Online Appendix: The value of responsibility, certainty and child rights for supporting state intervention in the family – an empirical study of populations in six European countries

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Table A1 Sample vs population, representativeness on key socio-demographic features

	Czechia		England		Finland		Norway		Poland		Romania	
	Sample	Pop.	Sample	Pop.	Sample	Pop.	Sample	Pop.	Sample	Pop.	Sample	Pop.
Age[1]												
Mean	46.05	42.21	45.55	40.7	46.41	50.94	48.29	48.64	43.37	49.28	43.23	49.93
SD	15.48	23.20	15.96	23.6	16.02	19.35	16.61	18.75	14.90	17.76	14.71	17.94
Gender[2]												
Male	49.50	49.00	48.12	49.00	49.60	49.12 %	49.60	50.23 %	48.52	48.32 %	49.35	48.52 %
Female	50.50	51.00	51.88	51.00	50.40	50.88 %	50.40	49.77 %	51.48	51.68 %	50.65	51.48 %
Region[3]												
Capital Region	12.70 %	12.63 %	13.66 %	12.98 %	28.39 %	31.32 %	14.81 %	12.90 %	23.96 %	9.42 %	12.69 %	11.86 %
(2nd) largest region	12.80 %	13.33 %	14.75 %	14.02 %	30.48 %	25.02 %	21.67 %	23.39 %	21.89 %	20.59 %	15.88 %	16.93 %
2nd/3rd largest region	11.01 %	11.24 %	11.29 %	11.95 %	23.41 %	22.97 %	13.52 %	11.82 %	13.91 %	16.19 %	14.19 %	15.03 %

Population data from: Statistisk Sentralbyrå (2022, 2023a, 2023b), Statistics Finland (2019a, 2019b, 2019c), Statistics Poland (2023a, 2023b), Institutul Național de Statistică (2021a, 2021b), Office for National Statistics (Office for National Statistics, 2022, 2024), Czech Statistical Office (Czech Statistical Office, 2023, 2024). Original survey data from authors. Collected by Faktum Markedsanalyse, 21-25. June 2021. n = 6043.

Table A2 ANOVA of experimental treatment and background variables, total sample. N and percent in parentheses.

	Learning disability	Mental health problems	Substance abuse problems
Gender (p= 0.21)			
Female	1048 (52.14 %)	1020 (50.62 %)	1006 (50.15 %)
Male	962 (47.85 %)	995 (49.38 %)	1000 (49.85 %)
Age (p= 0.67)			
18-22	149 (7.41 %)	152 (7.54 %)	140 (6.98 %)
23-35	492 (24.48%)	491 (24.37 %)	496 (24.73 %)
36-55	741 (36.87 %)	725 (35.98 %)	731 (36.44 %)
56-80	628 (31.24 %)	647 (32.11 %)	639 (31.85 %)
Income (p= 0.35)			
1	391 (19.45 %)	365 (18.11 %)	371 (18.49 %)
2	508 (25.27 %)	549 (27.25 %)	501 (24.98 %)

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[1] For survey sample all respondents are above 18 (18-87 years old). For the population, mean and SD has been calculated based on all citizens above 18. Countries differ in the highest age reported: England = 90, Norway = 105, Finland = 100, Poland = 85, Romania = 100.

[2] Population gender distribution has been calculated for citizens above 18 in Norway and Finland and the numbers may thus not correspond to the distribution of men and women in the total population.

[3] In Czechia, England, Norway, Poland and Romania, the Capital region is not the largest region by population size. The table thus provides the information about the Capital region, the largest, and the second largest region (Prague, Středočeský and Jihomoravský for Czechia, London, South East and North West for England, Oslo, Viken and Vestland for Norway, Centralny, Poludniowy and Polnocno-Zachodni for Poland, and Bucuresti – Ilfov, Nord-Est and Sud Muntenia for Romania. In Finland, the table provides information about the capital region, Pääkaupunkiseutu, the second (Länsi-Suomi) and third largest regions (Pohjois- ja Itä-Suomi). The regional divisions are based on NUTS 1 in Poland and England, NUTS 2 in Romania and Finland, NUTS3 in Czechia, and (the equivalent to) NUTS 3 in Norway.

