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Personality & COVID Attitudes

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Personality & COVID Attitudes

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Abstract

As society attempts to navigate an evolving global pandemic, various public opinions on government mandates, such as mask wearing, social distancing, and vaccinations, have created a divide among individuals who place other's health concerns above their own in comparison to those who do not. Some suspect that lack of engagement in COVID protocols may be related to higher levels of narcissism. It is due to this potential narcissistic attitude that we investigated the relationship between COVID attitudes and narcissistic personality traits. Participants (N = 60) were recruited through Belmont University and were compensated in the form of credit in their introductory to psychology classes. All participants were asked to take an online Qualtrics survey consisting of 3 scales, the first two of which were created by the researchers: (1) a COVID Attitudes Scale (CAS), (2) a COVID Morality Inventory (CMI), and (3) a shortened version of the Narcissistic Personality Inventory (NPI-16). We anticipate that the higher one's narcissism score, the lower their likelihood to engage in COVID-related prosocial behaviors and the less likely they are to believe COVID is a moral issue.

Keywords: COVID-19, Narcissism, Morality