

# Stereotyping & National Security: Inequality & Conflict – or Peace

Susan T. Fiske

Psychology & Public Affairs

Princeton University

**THE FISKE LAB**

People making sense of people:  
Intergroup relations, social cognition, and social neuroscience



# Stereotyping & National Security: Inequality & Conflict – or Peace

- Stereotypes go beyond valence
  - Warmth & competence dimensions, universally
  - Ambivalence, frequently
- Societal variables predict ambivalence:
  - WxC stereotype space across nations
  - Income inequality predicts ambivalence
  - Peace & conflict also predict ambivalence
- Stereotypes may support inequality & conflict



# *Stereotype Content: Beyond Valence*

(Fiske, Cuddy, & Glick)



- Friend or foe? = Warm intent
- Able or unable? = Competent to enact intent
- Warmth x competence space
  
- Cross-national data

# Stereotype Content Model

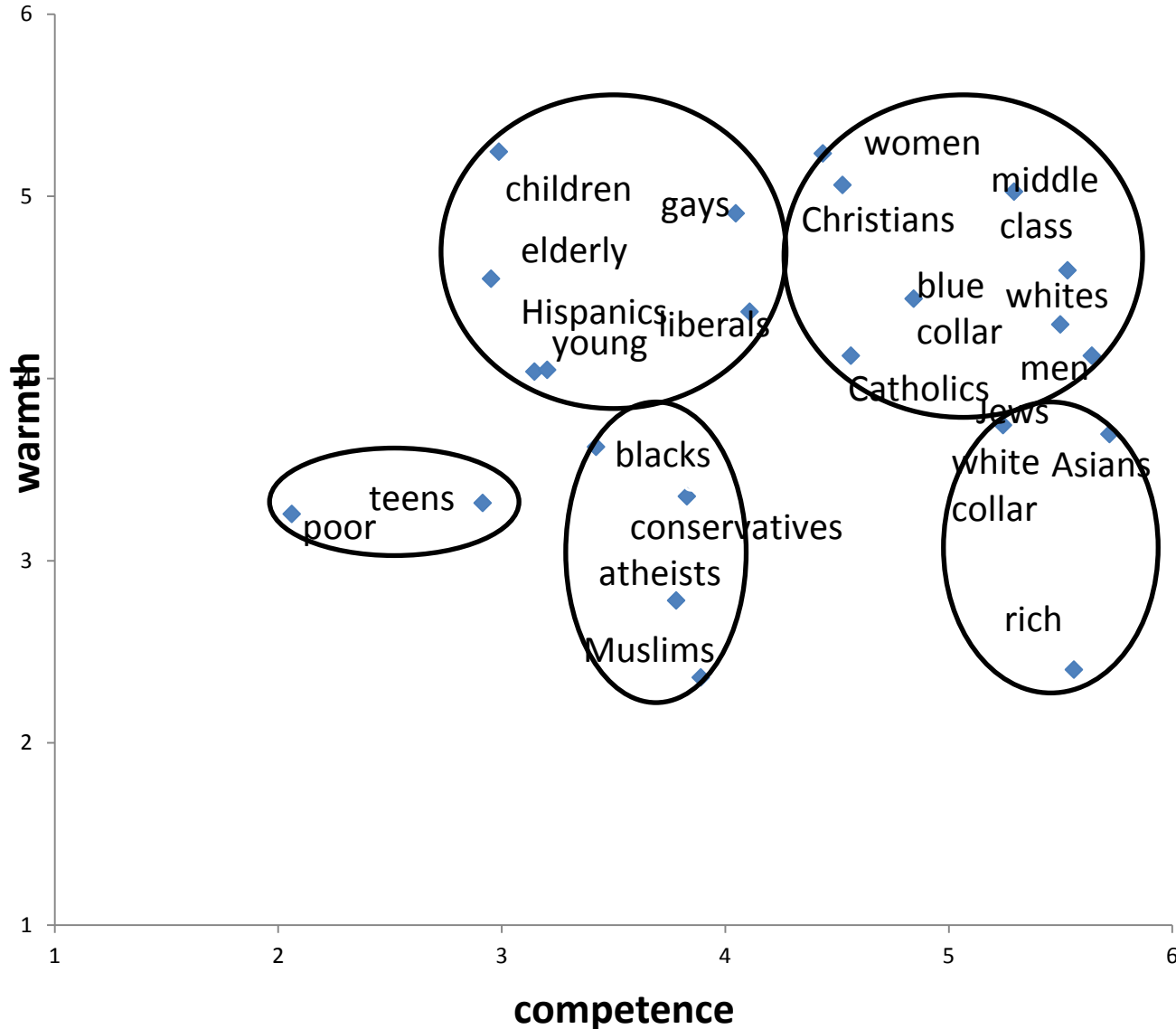
	Lo Competence	Hi Competence
Hi Warmth	older, disabled Pity	ingroup, allies, reference groups Pride
Lo Warmth	poor, homeless, immigrants Disgust	rich, professionals Envy

