SUPPLEMENTARY APPENDIX

for

**The Consequences of International Comparisons
for Public Support of K-12 Education:
Evidence from a National Survey Experiment**

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Table S1. Raw Response Percentages for Figures 1 and S1.

Year	GSS Money Spent "Too little"	PDK/GP Ratings of School Quality							
		Local Public Schools				Nation's Public Schools			
		C	D	F	DK	C	D	F	DK
1973	51.3								
1974	53.5	21	6	5	20				
1975	51.8	28	9	7	13				
1976	52.6	28	10	6	14				
1977	50.3	28	11	5	19				
1978	53.9	30	11	8	15				
1979		30	11	7	18				
1980	56.0	29	12	6	18				
1981		34	13	7	10	43	15	6	16
1982	57.6	33	14	5	11	44	15	4	15
1983	61.5	32	13	7	17	38	16	6	21
1984	63.4	35	11	4	18	49	11	4	11
1985	65.1	30	10	4	13	43	12	3	15
1986	61.4	28	11	5	15	41	10	5	16
1987	62.9	30	8	4	14	44	11	2	17
1988	66.3	34	10	4	12	48	13	3	13
1989	69.4	33	11	4	9	47	15	4	12
1990	74.4	34	12	5	8	49	16	4	10
1991	70.8	33	10	5	10	47	13	5	14
1992		33	12	5	10	48	18	4	12
1993	69.8	31	11	4	7	48	17	4	12
1994	72.4	30	14	7	5	49	17	6	6
1995		37	12	5	5	50	17	4	9
1996	70.6	34	11	6	6	46	18	5	10
1997		32	11	6	5	48	15	6	9
1998	71.3	31	9	5	9	49	15	5	13
1999		31	9	5	6	46	16	4	10
2000	71.5	35	8	3	7	47	14	5	14
2001		30	8	5	6	51	14	5	7
2002	73.7	34	10	3	6	47	13	3	13
2003		31	10	5	6	52	12	3	7
2004	73.6	33	10	4	6	45	13	4	12
2005		29	9	5	9	46	13	4	13
2006	73.7	32	9	5	5	51	14	3	11
2007		34	14	5	2	57	18	5	4
2008	70.8	30	11	5	8	44	13	5	16
2009		32	11	3	3	55	19	6	1
2010	72.1	33	11	5	2	53	20	6	3
2011		32	11	5	2	51	23	7	3

Table S2. Raw Response Frequencies for the Seven-Question Module on Support for Schools

Question	N	Percentage
Which of the following countries is the largest economic threat to the United States?		
China	381	38.1
Germany	17	1.7
Japan	26	2.6
Russia	19	1.9
Other country offered	10	1.0
Do not know	15	1.5
Refused	3	0.3
NOT ASKED (Control Case)	529	52.9
In comparison to {insert country from prior question [or China if DK]}, how much is our public education system losing ground?		
None	41	4.1
A little bit	51	5.1
Some	109	10.9
Quite a bit	108	10.8
A great deal	123	12.3
Do not know	34	3.4
Refused	5	5
NOT ASKED (Control Case)	529	52.9
Students are often given the grades A, B, C, D, and FAIL to denote the quality of their work. Suppose the public schools themselves in your community were graded in the same way. What grade would you give the public schools here?		
A	187	18.7
B	365	36.5
C	242	24.2
D	90	9.0
Fail	44	4.4
Do not know	69	6.9
Refused	3	0.3
How about the public schools in the nation as a whole? What grade would you give the public schools nationally?		
A	31	3.1
B	224	22.4
C	475	47.5
D	157	15.7
Fail	39	3.9
Do not know	70	7.0
Refused	4	0.4

Table S2 Continued

Question	N	Percentage
Consider now the people running the public education system in the United States. Would you say that you have:		
A great deal of confidence in them,	67	6.7
Some confidence in them,	596	59.6
Hardly any confidence at all in them?	308	30.8
Do not know	29	2.9
Refused	0	0.0
We are faced with many problems in this country, none of which can be solved easily or inexpensively. In order to improve the nation's education system, are we:		
Spending too much money,	161	16.1
Too little money,	571	57.1
About the right amount?	236	23.6
Do not know	32	3.2
Refused	0	0.0
Do you currently have any children attending the public schools in your community?		
No	746	74.6
Yes	254	25.4
Do not know	0	0.0
Refused	0	0.0

Source: See Table 1.

Notes: Total sample size is 1000 respondents, of which 529 were randomly selected into the treatment group and 471 were randomly selected in the control group.

Table S3. Means and Standard Deviations of Covariates for Model 3 in Tables 1 and 3

Variable	Mean	SD
Has kids currently in public schools in the community	.254	
Demographic characteristics:		
Female	.501	
Hispanic ethnicity	.065	
African-American	.130	
Born in the United States	.917	
Age	49.7	16.1
Residential characteristics:		
Respondent owns home in which s/he lives	.702	
Question: "Do you own or rent the place where you live now?"		
Took interview on cell phone rather than land line	.292	
Socioeconomic status:		
Family income from all sources (natural logarithm)	8.65	.831
Education (in years completed)	14.8	2.37
Political affiliations and values:		
Republican party identification	3.89	1.99
7 point scale with poles "Strong Democrat" to "Strong Republican" in response to the question: "Generally speaking, when it comes to political parties in the United States, how would you best describe yourself?"		
Conservative ideology	4.11	1.56
7-point scale as responses to the question: "When it comes to social issues, do you usually think of yourself as extremely liberal, liberal, slightly liberal, moderate or middle of the road, slightly conservative, conservative, or extremely conservative?"		
Attitudes toward engagement in world affairs:		
Does not agree with interventions to solve conflicts around the world	.509	
Respondent expresses disagreement in response to the question: "Do you agree or disagree with the statement 'The U.S. needs to play an active role in solving conflicts around the world'?"		
Does not feel the war in Afghanistan makes America safer	.645	
Respondent expresses disagreement when asked: "Some people believe that the war in Afghanistan will make America safer, while others believe that the war will not make America safer. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: 'The war in Afghanistan will make America safer'?"		

