

## **Questionnaire**

Protocol Title: Examining the Role of Solvability in Americans' Responses to Humanitarian Crises

Principal Investigator: Lauren Kogen

**Respondents are randomly assigned to one of 3 experimental conditions:**

- CONDITION 1: High solvability
- CONDITION 2: Low solvability
- CONDITION 3 (CONTROL)

**[Informed consent page]**

You are invited to take part in a research study. It will take approximately 7 minutes. Participants who complete the study will be paid \$0.70. In addition, all participants will be entered into a lottery for a \$75 Amazon gift card. The winner will be selected at random and contacted via the Mechanical Turk system so he or she can collect the gift card. The winner will be able to collect the gift card anonymously.

Title of the Research Study: Research Survey on Attitudes toward Global Health Issues  
Principal Investigator: Lauren Kogen, [lauren.kogen@temple.edu](mailto:lauren.kogen@temple.edu), 917-847-4285

**Title of the Research:** Research Survey on Attitudes toward Global Health Issues

**Investigator:** Lauren Kogen

**Why am I being invited to take part in this research?** We invite you to take part in this research study because you live in the United States, are 18 years of age or older, and speak English.

**What should I know about this research?**

- Whether or not you take part is up to you.
- You can choose not to take part.
- You can agree to take part and later change your mind.
- Your decision will not be held against you.

**Who can I talk to about this research?** If you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or think the research has hurt you, contact the research team:

Lauren Kogen  
[Lauren.Kogen@temple.edu](mailto:Lauren.Kogen@temple.edu)  
215-204-6306  
Temple University School of Media and Communication  
2020 North 13<sup>th</sup> St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19122

This research has been reviewed and approved by an Institutional Review Board. You may talk to them at (215) 707-3390 or email them at [irb@temple.edu](mailto:irb@temple.edu) for any of the following:

- Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
- You cannot reach the research team.
- You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
- You have questions about your rights as a research subject.
- You want to get information or provide input about this research.

**Why is this research being done?** The purpose of the study is to assess people's attitudes toward global health issues.

**How long will I be in this research?** The survey will take approximately seven minutes.

**What happens if I agree to be in this research?** You will be asked your opinions about global health issues.

**What happens to the information collected for this research?**

The data collected via MTurk will be anonymous, and your confidentiality will be maintained to the degree permitted by the MTurk technology. However, no guarantees can be made regarding the interception of data sent via the Internet by any third parties.

**What will I be paid for taking part in this research?** If you agree to take part in this research, we will pay you \$0.70 for your time and effort. In addition, all participants will be entered into a lottery for a \$75 Amazon gift card. The winner will be selected at random and contacted via the Mechanical Turk system so he or she can collect the gift card. Federal tax law requires you to report this payment as income to the Internal Revenue Service.

Please check the box below if you understand the above and agree to take part in this research study.

I understand and want to participate in this survey.

**[Demographic characteristics]**

1) What is your gender?

- Male
- Female

2) Which of the following describes your ethnicity or race?

- White
- Black
- Asian
- Hispanic
- Other or mixed race

3) What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_ (Please type your age in years)

4) Which category best represents your household's total income last year before taxes and other deductions?

- \$10,000 to \$19, 999
- \$20,000 to \$29, 999
- \$30,000 to \$39, 999
- \$40,000 to \$49, 999
- \$50,000 to \$59, 999
- \$60,000 to \$69, 999
- \$70,000 to \$79, 999
- \$80,000 to \$89, 999
- \$90,000 to \$99, 999
- \$100,000 and higher

What is the highest grade of school or year of college you have completed?

- None, or grades 1-8
- High school (grades 9-11, no degree)
- High school graduate or GED
- Some college (1-4 years, no degree)
- Associate's degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Master's degree
- Professional school degree or doctorate

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...

- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent
- Another party (please specify)
- No preference

In general, do you think of yourself as...

- Extremely liberal
- Liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Moderate, middle of the road
- Slightly conservative
- Conservative
- Extremely conservative

**IF CONDITION 1 OR 2:**

You will now be shown a brief message about malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. Please take a few minutes to read the message, and then we will ask you a few questions about your reactions to it.

**IF CONDITION 3:**

You will now be shown a brief message about air pollution in China. Please take a few minutes to read the message, and then we will ask you a few questions about your reactions to it.

**RESPONDENTS ARE SHOWN THEIR RESPECTIVE STIMULUS.** *[For examples of the stimuli, please refer to the "Experimental Stimuli" attachment.]*

**[Emotional arousal]**

Please tell us the extent to which you felt any of the following emotions when viewing the message.

	1 (not at all)	2	3	4	5	6 (a lot)
Sad						
Anxious						
Happy						
Angry						
Guilty						
Annoyed						
Content						
Irritated						

**IF CONDITION 3:**

Now we are going to ask you a few questions about the global health issue of malaria, a disease spread by mosquitos.

**[Sympathy]**

Please tell us the extent to which you think each statement applies to how you feel towards victims of malaria.

	Completely disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Completely agree
I feel sympathy for them.						
I feel compassion for them.						
My heart goes out to them.						
I feel sorry for them.						
I feel concern for them.						

**[Attitudes toward U.S. foreign aid for malaria]**

The U.S. government currently funds efforts to address malaria in sub-Saharan Africa and elsewhere, providing bed nets, insecticide, treatments, and diagnostic tests, and helping train health workers on malaria prevention and treatment. All in all, do you favor or oppose the use of U.S. government funds to help address malaria in Africa?

Favor  
Oppose

Please tell us to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
The U.S. government should do more to address the global problem of malaria.						
The U.S. government should allocate more of its budget to addressing malaria.						
The U.S. government cannot be expected to do more than it already does to address the problem of malaria.						

