The Diversity Challenge for High and Low Authoritarians:

Multilevel and Longitudinal Effects through Intergroup Contact and Threat

Jasper Van Assche¹, Frank Asbrock², Kristof Dhont³, & Arne Roets¹

¹Department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology, Ghent University

² Department of Psychology, Chemnitz University of Technology

³School of Psychology, University of Kent

ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION IN Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin

Corresponding author:

Jasper Van Assche

Department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Ghent University

Henri Dunantlaan 2, B-9000 Ghent (Belgium)

E-mail: Jasper.VanAssche@UGent.be

Telephone: +329 264 64 24

Fax: +329 264 64 99

Author note: The authors declare that there are no potential conflicts of interest with respect to

the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

Acknowledgement: The authors wish to thank Anna Brune, Emma Onraet, and Alain Van

Hiel for their constructive input in the design of Study 1.

Word count: 10265

1

Running head: Diversity effects for high and low authoritarians

Abstract

The current studies integrate different frameworks on the positive and negative

consequences of ethnic diversity for intergroup relations. Using a nationally stratified sample

of Dutch majority members (N = 680) from 50 cities in the Netherlands, Study 1

demonstrated that objective diversity was indirectly related to prejudice and to generalized,

ingroup, and outgroup trust, through more positive and more negative contact. These indirect

effects tended to be stronger for high versus low authoritarians. Furthermore, perceived

diversity was indirectly related to less trust and greater prejudice, via more negative contact

and threat. Again, these associations were more pronounced among high authoritarians. Study

2, using a representative sample of German majority members (N = 412) nested within 237

districts, replicated the cross-sectional results regarding objective diversity and prejudice.

Additionally, longitudinal analyses indicated that objective diversity predicted more positive

and more negative contact two years later, though only among moderate and high

authoritarians.

Key words: ethnic diversity; authoritarianism; intergroup contact, threat, intergroup relations

2

The Diversity Challenge for High and Low Authoritarians:

Multilevel and Longitudinal Effects through Intergroup Contact and Threat

The rise in ethnic diversity in Western European societies repeatedly covers the news headlines and has attracted increased scholarly attention in social and political sciences (Hewstone, 2015). As a result, a growing body of research has investigated the effects of diversity on societal and intergroup outcomes such as social capital (e.g., Laurence, 2011; Letki, 2008), trust (e.g., Putnam, 2007; Schmid, Al Ramiah, & Hewstone, 2014; van der Meer & Tolsma, 2014), and prejudice (e.g., Pettigrew, Wagner, & Christ, 2010; Quillian, 1995; Van Assche, Roets, Dhont, & Van Hiel, 2014, 2016). The vast majority of these studies have shown no overall effects of diversity, yet, this seems to be the result of various processes with opposite consequences competing with each other. In the current set of two studies, we aim to delineate these processes and their repercussions for several key aspects of intergroup relations (e.g., trust and prejudice), taking into account the mediating role of positive intergroup contact, negative intergroup contact, and threat, while also considering the moderating role of right-wing authoritarianism (see Figure 1).

Contact and Threat as Mediators of Diversity Effects

Two conflicting sets of theories have dominated research on ethnic diversity effects (see Hewstone, 2015; van der Meer & Tolsma, 2014, for reviews). On the one hand, research inspired by the intergroup contact theory (Allport, 1954; Brown & Hewstone, 2005; Pettigrew, 1998) has proposed that the growing representation of varied ethnic groups in Western societies is associated with more contact between members of different ethnic groups, which in turn leads to more tolerance and positivity towards outgroups (e.g., Wagner, Christ, Pettigrew, Stellmacher, & Wolf, 2006; Wagner, Van Dick, Pettigrew, & Christ, 2003). In line with this perspective, some studies have shown that higher diversity was associated

with more positive outgroup perceptions (Oliver & Wong, 2003), and less prejudice (Kunovich & Hodson, 2002).

On the other hand, intergroup conflict theories (Blalock, 1967; Blumer, 1958; Bobo, 1999), encompassing group threat theory (Quillian, 1995) and integrated threat theory (Stephan & Stephan, 2000), claim that diversity is often perceived as threatening by members of the host society (e.g., Semyonov, Raijman, Yom-Tov, & Schmidt, 2004; Taylor, 1998). Consequently, diversity would lead to more prejudice and less trust towards ethnic outgroups (e.g., Scheepers, Gijsberts, & Coenders, 2002; Schneider, 2008). Based on a sample of over 30,000 people from 41 American communities, Putnam even concluded that - other things being equal - more diversity was associated with less trust both between and within ethnic groups (Putnam, 2007). Extending this perspective, Koopmans and Veit (2014) found that experimental primes of ethnic diversity caused lower trust in one's neighbors.

Putnam's (2007) infamous 'constrict claim', stating that ethnic diversity has detrimental consequences for social cohesion and trust, has been the subject of a hot and unresolved debate among both policy makers and academics. Following Putnam's claim, a number of studies in several countries tested the 'hunkering down' hypothesis. Do individuals "pull in like a turtle" (Putnam 2007, p. 149), withdraw from others and from social life at large in the face of diversity? In a comprehensive review of 90 post-Putnam studies, van der Meer and Tolsma (2014) concluded that, at best, evidence for Putnam's constrict claim is mixed. Especially in European societies, the idea of univocal negative repercussions of diversity for trust and prejudice can be refuted (see Hooghe, Reeskens, Stolle, & Trappers, 2009; Gijsberts, van der Meer, & Dagevos, 2012). In particular, it seems that the two major competing processes, positive intergroup contact and perceived outgroup threat, cancel each other out, yielding no main effects of diversity.

Indeed, various scholars have tried to integrate both theoretical frameworks in one single design, and provided evidence for these opposite mechanisms (e.g., Green, Fasel, & Sarrasin, 2010; Savelkoul, Gesthuizen, & Scheepers, 2011; Schlueter & Scheepers, 2010; Schlueter & Wagner, 2008; Schmid et al., 2014). For instance, Schmid and colleagues (2014) tested the diversity-trust association in the United Kingdom and demonstrated that diversity as such had no substantial overall effects on outgroup trust and outgroup attitudes, because the positive effect of higher positive intergroup contact and the negative effect of higher perceived threat counterbalanced each other. These opposing processes may thus explain why many studies reported non-significant overall effects of diversity on societal and intergroup outcomes (Hewstone, 2015; van der Meer & Tolsma, 2014).

Authoritarianism as Moderator of Diversity Effects

Although diversity may instill opposite and "counterbalancing" processes related to contact and threat, its effects also seem to depend on the characteristics of the individual. Not everyone seems equally sensitive to diversity (Stolle, Soroka, & Johnston, 2008).

Correspondingly, Wagner and colleagues (2006) suggested that whether contact or threat effects dominate, may depend on moderating factors. More specifically, the extent to which people hold right-wing social-ideological attitudes has been identified to play a critical role in whether ethnic diversity is perceived predominantly as a contact opportunity or as a threat, and in turn, is associated with either increased or decreased outgroup positivity (see Kauff, Asbrock, Thorner, & Wagner, 2013; Van Assche et al., 2016).

The seminal work by Adorno, Frenkel-Brunswik, Levinson, and Sanford (1950) on 'The Authoritarian Personality' offers an interesting outlook on how such individual differences have the potential to shape diversity effects. Contemporary accounts conceptualize authoritarianism as a social-ideological attitude most frequently operationalized in terms of right-wing authoritarianism (RWA; Altemeyer 1981). RWA is defined as the conglomerate of conventionalism (i.e., adherence to traditional norms and values), submission to authorities, and aggression towards norm violators (Altemeyer 1988). According to Duckitt (2001; see also Van Hiel, Cornelis, & Roets, 2007), people high in right-wing authoritarianism generally perceive the world as a dangerous place and are motivated to protect ingroup cohesion, order, and collective security. Therefore, right-wing authoritarians tend to perceive ethnic diversity more as a threat to traditional norms and values (see also Dhont & Van Hiel, 2011; De keersmaecker, Van Assche, & Roets, 2016; Kauff et al., 2013; Van Assche, Asbrock, Roets, & Kauff, in press).

Van Assche and colleagues (2014, 2016) showed that authoritarianism shapes the associations between diversity and various intergroup outcomes. Specifically, diversity was found to be associated with less positive attitudes and more mistrust towards ethnic outgroups, yet *only* among high authoritarians. Among low authoritarians, diversity was related to *more* outgroup positivity. Analogous interaction patterns have been revealed for individual differences in left-right self-placement (Karreth, Singh, & Stojek, 2015), dangerous worldviews (Sibley et al., 2013) and conformity values (Fasel, Green, & Sarrasin, 2013), three concepts closely related to RWA (Duckitt, 2001). In particular, individuals living in diverse environments who strongly endorse conservative ideologies, dangerous worldviews, or group conformity typically hold more negative attitudes towards minorities than their neighbors who do not hold these respective values. Van Assche and colleagues (2016) further revealed that diversity is associated with more outgroup threat, but again, *only* among high authoritarians. Similarly, Kauff and colleagues (2013) found that high (vs. low) authoritarians perceive a multicultural ideology as a threat to cultural traditions, which leads to an increase in prejudice. In sum, diversity is most likely to be perceived as a threat by authoritarians, and for them, diversity consequentially breeds more prejudice and less trust towards minorities. This

moderating role of RWA in the relationship between diversity and threat is included as Path A in Figure 1.

