

A COMPARISON OF GROUP HOMOGENEITY ON SHARED
IMPRESSIONS AND JUDGMENTS OF OTHERS

by

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INTRODUCTION AND REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The purpose of the present study is an attempt to relate the shared impressions of a group to the homogeneity of that group's impressions of the attitudes of some outside person about whom the group members are presented a given amount of information.

Some writers (2, 4) have proposed and discussed lists of qualities deemed essential for an individual to be a good judge of others. Asch (3) has indicated that judges can develop unified, meaningful impressions about other people on the basis of relatively limited amounts of information about these people, and that the impressions vary systematically with variation of the information presented.

A study by Kastenbaum has been reported by Asch (3) and Bruner and Tagiuri (4) in which a number of brief recordings of presumed telephone conversations were made by the same voice. Single conversations were presented to subjects as stemming from different people and the formed impressions were consistent with the warm, cold, or neutral quality of the stimulus. When told that the conversations were really the same person, the subjects had difficulty forming a unified impression. It was noted that when subjects were successively presented with different, even contradictory, conversations but were told they were from the same person, they formed and held a distinct impression of the speaker by assimilating or omitting contradictions from the main personality theme.

Haire and Grunes (10) presented college students with lists of characteristics of a factory worker. One list included the term "intelligent", the other list, identical in all other respects did not. The inclusion of "intelligent" functioned as a disturbing factor in the formation of impressions.

Subjects with anti-labor attitudes apparently did not consider this quality as appropriate to a factory worker. Some subjects denied the existence of the item, some pointed out the incongruity and others integrated the item by altering their stereotype of a factory worker.

Kelley (11) handed out descriptions of a lecturer to three college sections. The descriptions were identical except that one form described the lecturer as a "rather cold person" while a second form described him as a "very warm person". After he had led the students in discussion, they were asked to rate him on such qualities as sociability, modesty, and intelligence. Consistently different reactions were noted with the warm characterization usually producing the more favorable impression. The impressions the students reached were altered by the description given them before their encounter with the person.

Allport (2) included "a rich store of experience with human nature in its varied and more intricate forms" as one of the qualifications of a good judge of people. In Bruner and Tagiuri's (4) review of the literature, they indicated that I. E. Bender and R. Taft assumed experience to be a correlate of ability to judge others accurately.

It is a commonplace observation in social psychology that groups develop shared expectations and values as a partial function of membership in a group. Newcomb (12) interpreted similarities and changes in political belief on a college campus as the result of pressures upon the students to conform to the standards of the campus community, although this interpretation is not unequivocal. According to the same author (13), members of the same group are especially likely to acquire similar frames of reference, because it is particularly important to group members to be able to communicate about things

of common interest. Newcomb calls these shared frames of references "social norms".

Festinger and others (9) have demonstrated that members of the same face-to-face group exhibit relative uniformity in terms of specific opinions and modes of behavior. This uniformity appears to stem in large part from the influences the group is able to exert over its members. Certainly there are group pressures which act toward making members of a group agree relative to some issue or conform with respect to some behavior. Festinger (8) relates these group pressures to communication phenomena. Furthermore, it is reasonable to assume that an individual will initially be attracted to a group to the extent that it fulfills certain needs and goals (Cartwright and Zander, 5).

The purpose of the present study is to demonstrate that a shared "stereotype" of a person will exist among a group of people only to the extent that the dimensions along which judgments are made about this person are relevant to the activities of that group. This will be tested by assigning members of larger groups to one of a number of smaller groups. Members of the smaller groups will be presented with information about some other person. The information will vary from one group to another in its relevance to the activities of the larger group. Group members will be asked to make judgments about this person along dimensions which also vary in their relevance to the group's activities. The hypothesis is that the judgments by group members will be most homogeneous when both the information received and the dimensions along which judgments are made are relevant to the activities of the larger group. This will be broken down into more specific hypotheses in the next section.

RESEARCH DESIGN

In testing the hypotheses, it was decided that cooperative houses and fraternities at the University of Kansas should be used. Membership in a cooperative house is gained by application. Cooperatives have racially integrated membership and work is shared by the members who thus benefit by having relatively low expenses for board and room. There has been a history of inter-racial activity among cooperative members at the university, so they would be expected to share nearly the same favorable attitudes toward minority groups. Cooperatives at this University have also been reported to have been active in left wing political causes some years ago. This should result in a similar, but perhaps weaker, trend in this area.

