

# There is small Selection Pressure Favoring Conservatives

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## **Abstract**

Using the General Leftism scale developed in Bronski 2023 [1], we ask a 150 person sample on Prolific to fill out the scale both for themselves and their spouse. Using a narrow-sense heritability estimate of 0.5, we find a selection pressure of 0.037 SDs per generation in the conservative direction.

## **Introduction**

In a previous article [1], we showed that there is a paternal age effect on leftism (increasing leftism with increasing age of father when born), using a continuous classification based on three item sums regarding race, LGBT, and feminism [1]. As explained in the introduction of that article, this is indicative of mutational pressure increasing the incidence rate of leftism in the population. Furthermore, we showed, with a binary measurement of leftism, that older fathers and their wives were not more likely to be leftist than younger fathers and their wives [2].

Finding that there is no adequate measurement of the selection pressure on “general leftism” (a coherent concept per [1]) in the literature, we run a brief study to measure it.

## **Methods**

The continuous metric centers around three topics: LGBT, feminism, and race ideology. These dimensions are hypothesized to be common to empire decline, and covary due to being the result of mutational pressure on the same genes. Each question was on a Likert scale with the following answer choices: Strongly disagree, disagree, neutral, agree, and strongly agree.

The questions were as follows:

*G1. Is LGBT good?*

*G2. Homosexual behavior is fine when it is private and chaste.*

*G3. There is nothing wrong with public depictions of homosexual relationships.*

*G4. I support gay marriage.*

*G5. There is nothing wrong with attending a gay orgy.*

*G6. Children should be taught about gay sex in sex education classes.*

*F1. Is feminism good?*

*F2. The country would be better if women couldn't vote. (-1)*

*F3. Women should try to be married by the age of 25. (-1)*

*F4. The government should help ensure sexual equality by making sure women are not discriminated against in private hiring.*

*F5. Women should hold the majority of the positions of power in society.*

*F6. Marriage is oppressive for women, and monogamy should be moved away from.*

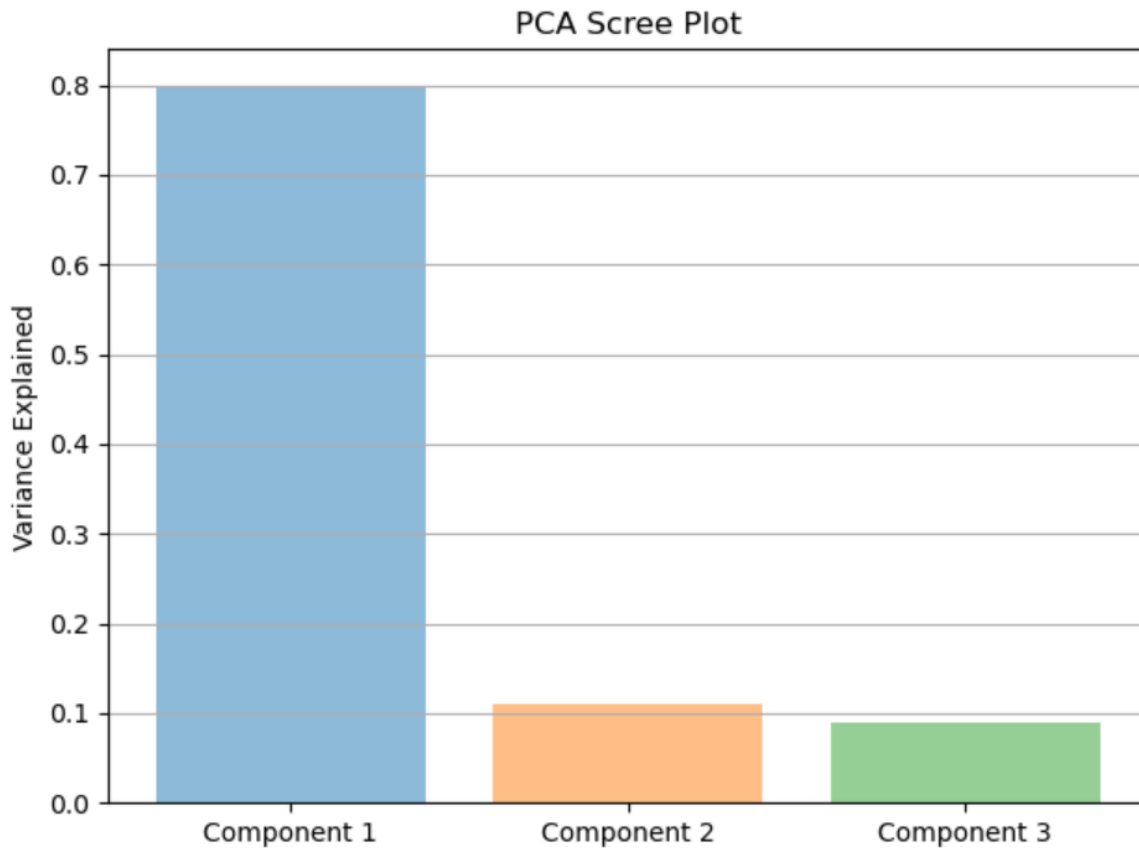
*R1. Is Black Lives Matter a good organization?*

- R2. Europe would be best if it remained all white. (-1)*
- R3. Immigration policy should be strict and heavily meritorious. (-1)*
- R4. The government should ensure racial equality by prohibiting racial discrimination in private business dealings such as hiring.*
- R5. Black people deserve reparations for the legacy of slavery.*
- R6. I support open borders.*

The questions were intended to get “harder” as they progressed in each category, meaning woker people tend to be the only ones to agree to the later questions, while a greater percent of respondents would agree with earlier questions.

