

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. | | |