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## Occupy Movement and other Citizen Desires for Government Changes

2/1/14 Edit

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**Abstract:** Personal opinion and demographic data on Occupy members and related community members are gathered via questionnaires and analyzed to clarify what Occupy members and other citizens want from government. The primary finding is that while Occupy members want a wide range of government improvements somewhat more strongly than non-Occupy citizens do, non-Occupy citizens also want these same changes (e.g. get the money out of politics, tax wealthier persons more than less wealthy, promote change in society by positive, selfless means). This suggests that the Occupy movement may indeed advocate for majority public opinion (“the 99%”). Secondary findings include a relationship between childhood abuse and perceiving society as abusive. And perceiving society as abusive is associated with stronger desires for improvements in government. Having a history of treatment for anxiety or depression is also associated with stronger desires for improvements in government. Larger, more diverse samples of citizens will be sought. The questionnaire is online to facilitate this.

**Introduction:** The Occupy Wall Street movement has found representatives throughout the United States and even in other countries. It claims to represent the desires of the 99%, the majority of citizens, for improvements in various government services, such as getting the money out of politics. Media reports of what Occupy members want and their overt expressions of desires have ranged widely from peaceful, constructive goals, such as providing food, medical care, jobs and housing for homeless citizens, to oppositional and troublesome goals, such as blocking ports, protesting in front of banks, and camping in public parks against ordinances. Objective opinion survey data has been of limited availability to measure reliably what Occupy members want and to measure whether and to what extent this might represent general public desires.

## Method.

The primary investigator attended an Occupy Eugene (Oregon) committee meeting in the fall of 2011 at the invitation of a friend from his church. About 25 local citizens were in attendance. The meeting consisted of those in attendance identifying themselves and then voicing their primary goal for the Occupy movement. The investigator wrote down the goals for his personal reference. He subsequently communicated with two of the leaders of this committee who eventually explained that an Occupy Eugene leader, Jamil Jonna, a PhD sociology graduate school candidate at the local university, was interested in research with a paper questionnaire that could be administered in the local Occupy tent camp. An initial 43-item questionnaire was created by the principal investigator. It included 24 items reflecting the goals expressed at the committee meeting and additional items to assess political orientation, demographic information, etc. This questionnaire was administered to approximately 50 persons at the local Occupy camp site in December of 2011. A somewhat expanded questionnaire was administered to another 45 persons at this same campsite a few weeks later. A further expansion of the questionnaire was then prepared. The final questionnaire administered to some local groups in paper version. It was also loaded on a website to facilitate data-gathering from a local community college and from other sources around the country.

The paper version was administered to groups of homeless persons at local church programs, including a Sunday breakfast and an overnight residence facility. The online version was completed by a variety of persons from different sources, including some from as far off as North Carolina. By early March data was available for 187 persons on the data common across all the questionnaires (43 items) and for as many as 96 persons on the expanded questionnaires of up to 82 items.

The paper questionnaire for study #3, which is the most inclusive of the three studies, is included as Appendix I.

## Results.

Data common across the first three studies through early March, 2012, were analyzed in several ways. The basic statistics for single items and for variables created are presented in Table 1.

In this Table, homelessness includes all who marked “1” for item 45 of the questionnaire, or who were above 18 years old and marked 2 (living with and dependent upon family), or who marked 3 (living with friends and not paying rent). “With partner” included all married or common law married persons. Students were considered to be employed, as were persons employed part-time.

The Occ31\_33 score is each person’s mean of items 31 through 33, which measure involvement with the Occupy movement by sleeping in an Occupy camp, participating in an Occupy protest event and/or attended an Occupy meeting, respectively.

The 64 persons who strongly agreed with all three of these items were identified for data processing as “Occupy members” and were contrasted to the 34 persons who strongly disagreed with these three statements. The means for these two groups are presented in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> columns of Table 1. The correlations between this status and each of the variables in column 1 are presented in the 6<sup>th</sup> column. A positive significant correlation reflects that the mean score for the Occupy group is statistically higher than for the non-Occupy group. It should perhaps be noted that most of the persons in the sample were tested in the camp or at functions for homeless persons; in effect, many other variables are controlled by this. Persons from this general population of often homeless, unemployed and down-on-their luck included some who were directly involved with Occupy movement activities and some who were not.