# Method

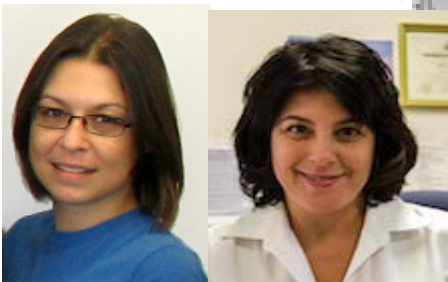
- Phase 1: Nominate society's groups
  - ~30 adults
  - [Translated and back translated]
  - Common groups (>15%)
- Phase 2: Rate (16-30) groups
  - 60-100 adults
  - In society's view:
    - Warmth, competence
    - Competition, status
    - Emotions, behaviors
- Group is unit of analysis
  - Plot means in warmth x competence space
  - Cluster analysis

# Warmth x Competence Data

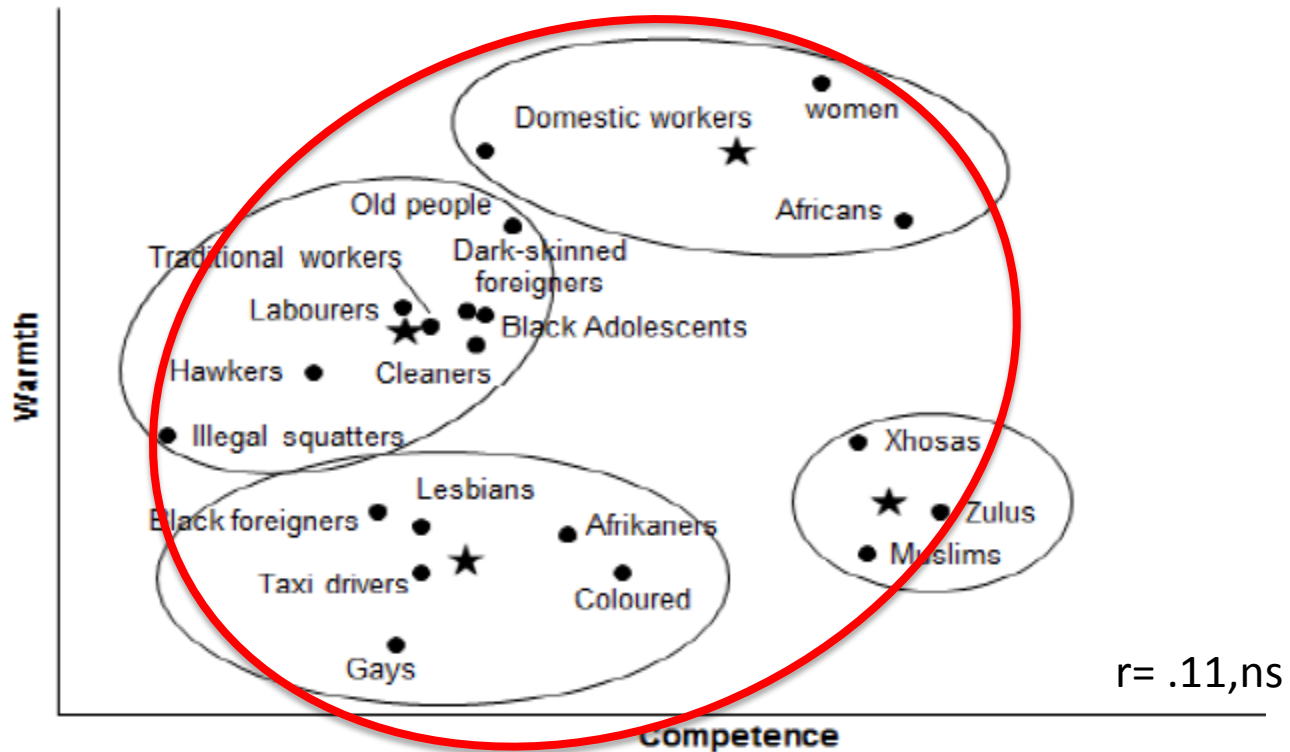
(Kervyn, Fiske, & Yzerbyt, *Soc Psych*, 2015)



(Durante et al., *BJSP*, 2013, & under review)

