APPENDIX

Table A1 Frequency distribution of age, gender & education by experimental groups

		Condition 1		Condition 2		Condition 3		Condition 4	
		n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Age									
	18–29 years	84	25.0	80	23.8	88	26.2	84	25.0
	30–49 years	84	24.9	89	26.4	83	24.6	81	24.0
	50–75 years	84	24.9	79	23.4	83	24.6	91	27.0
Gender									
	Male	132	26.2	117	23.2	134	26.6	121	24.0
	Female	120	23.8	131	26.0	118	23.4	135	26.8
	Other	0	-	0	-	2	100	0	-
Education									
	High	116	23.0	137	27.1	120	23.8	132	26.1
	Low	136	26.9	111	22.0	134	26.5	124	24.6
Total									
		252	25.0	248	24.6	254	25.1	256	25.3

Education High = with university entrance qualification.

Table A1 Original English and German wording of the items used

Item	Englisch	German
Social desirability (ESS Round 10, 2020)		
1	Gay men and lesbians should be free to live their own life as they wish.	Schwule und Lesben sollten ihr Leben so führen dürfen, wie sie es wollen.
2	If a close family member was a gay man or a lesbian, I would feel ashamed.	Wenn ein nahes Familienmitglied schwul oder lesbisch wäre, würde ich mich schämen.
3	Gay male and lesbian couples should have the same rights to adopt children as straight couples.	Schwule und lesbische Paare sollten die gleichen Rechte haben, Kinder zu adoptieren, wie Paare, die aus Mann und Frau bestehen.
Emotions (ISSP, 2021)		
4	All things considered, doctors can be trusted.	Alles in allem: Ärzten kann man vertrauen.
5	The medical skills of doctors are not as good as they should be.	Die medizinischen Fähigkeiten und Kenntnisse von Ärzten sind nicht so gut wie sie sein sollten.
6	Doctors care more about their earnings than about their patients.	Ärzte interessieren sich mehr fürs Geldverdienen als für ihre Patienten.
Behavior (ISSP, 2021)		
7	In the past, information on the internet affected my health behaviour in a positive way.	In der Vergangenheit haben Informationen aus dem Internet zu einem besseren Gesundheitsverhalten bei mir geführt.
8	In the past, information on the internet helped me understand what a doctor tried to explain to me.	In der Vergangenheit haben Informationen aus dem Internet mir geholfen zu verstehen, was ein Arzt oder eine Ärztin mir zu erklären versuchte.
Attitude (ISSP, 2021)		
9	The internet is useful to help people decide if their symptoms are serious enough to go to the doctor.	Das Internet kann Menschen bei der Entscheidung helfen, ob ihre Symptome ernst genug sind, um zum Arzt zu gehen.
10	The internet is useful to check that the doctor is giving people appropriate advice.	Das Internet kann Menschen dabei helfen zu überprüfen, ob der Arzt sie angemessen berät.
11	It is not easy to distinguish between reliable and unreliable health information on the internet.	Es ist nicht einfach zu unterscheiden, ob Informationen aus dem Internet zu Gesundheit verlässlich sind oder nicht.
Intellectual curiosity (BFI-2, Danner et al. 2016)		
12	I am someone who is curious about many different things.	Ich bin vielseitig interessiert.
13	I am someone who avoids intellectual, philosophical discussions.	Ich meide philosophische Diskussionen.
14	I am someone who is complex, a deep thinker.	Es macht mir Spaß, gründlich über komplexe Dinge nachzudenken und sie zu verstehen.

15	I am someone who has little interest in abstract ideas.	Mich interessieren abstrakte Überlegungen wenig.

Table A3 Answer distributions in percentages by scale version & item topic

		ESS	ISSP	GIP	BFI
Social desirability					
Item 1			χ^2 (12) = 5.76, p = 0.928		
Scale points	1	54.4	59.3	57.1	60.9
	2	24.6	21.0	24.8	20.7
	3	13.5	12.9	13.0	12.1
	4	4.8	3.6	3.1	2.7
	5	2.8	3.2	2.0	3.5
Item 2			χ^2 (12) = 21.75, p < 0.05		
Scale Points	1	4.0	4.0	5.9	4.3
	2	8.7	4.8	9.8	7.4
	3	22.6*	14.1	16.9	11.3
	4	14.7	16.5	16.5	16.8
	5	50.0	60.5	50.8	60.2
Item 3			χ^2 (12) = 8.41, p = 0.752		
Scale points	1	41.3	48.0	41.3	44.9
	2	29.0	22.6	24.0	26.2
	3	16.3	16.1	18.1	15.6
	4	6.3	7.7	8.3	5.1
	5	7.1	5.6	8.3	8.2
Emotion					
Item 4			χ^2 (12) = 15.86, p = 0.198		
Scale Points	1	13.1	10.5	12.6	9.8
	2	51.2	51.6	53.9	43.0
	3	26.2	31.0	24.4	35.2
	4	6.7	4.0	6.3	7.8
	5	2.8	2.8	2.8	4.3
Item 5			χ^2 (12) = 18.02, p = 0.115		
Scale points	1	9.9	8.9	8.7	10.9
	2	26.2	21.8	29.5	20.7
	3	32.1	33.5	29.5	41.4
	4	25.4	31.9	28.0	22.7
	5	6.3	4.0	4.3	4.3
Item 6			χ^2 (12) = 11.03, p = 0.526		
Scale Points	1	12.7	7.7	11.0	12.9
	2	24.6	21.8	22.0	21.9
	3	35.7	39.9	43.7	40.2
	4	20.6	25.0	18.1	21.1
	5	6.3	5.6	5.1	3.9
Behaviour					
Item 7			χ^2 (12) = 29.91, p < 0.01		
Scale points	1	7.1	7.7	7.1	5.9
	2	19.8	23.4	25.6	19.9