Referring to Table 1, for 22 of the 24 content items (items 1 – 24), which measure desired improvement in government services, the Occupiers are significantly higher than the non-occupiers. The mean scores reflect average opinions that are *all* above 3.5 on the five-point Likert scale format used to express opinions in the questionnaire. A score for an item of 3 means Average or Neutral. A score of 4 means Agree, and a score of 5 means Strongly Agree. Thus, an item with a mean score of 4.5 indicates that the persons in that group, on average, agreed or strongly agreed with the item. Typically in studies using this format, mean scores of 3.5 or higher are interpreted as indicating endorsement of the content in the item or scale of items.

While the Occupiers are generally higher than the non-Occupiers, for *both* groups the mean item scores for items 1-24 are all above 3.5. Both groups want improvement in government. Thus, as measured by this study, and for this sample of citizens, the Occupiers' concerns for improvement in government may indeed reflect majority citizen opinion. More varied and larger samples of non-occupiers are being sought by the investigators to check this.

As mentioned in the Methods section above, the content for these 24 items was based on opinions of citizens in an Occupy committee meeting. Thus, it can be considered to represent the Occupy movement to the extent that this group of approximately 24 persons was typical of the movement. They were apparently of wide variety, including homeless persons, university students, university and research institute professors/researchers, etc.

Thus, the present data suggests that Occupiers are more passionate about desires for government improvement than non-Occupy citizens but they express desires that are shared by many and perhaps the majority of citizens.

The 24 items were studied by factor analysis, using varimax rotation, which yielded three factors with Eigen values of 1 or greater that accounted for 52, 6 and 5 percent of the variance respectively. Scores for these were created simply by combining the values for items with loadings of .5 or higher on a factor. These were titled "Empower Citizens", "Common Good" and "Positive Activism". They correlated strongly with their respective factors (.78, .79 and .82). However, the content of the items within each factor was not easily condensed into a single concept and the three scores created by combining items correlated strongly each other (.79 or higher). Therefore, little seems gained by factor analysis above the meaning conveyed by the strong endorsement of Occupiers and Non-Occupiers of virtually all of the 24 content items in the study. It appears that the majority of citizens are likely to strongly want a wide range of government improvements of the sort reflected in these items. The Goal1-24 score is the mean item score across the 24 items. This score has a Cronbach alpha reliability of .96.

A subsequent sample of 32 mainstream protestant church members yielded similar data. For example their mean item scores for 22 of the 24 items measuring desired government improvements, were 4.00 or higher. On the remaining two they were above 3.80. This indicates agreement that each of these areas of government service should be improved. Comparing persons who endorsed liberalism with those who endorsed conservatism yielded only one significant difference on these 24 items. Conservatives were significantly lower on item 5,

“Our national government should provide universal health and dental care to all citizens”. However, the conservative mean score for this item, 4.18 versus 4.54 for liberals, was still in the “agree” range, indicating that conservatives in this sample endorse universal health care.

Table 1. Basic statistics (N = 153 to 187, as some persons left some items blank). Significant Pearson product moment correlations are indicated by \* and \*\* for the .05 level and .01 levels respectively.