3	464 (23.08 %)	439 (21.79 %)	474 (23.63 %)
4	268 (13.33 %)	260 (12.90 %)	260 (12.96 %)
5	142 (7.06 %)	152 (7.54 %)	141 (7.03 %)
6	123 (6.12 %)	142 (7.05 %)	139 (6.93 %)
NA	114 (5.67 %)	108 (5.36 %)	120 (5.98 %)

Note: One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was conducted to examine whether there are significant differences between the treatment groups. There are no significant differences between treatment groups on the background variables gender, age and income in the full sample. RStudio: functions from the RStudio *sjmisc*-package (Lüdecke, 2018) and *rstatix*-package (Kassambara, 2021).

Table A3 ANOVA of responsibility-treatment and background variables, by country. n and percent in parentheses.

	Czech Republic				England		
	Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse		Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse
Gender (p= 0.99)				Gender (p= 0.85)			
Female	166 (50.30 %)	175 (52.40 %)	167 (50.30 %)	Female	175 (51.93 %)	177 (52.52 %)	172 (51.19 %)
Male	164 (49.70 %)	159 (47.60 %)	165 (49.70 %)	Male	162 (48.07 %)	160 47.48 %)	164 (48.81 %)
Age (p=0.61)				Age (p=0.15)			
18-22	22 (6.67 %)	27 (8.08 %)	11 (3.31 %)	18-22	27 (8.01 %)	29 (8.61 %)	24 (7.14 %)
23-35	76 (23.03 %)	79 (23.65 %)	82 (24.70 %)	23-35	70 (20.77 %)	78 (23.15 %)	94 (27.98 %)
36-55	125 (37.88%)	124 (37.13 %)	124 (37.35 %)	36-55	131 (38.87 %)	114 (33.83 %)	125 (37.20 %)
56-80	107 (32.42 %)	104 (31.14 %)	115 (34.64 %)	56-80	109 (32.34 %)	116 (34.42 %)	93 (27.68 %)
Income (p= 0.57)				Income (p= 0.78)			
1	87 (26.36 %)	87 (26.05 %)	81 (24.40 %)	1	49 (14.54 %)	39 (11.57 %)	43 (12.80 %)
2	157 (47.58 %)	176 (52.69 %)	1 (48.49 %)	2	60 (17.80 %)	60 (17.80 %)	55 (16.37 %)
3	74 (22.42 %)	57 (17.07 %)	76 (22.89 %)	3	124 (36.80 %)	122 (36.20 %)	141 (41.96 %)
4	4 (3.33 %)	12 (3.59 %)	13 (3.92 %)	4	71 (21.07 %)	71 (21.07 %)	66 (19.64 %)
5	0 (0.00 %)	1 (0.30 %)	0 (0.00 %)	5	18 (5.34 %)	23 (6.82 %)	15 (4.46 %)
6	1 (0.30 %)	1 (0.30 %)	1 (0.30 %)	6	15 (4.45 %)	22 (6.53 %)	16 (4.76 %)
NA	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)	NA	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)	0 (0.00 %)

	Finland				Norway		
	Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse		Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse
Gender (p= 0.85)				Gender (p= 0.33)			
Female	173 (51.80 %)	158 (46.88 %)	175 (52.55 %)	Female	175 (52.24 %)	169 (50.45 %)	163 (48.51 %)
Male	161 (48.20 %)	179 (53.12 %)	158 (47.45 %)	Male	160 (47.76 %)	166 (49.55 %)	173 (51.49 %)
Age (p= 0.96)				Age (p= 0.69)			
18-22	28 (8.38 %)	24 (7.12 %)	24 (7.21 %)	18-22	21 (6.27 %)	22 (6.57 %)	18 (5.36 %)
23-35	72 (21.56 %)	68 (20.18 %)	81 (24.32 %)	23-35	67 (20.00 %)	77 (22.99 %)	67 (19.94 %)
36-55	112 (33.53 %)	120 (35.61 %)	109 (32.73 %)	36-55	137 (40.90 %)	134 (40.00 %)	122 (36.31 %)
56-80	122 (36.53 %)	125 (37.09 %)	119 (35.74 %)	56-80	110 (32.84 %)	102 (30.45 %)	129 (38.39 %)
Income (p= 0.92)				Income (p= 0.71)			
1	170 (50.90 %)	170 (50.45 %)	165 (49.55 %)	1	41 (12.24 %)	35 (10.45 %)	38 (11.31 %)
2	98 (29.34 %)	104 (30.86 %)	100 (30.03 %)	2	54 (16.12 %)	60 (17.91 %)	66 (19.64 %)
3	35	30	37	3	86	87	77

	Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse		Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse
	(10.48 %)	(8.90 %)	(11.11 %)		(25.67 %)	(25.97 %)	(22.92 %)
4	7 (2.10 %)	6 (1.78 %)	12 (3.60 %)	4	43 (12.84 %)	50 (14.93 %)	39 (11.61 %)
5	4 (1.20 %)	2 (0.59 %)	3 (0.90 %)	5	41 (12.24 %)	48 (14.33 %)	48 (14.29 %)
6	5 (1.50 %)	4 (1.19 %)	1 (0.30 %)	6	10 (2.99 %)	10 (2.99 %)	13 (3.87 %)
NA	15 (4.49 %)	21 (6.23 %)	15 (4.50 %)	NA	60 (17.91 %)	45 (13.43 %)	55 (16.37 %)

	Poland				**Romania**		
	Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse		Learning disability	Mental health	Substance abuse
Gender (p= 0.34)				Gender (p= 0.24)			
Female	184 (54.12 %)	168 (49.85 %)	170 (50.45 %)	Female	175 (52.40 %)	173 (51.64 %)	159 (47.89 %)
Male	156 (45.88 %)	169 (50.15 %)	167 (49.55 %)	Male	159 (47.60 %)	162 (48.36 %)	173 (52.11 %)
Age (p= 0.39)				Age (p= 0.60)			
18-22	25 (7.35 %)	20 (5.93 %)	32 (9.50 %)	18-22	26 (7.78 %)	30 (8.96 %)	31 (9.34 %)
23-35	105 (30.88 %)	98 (29.08 %)	87 (25.82 %)	23-35	102 (30.54 %)	91 (27.16 %)	85 (25.60 %)
36-55	124 (36.47 %)	116 (34.42 %)	123 (36.50 %)	36-55	112 (33.53 %)	117 (34.93 %)	128 (38.55 %)
56-80	86 (25.29 %)	103 (30.56 %)	95 (28.19 %)	56-80	94 (28.14 %)	97 (28.96 %)	88 (26.51 %)
Income (p= 0.56)				**Income* (p= 0.04)**			
1	15 (4.41 %)	17 (5.04 %)	24 (7.12 %)	1	29 (8.68 %)	17 (5.07 %)	20 (6.02 %)
2	99 (29.12 %)	99 (29.38 %)	79 (23.44 %)	2	40 (11.98 %)	50 (14.93 %)	40 (12.05 %)
3	81 (23.82 %)	86 (25.52 %)	92 (27.30 %)	3	64 (19.16 %)	57 (17.01 %)	51 (15.36 %)
4	67 (19.71 %)	58 (17.21 %)	66 (19.58 %)	4	69 (20.66 %)	63 (18.81 %)	64 (19.28 %)
5	38 (11.18 %)	30 (8.90 %)	27 (8.01 %)	5	41 (12.28 %)	48 (14.33 %)	48 (14.46 %)
6	19 (5.59 %)	24 (7.12 %)	19 (5.64 %)	6	73 (21.86 %)	81 (24.18 %)	89 (26.81 %)
NA	21 (6.18 %)	23 (6.82 %)	30 (8.90 %)	NA	18 (5.39 %)	19 (5.67 %)	20 (6.02 %)

Note: One-way Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was conducted to examine whether there are significant differences between the treatment groups. *p <= 0.05. There are significant differences on the income variable in Romania between the treatment groups (marked in bold in table A2). RStudio: functions from the RStudio *sjmisc*-package (Lüdecke, 2018) and *rstatix*-package (Kassambara, 2021).

