

# POLITICAL IDENTITY: EXPERIMENTAL EVIDENCE ON ANTI-AMERICANISM IN PAKISTAN

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## Abstract

We identify Pakistani men's willingness to pay to preserve their anti-American identity using two experiments imposing clearly-specified financial costs on anti-American expression, with minimal consequential or social considerations. In two distinct studies, one-quarter to one-third of subjects forgo payments from the U.S. government worth around one-fifth of a day's wage to avoid an identity-threatening choice: *anonymously* checking a box indicating gratitude toward the U.S. government. We find sensitivity to both payment size and anticipated social context: when subjects anticipate that rejection will be observable by others, rejection falls suggesting that, for some, social image can outweigh self-image. Change () to curly brackets around line 124-130 (JEL: P16, D03, C90)

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