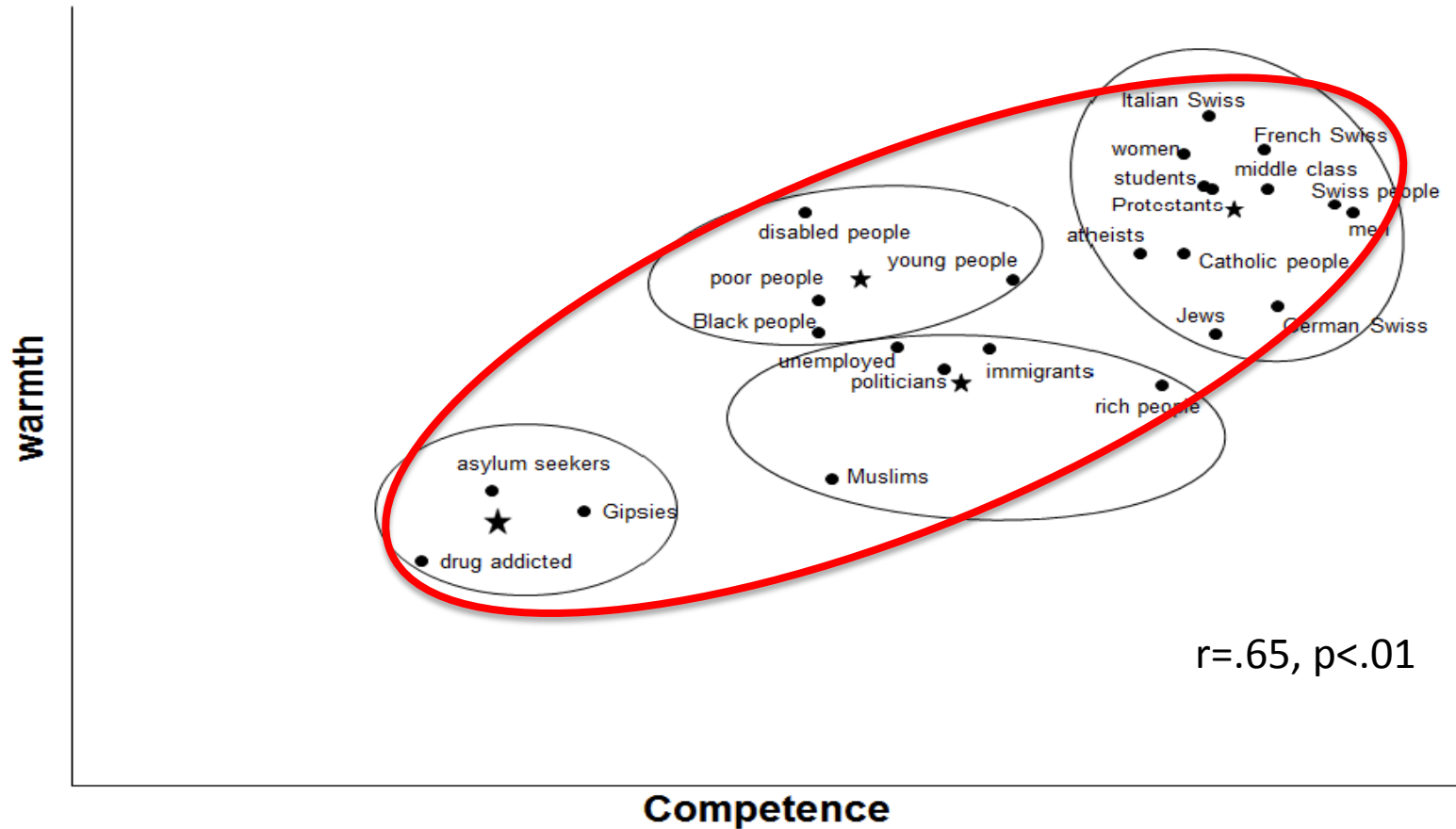


# South African Sample: High Ambivalence





# French Swiss Sample: Less Ambivalence





# Inequality & Ambivalence

(Durante et al., *BJSP*, 2013)