Table A4 Distribution on basic values by country. n and percent in parentheses.

	Czechia	England	Finland	Norway	Poland	Romania	Total
Best-CR							
1	25 (2.48%)	22 (2.18%)	33 (3.29%)	44 (4.37%)	41 (4.04%)	61 (6.09%)	226 (3.74%)
2	205 (20.34%)	71 (7.03%)	163 (16.24%)	110 (10.93%)	188 (18.54%)	187 (18.68%)	924 (15.29%)
3	396 (39.29%)	450 (44.5%)	410 (40.84%)	413 (41.05%)	434 (42.80%)	460 (45.95%)	2563 (42.41%)
4	63 (6.25%)	274 (27.13%)	181 (18.03%)	252 (25.05%)	142 (14.00%)	180 (17.98%)	1092 (18.07%)
NA	319 (31.65%)	193 (19.11%)	217 (21.61%)	187 (18.59%)	209 (20.61%)	113 (11.29%)	1238 (20.49%)
Total	1008 (16.7%)	1010 (16.7%)	1004 (16.6%)	1006 (16.6%)	1014 (16.8%)	1001 (16.6%)	6043 (100.0%)
Absolutely-sure							
1	48 (4.76%)	103 (10.20%)	143 (14.24%)	76 (7.55%)	111 (10.95%)	134 (13.39%)	615 (10.18%)
2	292 (28.97%)	364 (36.04%)	401 (39.94%)	309 (30.72%)	303 (29.88%)	330 (32.97%)	1999 (33.08%)
3	370 (36.71%)	264 (26.14%)	244 (24.30%)	270 (26.84%)	337 (33.23%)	334 (33.37%)	1819 (30.10%)

	Norway	England	Finland	Poland	Romania	Czechia	Total
4	128 (12.70%)	144 (14.26%)	70 (6.97%)	153 (15.21%)	127 (12.52%)	133 (13.29%)	755 (12.49%)
NA	170 (16.87%)	135 (13.37%)	146 (14.54)	198 (19.68%)	136 (13.41%)	70 (6.99%)	855 (14.15%)
Total	1008 (16.7%)	1010 (16.7%)	1004 (16.6%)	1006 (16.6%)	1014 (16.8%)	1001 (16.6%)	6043 (100.0%)

Note: Distribution on two basic values ("Best-CR" and "Absolutely-sure") per country and total. "Don't know/I don't want to answer" recoded as NA. RStudio: functions from the RStudio *sjmisc*-package (Lüdecke, 2018)

Table A5 Inter-item reliability score (Cronbach's alpha) per country and total.

Norway	England	Finland	Poland	Romania	Czechia	Total
0.86	0.74	0.81	0.76	0.77	0.65	0.79

Note: Cronbach's alpha on five items representing confidence in child protection services: *competency*, *fairness*, *respectfulness*, *equality* and *moral alignment*. RStudio: function from the RStudio *psych*-package (Revelle, 2021). Source: Loen and Skivenes (2023).

Table A6 Standardised alpha for each item

Variable	Statement	Standardised alpha
Competency	Child protection staff generally have the necessary competency to do their job well	0.74
Fairness	The child protection system generally makes fair, impartial decisions in the cases they deal with	0.71
Respectfulness	The child protection system generally treats parents with respect and dignity	0.71
Equality (non-discrimination)	The child protection system discriminates against some families because of their race and ethnicity	0.87
Moral alignment	The child protection system represents the same sense of right and wrong as I have	0.73

Note: Standardised Cronbach's alpha for each of the five items representing confidence in child protection services: *competency*, *fairness*, *respectfulness*, *equality* and *moral alignment*. RStudio: function from the RStudio *psych*-package (Revelle, 2021). Source: Loen and Skivenes (2023).

