

Right and Left See ‘Reality’ Differently

By No Author      Thu, Jan 23, 2020

A Split Vision of U.S. Reality (Percent answers of GOP Conservatives and Democratic Liberals)		
Question	Right	Left
Probability that a child born in the bottom wealth quintile in the U.S. makes it to the top quintile:	12.0%	10.5%
	Correct: 7.8%	
Probability that a child born in the bottom quintile remains in that quintile as an adult:	29.5%	37.4%
	Correct: 33.1%	
Probability such a child makes it into the middle class:	24.1%	19.3%
	Correct: 18.7%	
Agree: "In the U.S. everybody has a chance to make it and be economically successful."	72%	38.6%
Agree: "Income inequality in the US has risen in recent decades."	61%	78%
"What percent of national income do the 1% highest earners receive?"	40%	48%
"What percent of national wealth do the richest 1% hold?"	53%	64%
"The share of immigrants is what percent of the U.S. population?"	36%	36%
	Correct: 13.5%	
Source: Alesina, Alberto F.; Miano, Armando; Stantcheva, Stephanie, "The Polarization of Reality," NBER Working Paper 26675, January 2020.		