The role of authoritarianism in the association between diversity and intergroup contact is less straightforward. On the one hand, authoritarians usually tend to avoid contact with outgroup members (see Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009; 2011; Pettigrew, 2008). However, recent research has shown that, in very diverse environments, people high in authoritarianism appear to show a steep increase in intergroup contact encounters (Brune, Asbrock, & Sibley, 2016). Indeed, although almost all individuals living in diverse areas tend to have increased intergroup contact (e.g. Schlueter & Wagner, 2008; see Hewstone, 2015), this effect, counterintuitively, was found to be most pronounced among authoritarians (Brune et al., 2016). This finding suggests that authoritarians in homogenous areas manage to avoid contact with other ethnic groups, but in diverse environments - where contact is inevitable - they may have no choice but to give up their general avoidance tendencies, and engage more with outgroup members. Furthermore, in diverse neighborhoods, where intergroup contact is the norm, authoritarians as such comply with the norm (Brune et al., 2016). Yet, this increased engagement may include both positive and negative contact experiences. Indeed, while previous studies almost exclusively focused on increased opportunities for positive contact, diversity likely increases both positive and negative intergroup encounters (Koopmans & Veit, 2014). In this regard, Laurence, Schmid, and Hewstone (2017) recently found that diversity increased both positive and negative contact, with the former improving and the latter harming intergroup relations. It is therefore essential to simultaneously include positive and negative intergroup contact when testing diversity effects for high and low authoritarians. In sum, we propose that diversity is associated with more (positive and negative) intergroup contact, and these associations are especially pronounced for those high in authoritarianism. This hypothesis is represented by Paths B and C in Figure 1.

Authoritarianism as Moderator of Contact and Threat Effects

Where positive contact reduces prejudice, threat (and negative contact) induces it. On the one hand, a bulk of evidence has accumulated for the positive effects of positive contact on many different outcomes (Hewstone & Swart, 2011; Hewstone et al., 2014; Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006; Pettigrew, Tropp, Wagner, & Christ, 2011). On the other hand, the negative effects of threat on trust and tolerance are also indisputable (Blalock, 1967; Blumer, 1958; Bobo, 1999; Stephan & Stephan, 2000).

However, also contact and threat effects on intergroup outcomes have been shown to depend on individual differences in authoritarianism (paths D, E and F in Figure 1). For example, once authoritarians experience positive intergroup contact, they often benefit from it the most (Asbrock, Christ, Duckitt, & Sibley, 2012; Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009, 2011; Hodson, 2011; see Figure 1, path D). Moreover, negative contact experiences may also have the greatest impact among authoritarians (Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009; see Figure 1, path E). Hence, high authoritarians are most likely to engage in intergroup contact in diverse environments, compared to homogeneous environments, and these encounters have the potential to influence their prejudice and trust levels to a greater extent. In the same vein, authoritarians tend to be most prone to societal threat (e.g., Feldman & Stenner, 1997; Stellmacher & Petzel, 2005), yielding stronger positive associations of threat with prejudice and negative outgroup emotions (Cohrs & Asbrock, 2009) among those high versus low in authoritarianism. In other words, threatening conditions or perceptions - particularly resonant in diverse environments - potentially have the greatest impact among those holding strong authoritarian attitudes (Stenner, 2005; see Figure 1, path F).

The Present Studies

The current contribution aims to fill the gap in fundamental research on diversity effects by integrating previous mediation and moderation approaches into a unifying multilevel moderated mediation design (see Figure 1, for a schematic representation of our model). Firstly, we want to investigate *how* diversity affects trust and prejudice simultaneously via positive intergroup contact, negative intergroup contact, and outgroup threat, and how these processes may counterbalance each other. Secondly, we want to examine *for whom* diversity is most strongly associated with these mediating processes, and furthermore, for whom these mediators have the strongest repercussions on relevant intergroup outcomes. In Study 1, we focused on five outcomes (i.e., generalized trust, ingroup trust, outgroup trust, subtle prejudice, and blatant prejudice), using a unique, nested adult sample from the 50 largest cities in the Netherlands. Study 2 dug deeper into racial prejudice in a representative German sample, using a rare, yet important longitudinal design.

Important in the study of diversity effects, is the distinction between objective diversity and perceptions of diversity, as they might have differential effects (Hewstone, 2015; Koopmans & Schaeffer, 2015). In line with this, Semyonov and colleagues (2004) found that not the actual relative size of the outgroup population, but rather the perception of its size (i.e., the estimated percentage) was associated with greater perceived threat and exclusionary outgroup attitudes. Moreover, objective and perceived diversity may in fact also work differently through the various processes (Pettigrew et al., 2010). Hence, a thorough test of diversity effects should acknowledge this distinction and therefore, in our studies, we look at objective diversity as well as the perception of diversity.

Our first set of hypotheses states that objective diversity yields no *overall* effects on intergroup outcomes, but it may have detrimental total effects for high authoritarians on the one hand, and beneficial effects for low authoritarians on the other hand. Moreover, we hypothesize that these differences are explained by the *indirect* associations of diversity with

trust and prejudice via positive contact, negative contact, and threat, which should be different (and stronger) among high (vs. low) authoritarians.

Our second set of research questions focuses on perceptions of diversity, which potentially yield more detrimental total effects in terms of lower trust and higher prejudice, compared to objective diversity. Again, we assume that the indirect associations via positive contact, negative contact, and threat are significant, and most pronounced among high authoritarians. Finally, we also examine how contact and threat further relate to intergroup outcomes, once more hypothesizing that especially the associations would be especially large for high authoritarians.

Study 1

Method

Participants. We used a nationally stratified sample of citizens (N = 680) without migration background from the 50 largest cities in the Netherlands (mean number of observations per city M = 13.80). This dataset was collected online in 2015 through an independent ISO 26362-certified survey company. The mean age of the sample was 51 years (SD = 16.69) and 52% were men. Thirty-four percent of the participants had completed primary school, 40% had completed high school and 27% had a college or university degree. Income distributions are provided in Appendix A.

Measures.

Objective diversity. We assessed the percentage of non-Western minority members within a specific city as an objective indicator of diversity within the year of data collection (see also Van Assche et al., 2016). We used the available data from the Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS, 2015), indicating the number of individuals per city of non-Western origin,

and we calculated the percentage as a function of the total number of registered inhabitants to get a measure of relative objective diversity (M = 16.76%, SD = 9.15, MIN = 4.11%, MAX = 37.34%).

Estimations of diversity. To measure perceptions of diversity, participants had to specify their estimated percentage of non-Western immigrants living in their city, with M = 28.31% (SD = 17.85, MIN = 0.00%, MAX = 95.00%).

Right-wing authoritarianism. A 6-item RWA-scale (based on Altemeyer, 1981; see Onraet, Dhont, & Van Hiel, 2014) was administered on seven-point scales anchored by one (totally disagree) and seven (totally agree). A sample item is 'Obedience and respect for authority are the most important virtues children should learn', $\alpha = .67$, M = 4.47 (SD = 1.53).

Intergroup contact. We assessed intergroup contact by asking respondents the frequency of both positive and negative interactions with people of immigrant origin (e.g., Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009), using seven-point scales ranging from one (*never*) to seven (*very frequently*). The items are 'How often did you have positive interactions with people of immigrant origin?' (M = 4.29, SD = 1.53) and 'How often did you have negative interactions with people of immigrant origin?' (M = 2.98, SD = 1.53).

Outgroup threat. Outgroup threat was measured with four items (based on Stephan et al., 2002; see also Dhont & Van Hiel, 2011). An example item reads 'People of immigrant origin threaten the way of life of people of Dutch origin'. Respondents answered using seven-point scales ranging from one (*totally disagree*) to seven (*totally agree*), $\alpha = .87$, M = 4.03 (SD = 1.44).

Trust. We tapped into general, ingroup, and outgroup trust. General trust was measured by three items from the European Social Survey (ESS, 2014). An example item reads 'Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you can't be

too careful in dealing with people?'. Respondents answered using seven-point scales ranging from one ('You can't be too careful') to seven ('Most people can be trusted'), yielding a reliable scale with $\alpha = .84$; M = 4.19 (SD = 1.15). For ingroup trust, respondents answered to one item ('When you specifically think of people of Dutch origin, do you think most of them are to be trusted or not to be trusted?'; M = 4.52, SD = 1.07), anchored by 1 ('Most people cannot be trusted') and 7 ('Most people can be trusted'). Outgroup trust was also measured with one item ('When you specifically think of people of immigrant origin, do you think most of them are to be trusted or not to be trusted?'; M = 4.02, SD = 1.23), using the same anchors.

Racial prejudice. An 8-item subtle racism and a 4-item blatant racism scale were administered (based on Pettigrew & Meertens, 1995; see Onraet & Van Hiel, 2013). Sample items are 'I feel sympathy for people of immigrant origin' (*reverse coded*) for subtle racism and 'All things taken together, the White race is superior over other races' for blatant racism. Respondents answered using seven-point scales ranging from one (*totally disagree*) to seven (*totally agree*). Cronbach's alphas were .82, with M = 4.18 (SD = 0.92), and .88, with M = 2.30 (SD = 1.39), for subtle and blatant racism, respectively.