Trait (V1, V2, etc. are questionnaire items).	Total sample Mean	Total range &/or Standard Deviation	Occupy N=64 Mean	Not Occupy N=34 Mean	Correlation between trait & Occupy vs not Occupy
Age	39.8	15-82, 16.2			
Education	13.9 years	2-22, 13.9			
Gender	120m, 56 f, 3 other				
High school GPA	3.1	1.97-4.60			
Have health insurance?	83 yes, 90 no				
Homeless?	84 of 175 yes				
Single/with partner	89s/43p				
Unemployed?	78 of 174 unempl.				
V1 (Variable 1, etc.)	4.51	.90	4.58	4.65	-.05
V2	4.61	.81	4.92	4.38	.41**
V3	4.58	.83	4.77	4.41	.26*
V4	4.62	.95	4.94	4.65	.26*
V5	4.54	1.03	4.80	4.24	.25*
V6	4.46	.98	4.75	4.26	.30**
V7	4.52	.89	4.81	4.27	.38**
V8	4.43	1.08	4.73	4.06	.34**

V9	4.34	1.03	4.73	3.76	.49**
V10	4.42	.98	4.73	4.18	.34**
V11	4.51	.95	4.83	4.21	.40**
V12	4.66	.81	4.92	4.47	.35**
V13	4.30	1.06	4.61	3.97	.32**
V14	4.39	.97	4.77	3.88	.48**
V15	4.36	1.06	4.66	3.94	.37**
V16	4.43	.99	4.70	4.44	.17
V17	4.38	1.05	4.83	4.12	.42**
V18	4.39	1.02	4.75	4.21	.39**
V19	4.50	.98	4.89	4.18	.47**
V20	4.53	.90	4.78	4.26	.32**
V21	4.62	.94	4.86	4.59	.41**
V22	4.65	.79	4.89	4.53	.35**
V23	4.37	1.05	4.81	3.91	.51**
V24	4.10	1.12	4.45	3.88	.26**
V25 Political liberal	3.43	1.38	3.17	3.62	-.16
V26 Political conserv.	2.38	1.36	2.56	1.91	.24*
V27 Political independ.	3.53	1.36	3.80	3.15	.23*
V28 Political green	3.79	1.25	3.94	3.41	.20
V29 Hum.Competitive	3.58	1.16	3.73	3.76	-.01
V30 Hum. Cooperative	3.62	1.12	3.73	3.03	.29*
V31 Slept in occ. Camp	3.25	1.84	5.00	1.00	1.00**
V32 Occ. Protest event	3.53	1.76	5.00	1.00	1.00**
V33 Occ. Meeting	3.51	1.77	5.00	1.00	1.00**
V34 Empathize Occupy	4.32	1.07	4.95	3.36	.69**
Occ31_33	3.43	1.53	-	-	-
Empower Citizens factor	4.78	4.00-5.00, sd=.30	4.77	4.08	.58**
Common Good factor	4.82	4.11-5.00,	4.82	4.40	.48**

		sd=.23			
Positive Activism fact.	4.73	2.14-5.00, sd=.51	4.73	4.16	.44**
Goal1_24	4.47	1-5.00, sd = .71			

Correlations between the Goal 1\_24 score and demographic and secondary variables were mostly insignificant, with a few exceptions: .18\* with liberalism, .21\*\* with green/environmentalism, .18\* with item 29 (Humans are primarily and naturally cooperative), .32\*\* with Occ31-33 (Occupy membership/involvement), and -.23\*\* with gender (women higher).

Another way to analyze the data is to look at the correlations between a given variable and the other variables. This was done for education, competition, cooperation and the political worldviews of liberal and conservative orientation. Years of education correlates .45\*\* with age, .29\*\* with high school grade point average, .28\*\* with having a partner (e.g. married), .37\*\* with having employment, .61\*\* with having housing, .20\*\* with having health insurance, -.15\* with Occupy involvement, -.25\*\* with seeing humans as basically competitive, .16\* with liberalism and -.27\*\* with conservatism. Thus, in this sample of citizens, higher education seems to carry with it many advantages, ranging from maintaining an intimate partner relationship to holding a job and having housing and insurance.

Seeing humans as basically competitive correlated -.25\*\* with years of education, -.16\* with high school grade point average, -.25\*\* with employment (having a job part or full time), -.32\*\* with having housing, and .42\*\* with conservative political orientation. The correlation with conservatism is consistent with prior studies of these variables by the author. These correlations as a whole suggest that some of the persons in this sample see life as a competitive struggle in which they are not faring well, perhaps because of poorer school grades, less education and lacking in employment and housing. They tend to gravitate toward conservative politics. This is consistent with theory by the author and mortality salience data in political psychology research that under threat persons tend to gravitate toward the conservative political orientation and related traits as a survival mechanism involving war, in-group protection, xenophobia, etc. (references).