Membership in fraternities is by invitation and the fraternities chosen for this study were segregated. Fraternity men would be expected to be homogeneous as regards attitudes toward fraternities and sororities and their responses should be favorable. Therefore, subjects used in the study consisted of male University of Kansas students from (a) two cooperative houses, providing 12 and 20 men respectively, and (b) two fraternity houses, providing 31 and 39 men, respectively.

Forty-item questionnaires were prepared containing ten statements each on racial issues, membership in fraternities and sororities, and economic issues, plus ten items chosen at random from the California F-Scale (1), which purportedly measures authoritarianism. The content of the F-Scale is, in all likelihood, irrelevant to the goals and norms of both fraternities and cooperatives. The items were randomly arranged on the questionnaire. The items on racial issues were divided so that five were pro-Negro and five were anti-Negro. Five of the items on fraternity-sorority membership were worded

favorably and five were worded unfavorably. Of the economic statements, five were liberal and five were conservative. (This questionnaire is reproduced in the Appendix.)

All testing took place in the subjects' respective houses and the members of each house were tested as a group. The questionnaires were distributed to the subjects who were simply required to check each item "agree" or "disagree". As a subject handed in his completed questionnaire he was presented a second questionnaire identical to the first with one exception. The second questionnaire contained a page with biographical information about a girl college student. This information consisted of the girl's answers to eleven questions about herself. There were actually two forms of the second questionnaire. Nine of the questions and the girl's answers were identical on both forms but two of the items on Form A described the girl's pro-Negro attitude while the corresponding two items on Form B described her pro-sorority attitude (see Appendix). Form A contained nothing about her ideas concerning sororities and Form B contained nothing about her ideas concerning Negroes.

The two forms of the second questionnaire were stacked alternately and, as stated previously, passed out singly as each subject completed the first questionnaire. The subjects were instructed to read the information about the girl, formulate as adequate an impression as possible of what the girl was like, and then fill out the second questionnaire exactly as they thought she would if she were doing it.

The questionnaires of three men in the largest fraternity group were discarded prior to data analysis because they were observed to be communicating with each other consistently while filling out the second questionnaire.

Specific hypotheses concerning homogeneity of the subjects' own responses

to the scales are as follows:

1. Co-ops will be more homogeneous on responses to racial items and economic issues than will fraternities.
2. Co-ops will be more homogeneous on responses to racial items, economic issues, and fraternity-sorority attitudes than on F-Scale items.
3. Fraternities will be more homogeneous on responses to fraternity-sorority items than on other variables.

Knowledge that another person is similar to a judge, or different from him, on some attribute should cause the judge to infer that the person will be similar to him or different from him on other variables. Thus, cooperative members who receive pro-Negro information about the girl should generalize to anti-fraternity attitudes on her part. Cooperative members receiving pro-sorority information should generalize to anti-Negro attitudes. The same processes would affect fraternity men according to which description of the girl they received.

Table 1 designates the variations in information and the groups to be compared on judgments of the girl's responses.

Table 1. Groups to be compared and number of subjects in each condition.

Questionnaire Form	Attitude Described	Respondent			
		Fraternity Cell	Member N	Co-op Cell	Member N
A	Pro-Negro	A	35	B	15
B	Pro-sorority	C	32	D	17

The following hypotheses were made concerning the outcome of tests of homogeneity and comparison of groups on their predictions of the girl's responses:

1. On racial items, Cell D predictions will be more homogeneous than those by subjects in Cell C, and the predictions will cluster at the anti-Negro end of the scale. There will be no difference between Cells A and B.

2. On fraternity-sorority statements, Cell B will be more homogeneous than Cell A, and the predictions will cluster at the anti-sorority end of the scale. No differences will be observed between Cells C and D.

3. On economic liberalism-conservatism, Cell B will be more homogeneous than Cell A, and Cell D more homogeneous than Cell C. The predictions in Cell B will be in the liberal direction and those in Cell D will be in the conservative direction.

4. If there are any differences at all on F-Scale items, Cells B and D will be more homogeneous as compared with Cells A and C. If there are any differences in direction, B should be low in authoritarianism, D high. However, these differences would be smaller than any of the preceding three.

Homogeneity was measured by taking all pairs of subjects and seeing the number of times they answered the items of each subscale in similar fashion. Thus, homogeneity becomes a matter of the number of differences between subjects' responses.