	3	48.8*	41.5	34.6	32.4
	4	17.9	18.5	22.8	27.0
	5	6.3	8.9	9.8	14.8
Item 8			χ^2 (12) = 32.15, p < 0.01		
Scale Points	1	11.9	8.9	10.2	5.9
	2	29.4	37.9	39.4	28.1
	3	38.5	32.3	31.1	32.0
	4	13.1	12.9	11.0	22.3*
	5	7.1	8.1	8.3	11.7
Attitude					
Item 9			χ^2 (12) = 28.06, p < 0.01		
Scale Points	1	7.1	9.7	8.7	7.4
	2	33.3	24.6	32.7	20.7
	3	28.2	30.2	31.9	36.7
	4	23.4	25.8	20.5	20.3
	5	7.9	9.7	6.3	14.8*
Item 10			χ^2 (12) = 20.53, p = 0.058		
Scale points	1	7.5	7.3	7.9	6.6
	2	29.4	26.2	28.0	18.0
	3	34.1	36.3	34.6	46.1
	4	19.4	23.8	22.8	18.8
	5	9.5	6.5	6.7	10.5
Item 11			χ^2 (12) = 14.47, p = 0.272		
Scale Points	1	23.4	21.0	27.2	32.0
	2	44.8	48.0	41.3	37.9
	3	25.4	23.8	23.6	23.8
	4	4.4	6.5	5.5	3.9
	5	2.0	0.8	2.4	2.3
Intellectual curiosity					
Item 12			χ^2 (12) = 18.36, p = 0.105		
Scale points	1	30.2	32.7	32.7	29.3
	2	53.6	49.6	44.5	45.7
	3	13.9	13.7	20.9	21.1
	4	2.0	2.8	0.4	3.1
	5	0.4	1.2	1.6	0.8
Item 13			χ^2 (12) = 5.09, p = 0.955		
Scale Points	1	11.1	10.9	9.8	10.9
	2	22.2	20.2	24.8	25.4
	3	34.5	34.7	33.9	29.3
	4	22.6	24.6	20.9	25.0
	5	9.5	9.7	10.6	9.4
Item 14			χ^2 (12) = 11.95, p = 0.450		
Scale points	1	17.5	18.1	21.7	21.5
	2	50.0	47.2	43.7	41.8
	3	25.8	22.2	23.2	27.0
	4	4.4	9.3	8.3	5.9

	5	2.4	3.2	3.1	3.9
Item 15			χ^2 (12) = 11.83, p = 0.460		
Scale points	1	7.9	6.5	6.7	9.4
	2	24.2	25.0	23.2	17.2
	3	32.1	37.5	37.8	40.2
	4	27.8	25.0	23.2	23.8
	5	7.9	6.0	9.1	9.4

*Categories where χ^2 is significant and the adjusted residual is at least +/- 3.03 (Bonferroni adjusted critical value; MacDonald & Gardner, 2000).

Table A4 Item means and standard errors (SE; in Parentheses) by scale version & item topic