Results

Preliminary Analyses. We first investigated whether multilevel analyses were warranted because our data were nested (i.e., individuals were located within cities). We estimated empty (intercept-only) models which provide insight in the variances in our mediators and outcomes at the individual and contextual level. We also assessed the intraclass correlations (ICCs) which confirmed there was substantial between-level variance, warranting the use of multilevel modeling (see Appendix B)¹. The correlations among all variables are presented in Appendix C.

Main Analyses. Multilevel path analyses with maximum likelihood estimation were conducted using the MPlus package (version 7.1; Muthén & Muthén, 2012). Standard errors were computed using bootstrapping (N = 50,000 bootstrap samples). All independent variables were centered around the overall average of the sample to control for their compositional effects at the contextual level (Raudenbush & Bryk, 2002). We modelled a random intercept model where the intercept coefficients vary across cities (see Raudenbush & Bryk, 2002; Pituch & Stapleton, 2012). Specifically, we tested the hypothesized model with one context-level predictor (i.e., either objective diversity or estimations of diversity at the city level), three individual-level mediators (i.e., positive intergroup contact, negative intergroup contact, and outgroup threat), and five individual-level outcomes (i.e., generalized trust, ingroup trust, outgroup trust, subtle prejudice, and blatant prejudice). Furthermore, RWA was included as an individual-level moderator variable and we allowed each path of the mediation model to be moderated by RWA. For all paths, we estimated the effects for low (< 1 SD below the mean), medium (mean level), and high (> 1 SD above the mean) authoritarians, as such examining the conditional effects of the predictor and mediators at various levels of RWA (while allowing all individual-level variables to vary both between individuals and between contexts; see Raudenbush, Bryk, Cheong, & Congdon, 2004, p. 87-88; for similar procedures in multilevel regression models)². Tables 1a and 1b display the standardized coefficients of the model considering objective diversity, and tables 2a and 2b portray the standardized coefficients for the model considering perceived diversity³.

As expected, the results showed that higher objective diversity was related to more positive and more negative contact, but only among individuals with moderate or high levels of authoritarianism (see Table 1a). Positive contact was further associated with more trust and less prejudice, and a reversed pattern of results was revealed for negative contact. Most importantly, the results indicated that there were no significant total effects of objective

diversity on any of the five outcomes (see Table 1b). Nonetheless, there were significant indirect effects via positive and negative contact, but only among those with average and high levels of authoritarianism. In sum, overall, objective diversity did not affect intergroup relations, as it was associated with both more positive and more negative intergroup contact, and hence the "positive" and the "negative" process cancelled each other out. Finally, these indirect effects were more pronounced among high authoritarians, and less outspoken or even absent among low authoritarians. Surprisingly, outgroup threat did not mediate objective diversity effects.

Secondly, the results concerning perceived diversity showed a somewhat different pattern. Higher estimates of diversity were related to more negative intergroup contact and higher threat perceptions, and these two "negative" processes were further associated with less trust and more prejudice (see Table 2a). Most importantly, the results indicated that there were significant negative total effects of estimations of diversity on trust, and significant positive total effects on prejudice, but only among moderate and high authoritarians (see Table 2b). Furthermore, there were significant indirect effects via negative contact and threat, but not via positive contact. The conclusion here is that, overall, unlike the results with objective diversity, higher individual estimates of diversity seem to drive down trust and increase prejudice, as these estimates were associated with both more negative contact and more threat, two "negative" processes that add up to less tolerance. Finally, similar to the objective diversity results, these relations were generally more outspoken among high authoritarians whereas they were smaller and even non-significant among low authoritarians.

Brief Discussion

In conclusion, in Study 1, our hypotheses were confirmed with regards to the lack of total effects of objective diversity versus the negative total effects for estimations of diversity.

Secondly, with regards to the processes explaining the total effects, we found mediation effects via positive and negative contact when considering objective diversity effects versus mediation effects via negative contact and threat when considering estimations of diversity. Thirdly, across both models, our results confirm that it is crucial to take into account individual differences in authoritarianism, as the relations are especially pronounced among individuals with average or high levels of RWA.

Finally, our findings revealed largely similar repercussions of diversity for three pertinent trust outcomes as well as for two forms of racial prejudice. Indeed, generalized trust, commonly regarded as part of the "social glue" that holds communities together (Schmid et al., 2014), trust in ethnic outgroups, and subtle and blatant prejudicial attitudes towards these outgroups are to largely the same extent affected by diversity, through the same mechanisms, and with consistently stronger effects among high authoritarians. Yet, ingroup trust was slightly differentially affected for high versus low authoritarians. Specifically, as authoritarians are prominently concerned about ingroup protection (Duckitt, 2001), negative intergroup contact and threat experiences accompanying diversity did not necessarily lower their trust in the own ethnic group.

Study 2

Study 2 extended Study 1 in two significant ways. Firstly, Study 2 was conducted in Germany, another Western European country with a fair share of immigrants and foreigners. Secondly, we examined the longitudinal effects of diversity, which has rarely been done in previous research. Study 2 involved secondary analyses of existing data with less variables compared to Study 1. Yet, the data set included a sufficient number of critical variables to test our hypotheses. More specifically, Study 2 tested the cross-sectional and longitudinal effects

of objective and perceived diversity on racial prejudice, through positive and negative contact (but not threat) for high and low authoritarians.

Method

Participants. We analyzed a representative sample of German majority members (N = 412 individuals nested within 237 districts⁴, mean number of observations per district M = 1.74) from the 2008 (T1) and 2010 (T2) waves of the Group-Focused Enmity project (Heitmeyer, 2002). There were no missing data among respondents who completed the questionnaire at both time points. The mean age of the sample at T1 was 51 years (SD = 14.55) and 45% were men. Thirty-three percent of the participants had completed primary school, 21% had completed lower high school, 29% upper high school, and 17% had a college or university degree. Income distributions, family status and religious affiliation are provided in Appendix A.

Measures.

Objective diversity. We assessed the share of foreigners in each district as an objective indicator of diversity within the year of data collection ($M_{T1} = 7.62\%$, $SD_{T1} = 5.60$, $MIN_{T1} = 0.70\%$, $MAX_{T1} = 23.50\%$; and $M_{T2} = 7.55\%$, $SD_{T2} = 5.57$, $MIN_{T2} = 0.70\%$, $MAX_{T2} = 23.40\%$).

Perceived diversity. To assess perceptions of diversity, respondents had to evaluate 'How many foreigners live in your neighborhood?' using four-point rating scales ranging from one (*absolutely none*) to four (*a great number*; $M_{T1} = 2.10$, $M_{T2} = 0.89$; $M_{T2} = 2.04$, $SD_{T2} = 0.82$).

Right-wing authoritarianism. A 4-item RWA-scale based on Altemeyer (1981) and Lederer (1982) was administered on four-point scales anchored by one (*I do not agree at all*)

and four (*I totally agree*). A sample item is 'Crime should be punished more harshly'. Cronbach's alpha was .76 at T1 and .78 at T2, with $M_{T1} = 2.70$ ($SD_{T1} = 0.69$) and $M_{T2} = 2.73$ ($SD_{T2} = 0.71$).

Intergroup contact. We assessed the frequency of both positive and negative contact experiences with ethnic minorities (in this study referred to as 'foreigners'), using four-point scales ranging from one (*never*) to four (*frequently*). The positive contact items were 'How often did a foreigner help you?' and 'How often did you have an interesting conversation with a foreigner?'. Both items were strongly positively related ($r_{T1} = .49$, p < .001; $r_{T2} = .50$, p < .001), $M_{T1} = 2.54$ ($SD_{T1} = 0.83$) and $M_{T2} = 2.50$ ($SD_{T2} = 0.82$). The item for negative contact reads 'How often were you harassed by a foreigner?' ($M_{T1} = 1.42$, $SD_{T1} = 0.67$; and $M_{T2} = 1.45$, $SD_{T2} = 0.68$).

Racial Prejudice. A 4-item racial prejudice scale was administered (based on Wasmer, Koch, Harkness, & Gabler, 1996). A sample item reads 'There are too many foreigners living in Germany'. Respondents answered using four-point scales ranging from one (*I do not agree at all*) to seven (*I totally agree*). Cronbach's alpha was .80 at T1 and .81 at T2, with $M_{T1} = 2.20$ ($SD_{T1} = 0.68$) and $M_{T2} = 2.21$ ($SD_{T2} = 0.67$).

Results

Preliminary Analyses. As in Study 1, we investigated whether multilevel analyses were warranted because our data were nested (i.e., individuals were located within districts). We estimated empty (intercept-only) models which provided insight in the individual- and context-level variances in our mediators and outcomes. We also calculated the ICCs which confirmed there was substantial between-level variance, warranting the use of multilevel modeling (see Appendix B). Correlations among all study variables can be found in Appendix C.

Main Analyses. A multilevel *random intercept model* was tested, in which the intercept coefficients varied across districts (see Raudenbush & Bryk, 2002; Pituch & Stapleton, 2012). Specifically, we investigated a model with one predictor (i.e., either objective district-level or perceived individual-level diversity), two individual-level mediators (i.e., positive and negative intergroup contact), and one individual-level outcome (i.e., racial prejudice). In order to compute the slopes for low and high authoritarians, we allowed each path to be moderated by individual-level RWA. For all paths, we estimated the effects for low (< 1 SD below the mean), medium (mean level), and high (> 1 SD above the mean) authoritarians, as such examining the conditional effects of the predictor and mediators at various levels of RWA (allowing all individual-level variables to vary between individuals and contexts; cf., Raudenbush et al., 2004). Tables 3a and 3b report all standardized coefficients of the cross-sectional and longitudinal models considering objective diversity. Tables 4a and 4b portray all standardized coefficients of the cross-sectional and longitudinal model considering perceived diversity.