Also, items F2, F3, R2, and R3 were reversed.

We summed each of the three scales and performed PCA on the sum, finding one component explains 80% of variation. We use this component to produce general leftism, which has high 0.7 - 0.8 correlations with each item, as before [1].



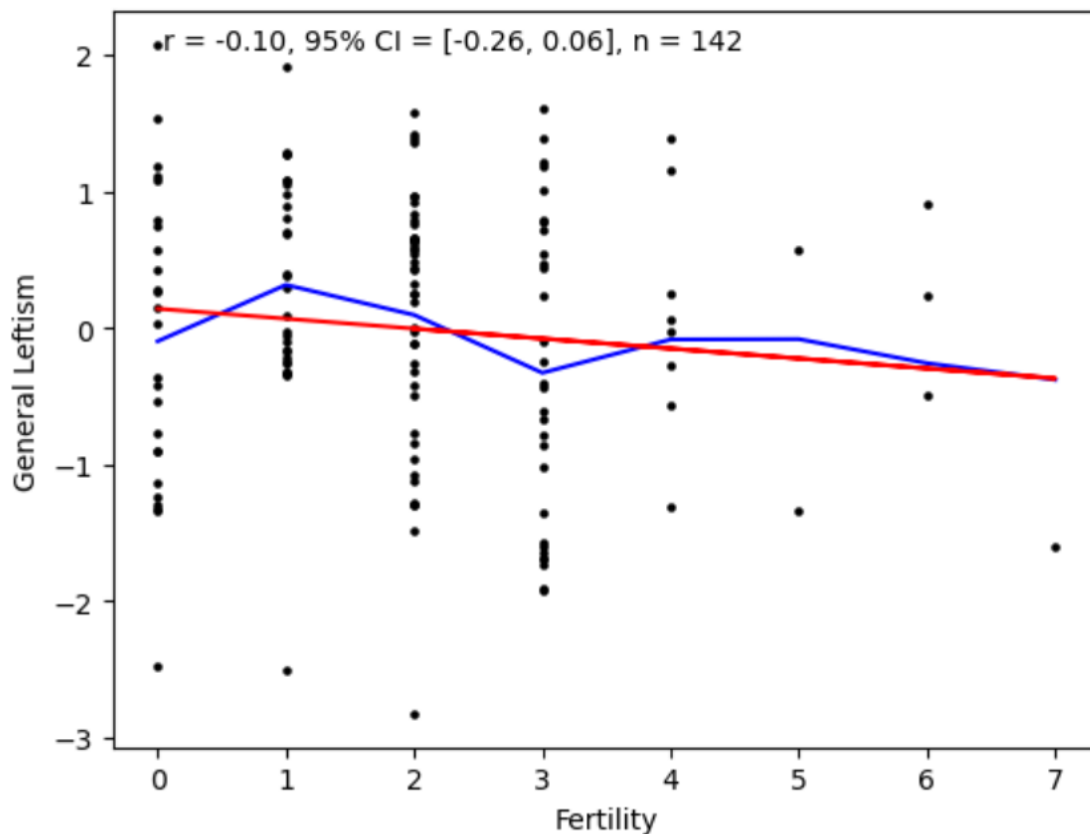
*Scree plot for principal component analysis of Gay sum, Race sum, and Feminism sum.*

The test was given to 150 White, married Americans over 45, assuming those over 45 were more or less done with reproduction. We asked how many children they had as our measurement of fertility. Respondents filled out the political scale twice, once for themselves, and once to report on their

spouse's politics. We used the component from self-report to produce spousal general leftism, and then averaged that with the self-report factor to produce couple general leftism.

## Results

We found the average couple weighted by number of offspring had a general leftism of -0.074 SDs. Assuming a narrow-sense heritability (there is no direct estimate of this in the literature, but partial-broad sense tends to be 0.7, which makes 0.5 a likely figure) we get a selection pressure of  $-0.074/2 = -0.037$  SDs per generation.



*Correlation of Fertility and General Leftism*

## Conclusion

Our result is in line with previous evidence asserting selection pressure using binary variables [3]. The overall is very small, and a counteracting positive pressure of just 0.04 SDs would change the direction of the overall evolutionary pressure. Since leftism has increased, not decreased, over the last several generations, other sources of evolutionary pressure should be examined, including gene flow and mutational pressure.

## References

1. Bronski, J. (2023). *A Paternal Age Effect on Leftism is Detectable with Continuous Measurements*. Openpsych.
2. Bronski, J. (2023). *Evidence for a Paternal Age Effect on Leftism*. Openpsych.
3. Fieder, M., & Huber, S. (2018). Political attitude and fertility: Is there a selection for the political extreme?. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 9, 2343.