The questionnaires were scored by giving a value of one to all items marked "agree" and a score of zero to all items marked "disagree". Cronbach and Gleser's (6) profile similarity score was taken for all pairs of subjects for both their own responses on all four subscales and their estimates of the girl's responses on all four subscales. The profile similarity score is obtained by taking the difference between the responses of subject 1 and subject 2 on each item, squaring the difference, summing the squares over all items, and taking the square root of this sum to obtain a D-score. Since the score value of each item on the questionnaire is either one or zero, each

difference is either one or zero and these numbers remain unchanged when squared. Consequently, simply adding the number of disagreements between two subjects and taking the square root of this sum gives the D-score. This was done for each subscale and the score falling at the median was determined for each group. The D-score formula is a general expression of the dissimilarity between two profiles. The smaller the number obtained, the more similar are the members of the group on the scale being considered.

In addition to this, the number of pro-Negro items agreed with plus the number of anti-Negro items disagreed with were figured for each subject on both questionnaires and the group means were found. The same procedure was followed for the pro-fraternity-sorority items agreed with and anti-fraternity-sorority items disagreed with, and the liberal items agreed with plus the conservative items disagreed with. The number of F-Scale items agreed with was totaled for each subject and the mean found for each group. When the means are taken for the number of favorable items agreed with plus the number of unfavorable items disagreed with, the direction of group impressions is indicated. The closer the mean approaches to ten on the racial and fraternity-sorority subscales, the more favorable the group responses are. As the mean approaches zero, it indicates that the group is unfavorable toward the area under consideration. For economic statements, a high mean indicates a trend toward liberalism and a low mean, a conservative trend. On the final subscale, a high or low mean indicates a trend toward authoritarianism or non-authoritarianism respectively.

RESULTS

Table 2 presents the median scores for the groups' profile similarities on the first questionnaire. Table 3 shows the means and standard deviations

for the subjects' responses to the first questionnaire in terms of items agreed with or disagreed with on the various subscales.

Table 2. Group scores at the medians for the Cronbach and Gleser profile similarity on questionnaire 1.

Group	N (pairs)	Subscales			
		Race	Fraternity- sorority	Economics	F-Scale
Co-ops	496	1.41	2.00	2.00	2.00
Fraternities	2211	2.00	1.73	1.73	2.24

Table 3. Mean number of favorable items marked agree plus unfavorable items marked disagree on questionnaire 1.

Group	N	Subscales							
		Race		Fraternity- sorority		Economics		F-Scale	
		Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.
Co-ops	32	8.44	1.56	4.19	1.80	5.59	2.64	3.56	2.50
Fraternities	67	6.69	2.14	8.28	1.24	4.21	1.61	4.60	2.29

Considering the responses by the subjects on the first questionnaire, the outcome of the hypotheses made about these responses may be tested by observing Tables 2 and 3. The median test (7) was employed in determining whether groups with median scores differing as those shown in Table 2 could have been drawn from the same population. The t test was used for the same purpose in comparing the means in Table 3.

Hypothesis one was that cooperatives will be more homogeneous on responses to racial items and economic issues than are fraternities. As shown by Table 2, cooperative members were more homogeneous on racial responses than were fraternity members. The chi square applied to the medians is significant at the .001 level of confidence. The t is significant at the .01 level of

confidence with the cooperative group mean closer to ten (perfectly favorable).

Cooperative members were not more homogeneous on responses to economic items than fraternity men. The difference in the medians of the distribution of D-scores is significant at the .001 level of confidence and indicates the reverse to be true. That is, fraternity members were more homogeneous than cooperative members on responses to economic items. The difference between the means in Table 3 is not significant for the economic subscale.

The second hypothesis stated that cooperatives will be more homogeneous on racial, economic, and fraternity-sorority responses than on authoritarianism. Cooperatives were more homogeneous on racial responses than on authoritarianism and the difference is significant at the .001 level of confidence. The difference between fraternity-sorority and F-Scale responses is not significant, however. Cooperative members were not more homogeneous on economic issues than on F-Scale responses. The difference between means of these subscales is significant at the .001 level.

The final hypothesis in this area was that fraternities will be more homogeneous on responses to fraternity-sorority items than on the other variables. They were more homogeneous on these items than on racial and F-Scale items but not more than economic items. The differences between means for the fraternity-sorority and all other subscales in Table 3 were significant at the .001 level of confidence in all cases with the fraternity-sorority mean in the favorable direction.