Cross-sectional Results. Firstly, higher objective diversity was related to more positive and more negative intergroup contact, especially among individuals with moderate or high levels of authoritarianism (see Table 3a). Positive contact was further associated with less prejudice, and a reversed pattern of results was revealed for negative contact, but only among moderate and high authoritarians. Importantly, the results further indicated that there were no significant total effects of objective diversity on prejudice (see Table 3b).

Nonetheless, there were significant indirect effects via positive and negative contact, which were especially pronounced among those with average and high levels of authoritarianism. In line with the results of Study 1, objective diversity did not show an overall significant effect on prejudice because it was associated with both more positive and more negative intergroup

contact, which, in turn had opposite effects on prejudice. These indirect effects were less outspoken or even absent among low authoritarians.

Secondly, the cross-sectional results concerning perceived diversity showed an analogous pattern. Higher perceived diversity was related to more positive and more negative intergroup contact, especially among individuals with moderate or high levels of authoritarianism (see Table 4a). Positive contact was further associated with less prejudice, and a reversed pattern of results was revealed for negative contact, but only among moderate and high authoritarians. Most importantly, the results indicated that there were no total effects of perceived diversity on prejudice, except for a negative total effect for low authoritarians at T2 (see Table 4b). Furthermore, perceived diversity simultaneously showed a prejudice-reducing indirect effect via more positive contact experiences (which was significant for everyone) and a prejudice-enhancing indirect effect via more negative contact experiences (which was only significant among moderate and high authoritarians).

Longitudinal Results. The cross-sectional analyses at T1 and T2 provided evidence for the hypothesized diversity-prejudice relation via positive and negative contact, which were especially outspoken among those high in RWA. Yet, to provide more clear indication of the direction of the associations, longitudinal analyses were conducted, following the procedure suggested by Cole and Maxwell (2003). In particular, we tested a model in which the centered T1 scores of diversity and RWA, as well as their interaction term predicted the T2 scores of positive and negative contact, controlling for T1 scores of positive and negative contact. By including the T1 contact scores, we controlled for the stability effect of contact over time (i.e., including the autoregressive paths; $\beta = .60$, p < .001 and $\beta = .53$, p < .001 for positive and negative contact, respectively). Furthermore, the centered T1 scores of contact and RWA, as well as their interaction terms were included as predictors of the T2 scores of prejudice,

controlling for T1 scores of diversity and prejudice (with the autoregressive path β = .71, p < .001).

The bottom lines of Tables 3 and 4 display the standardized coefficients of the model considering objective and perceived diversity, respectively. As expected, higher levels of objective diversity predicted more positive and more negative intergroup contact over time. Importantly, this was only the case among those with medium and high levels of RWA, in line with our hypotheses (see Table 3a). The paths from perceived diversity showed no such pattern (see Tables 4a). Finally, all longitudinal total and indirect effects of diversity on prejudice did not reach significance (see Tables 3b and 4b for the models considering objective and perceived diversity, respectively).

Brief Discussion

In Study 2, we were able to replicate the cross-sectional results considering objective diversity and prejudice. Indeed, the opposing processes of positive and negative intergroup contact largely drive the null effects of objective diversity. Moreover, higher objective diversity longitudinally predicted more positive and more negative intergroup contact, especially among those with average and high levels of authoritarianism. Finally, the cross-sectional results for perceived diversity were similar to the objective diversity results, though they were not in line with the results considering *estimations of* diversity in Study 1. It seems that, compared to higher estimates of diversity, higher perceived diversity did not show the same negative relations with intergroup attitudes, which suggests an intriguing difference between both 'types of measurement' of diversity perceptions.

General Discussion

The present series of studies investigated the associations of ethnic diversity with several aspects of intergroup relations, taking into account important mediators (i.e., positive and negative contact and threat) as well as a critical moderator (i.e., authoritarianism) of these associations. The results of the multilevel models in Study 1 and Study 2 indicated that the non-significant overall associations of objective diversity with generalized, ingroup, and outgroup trust, as well as with subtle and blatant prejudice, were the result of mediating processes through positive and negative intergroup contact, working in opposite directions, while intergroup threat played no meaningful role. Moreover, a closer inspection of the slopes of the indirect effects for individuals high versus low in authoritarianism specified that especially among moderately and highly authoritarians, higher proportions of ethnic outgroups related to both more positive and more negative intergroup contact. The longitudinal results in Study 2 showed that, also over time, moderate and high authoritarians engage in more (positive as well as negative) contact when diversity levels are higher in their local environment.

Secondly, the results concerning perceptions of diversity yielded an interesting insight into the dynamics of diversity 'in the eye of the beholder'. In Study 1, higher estimates of minority proportions (measured via percentage-guesses) were related to lower levels of trust and higher levels of prejudice via more negative intergroup contact and more outgroup threat, but not via positive intergroup contact. Again, these indirect associations were especially present among high authoritarians. Remarkably, in Study 2, higher perceived ethnic diversity (asking for respondents' general impressions of diversity on scales ranging from "no diversity" to "a great degree of diversity") showed no associations with prejudice. In fact, overall, higher perceived diversity was unrelated to prejudice. Moreover, analogous to the results regarding objective diversity, the non-significant total associations of perceived diversity with prejudice were mediated by both positive and negative intergroup contact. Once more, the slopes for these indirect effects tended to be more pronounced among moderate and high authoritarians. Longitudinally, however, higher perceptions of diversity were not related

to higher levels of contact or prejudice over time. In the following, we discuss each of these core findings.

The Repercussions of Ethnic Diversity for Intergroup Relations

Objective versus subjective diversity. First and foremost, the results indicate that objective, estimated, and perceived indicators of diversity demonstrate differential relationships when it comes to intergroup relations. Indeed, whereas higher levels of objective diversity and higher perceptions of diversity did not show an overall relationship with intergroup attitudes because they simultaneously related to a constructive and a harmful process (i.e., both positive and negative intergroup contact), higher estimates of diversity were related to more negative intergroup attitudes because they related to two harmful processes (i.e., negative intergroup contact and perceptions of outgroup threat) at once. In corroboration with previous research, we found that the indirect effects of objective diversity via contact appeared to be stronger than via threat (e.g., Savelkoul et al., 2011; Schmid et al., 2014). Yet, in line with Laurence and colleagues (2017), we argue that it is warranted to look beyond just positive contact, as objective diversity offers opportunities for both positive and negative contact with ethnic and cultural outgroups.

Furthermore, we found that higher estimates of diversity sparked feelings of threat, corroborating previous research (e.g., Semyonov et al. 2004). This might indicate that the measurement of estimated diversity is more inflated and biased compared to the more 'neutral' formulation of Likert-scale perceived diversity items. We argue that estimates of diversity, compared to general evaluations, are indeed far more likely to be misjudged, overemphasized, and driven by previous personal attitudes. Specifically, almost all majority members tend to overestimate the actual relative size of the minority population (see Hooghe & De Vroome, 2015). It seems reasonable that such exaggerated estimates of minority

proportions do not form a basis for (self-reported) positive experiences with ethnic outgroups. Conversely, our findings showed that higher actual minority proportions do stimulate individuals to engage in (positive as well as negative) intergroup contact, and as such offer a more complete portrait of the opportunities within diverse settings.

The role of individual differences in authoritarianism. Our results also highlight the importance of taking individual differences into account when testing diversity effects. Our multilevel interaction approach of simultaneously including psychological and sociostructural variables in the prediction of social phenomena speaks directly to Pettigrew's (1991, 2008) general calls for an integrative 'contextual social psychology'. Furthermore, by considering the interplay between diversity and authoritarianism in various psychological processes, our research neatly builds upon the growing scholarly interest in applying this person X context interplay to the field of intergroup relations (Hodson & Dhont, 2015). Indeed, the question of whether and how diversity affects the social cohesion of communities has become an increasingly prominent and contested topic of debate (see Putnam, 2007) and individual differences in authoritarianism might serve as a key variable here. Whereas previous research has accumulated evidence for the moderating role of authoritarianism in the relations between a) diversity and contact (e.g., Brune et al., 2016), b) diversity and threat (e.g., Van Assche et al., 2016), and c) diversity and intergroup attitudes (e.g., Kauff et al., 2013; Van Assche et al., 2014, 2016), the question remained how authoritarianism shaped the total, direct and indirect effects of diversity via the three main mediating processes.

