscape Survey. Pre-modern adherence exerts a general rightward effect and postmodern adherence exerts a general leftward effect on political Attitudes. Among politically attentive respondents, moral epistemology promotes ideological constraint across the economic, social, and foreign policy issue domains. These findings indicate that ideological divisions in the American electorate are at least partly reflective of fundamental differences in beliefs about the nature and sources of moral knowledge.

**Iain Wilson** (2016)\(^{128}\), in ‘Does International Mobility Change Chinese Students' Political Attitudes? A Longitudinal Approach’, analysed that many thousands of Chinese students come to ‘Western' countries to study every year, and they probably include many of the country's future leaders. We need to know how this might affect their social and political Attitudes, and how it may influence China's relationship with other major powers. There is good evidence that students who have returned from abroad (haiguipai)
differ from students who remained in China, but this does not prove that going abroad changed their Attitudes. This study tracks the Attitudes of some Chinese students while they are abroad, and finds little evidence of change. We should be cautious about assuming that studying abroad substantially reshapes Chinese students’ political Attitudes without further longitudinal evidence.

**Benjamin G Bishin; Thomas J Hayes; Matthew B Incantalupo; Charles Anthony Smith (2016)**, in ‘Opinion Backlash and Public Attitudes: Are Political Advances in Gay Rights Counterproductive?’. Hold that one long-recognized consequence of the tension between popular sovereignty and democratic values like liberty and equality is public opinion backlash, which occurs when individuals recoil in response to some salient event. For decades, scholars have suggested that opinion backlash impedes policy gains by marginalized groups. Public opinion research, however, suggests that widespread Attitude change that backlash proponents theorize is likely to be rare. Examining backlash against gays and lesbians using a series of online and natural experiments about marriage equality, and large-sample survey data, we find no evidence of opinion backlash among the general public, by members of groups predisposed to dislike gays and lesbians, or from those with psychological traits that may predispose them to lash back. The important implication is that groups pursuing rights should not be dissuaded by threats of backlash that will set their movement back in the court of public opinion.

**Mcgregor R Michael; Moore Aaron A; Stephenson Laura B (2014)**, in ‘Political Attitude and Behaviour in a Non-Partisan Environment: Toronto 2014’, examine that voting behaviour in municipal elections is understudied in Canada. Existing research is
limited by the type of data (aggregate instead of individual-level) and the cases evaluated (partisan when most contests are non-partisan). The objective of this study is to contribute to this literature by using individual-level data about a non-partisan election. To do so, we use data from the Toronto Election Study, conducted during the 2014 election. Our research goals are to evaluate whether a standard approach to understanding vote choice (the multi-stage explanatory model) is applicable in a non-partisan, municipal-level contest, and to determine the correlates of vote choice in the 2014 Toronto mayoral election in particular. Our analysis reveals that, although it was a formally non-partisan contest, voters tended to view the mayoral candidates in both ideological and partisan terms. We also find that a standard vote choice model provides valuable insight into voter preferences at the municipal level.