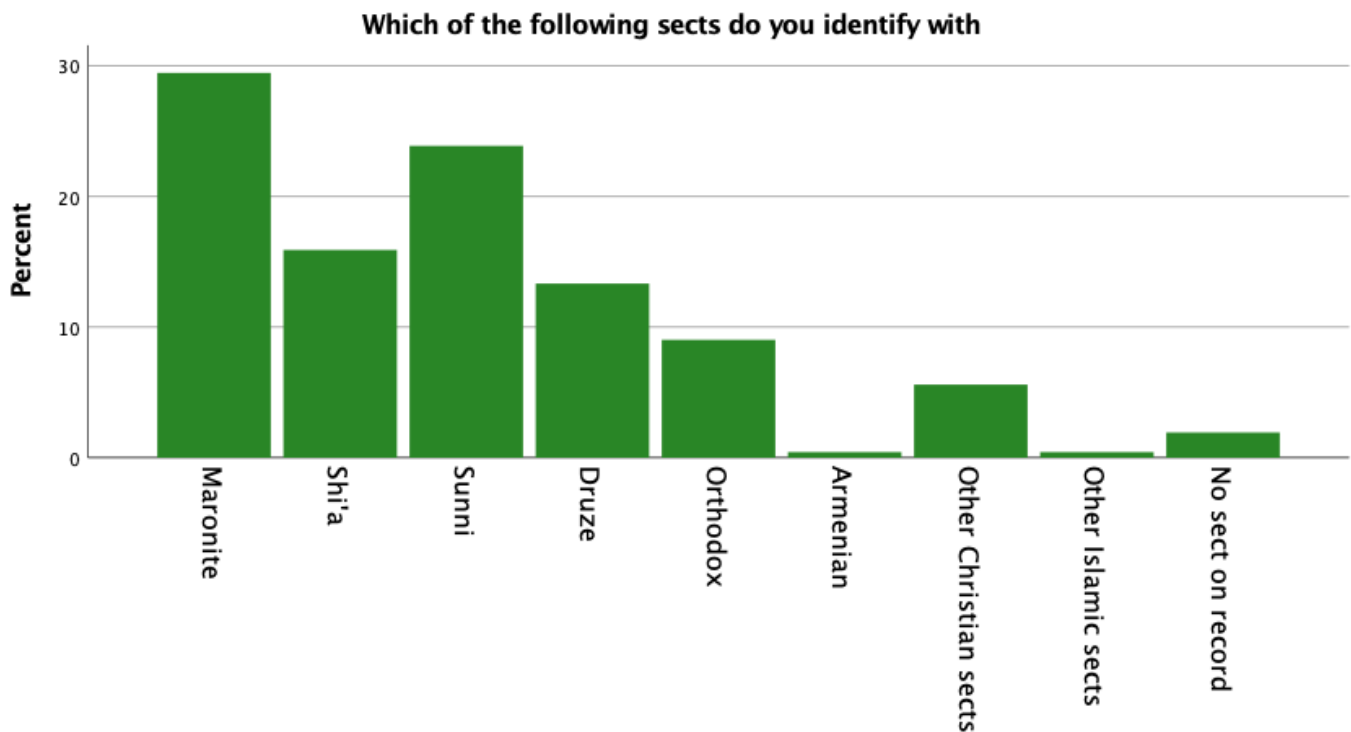


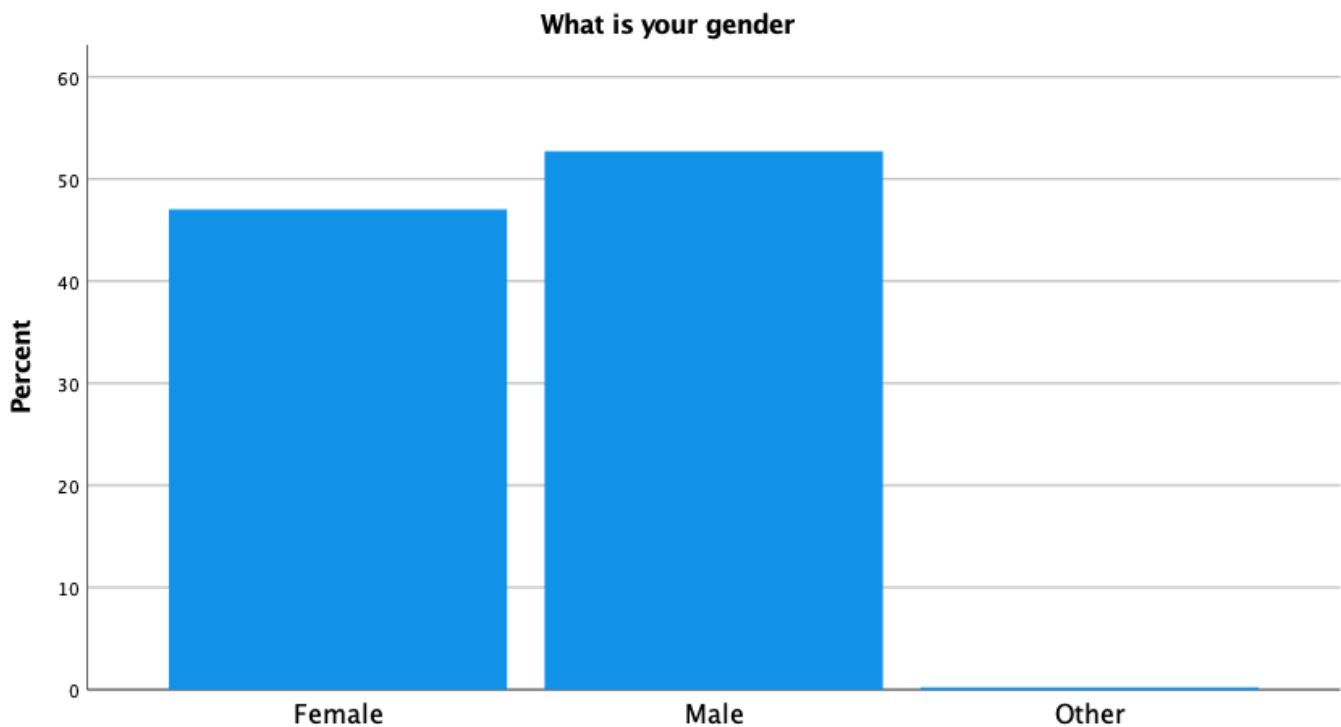


Lebanon Sociopolitical Survey 2021 – Symbolic Threats

Introduction

This document reports findings from a Lebanese sample on how they perceive their ability to change things in Lebanon. The original survey included questions about several social and political matters, which are not part of this document, nevertheless. The data was collected between the months of February and May 2021, and included a total of 2,311 participants. The sample included 29.5% Maronites, 15.9% Shias, 23.9% Sunnis, 13.3% Druze, 9% Orthodox, 0.4% Armenians, 5.6% other Christian sects, 0.4% other Islamic sects, and 1.9% with no sect on