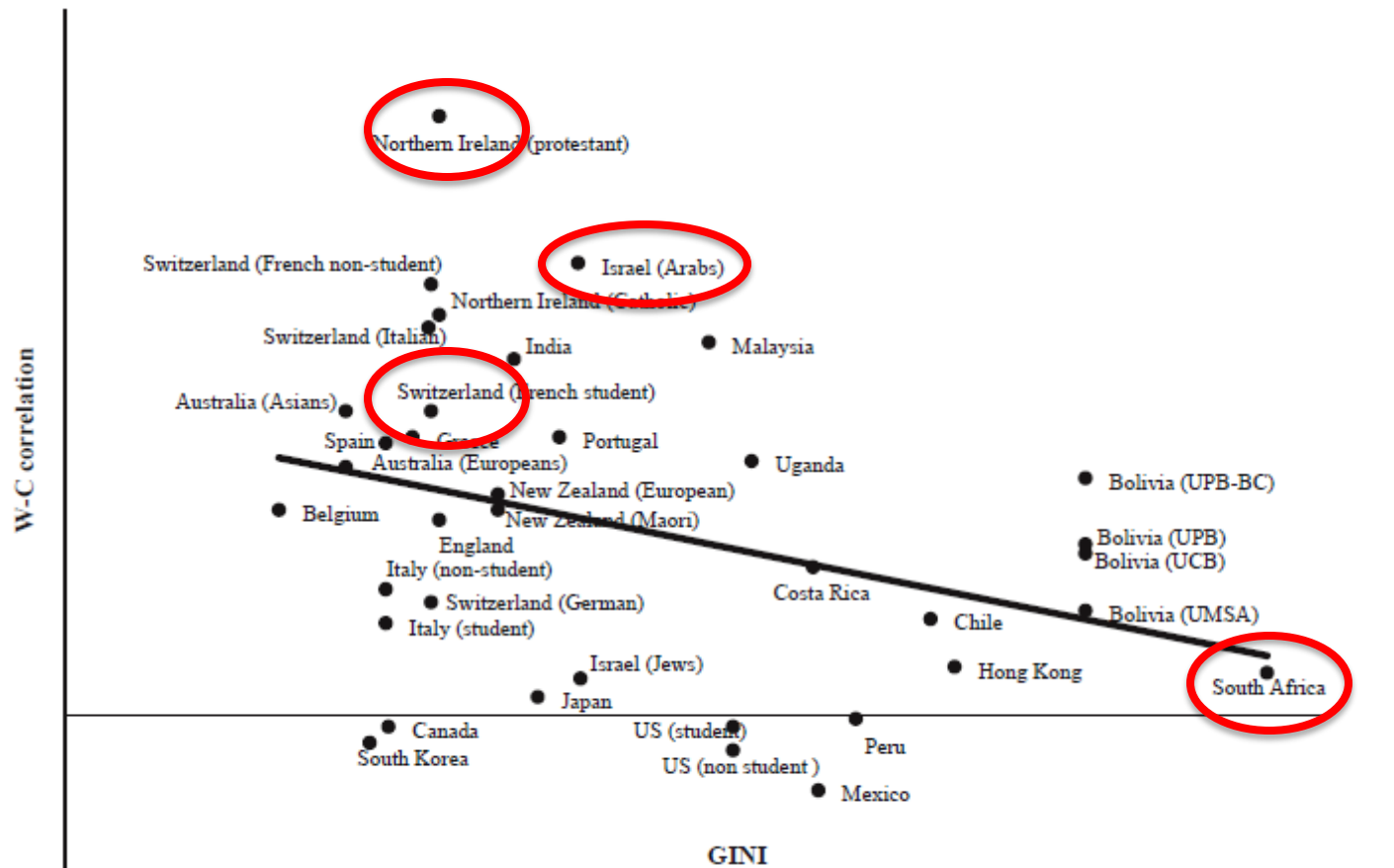
- $N = 37$  national samples
- Mean Warmth-Competence  $r = .40$ , indexes ambivalence (range  $-.19$ , ns, to  $.91$ ,  $p < .001$ )
- W-C  $r$  correlates with Gini,  $r = -.34$ ,  $p < .05$ 
  - Not moderated by
    - GDP,
    - Total  $N$  of groups,
    - power distance



# Inequality Predicts Ambivalence

(Durante et al., *BJSP*, 2013)