Table 4 gives the profile similarity median scores for the responses to the second questionnaire. Table 5 shows the means and standard deviations for the favorable items agreed with plus the unfavorable items disagreed with in terms of the subjects' estimates of the girl's responses.

Tables 4 and 5 give the necessary data for making comparisons of groups

on their estimates of the girl's responses.

Table 4. Group medians for the Cronbach and Gleser profile similarity on questionnaire 2.

Cell	N	Subscales			
		Race	Fraternity- sorority	Economics	F-Scale
A	595	1.41	1.73	2.24	2.24
B	105	1.41	2.00	2.00	2.00
C	496	2.00	1.41	2.00	2.24
D	136	2.00	1.41	2.00	2.00

Table 5. Mean number of favorable items marked agree plus unfavorable items marked disagree on questionnaire 2.

Cell	N	Subscales							
		Race		Fraternity- sorority		Economics		F-Scale	
		Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.	Mn.	S.D.
A	35	8.46	1.31	7.12	1.82	5.57	1.35	5.45	2.21
B	15	8.93	1.06	7.00	2.03	5.53	2.39	5.60	1.99
C	32	5.94	2.39	8.22	1.54	4.94	1.27	6.00	1.97
D	17	4.47	2.30	8.94	.94	4.24	1.73	5.35	2.45

Hypotheses concerning predictions of the girl's responses on racial items were: (1) Cell D predictions will be more homogeneous than Cell C, (2) the predictions will cluster at the anti-Negro end of the scale, and (3) there will be no differences between Cells A and B.

Cell D predictions are not more homogeneous than those of Cell C according to the profile similarity median scores shown in Table 4. The difference between the means of Cells C and D is significant at the .05 level. If the predictions for Cells C and D had clustered at the anti-Negro end of the scale, the means in Table 5 should have approached zero. These means certainly did not approach the pro-Negro end of the scale as did the means

for Cells A and B, but their lack of homogeneity and position at mid-scale forbid any statements as to their degree of anti-Negro character.

There was no difference between Cells A and B as predicted.

Hypotheses concerning the fraternity-sorority subscale were: (1) Cell B will be more homogeneous than Cell A, (2) the predictions will cluster at the anti-fraternity-sorority end of the scale, and (3) no differences will be observed between Cells C and D.

The difference between Cells A and B is not significant.

The predictions for all cells tend to cluster at the pro-fraternity-sorority end of the scale with Cells C and D more pro-fraternity-sorority as would be expected.

The numbers recorded in Table 4 represent D-scores which fell at the median of the groups. The median test is a procedure for testing differences in central tendency between two groups and the dispersion of the scores from both groups about the median of the combined scores is considered in calculating chi square. While the D-scores falling at the respective medians of Cells C and D are equal, the median test produced a significant difference in favor of Cell D.

The difference between the means of the favorable-unfavorable sums is not significant.

Economic liberalism-conservatism predictions included: (1) Cell B will be more homogeneous than Cell A, (2) Cell D will be more homogeneous than Cell C, (3) the predictions in Cell B will be in the liberal direction, and (4) predictions in Cell D will be in the conservative direction.

Cell B is more homogeneous than Cell A as shown by the median scores in Table 4. The median test gave a difference significant at the .01 level of

confidence. There is no significant difference between means in Table 5.

There are no significant differences indicated between Cells C and D by either measurement.

To be in the liberal direction on the economic subscale, the means in Table 5 should approach ten. The predictions in Cell B were not in the liberal direction and the predictions in Cell D were not in the conservative direction since both fell near mid-scale.

It was predicted that differences, if any, on authoritarianism should be small. If there were any differences, it was predicted that Cells B and D would be more homogeneous as compared with Cells A and C. If there were any differences in direction, Cell B was predicted to be low in authoritarianism, Cell D high.

There were no significant differences between any of the four cells on F-Scale responses.

DISCUSSION

On the first questionnaire, which the subjects answered for themselves, cooperative members did not respond to the economic items as predicted. Economics may be a more multidimensional construct than racial and fraternity-sorority attitudes. The economic dimension apparently proved less clear-cut to the subjects than did these issues. Of the ten economic items on the questionnaire, the item most frequently agreed with was marked "agree" by less than 47 per cent of the cooperative members. The same item was agreed with by 76 per cent of the fraternity men. The remaining nine items were agreed with by less than 44 per cent of the subjects. The statements on economics may have been more ambiguous allowing for a possibility for both liberals and conservatives to respond in the same way. Furthermore, it is

quite possible that economic issues are not so important or relevant to group activities and goals as they once were. This would obviate the likelihood of getting homogeneity along this dimension.