**[Intentions to get involved]**

How likely would you be to do each of the following?

	Very unlikely	Unlikely	Somewhat unlikely	Somewhat likely	Likely	Very likely
Seek out more information about malaria and its effects worldwide.						
Sign up for emailed news updates on the issue of malaria.						
Participate in a charity event (e.g., walkathon, music concert, bake sale) to support efforts to address malaria.						
Ask people you know (e.g., friends, family, acquaintances) to donate money to a charitable organization working to address malaria.						

**[Actual donation behavior]**

As a token of our appreciation for your participation in this study, you have been entered into a lottery for the chance to win an Amazon gift card worth \$75. The winner will be selected at random.

If you are the winner, you have the option of keeping the full amount or, if you like, you can also decide to donate some or all of it to the Against Malaria Foundation, a charitable organization working to address the global health issue of malaria. If you win, we will send the organization a check for the amount you specify, and any remaining amount will be given to you in the form of the Amazon gift card.

Please indicate which you prefer:

If I win, I would like to keep the full \$75 gift card amount.

If I win, I would like to donate: [please type amount]

If you do not win the gift card, how likely are you to make a donation, within the next year, to a charity focused on malaria?

Very unlikely

Unlikely

Likely

Very likely

**[Perceived impact of own help and policy]**

Please tell us the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements.

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
Average citizens can make a real difference in helping victims of malaria.						
I feel like I can make a real difference in helping to address the problem of malaria.						
I don't think that I personally can have an impact on the issue of malaria.						
By donating money, I feel like I can help bring about positive change in the fight against malaria.						
Donating money is an effective way to help address the problem of malaria.						
By donating money, I can have a real impact on victims of						

malaria.						
U.S. government programs can make a real difference in helping victims of malaria in Africa.						
I don't think that U.S. government programs can have an impact on the problem of malaria.						
U.S. government funding can help bring about positive change in the global fight against malaria.						
Funding efforts to fight malaria is <u>not</u> an effective way for the U.S. government to address the problem.						

**[Altruism as a trait]**

During the last 12 months, have you done any of the following? Have you...

	Yes	No
Donated money to a church or other religious institution.		
Donated money to a charity <i>other than</i> a church or other religious institution.		

**Manipulation checks (perceived solvability)**

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Agree	Strongly agree
Malaria can be eliminated.						
It is very costly to effectively prevent and treat malaria worldwide.						
Interventions to prevent and treat malaria have been very effective in saving lives.						
Malaria can be prevented and treated at a relatively low cost.						
It is not possible to fully eliminate the problem of malaria.						
I feel like the global health problem of malaria can be solved in my lifetime.						

## [DEBRIEFING/END OF SURVEY]

Thank you for participating in this study about various influences on people's opinions about the global health issue of malaria. Malaria is a disease that kills one child every two minutes, but it is also a disease that has been reduced by almost half over the past decade due to successful interventions. If you would like to learn more about this disease and ways to address it, please visit [Malaria No More's](#) website.

Once the survey has closed in a few weeks, all participants will be paid \$0.70 through the Mechanical Turk system. In addition, the winner of the gift card lottery will be selected at random and contacted via the Mechanical Turk system. The winner will be able to collect the gift card anonymously.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding this study, you can contact Lauren Kogen at [Lauren.Kogen@temple.edu](mailto:Lauren.Kogen@temple.edu). If a member of the research team cannot be reached or you want to talk to someone other than those working on the study, you may contact the Temple University Research Administration with any question, concerns, or complaints by calling (215) 707-9741.

To receive payment for completing the survey, please enter the following code into the box on the survey's Mechanical Turk HIT page:  
\${e://Field/ResponseID}

High solvability text:

Malaria is a mosquito-transmitted disease that kills nearly half a million people every year. Most of these deaths occur in children under the age of five in sub-Saharan Africa.

But experts have determined that with the right interventions, ***malaria can be eliminated in Africa***. The disease has already neared elimination status in two African countries.

Prevention and treatment interventions like insecticide-treated mosquito bed nets and anti-malarial drugs are effective tools in helping to eliminate malaria. A bed net, which kills and repels mosquitoes, costs only \$10, and treatment costs a mere \$1 per dose. Major efforts to scale up interventions have yielded impressive results, with 5.9 million children's lives saved since 2001.

Low solvability text:

Malaria is a mosquito-transmitted disease that kills nearly half a million people every year. Most of these deaths occur in children under the age of five in sub-Saharan Africa.

Experts have determined that, even with the right interventions, ***it is unclear if malaria can be eliminated in Africa***. The death toll will likely remain high in the years to come.

Prevention and treatment interventions like insecticide-treated mosquito bed nets and anti-malarial drugs help control malaria. However, their effectiveness is undermined when bed nets are of poor quality, failing to kill and repel mosquitoes, and funding is scarce, falling far short of the \$5.1 billion needed each year to achieve universal access to interventions. Despite major efforts, malaria still kills one child every two minutes.

Control:

Air pollution in Chinese cities is of increasing concern to China's government and its citizens. Particulates in the air can adversely affect human health and also have impacts on climate and precipitation. According to the National Environmental Analysis released in January 2013, 7 of the 10 most air polluted cities in the world are located in China, including Taiyuan, Beijing, Urumqi, Lanzhou, Chongqing, Jinan and Shijiazhuang. Air pollution in China is at an all-time high.

In October 2013, a dense wave of smog began in Northeast China. Unseasonably warm temperatures coupled and very little wind coincided with the opening of a new coal-powered municipal heating system. Record densities of fine particulates were measured in major Northeastern cities shortly thereafter.