Less  
ambivalent



More  
ambivalent

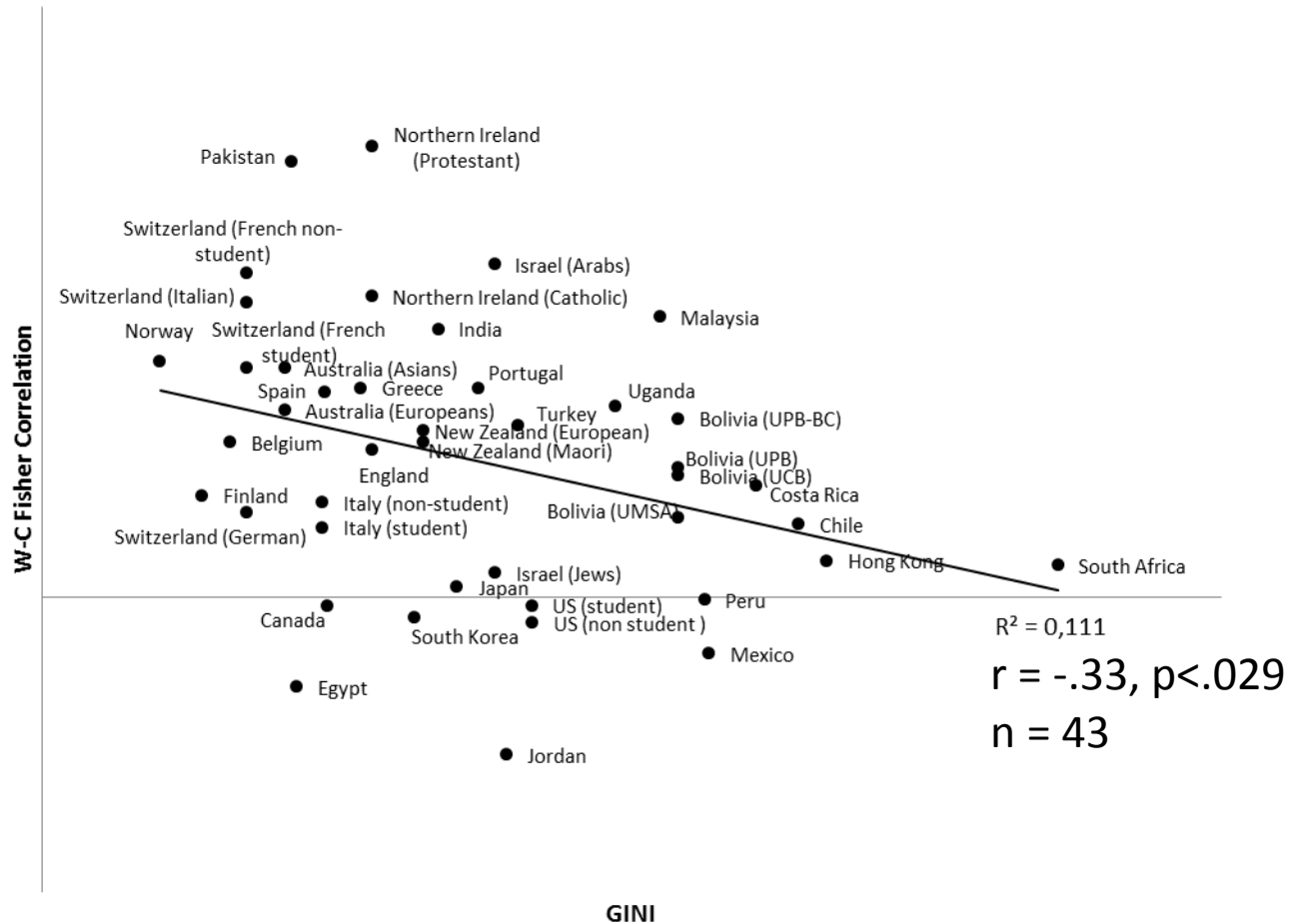
$$r(35) = -.34,$$
$$p < .05$$

More equal

More unequal



# Updated Inequality Data



Bye, H. H., Herrebrøden, H., Hjetland, G. J., Røyset, G. Ø. & Westby, L. L. (2014). Stereotypes of Norwegian social groups. *Scandinavian Journal of Psychology*.