Questionnaire II included a page of questions concerning the subjects' general impression of the girl. These questions were not considered in this study but responses to one question may have a great deal of bearing on the reported results. The question appeared only in Form A of the questionnaire which was distributed to the members of Cells A and B. The question was "Does she belong to a sorority?" Of the two groups receiving this form, 83 per cent of the fraternity men and 80 per cent of the cooperative members responded positively.

Asch (3) and Dailey (4) in studying the formation of personality impressions have found that the first information encountered creates sets that influence all later material. Asch also found that judges who had formed separate impressions of different persons on the basis of lists of traits experienced considerable difficulty in regarding all the traits as characterizing one individual. These findings are consistent with those reported previously in the Kastenbaum and Haire and Grunes studies.

It is possible that a girl from the particular area and with the background described in Questionnaire II may be likely to be perceived as a type who would belong to a sorority. At any rate, she was apparently perceived as belonging to a sorority and thus cooperative members probably did not perceive her as being similar to themselves in beliefs and attitudes.

This may have been a determinant in the failure of cooperative members receiving the pro-Negro description to demonstrate greater homogeneity on racial items than fraternity men receiving the same information.

The perception of the girl as a sorority member may have exerted

influence on the observed clustering of all predictions toward the pro-fraternity-sorority end of the scale.

The primary hypothesis stated that homogeneity of attitudes among group members will exist to the extent that the dimensions measured are relevant to the activities of the group. There is some evidence to indicate that the nature of the questionnaire and the selection of dimensions to be measured did not result in a fair test of the hypothesis.

Homogeneity within groups in a given area should be empirically determined prior to testing for homogeneity of judgments of another person's responses in that area.

SUMMARY

Questionnaires containing items on racial issues, fraternity-sorority favorableness, and economic issues plus statements from the California F-Scale were presented to members of cooperative houses and fraternities. The subjects were required to mark the items "agree" or "disagree". They were then presented with information about a girl and asked to fill out an identical questionnaire as they thought she would. One half of the subjects received descriptions of the girl's pro-Negro attitudes and the other half received descriptions of her pro-sorority attitudes.

It was hypothesized that a group of persons would form a shared impression or "stereotype" of another person only when the dimension along which judgments are made is relevant to the shared norms and attitudes of the judging groups. It was assumed that racial issues, and to a lesser extent economic issues, would be of particular relevance to cooperative members. Fraternity-sorority issues should be of particular relevance to fraternity members. The

California F-Scale items were included largely for their presumed irrelevance to group goals and activities.

Both groups were more homogeneous on the scales which were predicted to be the most relevant to the activities of the group. Cooperatives were most homogeneous on racial items and fraternities were most homogeneous on fraternity-sorority items. Cooperatives failed to demonstrate greater homogeneity on economic issues. Not only were fraternities more homogeneous in this area, but cooperatives were more homogeneous on the F-Scale, chosen for its neutrality, than on economic issues.

Except for responses of cooperative members receiving pro-Negro information on one phase each of fraternity-sorority and economic issues, contrary to specific hypotheses proposed, fraternity members' responses tended to be more homogeneous than, or equally homogeneous with, the responses of cooperative members on all subscales. It was observed that the girl was perceived to be a sorority member by a large majority of the members of groups receiving pro-Negro information. This factor may have deterred cooperative members from assuming similarity between the girl and themselves.

Indications that the economic dimension was not clear-cut to the subjects, along with the nature of the girl's description, and the ensuing perception of her as a sorority member, probably did not result in a fair test of the primary hypothesis.

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APPENDIX

PART I

This study is divided into two parts. In the first part we would like to know your attitudes about various controversial issues.

We have purposely chosen issues that are highly controversial, and we have tried to write an equal number of favorable and unfavorable questions about each issue. We have done this because we want to get as clear an idea as we can of the attitudes of members of this group.

We are interested only in the attitudes of the group as a whole. We do not want to know the names of individuals who respond. Therefore, please do not sign your name to the questionnaire.

Please answer all questions freely and frankly.

When you finish with Part I of the questionnaire, turn it in to the examiner, who will give you Part II.