Source: See Table 1.

Notes: Total sample size is 1000 respondents. Missing data on these covariates were imputed with best-subset linear and logistic regression models.

Table S4. Predicted Probabilities and Marginal Differences for a Model Analogous to Model 1 from Table 1 but for the PDK/GP Question on the Nation's Schools (see Table S2 for question wording)

	Control Condition	Treatment Condition	
	Probability	Probability	Difference from Control
A	.037	.031	-.007
			(.004)
B	.257	.223	-.034
			(.021)
C	.509	.516	.006
			(.005)
D	.157	.183	.026
			(.016)
Fail	.039	.047	.009
			(.005)

Source: See Table 1.
Notes: See Table 2.

Table S4. Predicted Probabilities and Marginal Differences for a Model Analogous to Model 1 from Table 3 but for the GSS Question on Confidence in "People Running the Public Education System in the United States" (see Table S2 for question wording)

	Control Condition	Treatment Condition	
	Probability	Probability	Difference from Control
Hardly any confidence at all in them	.300	.338	.037 (.028)
Some confidence in them	.626	.599	-.026 (.020)
A great deal of confidence in them	.074	.063	-.011 (.008)

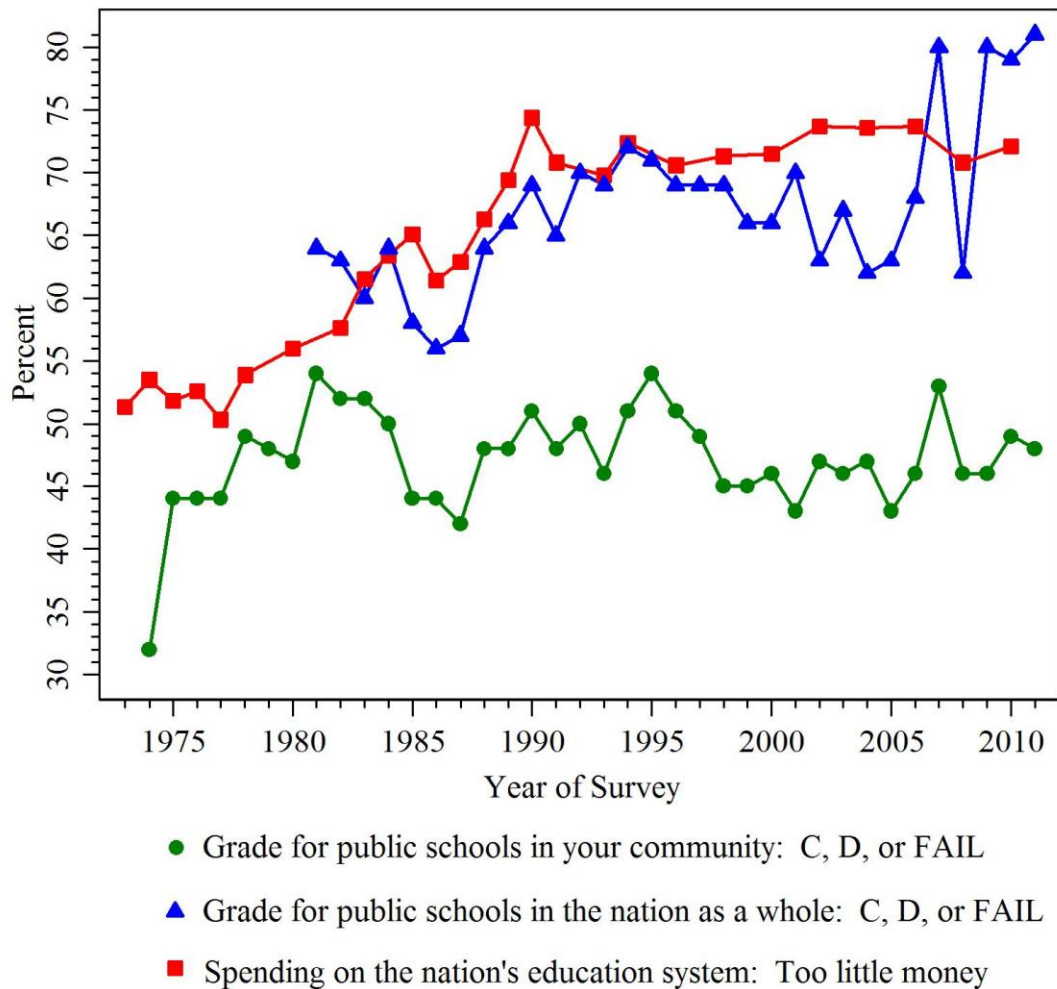*Source*: See Table 1.
Notes: See Table 2.

Figure S1. An alternative to Figure 1, using raw values (see Table S1) rather than 3-year moving averages.

Notes: The jaggedness of recent years in the ratings of the nation's schools is puzzling, in particular the decline to 62 percent in 2008. This decline coincides with a discontinuous jump in "Don't know" responses (to 16 percent in comparison to 4 percent in 2007 and 1, 3, and 3 percent from 2009 through 2011). Although 2008 was an election year, during which education policy received more media attention of contradictory characterizations of public schooling by both national parties, it is also possible that 2008 is best regarded as an outlier.