Table A7 Operationalisation of background variables

Variable name	Description of recoding
Gender	Woman = 0 Man = 1
Age	Age
Age group	1 = 18-22 2 = 23-35 3 = 36-55 4 = 56-80
Region	11 regions in Norway and UK, 14 regions in Czech Republic, 5 regions in Finland, 6 regions in Poland, 8 regions in Romania
Income	6-point scale: 1 = lowest income level, 6 = highest income level *Original coding: 6-point scale in Norway, UK, and Finland, 10-point scale in Czech Republic, 13-point scale in Poland and 17-point scale in Romania. For polish respondents, the alternative values indicated monthly income level, whilst the remaining five countries had alternatives denoting annual income levels. Because the values across countries are incomparable, and all the countries' income alternatives were recoded to a 6-point scale, the inconsistency in monthly and annual income is not of much trouble. Additionally, the countries with more than 6 values were recoded into a 6-point scale in order to have a consistent scale across all six countries.*
Size city	1 = Rural area/village with less than 5000 inhabitants 2 = Rural area/village with 5000-49.999 inhabitants 3 = City with 5000-49.999 inhabitants 4 = City with 50.000 inhabitants or more 5 = Capital city area
Employment	0 = Not working (including respondents who are student/apprentice, unemployed (looking for job), unemployed (receiving disability benefits), and retired) 1 = Working (including respondents who are permanently employed fulltime, permanently employed parttime, on temporary contracts and freelancers)

	Original coding: Permanently employed, fulltime = 1, Permanently employed, parttime = 2, Temporary contract = 3, Freelancer = 4, Student/apprentice = 5, Unemployed, looking for job = 6, Unemployed, receiving disability benefits = 7, Retired = 8	
Political orientation	0-3 = Left 4-6 = Centre 7-10 = Right *Original coding: 11-point scale: 0 = Left, 5 = Centre, 10 = Right*	
Marital status	0 = Not married (including respondents who responded not married, divorced, separated and widowed) 1 = Married/partnership (including respondents who are legally married or in a legal partnership/civil union) *Original coding: Not married = 1, In a legal partnership/civil union = 2, Legally married = 3, Divorced = 4, Separated = 5, Widowed = 6*	
Children in household	0 = No children 1 = Children *Original coding: No children = 1, 1 child = 2, 2 children = 3, 3 children = 4, 4 children = 5, 5 or more children = 6*	
Education	1 = Low (including whose who have not completed any education, primary education, secondary education and occupational/vocational education) 2 = Medium (including those with higher education 1-3 years) 3 = High (including those with higher education 4 years or more) *Original coding: I have not completed any education = 1, Primary education = 2, Secondary education = 3, Occupational/vocational education = 4, Higher education, 1-3 years = 5, Higher education, 4 years or more = 6*	

Note: The variables gender, age, age group, region, income and education are standard background variables used by the data collectors, Faktum Markedsanalyse. Size city, employment, political orientation, marital status and children in household are background variables replicated from previous studies conducted by the second author and are often included in questionnaires examining attitudes towards the child protection services.