Seeing humans as basically cooperative correlates .21\*\* with empathizing with the Occupy movement, .23\*\* with Occupy movement involvement, .18\* with desired improvement in government services and .17\* with conservatism. All but the last of these correlations is clearly understandable. The positive correlation with conservatism is unexpected but rather weak and perhaps a fluke.

Liberalism correlates .18\* with age, .16\* with education, -.17\* with gender (females higher), .24\*\* with housing (having a place to live), .27\*\* with having health insurance, .18\* with Occupy involvement, and .18\* with desired improvement in government services, all of which seem understandable.

Conservatism correlates -.27\*\* with education, -.25\*\* with employment, -.41 with housing, .17\* with Occupy involvement, .42\*\* with competition and .17\* with cooperation. This is an interesting mix, with unclear implications. Perhaps it reflects persons who feel down and out and empathize with the Occupy movement as a statement of stress and need and identify with others of like mind.

The third and longest questionnaire included measures of several additional variables, including history of mental health treatment, jail time, religious beliefs, childhood abuse and attitudes about oppositional and promotional activism.

The basic statistics for the persons who completed this questionnaire are presented in Table 2. The first several items (age, education, gender, etc.) provide demographic data on the sample. For the most part these demographics did not correlate significantly with either being an Occupy member (5<sup>th</sup> column) or desiring government service improvements (6<sup>th</sup> column). The exceptions were women being higher than men in wanting government services. Liberal political orientation also tended to predict desired government improvement.

Table 2. Basic statistics for persons who completed longest study questionnaire. N = 89-96 (some missing data). Significance levels .05\*, .01\*\*. Pearson product moment correlations.

Trait	Mean	Range & Standard Deviation	Chron-bach alpha reliability	Correlation with Occ31_33, Occupy member status	Correlation with Goal1_24, Desired government improvement



Age	42	15-82, 16.2		-.00	-.06
Education	14	8-22, 2.9		.02	.04
Gender	64% males	n/a		.00	-.34** (females higher)
High school GPA	3.2	2-4.06		-.14	.04
Have health insurance?	46% yes	n/a		-.10	.03
Homeless?	48% yes			.06	-.13
Partnered (married)	27% yes			-.11	.26
Employed?	32% unem- ployed			-.15	.07
Income	3-5,000/yr.	0 to 20k+		-.18	.00
Disabled?	14% yes			.10	.07
Intelligence (Item 44)	4.08 “above average”	2-5, .74		.10	.06
Vote? (item 50)	57% yes	n/a		.02	.10
Liberal	49% yes			-.04	.33**
Conservative	14% yes			.06	-.16
V71 Activism	2.26	1-5, 1.44		.59**	.47**
V72 OppAct	4.17	1-5, 1.08		.43**	.48**
V73 PromAct	3.40	1-5, 3.21		.26*	.22*
Occupy member (Items 31-33)	2.92	1.66	.87	1.00	.19
Goal1_24(item s 1-24).	4.38	1-5, .77	.96	.19	1.00
Mental illness tx (items 51&52)	2.13	1-5, 1.4	.86	.24*	.28**
Jail time (items 56&57)	2.10	1-5, 1.48	.78	.08	.13
Religiousness	3.40	1-5, 1.34	.80	.07	-.12

(items 58&59)					
Childhood abuse (Items 61-63)	2.22	1-5, 1.40	.85	.38**	-.02
Community abuse (Items 67-70)	2.80	1-5, 1.25	.88	.38**	.27**
Mental illness treatment hx.(items 51&52)	2.13	1-5, 1.35	.86	.24*	.28**
Drug and alcohol tx/use (53&54)	1.93	1-5	.55	.11	.11

A history of treatment for mental illness was mildly and positively associated with both Occupy membership (.24\*) and Desired government improvements (.28\*\*). Childhood abuse is associated with Occupy membership (.38\*\*). It is also associated with mental illness treatment (.29\*\*) and with feeling abused in one's community (the economy, authority and government itself (.50\*\*)). In turn, this feeling of community abuse is associated with both Occupy membership (.38\*\*) and Desired government improvements (.27\*\*).

