



How Do Interracial Friendships Impact Disadvantaged Group Members' Collective Action Over Time?

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Introduction

Although positive contact reduces prejudice, positive contact with dominant group members also predicts less ingroup collective action for social change among discriminated group members (Pettigrew & Tropp, 2006; Wright & Lubensky, 2009)

- **Hypothesis 1:** greater positive contact with Whites will be negatively associated with collective action among Black and Latino respondents

However, perceiving one's White friends as high (vs. low) in *antiracism*, the belief one must personally and proactively combat inequality, could increase collective action among Black and Latino respondents (Becker et al., 2013; LaCosse et al., 2021)

- **Hypothesis 2:** greater perceived antiracism of one's White friends will be positively associated with collective action among Black and Latino respondents

Also tested effects of contact and perceived antiracism on two known predictors of collective action: anger about inequality and social movement identification (Social Identity Model of Collective Action; van Zomeren et al., 2008)

- **Hypothesis 3:** positive contact will be negatively associated with anger about inequality and social movement identification
- **Hypothesis 4:** perceived antiracism will be positively associated with anger about inequality and social movement identification
- **Hypothesis 5:** anger about inequality and social movement identification will be positively associated with collective action

Methods

- **Participants:** 173 Florida State University students, 18-30 years old, who identified as Hispanic (N=49), Latino (N=29), Latinx (N=16), Black (N=45), or African American (N=29).
- **Materials and Procedure:** Self-report questionnaires were completed online measuring positive contact with Whites (quality and quantity; devised for this study), perceived antiracism of one's White friends (how much they thought their White friends would agree with various antiracist statements; adapted from LaCosse et al., 2021), intentions to engage in various collective actions for ingroup rights (devised for this study), anger about inequality between the ingroup and Whites, and identification with the ingroup's rights movement ("social movement identification;" adapted from van Zomeren et al., 2008)

