A Continued Assessment of Chinese and American Climate Change Views 2015/2017 Including Open-Ended Survey Responses

Students: Connor Adams, Dara Coker, Kayla Coonen, Cora Cornett, Zhixin Fang, Austin Holmes, Andrew Moran, Ashley Pike & Anastasia Rauland

Faculty Mentors: Dr. Eric Jamelske, Dr. James Boulter & Dr. Won Jang

Introduction
Given the strong scientific consensus on the causes and consequences of climate change, global action to address this issue is paramount. Additionally, public perceptions regarding climate change are likely to influence how and when policy action is taken both domestically and internationally. Moreover, public views regarding climate change are diverse/complex and can often be uninformed/misinformed and thus more can learned from a deeper investigation. To this end we analyze responses to one open-ended climate change question from the same surveys described in our previous two posters.

Open-Ended Question
The open-ended question was the first question on our surveys in both 2015 and 2017 in order to avoid contamination effects from the remainder of the survey.

2015 Question
Write down the first words that come to mind when you hear or read the words “climate change”? We welcome all answers, from a few sentences to a few words.

2017 Question
Write down the thoughts that come to mind when you hear or read the words climate change/global warming. We welcome all answers, from a few sentences to a few words.

Specific Politician Count

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Politician</th>
<th>US</th>
<th>CH</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Gore</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Obama</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Gore</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Obama</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Trump</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Politics in United States

Graphical Analysis of Topic Prevalence

We gratefully acknowledge generous funding support from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, Blugold Commitment and International Fellows Program. We also give a special thank you to our Chinese and American partners for their assistance.

Conclusion & Discussion
CC is definitely a contentious partisan political issue in the U.S. with conservatives more likely to deny or be unconcerned while liberals are more aligned with scientific realities of CC (Trump effect).

2017 Survey Samples (Maps produced by Kayla Coonen using ArcGIS)

We also show within country comparisons for China and the U.S. by climate change acceptance/knowledge/concern groupings based on CC scores in 2015.