Part II

For the second part of this project we have mimeographed the responses of a girl who attends Kansas University to a series of eleven questions. We selected these questions because, in an earlier study, they were frequently asked by students when they were becoming acquainted with each other. We would like you to read her answers over carefully, and to form as adequate an impression as you can of what she is like. Then, please turn the page and fill out the questionnaire as you think she would fill it out. If you think she would agree with a statement, check "agree" if you think she would disagree, check "disagree".

On some statements you may be unsure of how she would answer. For these, simply make the best estimate that you can. We are interested in knowing just what judgments can be made from the information that is presented about her.

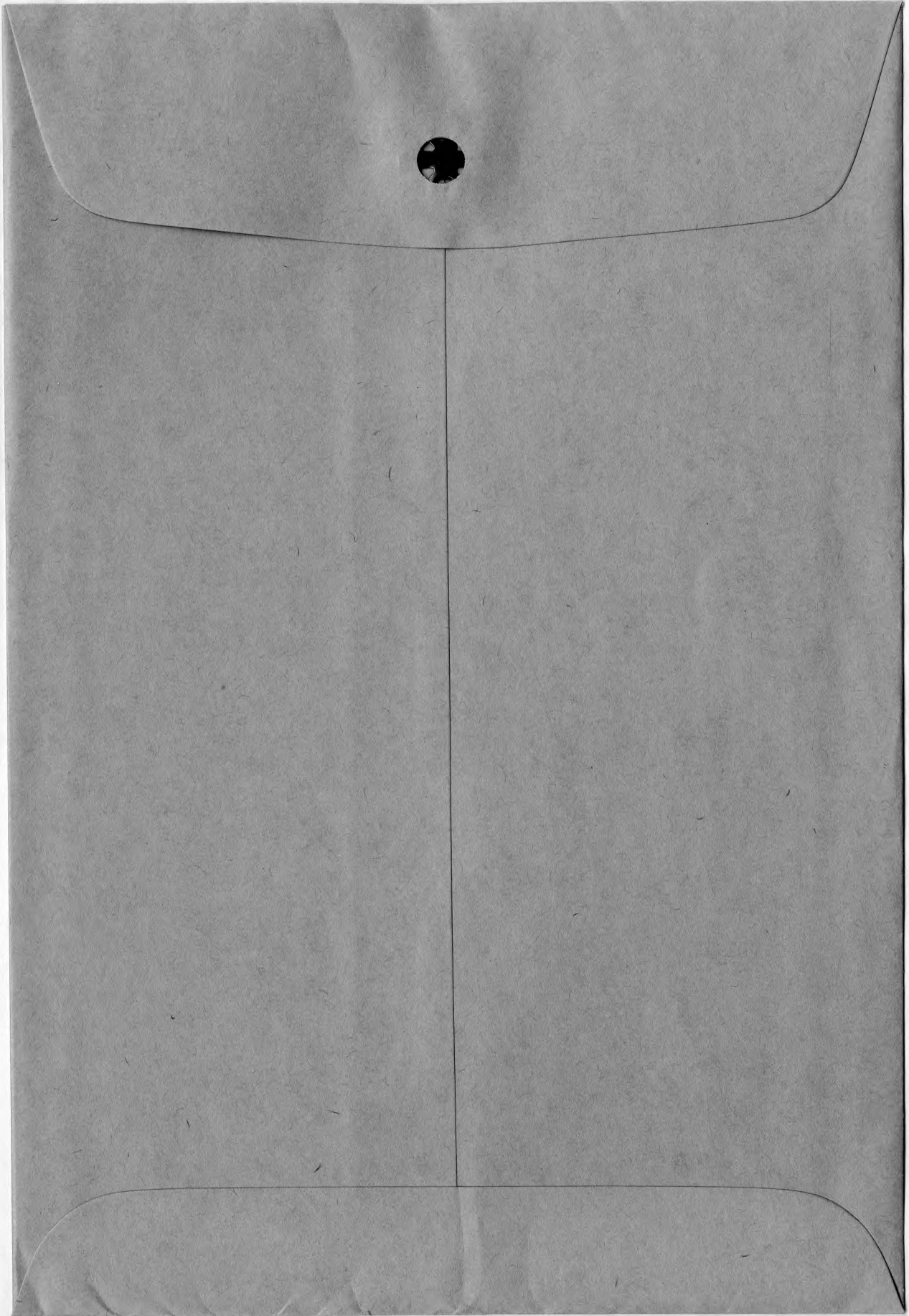
Please turn the page to read the information.