	ESS *(bipolar, no modifiers, less extreme end point)*	ISSP *(unipolar, no modifiers, extreme end point)*	GIP *(bipolar, modifiers, extreme end points)*	BFI *(unipolar, modifiers, extreme end points)*	*F-value*	*p*
Social desirability						
Item 1	1.77 (0.06)	1.71 (0.06)	1.68 (0.06)	1.67 (0.06)	0.482	0.695
Item 2	3.98 (0.08)	4.25[c] (0.07)	3.96 [b] (0.08)	4.21 (0.07)	3.941	< 0.01
Item 3	2.09 (0.08)	2.00 (0.08)	2.18 (0.08)	2.05 (0.08)	0.917	0.432
Emotion						
Item 4	2.35 (0.06)	2.37 (0.05)	2.33[d] (0.06)	2.54[c] (0.06)	3.061	< 0.05
Item 5	2.92 (0.07)	3.00 (0.07)	2.90 (0.07)	2.89 (0.06)	0.650	0.583
Item 6	2.83 (0.07)	2.99 (0.06)	2.84 (0.06)	2.81 (0.07)	1.573	0.194
Behavior						
Item 7	2.96[d] (0.06)	2.98[d] (0.07)	3.03 (0.07)	3.25[ab] (0.07)	4.097	< 0.01
Item 8	2.74[d] (0.07)	2.73[d] (0.07)	2.68[d] (0.07)	3.06[abc] (0.07)	6.631	< 0.001
Attitude						
Item 9	2.92 (0.07)	3.01 (0.07)	2.83[d] (0.07)	3.14[c] (0.07)	3.813	< 0.01
Item 10	2.94 (0.07)	2.96 (0.07)	2.93 (0.07)	3.09 (0.06)	1.262	0.286
Item 11	2.17 (0.06)	2.18 (0.06)	2.15 (0.06)	2.07 (0.06)	0.780	0.505
Intellectual curiosity						
Item 12	1.89 (0.05)	1.90 (0.05)	1.94 (0.05)	2.00 (0.05)	1.019	0.383
Item 13	2.97 (0.07)	3.02 (0.07)	2.98 (0.07)	2.96 (0.07)	0.121	0.984
Item 14	2.24 (0.06)	2.32 (0.06)	2.28 (0.06)	2.29 (0.06)	0.299	0.826
Item 15	3.04 (0.07)	2.99 (0.06)	3.05 (0.07)	3.07 (0.07)	0.226	0.878

N = 1,010.

[a, b, c, d] Statistically significant difference to (a) ESS, (b) ISSP, (c) GIP, (d) BFI ($p < 0.05$).

Table A5 Means of response styles and quality indicators (SE; in Parentheses) by scale versions

	ESS *(bipolar, no modifiers, less extreme end point)*	ISSP *(unipolar, no modifiers, extreme end point)*	GIP *(bipolar, modifiers, extreme end point)*	BFI *(unipolar, modifiers, extreme end point)*	*F-Value*	*p*
Extreme responses	3.88 (0.21)	3.97 (0.19)	4.00 (0.20)	4.35 (0.10)	1.077	0.358
Disacquiescence	3.42 (0.14)	3.74 (0.14)	3.47 (0.14)	3.88 (0.13)	2.488	0.059
Acquiescence	7.30 (0.18)	7.06 (0.16)	7.36[d] (0.19)	6.67[c] (0.16)	3.378	< 0.05
Midpoint responses	4.28 (0.20)	4.20 (0.21)	4.17 (0.21)	4.45 (0.19)	0.380	0.767
Response differentiation	0.64 (0.01)	0.65 (0.01)	0.63 (0.01)	0.67 (0.01)	2.204	0.086
Response times	95.51 (3.15)	104.01 (3.21)	96.95 (3.22)	96.18 (2.85)	1.610	0.185

Extreme responding = scale points 1 or 5; Acquiescence = scale points 1 or 2; Disacquiescence = scale points 4 or 5; Midpoint responding = scale point 3.

[a. b. c. d] Statistically significant difference to (a) ESS, (b) ISSP, (c) GIP, (d) BFI ($p < 0.05$).

N = 1010, for response times n = 911 due to removing outliers.

Table A6 Sign. differences between item means (SE; in parentheses) by scale version & subgroup