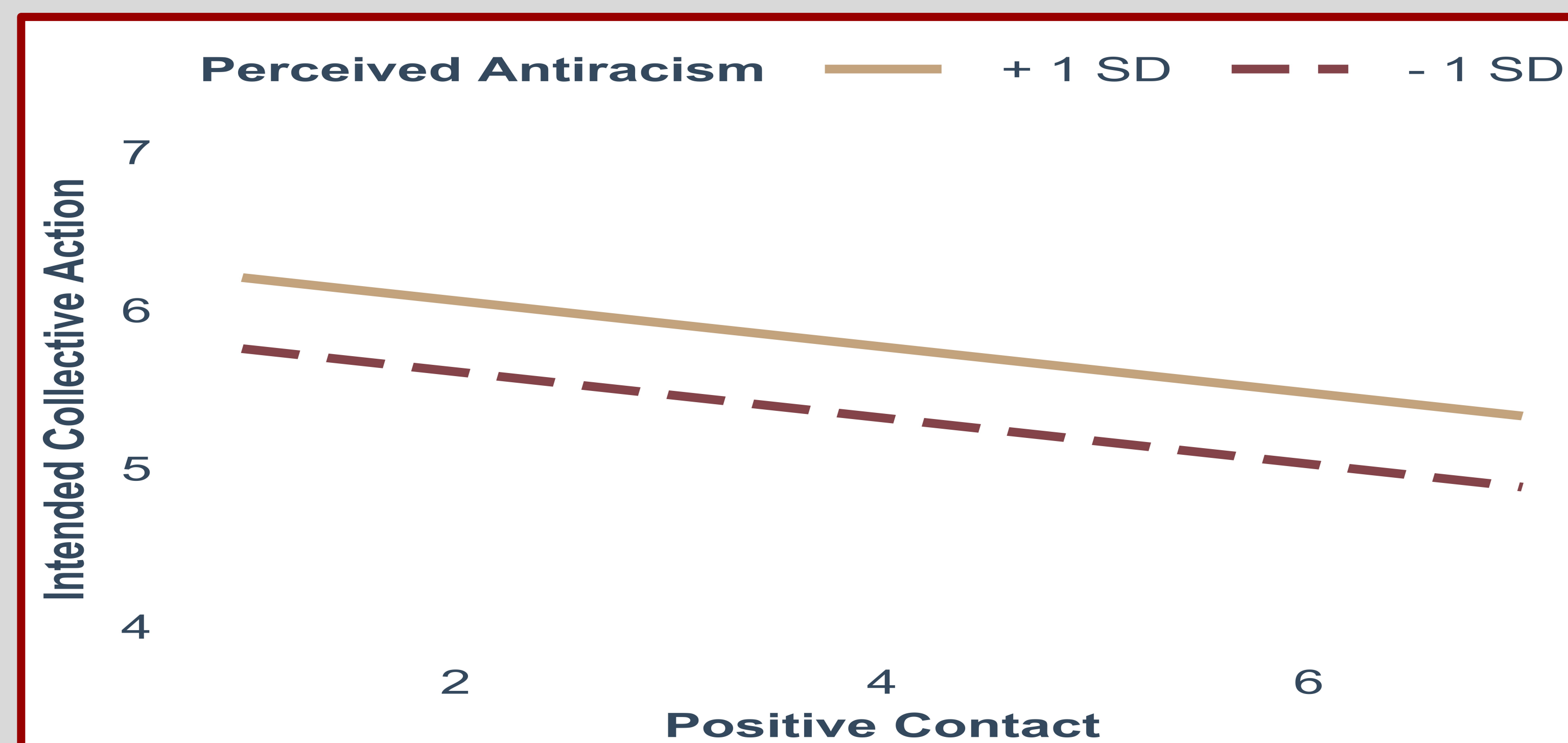
Table 1

Zero-order correlations between Wave 1 variables

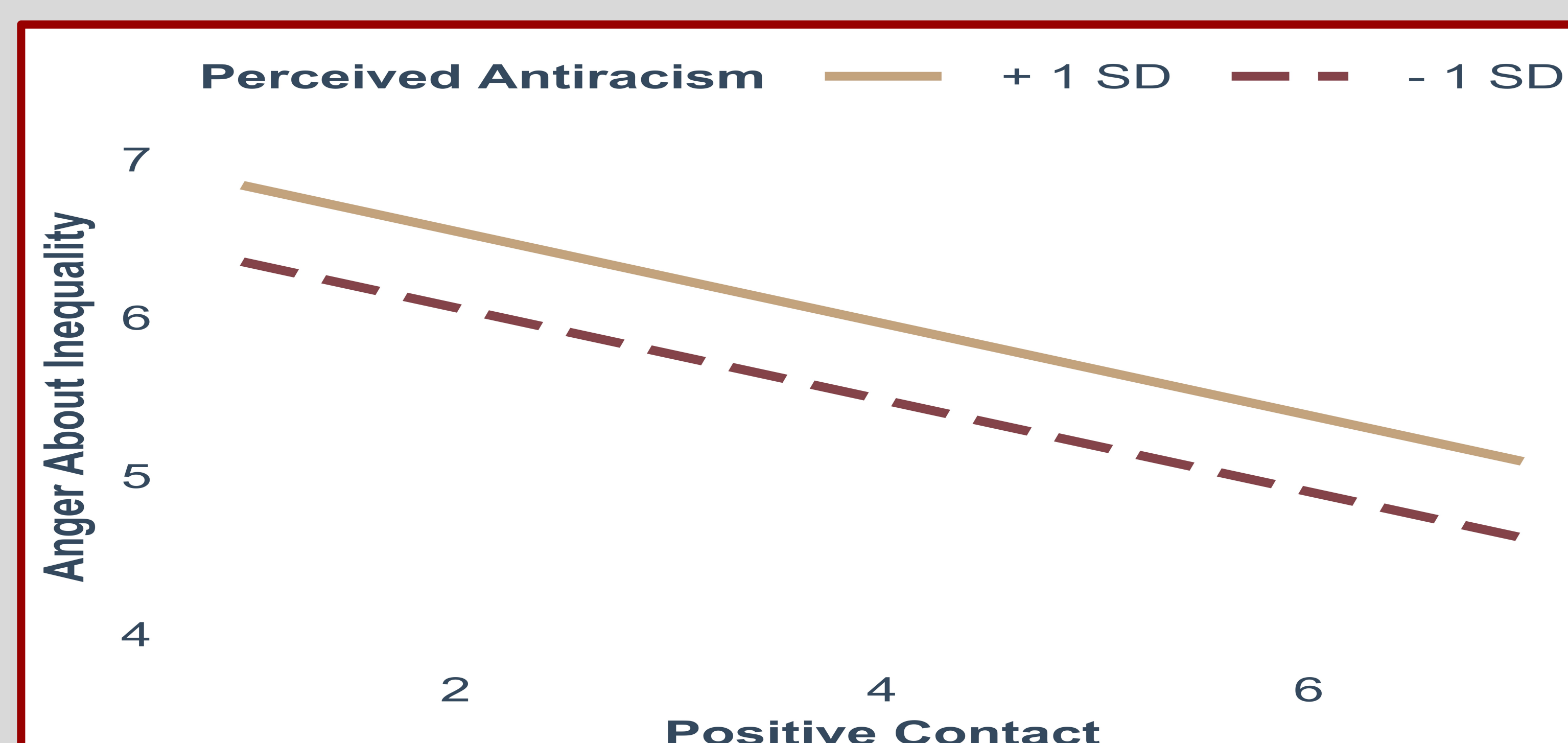
Variable	1.	2.	3.	4.
1. Positive contact with Whites	--			
2. Perceived antiracism of White friends	.27***	--		
3. Intended collective action	-.17*	.14†	--	
4. Anger about inequality	-.32***	.08	.54***	--
5. Social movement identification	-.24**	.16*	.69***	.54***