Another dimension of particular interest to the principle investigator is the concept of activism itself and particularly the differences between oppositional and promotional activism. He defines oppositional activism as efforts to improve conditions or services for citizens by first opposing or tearing down existing institutions and systems. Promotional activism is defined as efforts to improve conditions or services for citizens by creating new institutions or systems. These activism dimensions were measured in the expanded questionnaire with three items (Appendix I), specifically items 71. I think of myself as a social and/or political activist, 72. I think it is worthwhile to change society by opposing bad institutions and systems and 73. I think it is worthwhile to change society by creating new and better institutions and systems without first opposing bad ones. In Table 1 these are V71 Activism, V72 OppAct and V73 PromAct.

The 91 or 92 persons in this sample, on average, see themselves as oppositional activists, as indicated by their mean item score of 4.17 on item 72. Their mean item scores on items 71 (activism) and 73 (promotional activism) are

in the average, “neutral”, range. The traits of activists in this group can be glimpsed by noting the correlations between item 71 and the other variables.

Those who see themselves as activists tend to think of themselves as oppositional activists (item 72) (.51\*\*), but not necessarily promotional activists (item 73) (.17). They tend not to see humans as fundamentally competitive (-.27\*\*). They tend to be actively involved with the Occupy movement (OC31-33) (.59\*\*). The activists tend to be older (.23\*), better educated (.29\*\*), homeless (-.25\*), have higher income (.24\*), voted in last Presidential election (.28\*\*), and to have histories of treatment for mental illness (.22\*). They tend to endorse the 24 goals for government improvement more strongly than do non-activists (.47\*\*).

Those who endorse oppositional activism (V72) tend to disavow conservative political orientation (-.25\*), identify with the Occupy movement (.38\*\*), are more educated (.29\*\*), tend to be homeless (-.23\*), tend to have voted in the last Presidential election (.25\*), tend to report childhood abuse (.32\*\*) and tend to endorse the 24 goals for government improvement (.48\*\*).

Persons in this sample who endorse promotional activism (V73) tend to endorse Conservative political orientation (.23\*), see humans as cooperative (.25\*), identify with the Occupy movement (.23\*) and endorse the 24 goals for government improvement (.22\*).

Religiousness was measured by items 58 (I am a very religious person) and 59 (I believe in God or another spiritual force that can guide my life). Religious persons by this measure tend to disavow liberalism (-.24\*) and endorse conservatism (.25\*). This is compatible with prior studies by the author which show religious fundamentalism to be associated with religiosity (frequent prayer, attendance at religious meetings, etc.) and conservatism.

Religiousness in the present study is also associated with seeing humans as basically cooperative (.29\*\*). This contrasts to prior findings of the principle investigator in which fundamentalism is associated with seeing humans as competitive. However, religiousness as measured in the present study is not religious fundamentalism as previously measured.

Persons in the present study who have spent time in jail (items 56 & 57) tend to endorse conservatism (.34\*\*), view humans as competitive (.25\*), be less educated (-.32\*\*), be males (.21\*), not have an intimate partner (-.33\*\*), not be employed (-.34\*\*) and tend to be homeless (.56\*\*). They tend not to have

insurance (-.38\*\*), have less income (-.47\*\*), see themselves as less intelligent (-.25\*), and as being lower on the Big Five personality traits of Conscientiousness (-.27\*\*) and Openness (-.38\*\*). They tend to report childhood abuse (.43\*\*) and treatment for mental illness (.24\*).

### Concluding remarks.

The present study demonstrates how citizen desires for improvements in government can be measured with a reliable questionnaire. Both Occupy members and non-Occupy citizens appear to want improvement in the same wide array of government services. Occupy members seem particularly interested in improved services, in part, it seems, because many of them have disadvantages that make life difficult for them without assistance.