record. The Mean age within the sample was 31.05 years old (SD 18.10). The sample also comprised of 47% females.



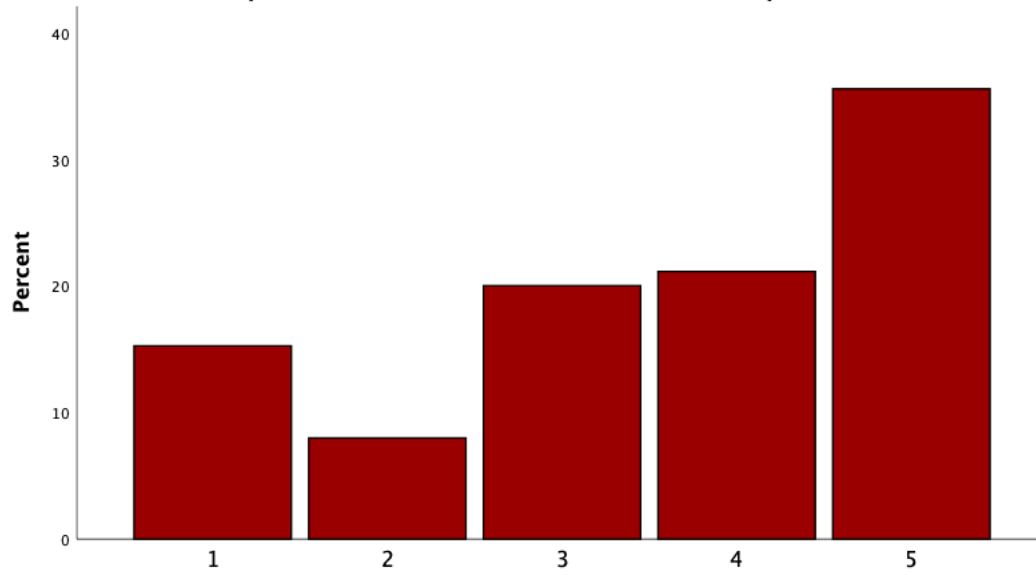


Symbolic Threats

The sample was asked 8 questions that answer how much symbolically threatened do they feel from other sects. The answers ranged from 1 (I don't agree with the statement) to 5 (I agree with the statement completely). The Mean score was highest for "The political culture of other sects threatens our way of life" (3.54/5), and lowest for "Our sect needs a leader that can face threats to our values" (2.42/5). On average, the sample mean for symbolic threat was high. However, there was no obvious trend as you can see below.