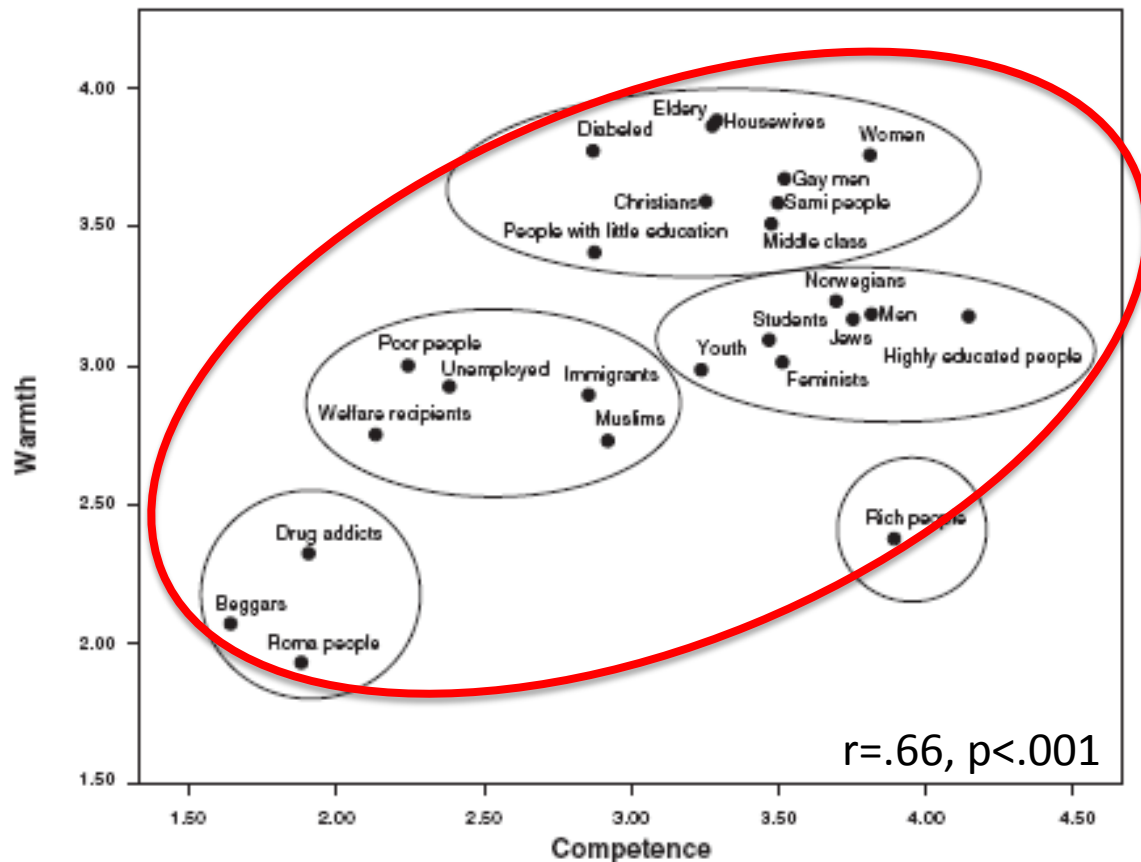
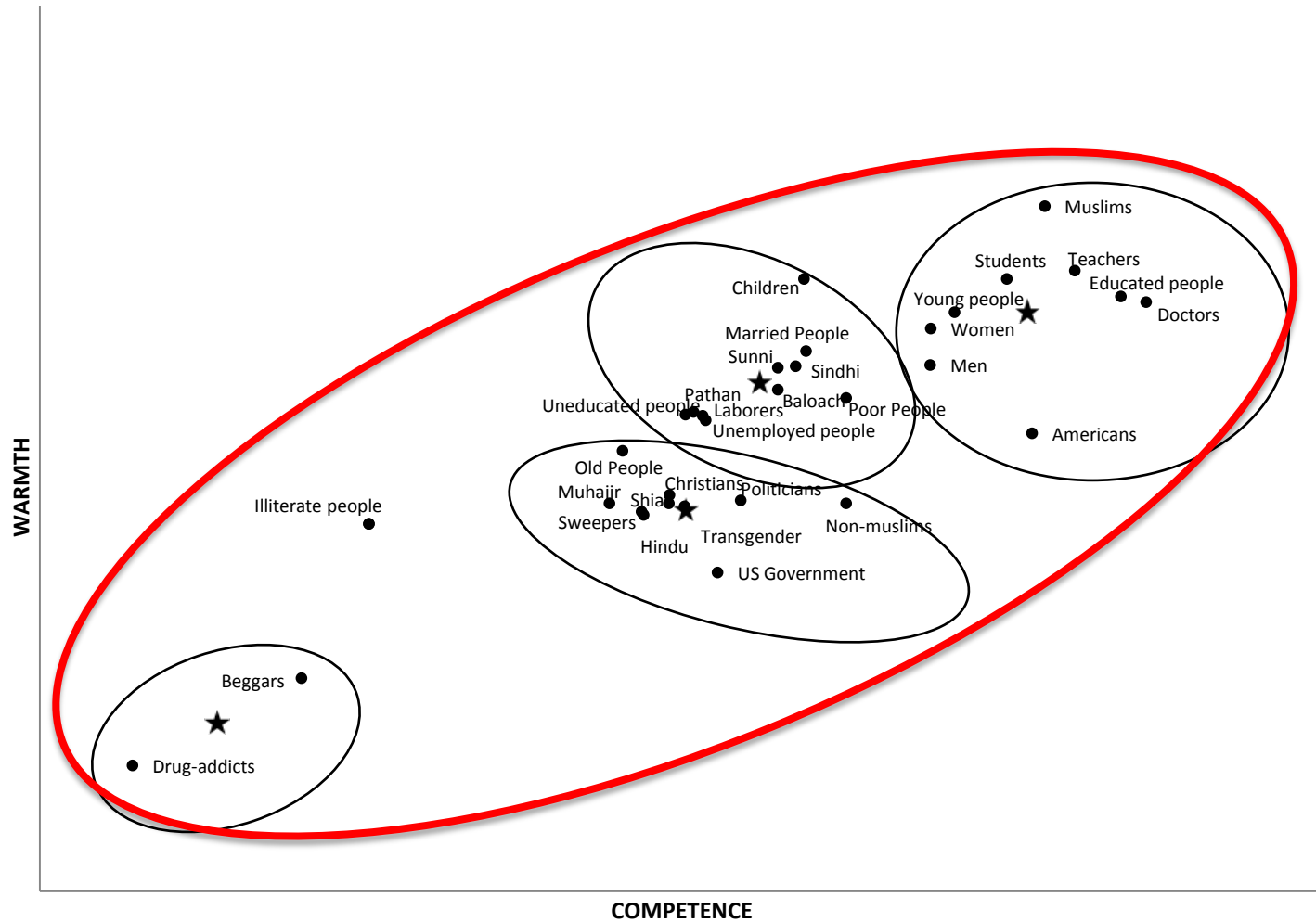