Larger and more diverse samples of citizens to include other areas of the country and more persons with strong conservative political orientation should be sought to round out the immediate findings. The principle author is pursuing this. Other readers can promote this effort by contacting the author. The questionnaire is online, facilitating participation from anyone in the world with a basic understanding of English and with Internet access. This is the address:  
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/viewform?formkey=dGdUcHFJTUtdEdHINS0lncnA4X2JDQ3c6MQ#gid=0>

### Appendix I: Questionnaire for study #3: **Government and Community Services Questionnaire.** 1/6/12 edit.

This questionnaire was inspired by the Occupy Wall Street movement, about which citizens have opinions that range widely from pro to con. This study seeks opinions of all citizens on both sides of the controversy. It hopes to provide objective information that can inform the movement and the community in general. It gives citizens an opportunity to express their opinions about community and national problems. In a small way, it is an attempt to measure the “common good”. The core content for the first half of the questionnaire was gleaned by one of the primary researchers at a committee meeting of Occupy Eugene (Oregon) at which participants voiced their primary goals for the movement. The content for the second half seeks demographic and other data about childhood, employment, income and other issues to put opinion data in perspective.

The questionnaire was developed by William McConochie, Ph.D., of Political Psychology Research, Jamil Jonna, Ph.D. candidate, and Alicia Markus, sociology undergraduate major. Jamil and Alicia are students at the University of Oregon.

The questionnaire has about 80 items and takes about 20 minutes to complete.

A copy of the study findings will be made available to participants, as by an article published on the principal investigator's site, [Politicalpsychologyresearch.com](http://Politicalpsychologyresearch.com). The questionnaire data will be shared with the Occupy organization and with the wider community to help everyone understand their movement.

This study is not expected or intended to cause you discomfort or confusion. It is not intended to define the Occupy movement as a fringe element of society. If you have questions or concerns, for more information about this research project you can contact the primary researcher, Bill McConochie @ 541-686-9934 or [Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com](mailto:Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com). Bill is a Eugene psychologist in private practice who studies citizen attitudes related to political issues broadly defined.

If you are doing it for a class in school, your instructor may have certain expectations of you to earn class credit for participating. Otherwise, you don't have to participate in this study. You can discontinue it at any time without adverse consequences.

If you choose to participate, please answer items honestly so your data will be meaningful and useful for the study.

**Begin here:**

Please carefully read and indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the items below by circling one number each item, using this code:

Strongly <b>disagree</b>	Disagree	Neutral or between 2 and 4	Agree	Strongly <b>agree</b>
<b>1</b>	2	3	4	<b>5</b>

1 2 3 4 5    1. It is important that public media (radio, T.V., etc.) be objective and not biased in its reporting.

