***Attitude Preferences Scale [Final Version]***

Please consider the following items and consider how much each seems true to you.

1 = strongly disagree

2 = somewhat disagree

3 = neither agree nor disagree

4 = somewhat agree

5 = strongly agree

**Preference for Neutrality**

1. People who form neutral opinions tend to be more intelligent.
2. I find other people who have neutral opinions tend to be more pleasant to be around.
3. The best way to maintain good relationships is to stay relatively moderate in your opinions.
4. People who hold extreme opinions tend to be provocative and irritating.
5. Striving to remain neutral on most topics is a virtuous stance.
6. Remaining neutral on a topic is a way of expressing my values.
7. There is something noble about remaining in the middle about controversial topics.
8. One way of showing respect for everyone is having some moderation in your opinions.
9. We live in a polarized world where taking a neutral stance is often an act of bravery.
10. I respect people who are able to remain neutral about things.
11. It is usually best to avoid very positive and very negative facts about things.
12. For nearly any topic, a neutral opinion is usually most accurate.
13. Even if people seem to know a lot about something, if their opinion is extreme they can’t have all the facts.
14. If you have all the facts about a topic, your opinion will generally end up somewhere neutral.
15. People with extreme (very negative or very positive) attitudes are, in principle, very unlikely to be correct.
16. An honest assessment of all of the information in a public debate should generally land you with a moderate opinion.
17. If a person magically became omniscient (knew everything that can be known), that person would have quite neutral opinions of most things.
18. If a person claims to know a lot about something, their having a relatively neutral (not extreme) opinion makes me more likely to believe that they really know a lot about it.

**Interest in Both Sides**

1. When learning about something new, I want to ensure I know all the positives and negatives about it.
2. There are some benefits to being quite familiar with both sides of a controversy.
3. Even if I form an opinion about something, I strive to also learn about the other side of the argument.
4. It is useful to have a complex mixture of positive and negative beliefs about other people.
5. I prefer to see both the good and bad sides of most things.
6. I prefer to acknowledge how ideas usually have both strengths and flaws to them.
7. I work hard to understand both the “plusses” and “minuses” of things when I learn about them.
8. It is valuable to be aware of both the benefits and the drawbacks of things.
9. I prefer to learn ‘good’ and ‘bad’ information about things.
10. Knowing both sides of a debate sharpens your understanding of that topic.
11. Knowing both sides of a debate helps to provide a clearer opinion.
12. I am attracted to people who seek information on both sides of issues.
13. Being able to see the advantages and disadvantages of having different opinions is an important moral virtue.
14. I respect the character of people who try to gather a balanced mix of information about most topics.
15. People who collect information about both sides of a topic tend to be more accepting of others.
16. Failing to consider both sides of an argument often leads to ignorance.
17. I prefer people who think critically about a topic by trying to understand what people on the “other side” believe.

**Preference for Extremity**

1. I prefer to have strong reactions (love or hate) towards things.
2. I feel better about things once I have an extreme opinion towards them.
3. I prefer to strongly support or strongly reject ideas.
4. I like to have extreme opinions.
5. Having extreme opinions helps one to think clearly about topics.
6. Having strong reactions to things (love and hate) helps mobilize one into effective action.
7. I am attracted to people whose views on topics fall strongly on one side.
8. People with extreme opinions are more likeable than moderates.
9. Loving and hating things (rather than being moderate) often helps us to be clear about how we want to live.
10. It is morally important to take extreme positions on many issues.
11. It is unattractive to me when someone is wishy-washy in their views; I would prefer that they take a strong stance on one side.
12. When it comes to controversial topics, there is usually one clearly correct side
13. I like when people hold a relatively extreme opinion and stand by it.
14. It is virtuous to believe strongly in one side of a debate.
15. People who don’t hold strong opinions tend to also be weak in other domains.

*Note.* Items 1–18 formed the 18-item Preference for Neutrality subscale. Items 19–35 formed the 17-item Interest in Both Sides subscale. Items 36–50 formed the 15-item Preference for Extremity subscale.