† $p < .10$, * $p < .05$, ** $p < .01$, *** $p < .001$

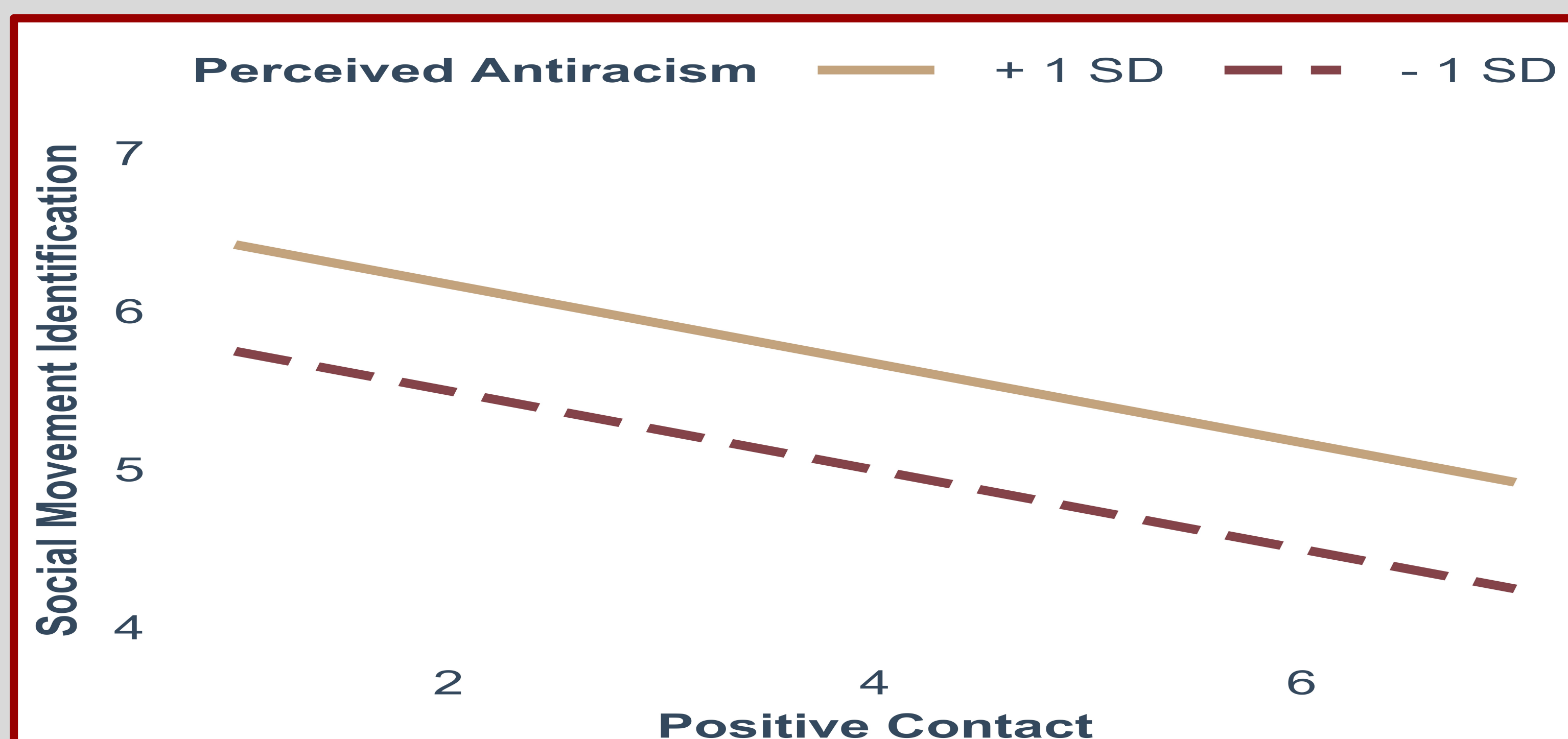
Results



$$\beta_{\text{Contact}} = -.22, p = .004; \beta_{\text{Antiracism}} = .20, p = .010$$



$$\beta_{\text{Contact}} = -.37, p < .001; \beta_{\text{Antiracism}} = .18, p = .017$$



$$\beta_{\text{Contact}} = -.30, p < .001; \beta_{\text{Antiracism}} = .24, p = .002$$

Discussion

- All our hypotheses were supported. Positive contact was negatively associated with intended collective action, anger about inequality, and social movement identification, whereas perceived antiracism was positively associated with each. Anger and identification were also positively associated with collective action.
- **Conclusions:** This data suggests that contact may decrease collective action by lessening anger and identification, whereas perceived antiracism may promote action by increasing anger and identification.
- **Limitations:** small college student sample; data collected during the COVID-19 pandemic; cross-sectional data does not allow for causal claims
- **Future directions:** Continuing as a longitudinal project and will collect two more waves of data to look at variable relationships over time; additional replications have been completed with larger, more representative online samples

References

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For more information about this research, please contact Kristina Chamberlin at chamberlin@psy.fsu.edu