Fig. 1. Clusters of social groups, Study 1.

# PAKISTAN



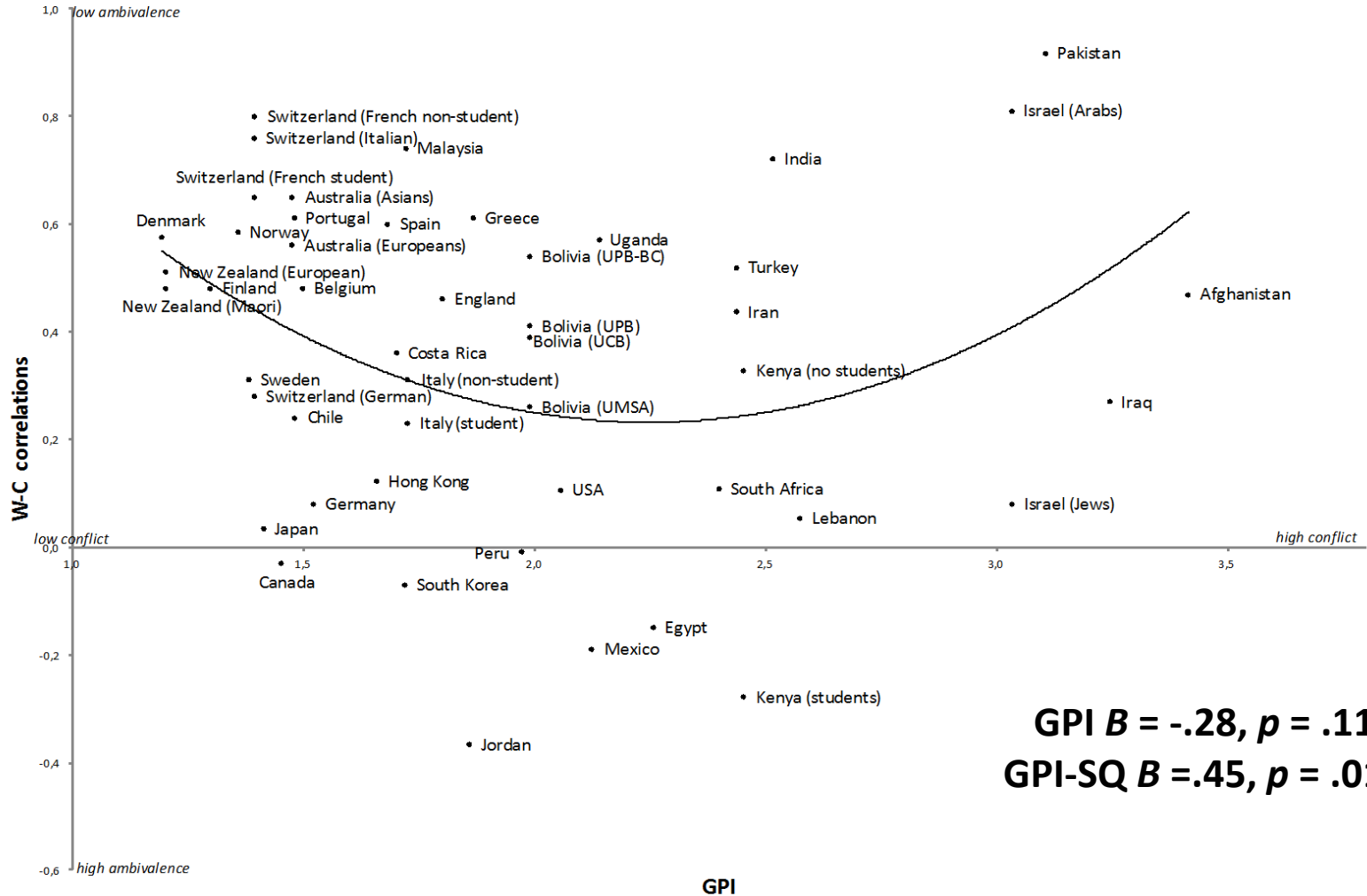


# Ambivalence, Peace & Conflict

(Durante, Fiske, Gelfand, & Stillwell, under review)



Less ambivalence



**GPI  $B = -.28, p = .11$**   
**GPI-SQ  $B = .45, p = .012$**

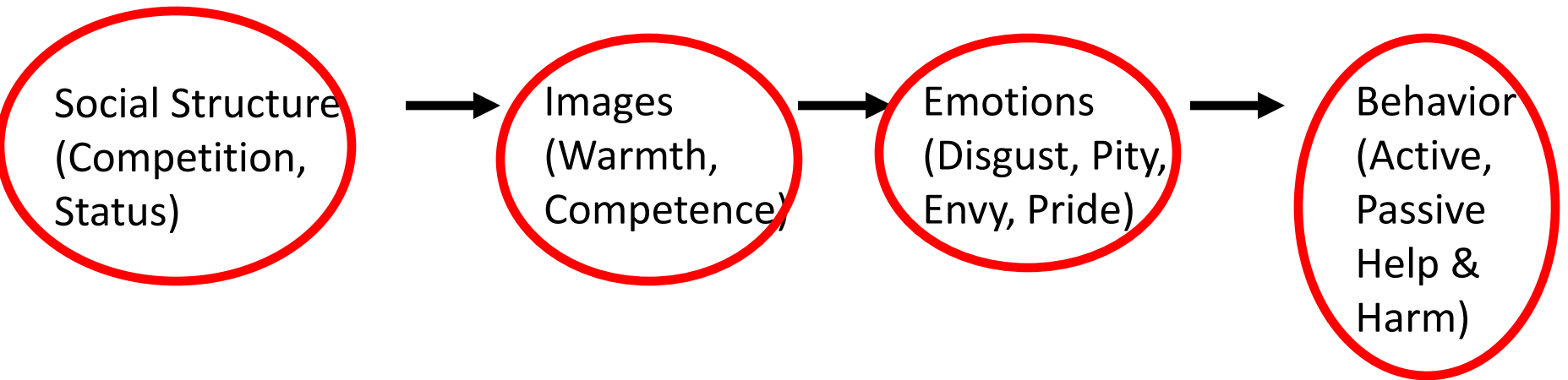
More ambivalence



# Ambivalence, Inequality, Peace & Conflict

- More ambivalence (e.g., U.S., Mexico, Peru)
  - More inequality
  - Moderate peace-conflict
- Less ambivalence
  - More equality and peace (Scandinavia) OR
  - More equality and conflict (Pakistan)

# Overall Causal Model



# Thank you

**Department of Justice, National Science Foundation, Princeton  
Institute for International and Regional Studies, Princeton Joint  
Degree Program in Social Policy, Russell Sage Foundation**

## THE FISKE LAB

People making sense of people:  
Intergroup relations, social cognition, and social neuroscience



# Inequality & Ambivalence

- W-C ambivalence  $r$  correlates with  $n$  of groups in
  - HW-LC ( $r = -.48, p < .01$ ), pity
  - Not LW-HC (.09, ns), envy
  - So equality moves pitied groups into the ingroup

# Inequality & Ambivalence

- SCM's structural predictors
  - Status predicts competence,  $r = .90$
  - Competition predicts less warmth,  $r = -.32$
- Gini correlates with competition-warmth,  $r = .48$ 
  - More equality: Competitive groups aren't warm
- Gini correlates with an unpredicted link
  - Competition-competence,  $r = .26$
  - Gini with that,  $r = .49, p < .01$
  - More equality: Competition is not competence\*\*

# Interim Summary: Inequality

- Inequality predicts ambivalence in stereotype content,
  - Esp. pitied outgroups
  - Also tolerance of competition
  - Smaller all-good or all-bad clusters (~40%)
- Equality predicts less ambivalence,
  - More like a good-bad vector (~55%)
  - More groups in the ingroup
  - But some beyond the pale
  - More polarized?