As such, the results of this study extends previous research on diversity, intergroup contact and threat (e.g. Hewstone, 2015; Putnam, 2007; Schmid et al., 2014) by demonstrating that diversity effects are especially pronounced among moderate and high authoritarians, and sometimes even non-significant among low authoritarians. These findings seem to indicate that in diverse areas, where contact is highly likely and presumably more normative,

authoritarians do not necessarily avoid the outgroup (as is their 'natural' inclination). On the contrary, in an environment with many ethnic outgroups, authoritarians might perceive contact with such groups as inevitable and even normative (see also Brune et al., 2016). Remarkably, we replicated the findings of Brune and colleagues (2016) using a different diversity indicator (i.e., the proportion of immigrants in Study 1 and foreigners in Study 2 versus the proportion of Asians in the Brune et al. study) and a different contact indicator (i.e., frequency of positive and frequency of negative contact experiences versus an intergroup friendship scale in the Brune et al. study). This is noteworthy for two reasons. Firstly, authoritarians likely feel more threatened by the presence of immigrants and foreigners as opposed to Asians (who are usually perceived as more competent; see Asbrock, 2010; Fiske, Cuddy, Glick, & Xu, 2002). Still, we found that, even over time, authoritarians engage in contact with these outgroups. Secondly, where Brune and colleagues show that, for high authoritarians, diversity relates to intergroup friendship as an affective high-quality form of contact, we corroborate and extend these results by showing that diversity relates to less close forms of positive contact (i.e., mere quantity of positive experiences) and also to negative contact experiences. Future research could directly assess intergroup contact quality, or could assess the hours of positive versus the hours of negative contact, testing the possibility that the increased amount of intergroup encounters for authoritarians in the face of diversity might include relatively more negative experiences than positive ones.

Intriguingly, while our findings indicate that individuals high in authoritarianism are most prominently impacted by diversity, they also suggest that individuals low in authoritarianism are little affected by diversity in terms of contact, threat, and intergroup attitudes. Future studies could specifically focus on low authoritarians by investigating why they are less sensitive to diverse environments compared to high authoritarians (see Van Assche, Dhont, Van Hiel, & Roets, in press; Van Assche et al., 2016). A tentative hypothesis

could be that low authoritarians also have more intergroup contact and immigrant friends outside their local area, and thus depend less on the diversity in their direct physical environment for intergroup contact.

Finally, it is valuable to include several intergroup outcomes when examining diversity effects. In our aim to test Putnam's pessimistic hunkering down hypothesis, we took into account five aspects of intergroup attitudes. With regards to the consequences of objective and perceived diversity, we found no evidence for any detrimental effects across our outcomes. With regards to the correlates of estimations of diversity, however, our results suggest that this aspect of diversity is indeed connected to greater prejudice and lower trust, in people in general, in ethnic outgroups, and even in one's own ethnic group. Whereas the impact of diversity tends to generalize across various intergroup facets, the conclusions for threat and contact effects are slightly divergent for outgroup attitudes (i.e., outgroup trust, subtle and blatant prejudice) compared to ingroup attitudes (i.e., ingroup trust) and more general attitudes (i.e., generalized trust). Positive contact experiences did ameliorate all these attitudes (with their largest benefits among high authoritarians; see also Dhont & Van Hiel, 2009). Negative contact and threat, on the other hand, decreased outgroup trust and increased prejudice for high and low authoritarians alike (with the exception that negative contact did not affect low authoritarians' blatant prejudice), but only in low authoritarians did these negative processes also decrease ingroup and generalized trust. Indeed, high authoritarians' perceived outgroup threat was even related to *more* ingroup trust, suggesting that they apply some sort of defense mechanism which protects against decreased ingroup trust in the face of negative intergroup experiences (cf. Kessler & Cohrs, 2008). Future research could dig deeper into this mechanism and test our speculative hypothesis.

Strengths, Limitations and Directions for Future Research

The present study included slightly different measures and different levels of analysis across two studies, which precludes direct comparisons but offers insights in the robustness of our findings. Moreover, by including an objective as well as and two subjective measures of diversity, we went beyond most previous diversity research. This differentiation is important because the similarity in findings for objective and perceived measures indicates that the results found with the perceived measure are robust and could not merely be attributed to biased or extreme responding. The deviating findings found for estimations of diversity, on the other hand, might point to potentially biased responding, a measurement issue which future research may want to investigate in greater detail.

A second merit bears upon the inclusion of both small-to-medium (i.e., city) and medium-to-large (i.e., district) levels of analysis to measure the specific ethnic environment of the respondents. In Study 1, we even specifically collected nested data with at least 5 observations per contextual unit. The specific choice for a relatively broad contextual unit of analysis may however also constitute a drawback, as previous studies suggested that ethnic diversity mainly affects trust in the micro-context, whereas these effects vanish in larger contextual units (Dinesen & Sønderskov, 2015; Koster, 2013). Indeed, diversity in the local neighborhood makes a stronger impression on individuals (Schaeffer, 2014), being the most direct geographical environment in which people spend most of their social time (Tolsma, van der Meer, & Gesthuizen, 2009). Yet, the present study, using two medium levels of analysis, showed no main effects of objective as well as perceived diversity, as such substantiating previous studies using smaller contextual units-of-analysis (e.g., Gijsberts et al., 2012; Schmid et al., 2014) as well as replicating studies that also used relatively large levels of analysis (e.g., the country-level study of Hjerm, 2007; the region-level study of Evans and Need, 2002, and the municipality-level study of Schlueter and Scheepers, 2010).

Thirdly, future studies could empirically assess the contextual level where diversity exerts its strongest impact, and investigate which mediators play a role at which level. For example, it would be insightful to simultaneously examine ethnic diversity at the local, intermediate, and national level, to see whether contact effects outperform threat effects at each level. Indeed, regional diversity might not only relate to more individual contact experiences, but also to more "higher-level" contact. Christ and colleagues (2014) already showed that living in a contextual setting where fellow ingroup members engage in intergroup contact is extremely beneficial in terms of reduced prejudice, even among those who rarely experience individual face-to-face contact. This between-level effect of intergroup contact is even greater than its individual-level effect, and might also show a differential associations with intergroup attitudes for low versus high authoritarians.

Fourthly, by applying longitudinal analyses, we gained greater insight into how diversity impacts intergroup contact and prejudice in the longer run. Our results indicated that, over a period of two years, higher minority proportions heighten positive and negative intergroup contact experiences, but they did not relate to prejudice levels over time. There may be various reasons for this lack of longitudinal effect on prejudice. Firstly, actual minority proportions did not change that much in the two-year period we considered. In fact, the levels dropped on average 0.07%, ranging from a small decrease of 1.20% in some districts to a small increase of 0.30% in others. Secondly, we believe that while contact experiences can easily vary both in quantity and quality, prejudiced attitudes may be less subjected to momentary circumstances but rather relatively stable across a few months or years, leaving not much room for diversity to exert a significant impact (cf., the correlation between prejudice at T1 and T2 was .78; see Appendix C, see also Dhont, Van Hiel, De Bolle, & Roets, 2012). Future studies may examine the change in the ethnic composition and its potential long-term effects on prejudice over a longer period of time with special attention to

periods with large and sudden upsurges in immigration of foreign-born people (cf., the recent increase of refugees).

Finally, future research may want to use more elaborate (multi-item) measures, which are more reliable and may yield larger effect sizes, especially with regards to intergroup contact effects (see Pettigrew & Hewstone, 2017). Although the use of short scales (and particularly the lack of a threat measure in Study 2) is a limitation of the current contribution, we believe this research sets an example in two other ways. Firstly, in terms of model building, we included many critical variables into one coherent and comprehensive model, hence avoiding 'the Single Factor Fallacy' (i.e., the missing of key variables which might distort results and conclusions; Pettigrew & Hewstone, 2017). Secondly, in terms of methodology, we acknowledged the complex nature of the effects and processes instigated by diversity through applying mediation—moderation multilevel analyses and longitudinal research.

Conclusion

Our results add a crucial piece of the puzzle that goes beyond previous research unraveling the complex and multifaceted diversity effects. By providing new insights into the mediating role of contact and threat and the moderating role of authoritarianism in the associations of diversity with various facets of intergroup relations, this research will hopefully encourage future research to further develop the interesting theoretical framework of ethnic diversity, right-wing ideologies and intergroup processes and attitudes.

Notes

- [1] As the variances at the contextual level in the mediators and outcomes were rather small (all ICCs < 0.05 in Study 1 and < 0.14 in Study 2), we also ran individual-level path models in SPSS, using Hayes' (2013) Process macro Model 59 (N = 50.000 bootstrap samples). These analyses yielded virtually identical results and are available upon request with the first author.
 - [2] The specific syntax for all analyses can be found in Appendix D.
- [3] Alternative models considering the indirect effects of prejudice in the associations of diversity with intergroup contact and threat only provided limited evidence for prejudice as a mediator. Additionally, a test of a model investigating the conditional effects of objective diversity on subjective diversity revealed that, in both studies, the strong and positive associations between objective and subjective diversity were especially pronounced among medium and high authoritarians (even over time). As such, we replicated previous findings by Van Assche and colleagues (2016) in a longitudinal sample and in another country. The results of these analyses can be found in Appendix E.
- [4] Germany is divided into 440 districts ("Kreise"), which are subdivisions of a government district ("Regierungsbezirk"), which itself is the subdivision of a federal state ("Land or Bundesland"). Sizes of districts vary between approximately 35,000 and 3,400,000 inhabitants.

References

- Adorno, T. W., Frenkel-Brunswik, E., Levinson, D. J., & Sanford, R. N. (1950). *The Authoritarian Personality*. New York: Harper.
- Allport, G. W. (1954). The Nature of Prejudice. New York: Addison.
- Altemeyer, B. (1981). Right-Wing Authoritarianism. University of Manitoba Press.
- Altemeyer, B. (1988). Enemies of freedom: Understanding right-wing authoritarianism.