Table A8 Regression for each country

	Norway	Finland	England	Czechia	Poland	Romania
	B (SE)	B (SE)	B (SE)	B (SE)	B (SE)	B (SE)
Independent variables						
Responsibility	0.195***	0.063*	0.148***	0.333***	0.126***	0.235***
	(0.040)	(0.037)	(0.037)	(0.043)	(0.033)	(0.035)
Best-CR	0.146	0.105	0.140	-0.030	0.046	0.058
	(0.092)	(0.071)	(0.101)	(0.078)	(0.063)	(0.066)
Absolutely-sure	0.304***	0.422***	0.255***	0.295***	0.122**	0.253***
	(0.066)	(0.065)	(0.061)	(0.074)	(0.058)	(0.059)
Confidence	0.235***	0.161***	0.104*	0.110	0.185***	-0.043
	(0.052)	(0.056)	(0.058)	(0.080)	(0.055)	(0.059)
Control & background variables						
Male	-0.024	-0.119*	0.007	-0.107	-0.097*	-0.028
	(0.067)	(0.064)	(0.062)	(0.075)	(0.055)	(0.058)
Age	0.041	0.024	0.030	-0.079*	-0.051	0.030
	(0.041)	(0.034)	(0.035)	(0.043)	(0.032)	(0.032)
Income	0.054**	-0.004	0.037	0.110*	0.006	0.039*
	(0.028)	(0.035)	(0.026)	(0.052)	(0.022)	(0.020)
Education	0.103*	-0.035	0.028	0.009	0.096**	0.029
	(0.060)	(0.044)	(0.046)	(0.076)	(0.045)	(0.048)
Employed	0.031	0.062	-0.043	-0.220**	-0.018	-0.147**
	(0.079)	(0.070)	(0.071)	(0.090)	(0.068)	(0.068)
Married	-0.002	0.055	-0.087	0.088	0.080	0.006
	(0.074)	(0.065)	(0.067)	(0.077)	(0.065)	(0.069)
Children in HH	-0.011	-0.100	0.048	-0.136**	-0.157***	-0.029
	(0.077)	(0.073)	(0.066)	(0.076)	(0.060)	(0.063)
Right-leaning	0.005	0.004	0.010	-0.035*	0.0005	-0.006
	(0.013)	(0.014)	(0.015)	(0.019)	(0.011)	(0.013)
Constant	1.329***	2.333***	1.823***	2.091***	2.089***	2.389***
	(0.230)	(0.235)	(0.233)	(0.292)	(0.213)	(0.207)
Observations	661	687	747	648	718	815
R^2	0.151	0.113	0.059	0.142	0.064	0.091
Adjusted R^2	0.134	0.098	0.044	0.126	0.048	0.077
Residual Std. Error	0.799	0.782	0.817	0.883	0.717	0.813
	(df = 598)	(df = 674)	(df = 734)	(df = 635)	(df = 705)	(df = 802)
F Statistic	8.892***	7.186***	3.828***	8.747***	3.998***	5.679***
	(df = 12; 598)	(df = 12; 674)	(df = 12; 734)	(df = 12; 635)	(df = 12; 705)	(df = 12; 802)

Note: The table displays results from OLS regressions on subsamples from each country. *p<0.1; **p<0.05; ***p<0.01

Table A9 Cross country variations in suggested level of intervention

	Mean	SD	Czechia	England	Finland	Norway	Poland
Czechia	2.70	0.95	-	-	-	-	-
England	2.90	0.85	0.0000	-	-	-	-
Finland	3.28	0.82	0.0000	0.0000	-	-	-
Norway	3.03	0.85	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-	-
Poland	2.82	0.74	0.0000	0.1155	0.0000	0.0000	-
Romania	2.96	0.86	0.0000	0.0016	0.0000	0.3853	0.0000

Note: Table displays mean and standard deviation of dependent variable for each country and the p-values from pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction. Results from Kruskal-Wallis test: chi-squared = 324.18, df = 5, p>0.001

Table A10 Cross country variations in Best-CR and Absolutely-sure

	Mean	SD	Czechia	England	Finland	Norway	Poland
Best-CR							
Czechia	2.72	0.68	-	-	-	-	-
England	3.19	0.70	0.0000	-	-	-	-
Finland	2.94	0.78	0.0000	0.0000	-	-	-
Norway	3.07	0.81	0.0000	0.0047	0.0002	-	-
Poland	2.84	0.77	0.0006	0.0000	0.0112	0.0000	-
Romania	2.85	0.82	0.0000	0.0000	0.0620	0.0000	0.4887
Absolutely- sure							
Czechia	2.31	0.80	-	-	-	-	-
England	2.49	0.90	0.0000	-	-	-	-
Finland	2.72	0.84	0.0000	0.0000	-	-	-
Norway	2.38	0.90	0.0919	0.0233	0.0000	-	-
Poland	2.45	0.89	0.0023	0.2777	0.0000	0.2332	-
Romania	2.50	0.91	0.0000	0.9618	0.0000	0.0233	0.2832

Note: Table displays mean and standard deviation of Best CR and Absolutely sure for each country and the results from pairwise comparisons using Wilcoxon rank sum test with continuity correction. Results from Kruskal-Wallis test for Best CR: chi-squared = 217.22, df = 5, p<0.001 and Absolutely sure: chi-squared = 108.01, df = 5, p>0.001.

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