- 1 2 3 4 5 2. The government should hold Wall Street and big bank executives accountable for their roles in causing the financial meltdowns in recent years.
- 1 2 3 4 5 3. The government should reinstate and improve regulations of the financial industry to minimize future financial meltdowns.
- 1 2 3 4 5 4. As a nation we should strive to get the money out of politics, e.g. reverse the notion that corporations are people and therefore can contribute as much money as they want to candidate campaign accounts.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 5. Our national government should provide universal health and dental care to all citizens.
- 1 2 3 4 5 6. As a nation we need to promote more of a focus on “we”, the common good, and less focus on “me”, narrow self-interest.
- 1 2 3 4 5 7. We need to do more to protect the environment from degradation, as by reducing our use of fossil fuels.
- 1 2 3 4 5 8. We should develop a fair and adequate federal tax system that asks wealthier citizens to pay more in return for the opportunities our country has provided them to amass wealth.
- 1 2 3 4 5 9. We should do more to empower local communities to have control over how they protect and promote their local lifestyles.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 10. We need to reexamine the wisdom of outsourcing jobs to other countries to assure that there are family-wage jobs for all of our citizens first.
- 1 2 3 4 5 11. We need to do more to provide services to homeless citizens, including housing, counseling, employment opportunities, food and health care.
- 1 2 3 4 5 12. We need to do more to prosecute corruption in government itself, even at the level of top positions, such as the Supreme Court.
- 1 2 3 4 5 13. Governments need to find ways to fairly define “surplus wealth” and tax it appropriately.
- 1 2 3 4 5 14. Communities need to more effectively tap the wisdom of local citizens and help them have the power to express and realize it in community and government service.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 15. Movements such as the Occupy movement should focus on promoting positive, improved, selfless change in society.
- 1 2 3 4 5 16. The movement should take care to channel rage constructively.
- 1 2 3 4 5 17. The movement should strive to engage as many citizens as possible, seeking everyone’s opinions to find common ground.
- 1 2 3 4 5 18. The nation needs to “fix the political system”, improving government and political processes to be more effective in addressing problems.
- 1 2 3 4 5 19. Our nation needs a more sustained commitment to social justice.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 20. The movement needs to maintain a positive vision.
- 1 2 3 4 5 21. Our nation needs to “teach our children well”, improving public and private education.

- 1 2 3 4 5 22. The Occupy movement and the nation as a whole should maintain respect for all citizens and their needs.
- 1 2 3 4 5 23. The movement and nation should strive to empower all citizens politically, giving them opportunities for constructive actions they can do now.
- 1 2 3 4 5 24. We need to oversee, audit and regulate the Federal Reserve to protect the value of the dollar, as from inflation or deflation.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 25. Politically, I consider myself to be a liberal.
- 1 2 3 4 5 26. Politically, I consider myself to be a conservative.
- 1 2 3 4 5 27. Politically, I consider myself to be an independent.
- 1 2 3 4 5 28. Politically, I consider myself to be a “green”, environmentalist.
- 1 2 3 4 5 29. Human beings are primarily and naturally competitive.
- 1 2 3 4 5** 30. Human beings are primarily and naturally cooperative.
- 1 2 3 4 5 31. I have spent one or more nights sleeping and living at an Occupy camp in the past 6 months.
- 1 2 3 4 5 32. I have attended an Occupy protest event.
- 1 2 3 4 5 33. I have attended an Occupy meeting to discuss issues of community concern.
- 1 2 3 4 5 34. I empathize with and support the concerns of the Occupy movement.

**Please complete all of the following items:**

**35. Enter your age:** \_\_\_\_\_

**36. Enter your years of formal education** (high school graduate is 12 years):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**37. Enter your high school grade average** (C is 2.00, B is 3.00, A is 4.00):  
\_\_\_\_\_

**38. Indicate (e.g. circle) your gender (1, 2 or 3):** 1. Female 2. Male or  
3. Nontraditional (transgendered, intersex, or do not identify with either male or female gender).

**39. Indicate your marital status (circle one):** 1. Single; 2. Divorced;  
3. Separated;  
4. Married; 5. Widow or Widower 6. Common law marriage/partnership, 7.  
Other.

**40. Circle your primary employment status at present:**

1. Unemployed, not a student.
2. Employed full time.
3. Employed part-time.
4. Student half-time.
5. Student full-time.
6. Student and part-time or full-time employed.
7. Retired.

41. How many years have you been employed full time? \_\_\_\_\_

42. How many years have you been employed half-time? \_\_\_\_\_

43. How many years have you been unemployed when you would rather have been employed? \_\_\_\_\_

44. What are your three strongest employment skill sets (e.g. management, unskilled labor, skilled labor, office work, teaching, etc.): 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_

**45. Circle your housing situation:** 1. Homeless/unhoused, 2. Living with and dependent upon family, 3. Living with friends and not paying rent, 4. Renting with friend or on my own, 5. Buying own home or condo, or own it free and clear, 6. Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

46. Do you have health insurance? Yes No Other: \_\_\_\_\_

47. Annual personal income (circle it) (Note: if you are part of a family of 4 that has combined income of \$40,000, your "personal income is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of this, or \$10,000):  
1. Virtually zero. 2. Some, but less than \$500. 3. \$500 to \$1,000. 4. \$1,000 to \$3,000 5. \$3,000 to \$5,000. 6. 5,000 to 10,000 7. 10,000 to 15,000 8. 15,000 to \$20,000 9. \$20,000 or more.