 Jossey-Bass.
- Asbrock, F., Christ, O., Duckitt, J., & Sibley, C. G. (2012). Differential effects of intergroup contact for authoritarians and social dominators a dual process model perspective. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, *38*, 477-490.
- Blalock, H. M. (1967). *Toward a Theory of Minority-group Relations*. New York: John Wiley & Sons.
- Blumer, H. (1958). Race prejudice as a sense of group position. *Pacific Sociological Review*, 1, 3-7.
- Bobo, L. D. (1999). Prejudice as group position: Microfoundations of a sociological approach to racism and race relations. *Journal of Social Issues*, *55*, 445-472.
- Brown, R., & Hewstone, M. (2005). An integrative theory of intergroup contact. *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, 37, 255-343.
- Brune, A., Asbrock, F., & Sibley, C. G. (2016). Meet Your Neighbours. Authoritarians

 Engage in Intergroup Contact When They have the Opportunity. *Journal of*Community & Applied Social Psychology, 26, 567-580.

- CBS (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek). (2015). *Jaarrapport Integratie 2015*. [Annual Report on Integration 2015]. Dutch Central Bureau of Statistics, Den Haag. Available from: http://statline.cbs.nl (last access 16.02.17).
- Christ, O., Schmid, K., Lolliot, S., Swart, H., Stolle, D., Tausch, N., Al Ramiah, A., Wagner, U., Vertovec, S., & Hewstone, M. (2014). Contextual effect of positive intergroup contact on outgroup prejudice. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111(11), 3996-4000.
- Cohrs, J. C., & Asbrock, F. (2009). Right-wing authoritarianism, social dominance orientation and prejudice against threatening and competitive ethnic groups. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 39, 270-289.
- De keersmaecker, J., Van Assche, J., & Roets, A. (2016). Need for closure effects on affective and cognitive responses to culture fusion. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 47, 1294-1306.
- Dhont, K., & Van Hiel, A. (2009). We must not be enemies: Interracial contact and the reduction of prejudice among authoritarians. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 46, 172-177.
- Dhont, K., & Van Hiel, A. (2011). Direct contact and authoritarianism as moderators between extended contact and reduced prejudice: Lower threat and greater trust as mediators. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 14, 223-237.
- Dhont, K., Van Hiel, A., De Bolle, M., & Roets, A. (2012). Longitudinal intergroup contact effects on prejudice using self-and observer-reports. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, *51*, 221-238.

- Dinesen, P. T., & Sønderskov, K. M. (2015). Ethnic diversity and social trust: Evidence from the micro-context. *American Sociological Review*, 80, 550-573.
- Duckitt, J. (2001). A dual-process cognitive-motivational theory of ideology and prejudice. *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology*, *33*, 41-113.
- ESS Round 7: European Social Survey Round 7 Data (2014). *Data file Edition 2.1*.

 Norwegian Social Science Data Services, Norway Data Archive and Distributor of ESS data.
- Evans, G., & Need, A. (2002). Explaining ethnic polarization over attitudes towards minority rights in Eastern Europe: a multilevel analysis. *Social Science Research*, *31*(4), 653-680.
- Fasel, N., Green, E. G., & Sarrasin, O. (2013). Facing cultural diversity. *European Psychologist*, 18, 253-262.
- Feldman, S., & Stenner, K. (1997). Perceived threat and authoritarianism. *Political Psychology*, *18*, 741-770.
- Gijsberts, M., van der Meer, T., & Dagevos, J. (2012). 'Hunkering down'in multi-ethnic neighbourhoods? The effects of ethnic diversity on dimensions of social cohesion. *European Sociological Review*, 28, 527-537.
- Green, E. G., Fasel, N., & Sarrasin, O. (2010). The more the merrier? The effects of type of cultural diversity on exclusionary immigration attitudes in Switzerland. *International Journal of Conflict and Violence*, 4, 177-190.
- Hayes, A. F. (2013). *Introduction to mediation, moderation, and conditional process* analysis: A regression-based approach. Guilford Press.

- Heitmeyer, W. (2002). Gruppenbezogene Menschenfeindlichkeit: Die Theoretische Konzeption und Erste Empirische Ergebnisse [Group-Focused Emnity: Theoretical Conception and First Empirical Results], in Heitmeyer, W. *Deutsche Zustände I* [German States 1], pp. 15-34. Frankfurt: Edition Suhrkamp
- Hewstone, M. (2015). Consequences of diversity for social cohesion and prejudice: The missing dimension of intergroup contact. *Journal of Social Issues*, 71, 417-438.
- Hewstone, M., & Swart, H. (2011). Fifty-odd years of inter-group contact: From hypothesis to integrated theory. *British Journal of Social Psychology*, *50*, 374-386.
- Hewstone, M., Lolliot, S., Swart, H., Myers, E., Voci, A., Al Ramiah, A., & Cairns, E. (2014). Intergroup contact and intergroup conflict. *Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology*, 20, 39-53.
- Hjerm, M. (2007). Do numbers really count? Group threat theory revisited. *Journal of Ethnic* and Migration Studies, 33(8), 1253-1275.
- Hodson, G. (2011). Do ideologically intolerant people benefit from intergroup contact? *Current Directions in Psychological Science*, 20, 154-159.
- Hodson, G., & Dhont, K. (2015). The person-based nature of prejudice: Individual difference predictors of intergroup negativity. *European Review of Social Psychology*, 26, 1-42.
- Hooghe, M., & De Vroome, T. (2015). The perception of ethnic diversity and anti-immigrant sentiments: A multilevel analysis of local communities in Belgium. *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, *38*, 38-56.

- Hooghe, M., Reeskens, T., Stolle, D., & Trappers, A. (2009). Ethnic diversity and generalized trust in Europe A cross-national multilevel study. *Comparative Political Studies*, 42, 198-223.
- Karreth, J., Singh, S. P., & Stojek, S. M. (2015). Explaining attitudes toward immigration:

 The role of regional context and individual predispositions. *West European Politics*, 38, 1174-1202.
- Kauff, M., Asbrock, F., Thörner, S., & Wagner, U. (2013). Side Effects of Multiculturalism The Interaction Effect of a Multicultural Ideology and Authoritarianism on Prejudice and Diversity Beliefs. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 39, 305-320.
- Kessler, T., & Cohrs, J. C. (2008). The evolution of authoritarian processes: Fostering cooperation in large-scale groups. *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice*, 12, 73-84.
- Koopmans, R., & Schaeffer, M. (2015). Relational diversity and neighbourhood cohesion.

 Unpacking variety, balance and in-group size. *Social Science Research*, 53, 162-176.
- Koopmans, R., & Veit, S. (2014). Ethnic diversity, trust, and the mediating role of positive and negative interethnic contact: A priming experiment. *Social Science Research*, 47, 91-107.
- Koster, F. (2013). Sociality in diverse societies: A regional analysis across European countries. *Social indicators research*, *111*, 579-601.
- Kunovich, R. M., & Hodson, R. (2002). Ethnic diversity, segregation, and inequality: A structural model of ethnic prejudice in Bosnia and Croatia. *The Sociological Quarterly*, 43, 185-212.

- Laurence, J. (2011). The effect of ethnic diversity and community disadvantage on social cohesion: A multi-level analysis of social capital and interethnic relations in UK communities. *European Sociological Review*, 27, 70-89.
- Laurence, J., Schmid, K., & Hewstone, M. (2017). Ethnic Diversity, Inter-group Attitudes and Countervailing Pathways of Positive and Negative Inter-group Contact: An Analysis Across Workplaces and Neighbourhoods. *Social Indicators Research*, 1-31.
- Lederer, G. (1982). Trends in Authoritarianism: A Study of Adolescents in West Germany and the United States Since 1945. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 13, 3-29
- Letki, N. (2008). Does diversity erode social cohesion? Social capital and race in British neighbourhoods. *Political Studies*, *56*, 99-126.
- Muthén, L.K. and Muthén, B.O. (1998-2012). Mplus User's Guide. Seventh Edition. Los Angeles, CA: Muthén & Muthén.
- Onraet, E., Dhont, K., & Van Hiel, A. (2014). The relationships between internal and external threats and right-wing attitudes: A three-wave longitudinal study. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 40, 712-725.
- Onraet, E., & Van Hiel, A. (2013). When threat to society becomes a threat to oneself:

 Implications for right-wing attitudes and ethnic prejudice. *International Journal of Psychology*, 48, 25-34.
- Oliver, E. J., & Wong, J. (2003). Intergroup prejudice in multiethnic settings. *American Journal of Political Science*, 47, 567-582.
- Pettigrew, T. F. (1991). Normative Theory in Intergroup Relations: Explaining Bo th Harmony and Conflict. *Psychology and Developing Societies*, *3*, 3-16.