IIA

1. What is your home town? Answer: I come from the Topeka area.
2. How long have you lived there? Answer: Approximately ten years.
3. What size high school did you attend? Answer: There were about 400 students in three grades.
4. What is your religion? Answer: Presbyterian
5. What is your parents' occupation? Answer: My mother is a school-teacher in an elementary school in my home town.
6. What is your major field in college? Answer: Psychology
7. What do you plan to do when you get out of college? Answer: I had thought of becoming an airline stewardess when I was younger because of the chance to travel. Now, I think that I might be more likely to go to graduate school and prepare for some sort of professional work in psychology.
8. Do you believe that Negroes should be allowed to eat in restaurants where whites eat? Why or why not? Answer: Yes, I believe they should be allowed to eat in restaurants with whites. Negroes deserve every right whites have, and are entitled to equal treatment. The only possible reason why mixing socially between Negroes and whites might be bad is that the whites might be cut off socially from some members in the white group. This is not as likely as it once was, however, and will become less likely in the future.
9. How do you feel about the Supreme Court decision ending segregation in schools? Why? Answer: It is a good thing. It is going to arouse a lot of antagonism at first (as it already has) but eventually it would be ideal if there were no segregation at all so that there would be no racial barriers.
10. Would you rather be with a group of people most of the time, or would you rather work alone? Why? Answer: I would rather be with a group. I enjoy talking to people and working with them on projects. I would rather study alone, however, or do anything that requires a lot of independent thinking by myself.
11. Do you prefer to work with your hands or with your mind? Answer: I enjoy both, but I suppose that I prefer working with my mind, generally, to manual work.

IIB

1. What is your home town? Answer: I come from the Topelca area.
2. How long have you lived there? Answer: Approximately ten years.
3. What size high school did you attend? Answer: There were about 400 students in three grades.
4. What is your religion? Answer: Presbyterian
5. What is your parents' occupation? Answer: My mother is a school-teacher in an elementary school in my home town.
6. What is your major field in college? Answer: Psychology
7. What do you plan to do when you get out of college? Answer: I had thought of becoming an airline stewardess when I was younger because of the chance to travel. Now, I think that I might be more likely to go to graduate school and prepare for some sort of professional work in psychology.
8. Do you belong to a sorority? Why? Answer: Yes, I do. I joined originally because my mother and father and most of my relatives had been members of sororities and fraternities, and I had never thought of going to college and not belonging to one myself. I'm glad that I joined because, although sororities have the disadvantage of creating "social distance" between sorority and non-sorority girls, it helps to develop the social aspect of the personality a spirit of working together toward a common goal, and provides an excellent opportunity to gain friends with similar interests and experiences.
9. What extra-curricular activities do you take part in? Answer: I hold an office in my social sorority and I take part in sorority activities on the campus, in various student government committees, in a campus political organization, in a writing club, in intramurals, and in the Y. W. C. A.
10. Would you rather be with a group of people most of the time, or would you rather work alone? Why? Answer: I would rather be with a group. I enjoy talking to people and working hard with them on projects. I would rather study alone, however, or do anything that requires a lot of independent thinking by myself.
11. Do you prefer to work with your hands or with your mind? Answer: I enjoy both, but I suppose that I prefer working with my mind, generally, to manual work.



In the following statements indicate with a check mark whether you agree or disagree with the statement.

1. It would be a mistake to abolish racial segregation in public schools in the South.
 agree
 disagree
2. The more a person learns about our economic system, the less willing he is to see changes made in it.
 agree
 disagree
3. What this country needs most, more than laws and political programs, is a few courageous, tireless, devoted leaders in whom the people can put their faith.
 agree
 disagree
4. Fraternities and sororities generally do more good than harm.
 agree
 disagree
5. There should be no distinctions of any sort drawn between persons on the basis of their race.
 agree
 disagree
6. Belonging to a fraternity or sorority provides benefits for a person which will last him the rest of his life.
 agree
 disagree
7. The government should tax business profits heavily in order to provide expanded services to the people as a whole.
 agree
 disagree
8. Poverty results principally from injustice in the distribution of wealth.
 agree
 disagree
9. I would definitely want my son to belong to a fraternity when he goes to college.
 agree
 disagree
10. I can't say many good things about fraternities or sororities from what I've seen of them.
 agree
 disagree
11. The Negro is entitled to the same social privileges as the white man.
 agree
 disagree