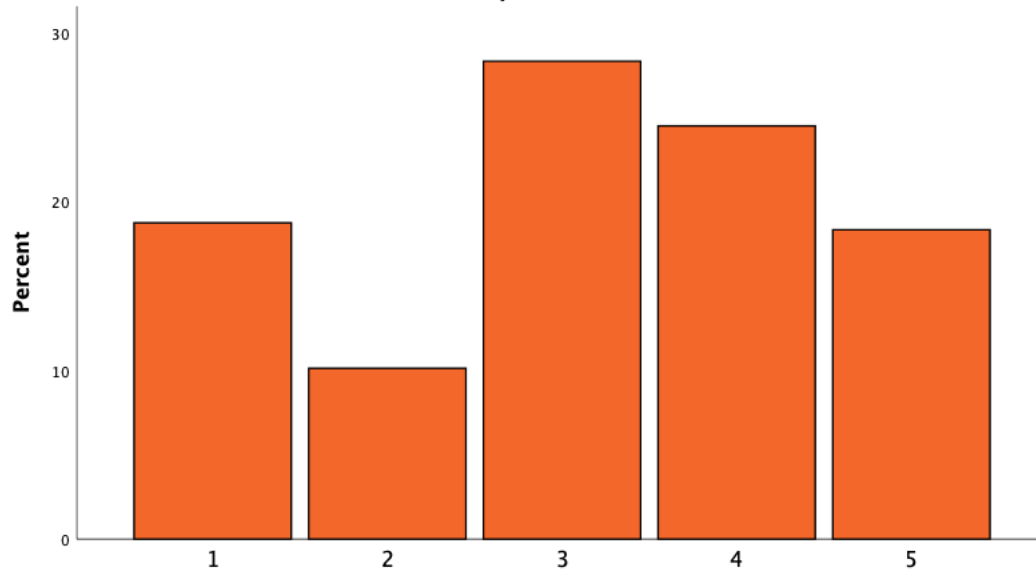


The political culture of other sects threatens our way of life



The political culture of other sects threatens our way of life

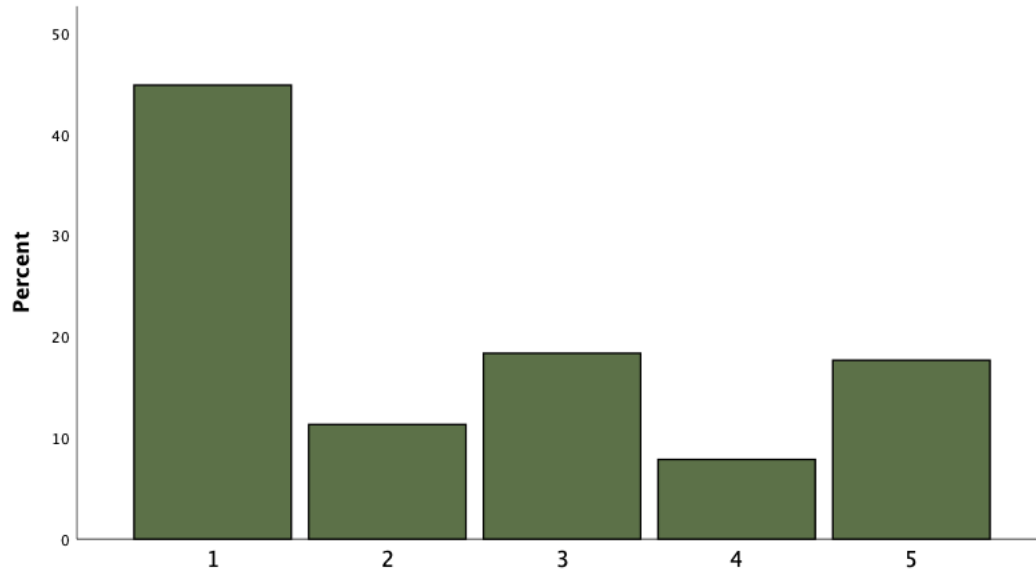
The cultural values of my sect differ from other sects