- Pettigrew, T. F. (1998). Intergroup contact theory. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 49, 65-85.
- Pettigrew, T. F. (2008). Future directions for intergroup contact theory and research. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, *32*, 187-199.
- Pettigrew, T. F., & Hewstone, M. (2017). The Single Factor Fallacy: Implications of Missing Critical Variables from an Analysis of Intergroup Contact Theory. *Social Issues and Policy Review*, 11, 8-37.
- Pettigrew, T. F., & Tropp, L. R. (2006). A meta-analytic test of intergroup contact theory. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 90, 751-783.
- Pettigrew, T. F., Tropp, L. R., Wagner, U., & Christ, O. (2011). Recent advances in intergroup contact theory. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, *35*, 271-280.
- Pettigrew, T. F., & Meertens, R. W. (1995). Subtle and blatant prejudice in Western Europe. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 25, 57-75.
- Pettigrew, T. F., Wagner, U., & Christ, O. (2010). Population ratios and prejudice: Modelling both contact and threat effects. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *36*(4), 635-650.
- Pituch, K. A., & Stapleton, L. M. (2012). Distinguishing between cross-and cluster-level mediation processes in the cluster randomized trial. *Sociological Methods & Research*, 41(4), 630-670.
- Putnam, R. D. (2007). E pluribus unum: Diversity and community in the twenty-first century the 2006 Johan Skytte Prize Lecture. *Scandinavian Political Studies*, *30*, 137-174.

- Quillian, L. (1995). Prejudice as a response to perceived group threat: Population composition and anti-immigrant and racial prejudice in Europe. *American Sociological Review*, 60, 586-611.
- Raudenbush, S. W., & Bryk, A. S. (2002). *Hierarchical linear models: Applications and data analysis methods* (Vol. 1). Sage.
- Raudenbush, S., Bryk, A., Cheong, Y. F., Congdon, R., & Du Toit, M. (2004). HLM 6. *Lincolnwood, IL: Scientific Software International*.
- Savelkoul, M., Gesthuizen, M., & Scheepers, P. (2011). Explaining relationships between ethnic diversity and informal social capital across European countries and regions:

 Tests of constrict, conflict and contact theory. *Social Science Research*, 40, 1091-1107.
- Schaeffer, M. (2014). Ethnic diversity and social cohesion: Immigration, ethnic fractionalization and potentials for civic action. Ashgate Publishing, Ltd..
- Scheepers, P., Gijsberts, M., & Coenders, M. (2002). Ethnic exclusionism in European countries. Public opposition to civil rights for legal migrants as a response to perceived ethnic threat. *European Sociological Review*, 18, 17-34.
- Schlueter, E., & Scheepers, P. (2010). The relationship between outgroup size and antioutgroup attitudes: A theoretical synthesis and empirical test of group threat-and intergroup contact theory. *Social Science Research*, 39, 285-295.
- Schlueter, E., & Wagner, U. (2008). Regional differences matter: Examining the dual influence of the regional size of the immigrant population on derogation of immigrants in Europe. *International Journal of Comparative Sociology*, 49, 153-173.

- Schmid, K., Al Ramiah, A., & Hewstone, M. (2014). Neighborhood ethnic diversity and trust: the role of intergroup contact and perceived threat. *Psychological Science*, 25, 665-674.
- Schneider, S. L. (2008). Anti-immigrant attitudes in Europe: Outgroup size and perceived ethnic threat. *European Sociological Review*, 24, 53-67.
- Semyonov, M., Raijman, R., Tov, A. Y., & Schmidt, P. (2004). Population size, perceived threat, and exclusion: A multiple-indicators analysis of attitudes toward foreigners in Germany. *Social Science Research*, *33*, 681-701.
- Sibley, C. G., Duckitt, J., Bergh, R., Osborne, D., Perry, R., Asbrock, F., Robertson, A., Armstrong, G., Wilson, M.S., & Barlow, F. K. (2013). A dual process model of attitudes towards immigration: person× residential area effects in a national sample. *Political Psychology*, *34*, 553-572.
- Stellmacher, J., & Petzel, T. (2005). Authoritarianism as a group phenomenon. *Political Psychology*, 26, 245-274.
- Stenner, K. (2005). *The Authoritarian Dynamic*. Cambridge University Press.
- Stephan, W. G., Boniecki, K. A., Ybarra, O., Bettencourt, A., Ervin, K. S., Jackson, L. A., McNatt, P.S., & Renfro, C. L. (2002). The role of threats in the racial attitudes of Blacks and Whites. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 28, 1242-1254.
- Stephan, W. G., & Stephan, C. W. (2000). An integrated threat theory of prejudice. In S. Oskamp (Ed.), *Reducing Prejudice and Discrimination* (pp. 23-46). Hillsdale, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum.

- Stolle, D., Soroka, S., & Johnston, R. (2008). When does diversity erode trust? Neighborhood diversity, interpersonal trust and the mediating effect of social interactions. *Political Studies*, 56, 57-75.
- Taylor, M. C. (1998). How white attitudes vary with the racial composition of local populations: Numbers count. *American Sociological Review*, 63, 512-535.
- Tolsma, J., van der Meer, T., & Gesthuizen, M. (2009). The impact of neighbourhood and municipality characteristics on social cohesion in the Netherlands. *Acta Politica*, 44, 286-313.
- Van Assche, J., Asbrock, F., Roets, A., & Kauff, M. (in press). Positive Neighborhood Norms

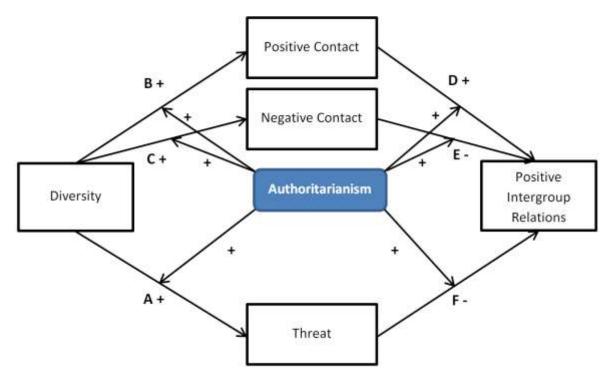
 Buffer Ethnic Diversity Effects on Neighborhood Dissatisfaction, Perceived

 Neighborhood Disadvantage, and Moving Intentions. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.
- Van Assche, J., Dhont, K., Van Hiel, A., & Roets, A. (in press). Ethnic Diversity and Support for Populist Parties: The "Right" Road through Political Cynicism and Lack of Trust. *Social Psychology*.
- Van Assche, J., Roets, A., Dhont, K., & Van Hiel, A. (2014). Diversity and out-group attitudes in the Netherlands: The role of authoritarianism and social threat in the neighbourhood. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 40, 1414-1430.
- Van Assche, J., Roets, A., Dhont, K., & Van Hiel, A. (2016). The association between actual and perceived ethnic diversity: The moderating role of authoritarianism and implications for outgroup threat, anxiety, and mistrust. *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 46, 807-817.

- van der Meer, T., & Tolsma, J. (2014). Ethnic diversity and its effects on social cohesion. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 40, 459-478.
- Van Hiel, A., Cornelis, I., & Roets, A. (2007). The intervening role of social worldviews in the relationship between the five-factor model of personality and social attitudes. *European Journal of Personality*, 21, 131-148.
- Wagner, U., Christ, O., Pettigrew, T. F., Stellmacher, J., & Wolf, C. (2006). Prejudice and minority proportion: Contact instead of threat effects. *Social psychology quarterly*, 69, 380-390.
- Wagner, U., Van Dick, R., Pettigrew, T. F., & Christ, O. (2003). Ethnic prejudice in East and West Germany: The explanatory power of intergroup contact. *Group Processes & Intergroup Relations*, 6, 22-36.
- Wasmer, M., Koch, A., Harkness, J., & Gabler, S. (1996). Konzeption und Durchführung der Allgemeinen Bevölkerungsumfrage der Sozialwissenschaften (Allbus). ZUMA-Arbeitsbericht 96/08.

Figures

Figure 1Schematic Representation of the tested Moderated Mediation Model of Diversity Effects



Tables

Table 1aPath Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Structural Model in Study 1 considering Objective Diversity's Effects on the Mediators, and the Mediators' Effects on Intergroup Outcomes at different levels of Right-Wing Authoritarianism

Paths						
IV	\longrightarrow	MEDIATOR		→		OUTCOME
	For RWA		For Low RWA	For Medium RWA	For High RWA	
Objective	L: 0.091 ^a	Positive	0.101 ^a	0.145***	0.189***	Generalized Trust
Diversity	M: 0.127**	Contact	0.128*	0.135***	0.143***	Ingroup Trust
	H: 0.151**		0.138**	0.191***	0.245***	Outgroup Trust
			-0.211***	-0.189***	-0.167***	Subtle Prejudice
			-0.236***	-0.255***	-0.273***	Blatant Prejudice
Objective	L: 0.081	Negative	-0.282***	-0.251***	-0.220***	Generalized Trust
Diversity	M: 0.132***	Contact	-0.273***	-0.150***	-0.027	Ingroup Trust
	H: 0.186***		-0.284***	-0.248***	-0.212***	Outgroup Trust
			0.197***	0.226***	0.254***	Subtle Prejudice
			0.019	0.098**	0.176***	Blatant Prejudice
Objective	L: -0.042	Threat	-0.145**	-0.111*	-0.078	Generalized Trust
Diversity	M: 0.001		-0.155*	-0.035	0.086	Ingroup Trust
	H: 0.055		-0.261***	-0.246***	-0.230***	Outgroup Trust
			0.530***	0.537***	0.544***	Subtle Prejudice
			0.489***	0.494***	0.499***	Blatant Prejudice

Note: a: p < .10; *: p < .05; **: p < .01; ***: p < .001

Table 1bPath Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Structural Model in Study 1 considering

Objective Diversity' Conditional Total, Direct, and Indirect Effects on Intergroup Outcomes