	ESS *(bipolar, no modifiers, less extreme end point)*	ISSP *(unipolar, no modifiers, extreme end point)*	GIP *(bipolar, modifiers, extreme end points)*	BFI *(unipolar, modifiers, extreme end points)*	*F-value*	*p*	*N*
Total sample							1010
Item 2	3.98 (0.08)	4.25[c] (0.07)	3.96 [b] (0.08)	4.21 (0.07)	3.941	< 0.01	
Item 4	2.35 (0.06)	2.37 (0.05)	2.33[d] (0.06)	2.54[c] (0.06)	3.061	< 0.05	
Item 7	2.96[d] (0.06)	2.98[d] (0.07)	3.03 (0.07)	3.25[ab] (0.07)	4.097	< 0.01	
Item 8	2.74[d] (0.07)	2.73[d] (0.07)	2.68[d] (0.07)	3.06[abc] (0.07)	6.631	< 0.001	
Item 9	2.92 (0.07)	3.01 (0.07)	2.83[d] (0.07)	3.14[c] (0.07)	3.813	< 0.01	
Education high							505
No significant differences							
Education low							505
Item 2	3.81[d] (0.11)	4.19[c] (0.09)	3.75[bd] (0.12)	4.23[ac] (0.93)	5.72	< 0.001	
Item 7	2.93[d] (0.09)	3.04[d] (0.09)	3.13[d] (0.09)	3.45[abc] (0.09)	6.34	< 0.001	
Item 8	2.65[d] (0.10)	2.79[d] (0.09)	2.63[d] (0.09)	3.31[abc] (0.08)	12.37	< 0.001	
Item 9	2.91[d] (0.10)	2.99 (0.10)	2.93[d] (0.09)	3.33[ac] (0.09)	4.25	< 0.01	
Male							504
Item 8	2.70[d] (0.09)	2.70 (0.10)	2.71[d] (0.10)	3.07[ac] (0.11)	3.55	< 0.05	
Female							504
Item 4	2.38[d] (0.08)	2.51 (0.07)	2.40[d] (0.08)	2.71[ac] (0.08)	3.96	< 0.01	
Item 8	2.79 (0.10)	2.76 (0.09)	2.63[d] (0.09)	3.04[c] (0.09)	3.54	< 0.05	
Age young							495
Item 7	2.72[d] (0.08)	2.86 (0.08)	2.84 (0.09)	3.13[a] (0.11)	3.44	< 0.05	
Age old							515
Item 2	3.97[d] (0.10)	4.33 (0.09)	4.23 (0.10)	4.36[a] (0.08)	3.66	< 0.05	
Item 8	2.92 (0.10)	2.75[d] (0.10)	2.78[d] (0.10)	3.18[bc] (0.09)	4.39	< 0.01	

Education High = with university entrance qualification.
Age old = 40–75 years; age young = 18–39 years.
[a, b, c, d] Statistically significant difference to (a) ESS, (b) ISSP, (c) GIP, (d) BFI ($p < 0.05$).

Table A7 Sign. differences between response styles & quality indicators by scale version & subgroup

	ESS *(bipolar, no modifiers, less extreme end point)*	ISSP *(unipolar, no modifiers, extreme end point)*	GIP *(bipolar, modifiers, extreme end point)*	BFI *(unipolar, modifiers, extreme end point)*	*F-Value*	*p*	*N*
Total sample							1010
Acquiescence	7.30 (0.18)	7.06 (0.16)	7.36[d] (0.19)	6.67[c] (0.16)	3.378	< 0.05	
Education high							505
No significant differences							
Education low							505
Disacquiescence	3.02[d] (0.21)	3.53 (0.19)	3.32 (0.21)	3.81[a] (0.18)	2.84	< 0.05	
Acquiescence	7.34[d] (0.28)	6.86 (0.23)	7.22[d] (0.28)	6.17[ac] (0.21)	4.47	< 0.01	
Male							504
No significant differences							
Female							504
No significant differences							
Age young							495
No significant differences							
Age old							515
No significant differences							

Extreme responding = scale points 1 or 5; Acquiescence = scale points 1 or 2; Disacquiescence = scale points 4 or 5; Midpoint responding = scale point.
Education High = with university entrance qualification.
Age old = 40–75 years; age young = 18–39 years.
For response times $n = 911$ due to removing outliers.
[a. b. c. d] Statistically significant difference to (a) ESS, (b) ISSP, (c) GIP, (d) BFI ($p < 0.05$).

Table A8 German translations of scales, English source and literal explanatory back-translations

Condition 1: ESS (bipolar, less extreme end point labels, no modifiers for 2nd and 4th option)	Condition 2: ISSP (unipolar, extreme end point labels, no modifiers for 2nd and 4th option)	Condition 3: GIP (bipolar, extreme end point labels, modifiers for 2nd and 4th option)	Condition 4: BFI (unipolar, extreme end point labels, modifiers for 2nd and 4th option)
German			
Stimme stark zu	Stimme voll und ganz zu	Stimme voll und ganz zu	Stimme voll und ganz zu
Stimme zu	Stimme zu	Stimme eher zu	Stimme eher zu
Weder noch	Weder noch	Weder noch	Teils, teils
Lehne ab	Stimme nicht zu	Lehne eher ab	Stimme eher nicht zu
Lehne stark ab	Stimme überhaupt nicht zu	Lehne voll und ganz ab	Stimme überhaupt nicht zu
English			
Agree strongly	Strongly agree	Agree strongly	Agree strongly
Agree	Agree	Agree a little	Agree a little
Neither agree nor disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Neutral; no opinion
Disagree	Disagree	Disagree a little	Disagree a little
Disagree strongly	Strongly disagree	Completely disagree	Disagree strongly
The English version of the GIP-Scale is our own translation. The other English language versions are existing source scales.			
English (literal, explanatory backtranslation)			
Strongly agree	Completely agree	Completely agree	Completely agree
Agree	Agree	Tend to agree	Tend to agree
Neither nor	Neither nor	Neither nor	Partly this, partly that
Reject	Disagree	Tend to reject	Tend to disagree
Strongly reject	Completely disagree	Completely reject	Completely disagree