The cultural values of my sect differ from other sects

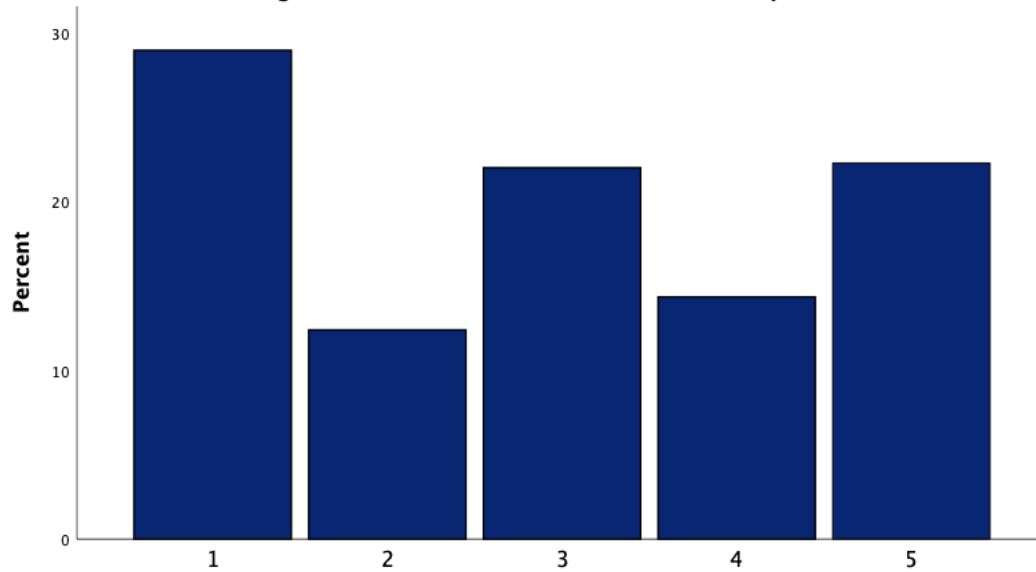


Our sect needs a leader that can face threats to our values

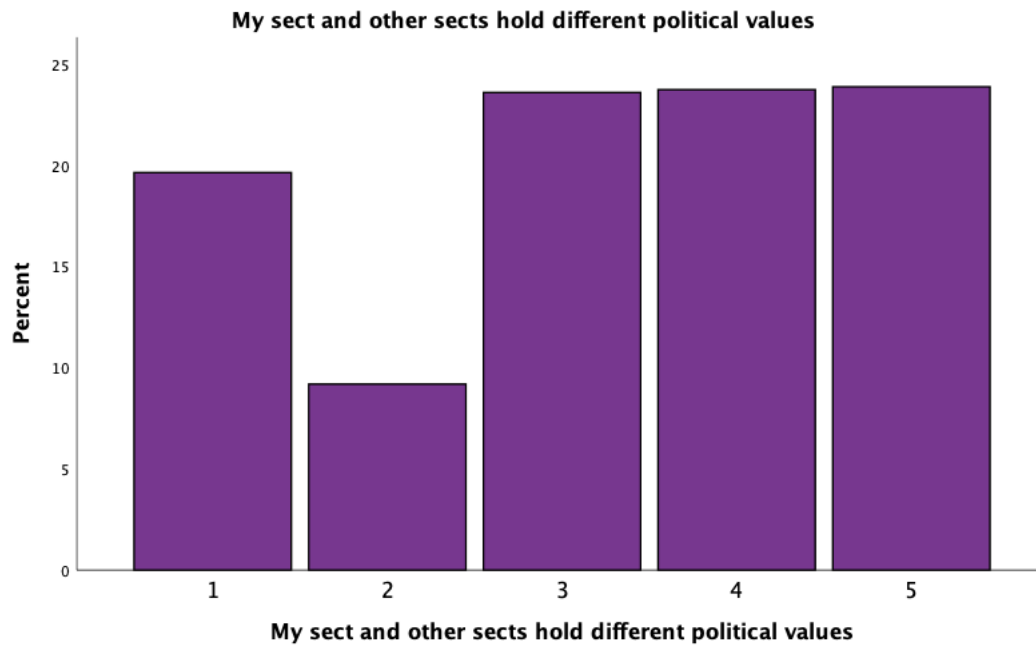


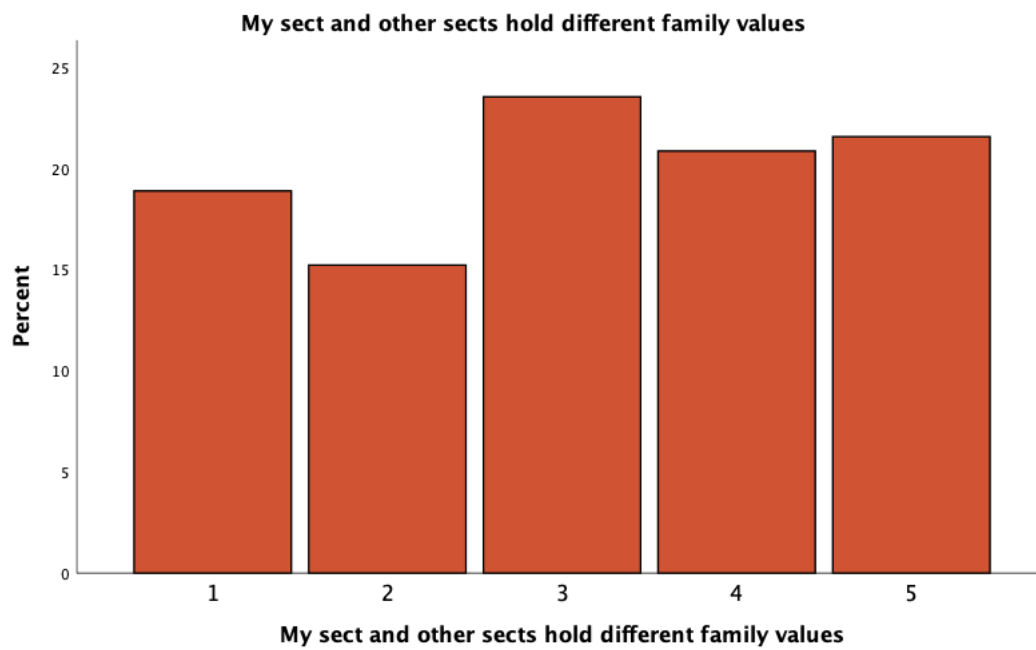
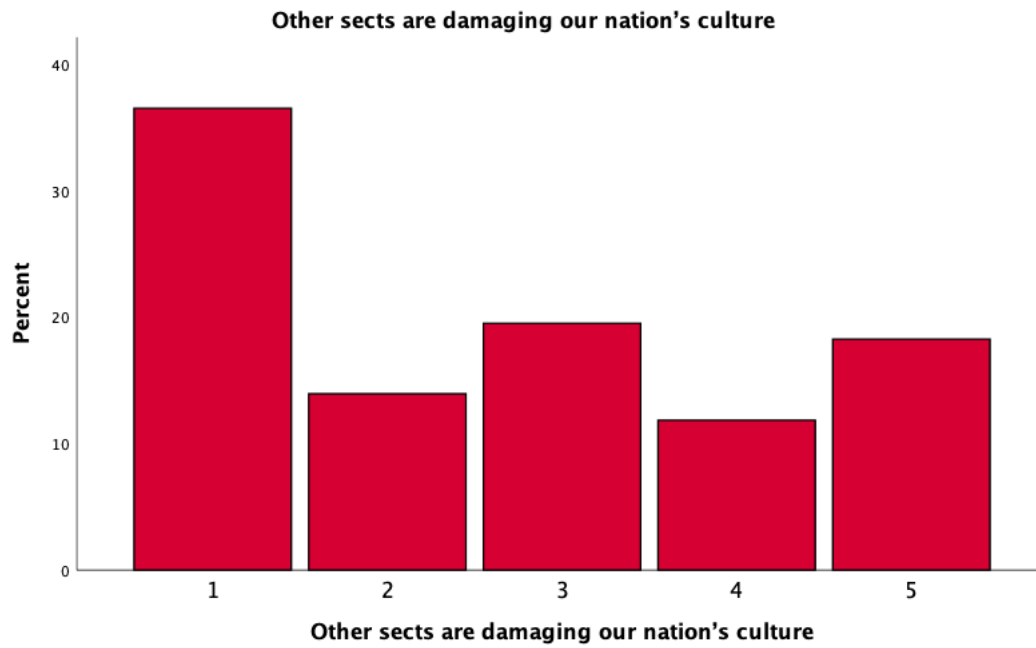
Our sect needs a leader that can face threats to our values

The religious culture of other sects threatens our way of life



The religious culture of other sects threatens our way of life







Conclusion

In conclusion, we can see that while the sample had no clear trend, the average scores for these statements were high. This shows that there is on average a higher percentage of people who still feel threatened by other groups. While some of these fears might be legitimate and supported by the behaviour of some of the political groups; it is important to understand how this affects the decision making for individuals and groups. That is especially the case where one group dominates the narrative and is capable of feeding fear from others into a certain population. Understanding how people feel threatened by others is essential if we wish to rebuild trust and change the status quo.