Paths							
From	То	For RWA	Total Effect	Direct Effect	Indirect Effect via Positive Contact	Indirect Effect via Negative Contact	Indirect Effect via Threat
Objective Diversity	Generalized Trust	Low Medium	0.010 -0.016	0.014	0.006 0.017**	-0.022 -0.034***	0.008 -0.001
•		High	-0.041	-0.028	0.034**	-0.044***	-0.003
Objective Diversity	Ingroup Trust	Low Medium High	0.040 0.010 -0.020	0.024 -0.004 -0.032	0.003 0.015* 0.033*	-0.019 -0.020** -0.013**	0.007 0.000 -0.005
Objective Diversity	Outgroup Trust	Low Medium High	0.008 -0.004 -0.019	0.007 0.000 -0.006	0.010* 0.023** 0.041**	-0.023 -0.034*** -0.041***	0.013 -0.001 -0.012
Objective Diversity	Subtle Prejudice	Low Medium High	-0.046 0.018 0.081 ^a	-0.022 0.005 0.031	-0.020** -0.024** -0.026**	0.016 0.030*** 0.047***	-0.023 0.003 0.030
Objective Diversity	Blatant Prejudice	Low Medium High	-0.010 0.017 0.043	0.032 0.030 0.028	-0.022** -0.032** -0.044**	0.000 0.013* 0.036**	-0.024 0.003 0.025

Table 2a

Path Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Structural Model in Study 1 considering
Estimations of Diversity's Conditional Total Effects on the Mediators, and the Mediators'
Conditional Total Effects on Intergroup Outcomes

Paths						
IV	\longrightarrow	MEDIATOR		→		OUTCOME
	For RWA		For Low RWA	For Medium RWA	For High RWA	
Estimations	L: 0.017	Positive	0.112*	0.149***	0.185***	Generalized Trust
of Diversity	M: -0.004	Contact	0.141**	0.140**	0.139**	Ingroup Trust
	H: -0.024		0.145**	0.196***	0.246***	Outgroup Trust
			-0.204***	-0.182***	-0.160***	Subtle Prejudice
			-0.235***	-0.254***	-0.272***	Blatant Prejudice
Estimations	L: 0.231***	Negative	-0.262***	-0.231***	-0.199***	Generalized Trust
of Diversity	M: 0.257***	Contact	-0.255***	-0.127***	0.000	Ingroup Trust
	H: 0.283***		-0.280***	-0.240***	-0.200***	Outgroup Trust
			0.211***	0.241***	0.272***	Subtle Prejudice
			0.013	0.098**	0.182***	Blatant Prejudice
Estimations	L: 0.190***	Threat	-0.126*	-0.090^{a}	-0.054	Generalized Trust
of Diversity	M: 0.192***		-0.139**	-0.015	0.109^{a}	Ingroup Trust
	H: 0.194***		-0.251***	-0.232***	-0.212***	Outgroup Trust
			0.537***	0.545***	0.553***	Subtle Prejudice
			0.479***	0.486***	0.494***	Blatant Prejudice

Table 2bPath Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Structural Model in Study 1 considering
Estimations of Diversity's Conditional Total, Direct, and Indirect Effects on Intergroup
Outcomes

Paths							
From	То	For RWA	Total Effect	Direct Effect	Indirect Effect via Positive Contact	Indirect Effect via Negative Contact	Indirect Effect via Threat
Estimations of Diversity	Generalized Trust	Low Medium High	-0.160** -0.183*** -0.206***	-0.069 -0.103** -0.137**	0.001 -0.001 -0.005	-0.060** -0.018* -0.006*	-0.030* -0.018* -0.006
Estimations of Diversity	Ingroup Trust	Low Medium High	-0.144** -0.140** -0.136**	-0.066 -0.104** -0.141**	0.001 0.000 -0.005	-0.051** -0.034** -0.012	-0.028* -0.003 0.021 ^a
Estimations of Diversity	Outgroup Trust	Low Medium High	-0.210*** -0.174*** -0.159**	-0.095 ^a -0.065 ^a -0.034	0.002 -0.001 -0.006	-0.063** -0.063** -0.061**	-0.051*** -0.045*** -0.039**
Estimations of Diversity	Subtle Prejudice	Low Medium High	0.088 0.103** 0.118**	-0.055 -0.063** -0.071**	-0.004 0.001 0.004	0.047** 0.061** 0.077***	0.102*** 0.104*** 0.107***
Estimations of Diversity	Blatant Prejudice	Low Medium High	0.125 ^a 0.149** 0.174**	0.029 0.028 0.026	-0.004 0.001 0.007	0.000 0.025** 0.056***	0.101*** 0.094*** 0.088***

Table 3a

Path Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Structural Models in Study 2 considering Objective Diversity's Conditional Total Effects on the Mediators, and the Mediators' Conditional Total Effects on Prejudice

Paths						
IV	→	MEDIATOR	-	→		OUTCOME
	For RWA		For Low RWA	For Medium RWA	For High RWA	
Cross-sectional						
Objective Diversity T1	L: 0.218*** M: 0.229*** H: 0.248***	Positive Contact T1	-0.261***	-0.274***	-0.286***	Prejudice T1
Objective Diversity T1	L: 0.193** M: 0.239*** H: 0.279***	Negative Contact T1	0.074	0.097*	0.121*	Prejudice T1
Objective Diversity T2	L: 0.206*** M: 0.221*** H: 0.237***	Positive Contact T2	-0.266***	-0.230***	-0.198***	Prejudice T2
Objective Diversity T2	L: 0.117 ^a M: 0.205*** H: 0.293***	Negative Contact T2	0.093	0.130***	0.179***	Prejudice T2
Longitudinal						
Objective Diversity T1	L: 0.063 M: 0.083* H: 0.103*	Positive Contact T2/T1	-0.053	-0.033	-0.012	Prejudice T2
Objective Diversity T1	L: 0.057 M: 0.089* H: 0.121*	Negative Contact T2/T1	0.027	0.013	-0.001	Prejudice T2

Table 3bPath Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Structural Models in Study 2 considering Objective Diversity' Conditional Total, Direct, and Indirect Effects on Intergroup Outcomes

Paths						
					Indirect	Indirect
From	То	For	Total	Direct	Effect	Effect
PIOIII	10	RWA	Effect	Effect	via Positive	via Negative
					Contact	Contact
Objective	Prejudice T1	Low	0.062	0.101 ^a	-0.053**	0.018
Diversity T1	riejudice i i	Medium	0.025	0.065	-0.064***	0.023*
		High	-0.011	0.029	-0.074***	0.036*
Objective	Desiration T2	Low	0.010	0.058	-0.054***	0.011*
Diversity T2	Prejudice T2	Medium	0.023	0.042	-0.051***	0.028**
		High	0.036	0.026	-0.047*	0.052**
Objective	Prejudice T2	Low	-0.010	-0.009	-0.003	0.002
Diversity T1	Frejudice 12	Medium	0.019	0.020	-0.002	0.002
		High	0.048	0.049	-0.001	0.000

Table 4a

Path Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Structural Models in Study 2 considering Perceived Diversity's Conditional Total Effects on the Mediators, and the Mediators' Conditional Total Effects on Prejudice

Paths						
IV	\longrightarrow	MEDIATOR	_	→		OUTCOME
	For RWA		For Low RWA	For Medium RWA	For High RWA	
Cross-sectional						
Perceived Diversity T1	L: 0.354*** M: 0.298*** H: 0.243***	Positive Contact T1	-0.275***	-0.284***	-0.292***	Prejudice T1
Perceived Diversity T1	L: 0.196** M: 0.223*** H: 0.251***	Negative Contact T1	0.075	0.095*	0.115*	Prejudice T1
Perceived Diversity T2	L: 0.247*** M: 0.236*** H: 0.226***	Positive Contact T2	-0.253***	-0.221***	-0.188***	Prejudice T2
Perceived Diversity T2	L: 0.097 M: 0.144** H: 0.191**	Negative Contact T2	0.098 ^a	0.143***	0.188***	Prejudice T2
Longitudinal						
Perceived Diversity T1	L: 0.027 M: 0.030 H: 0.033	Positive Contact T2/T1	-0.048	-0.028	-0.007	Prejudice T2
Perceived Diversity T1	L: 0.090 M: 0.047 H: 0.004	Negative Contact T2/T1	0.032	0.017	0.003	Prejudice T2

Table 4bPath Analysis: Standardized Estimates of the Cross-Sectional and Longitudinal Structural Models in Study 2 considering Perceived Diversity' Conditional Total, Direct, and Indirect Effects on Intergroup Outcomes

Paths						
From	То	For RWA	Total Effect	Direct Effect	Indirect Effect via Positive Contact	Indirect Effect via Negative Contact
Perceived Diversity T1	Prejudice T1	Low Medium	-0.033 0.019	0.035 0.077 ^a	-0.087*** -0.082***	0.016 0.021*
Perceived Diversity T2	Prejudice T2	High Low Medium	0.071 -0.155** -0.042	0.118* -0.115 ^a -0.013	-0.074*** -0.051** -0.051**	0.028* 0.011 0.020*
Perceived	Prejudice T2	High Low	0.071	0.090^{a} -0.062	-0.051 -0.051** -0.001	0.031* 0.003
Diversity T1	Frequence 12	Medium High	-0.012 0.036	-0.012 0.037	-0.001 0.000	0.001 0.000