48. How many years have you been on disability benefits, if any? Zero: \_\_\_\_\_, Some (number): \_\_\_\_\_

49. Estimate your intelligence level (circle it):

1. Well below average
2. Below Average.
3. Average
4. Above average
5. Well above average.



**50. Did you vote in the last Presidential election? Yes No.**

Please indicate how strongly you agree or disagree with the items below by circling one number or replacing one number with and “X” for each item, using this code. :

Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neutral or between 2 and 4	Agree	Strongly agree
<b>1</b>	2	3	4	<b>5</b>

- 1 2 3 4 5    51. I have been treated with medications and/or counseling for anxiety.
- 1 2 3 4 5    52. I have been treated with medications and/or counseling for depression.
- 1 2 3 4 5    53. I have been treated with medications and/or counseling for street drug or alcohol abuse.
- 1 2 3 4 5    54. I currently use street drugs and/or alcohol several times per week.
- 1 2 3 4 5**    **55.** I have been hospitalized for suicide attempt or other severe mental or emotional problems.
- 1 2 3 4 5    56. I have spent at least one night in jail.
- 1 2 3 4 5    57. I have been a jail inmate many times.
- 1 2 3 4 5    58. I am a very religious or spiritual person.
- 1 2 3 4 5    59. I believe in God or another spiritual force that can guide my life.
- 1 2 3 4 5**    **60.** I am a member of an ethnic minority other than White/Caucasian.
- 1 2 3 4 5    61. I was physically abused as a child.
- 1 2 3 4 5    62. I was mentally and/or emotionally abused as a child.
- 1 2 3 4 5    63. I was sexually abused as a child.
- 1 2 3 4 5    64. I grew up in a family with parents who were not divorced from each other.
- 1 2 3 4 5**    **65.** I was sometimes lacking in food, shelter or clothing as a child.

- 1 2 3 4 5    66. I felt lacking in love and support as a child.
- 1 2 3 4 5    67. It seems to me that government itself is abusive of people like me.
- 1 2 3 4 5    68. I feel abused by authority in general.
- 1 2 3 4 5    69. I feel abused by how our economy functions or doesn't function.
- 1 2 3 4 5    70. I feel abuse by my peers.**
- 1 2 3 4 5    71. I think of myself as a social and/ or political activist.
- 1 2 3 4 5    72. I think it is worthwhile to change society by opposing bad institutions and systems.
- 1 2 3 4 5    73. I think it is worthwhile to change society by creating new and better institutions and systems without first opposing bad ones.

74. What state and zip code are you in right now? (Oregon, Calif., Ill, etc.):  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one number in each of the following five rows to indicate where you fall on each of these personality traits:

75. Talkative, social, outgoing,...or...	1   2   3   4   5   6   7	... quiet, shy, introverted.
76. Argumentative critical, rude ...or...	1   2   3   4   5   6   7	... kind, helpful, trusting.
77. Thorough, organized, efficient ...or...	1   2   3   4   5   6   7	... careless, lazy, disorganized.
78. Nervous, tense, depressed ...or ...	1   2   3   4   5   6   7	... relaxed, calm, seldom upset.
79. Deep thinker,	1   2   3   4   5   6   7	... prefer routine activities,

imaginative, creative ...or...		not into art or literature.
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PLEASE CHECK YOUR ANSWER SHEET TO MAKE SURE YOU DID NOT SKIP ITEMS OR A PAGE BY MISTAKE.

Thank you!

Comments? (Say whatever you wish):

If you want to contact the principle investigator, tear off the bottom of this page:  
Bill McConochie, 541-686-9934; [Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com](mailto:Bill@politicalpsychologyresearch.com).