12. For men to do their best, they must have the possibility of nearly unlimited profit.
 agree
 disagree
13. There has been too much interference by government in the affairs of business.
 agree
 disagree
14. As long as separate but equal facilities exist for Negro citizens, we need not worry too much about desegregation.
 agree
 disagree
15. As things are now, it would be undesirable for many reasons for Negro and white children to play together.
 agree
 disagree
16. Some day it will probably be shown that astrology can explain a lot of things.
 agree
 disagree
17. Marriage between Negroes and whites should be forbidden by law.
 agree
 disagree
18. Nowadays more and more people are prying into matters that should remain personal and private.
 agree
 disagree
19. There is hardly anything lower than a person who does not feel a great love, gratitude, and respect for his parents.
 agree
 disagree
20. Members of fraternities and sororities are altogether too snobbish for my taste.
 agree
 disagree
21. It is improper to allow organizations to discriminate against students as fraternities and sororities do.
 agree
 disagree
22. A person who has bad manners, habits, and breeding can hardly expect to get along with decent people.
 agree
 disagree
23. Fraternities and sororities provide friendship and comradeship that is valuable beyond price.
 agree
 disagree

24. As I see it, the more money a person makes the greater the contribution he is likely to make to human welfare.
____ agree
____ disagree
25. Segregated schools should be eliminated, and Negro teachers should be assimilated into the school systems along with white teachers.
____ agree
____ disagree
26. Labor should have more voice in deciding government policies.
____ agree
____ disagree
27. I do not believe that private ownership of property is necessary for economic progress.
____ agree
____ disagree
28. Man would not do their best if government owned the basic industries.
____ agree
____ disagree
29. Science has its place, but there are many important things that can never possibly be understood by the human mind.
____ agree
____ disagree
30. Some people are born with an urge to jump from high places.
____ agree
____ disagree
31. As far as I can see, fraternities and sororities offer nothing that can't be found in other organizations on a college campus.
____ agree
____ disagree
32. No sane, normal, decent person could ever think of hurting a close friend or relative.
____ agree
____ disagree
33. From my point of view fraternities and sororities should be abolished.
____ agree
____ disagree
34. In my experience, people who are against fraternities and sororities are usually compensating for the fact that they weren't asked to join one.
____ agree
____ disagree
35. Negroes should not be allowed to mingle with whites in any way.
____ agree
____ disagree

A COMPARISON OF GROUP HOMOGENEITY ON SHARED
IMPRESSIONS AND JUDGMENTS OF OTHERS

by

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Questionnaires containing items on racial issues, fraternity-sorority favorableness, and economic issues plus statements from the California F-Scale were presented to members of cooperative houses and fraternities. The subjects were required to mark the items "agree" or "disagree". They were then presented with information about a girl and asked to fill out an identical questionnaire as they thought she would. One half of the subjects received descriptions of the girl's pro-Negro attitudes and the other half received descriptions of her pro-sorority attitudes.

It was hypothesized that a group of persons would form a shared impression or "stereotype" of another person only when the dimension along which judgments are made is relevant to the shared norms and attitudes of the judging groups. It was assumed that racial issues, and to a lesser extent economic issues, would be of particular relevance to cooperative members. Fraternity-sorority issues should be of particular relevance to fraternity members. The California F-Scale items were included largely for their presumed irrelevance to group goals and activities.

Both groups were more homogeneous on the scales which were predicted to be the most relevant to the activities of the group. Cooperatives were most homogeneous on racial items and fraternities were most homogeneous on fraternity-sorority items. Cooperatives failed to demonstrate greater homogeneity on economic issues. Not only were fraternities more homogeneous in this area, but cooperatives were more homogeneous on the F-Scale, chosen for its neutrality, than on economic issues.

Except for responses of cooperative members receiving pro-Negro information on one phase each of fraternity-sorority and economic issues, contrary to specific hypotheses proposed, fraternity members' responses tended to be more homogeneous than, or equally homogeneous with, the responses of

cooperative members on all subscales. It was observed that the girl was perceived to be a sorority member by a large majority of the members of groups receiving pro-Negro information. This factor may have deterred cooperative members from assuming similarity between the girl and themselves.

Indications that the economic dimension was not clear-cut to the subjects, along with the nature of the girl's description, and the ensuing perception of her as a sorority member, probably did not result in a fair test of the primary hypothesis.