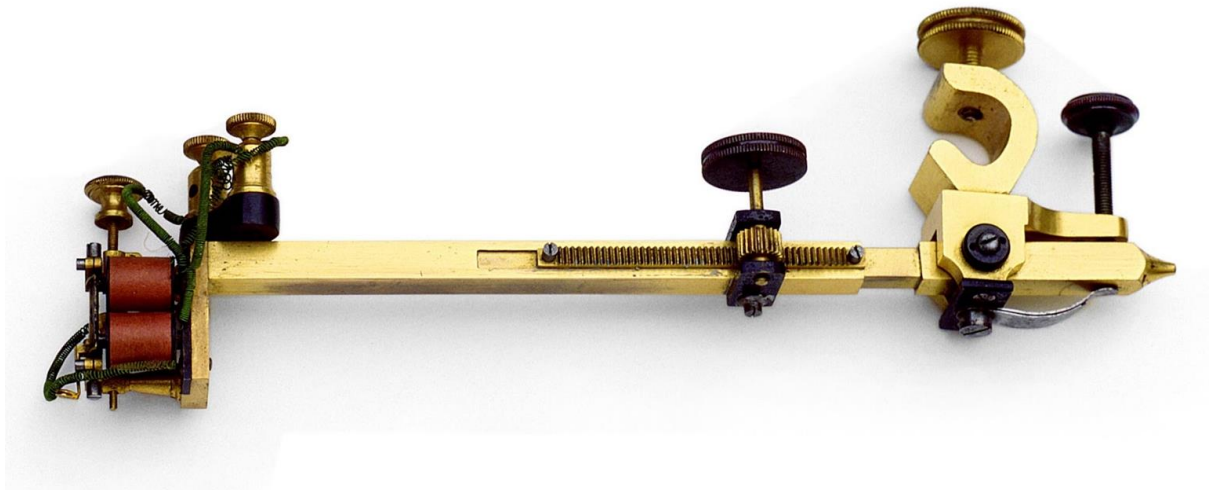


XXIX SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

EMPIRICAL STUDIES IN PSYCHOLOGY

MARCH 31 – APRIL 2, 2023

FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY, UNIVERSITY OF BELGRADE



INSTITUTE OF PSYCHOLOGY
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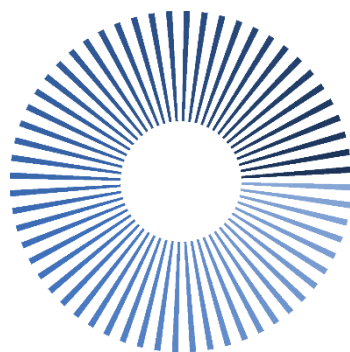
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Deprez time-marker (G. Boulitte, Paris)

Device for setting a fine time base for kymographic recording. It provides oscillations for intervals down to 0.005 sec. A pen is attached to the plunger of an electromagnet. The movements of the plunger may be varied with a conical regulator. The device now lacks the pen. The author of this device is French electrical engineer Marcel Deprez who conducted the first experiments to transmit electrical power (DC) over long distances. Dimensions: 18.5 x 4 x 4.5 cm; Net weight; 145 g; Voltage: V DC = 2 – 4 V

From the collection of old scientific instruments of the Laboratory of experimental psychology, Faculty of philosophy, University of Belgrade

CONSERVATIVE-LIBERAL MINDSET AS A DRIVER OF COVID-19 VACCINATION
BEHAVIOR

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Despite evidence showing that beliefs and values associated with conservative ideology are important predictors of vaccination against COVID-19, none of the previous studies examined if they contribute to specific vaccination choices and preferences in the context of different COVID-19 vaccines available. The present study examines the role of conservatism-liberalism, conceptualized as a relatively stable mindset in predicting the broad spectrum of COVID-19 vaccine-related behaviors above and beyond sociodemographics – vaccination status and specific vaccine choices and preferences. The study was conducted on a sample representative of the Serbian population ($N = 1000$), whose citizens could freely choose which COVID-19 vaccine they wanted to receive. The first principal component extracted from self-placement on the social axis of political orientation (1–extremely left-wing; 7–extremely right-wing), religiosity (1–not religious at all, 5–very religious), and Openness subscale of the BHI (4 items) was used as the measure of conservatism-liberalism. Participants reported the number of doses and specific COVID-19 vaccines they received for each dose, as well as reasons for their choice. Unvaccinated individuals reported which vaccine against COVID-19 they would receive in case of mandatory vaccination or if they eventually decided to get vaccinated. A series of hierarchical binary logistic regressions showed that conservatism-liberalism negatively predicts vaccination status ($B = -.369, p < .01$) and significantly differentiates between vaccine-hesitant, single/two-times vaccinated, and booster-dose vaccine recipients, with the latter being more liberal than both former groups (p -values $< .05$). Moreover, conservative individuals proved to be more likely to receive the Sinopharm ($B = .282, p < .05$) – a traditional whole-virus vaccine, while liberal individuals were more likely to receive one of the innovative western vaccine options – Pfizer/BioNTech ($B = -.213, p < .05$) or Oxford/AstraZeneca ($B = -.684, p < .01$). Sputnik V proved to be the only vaccination option unrelated to conservatism-liberalism. Conservatism remained a remarkably stable predictor of booster-dose vaccine selections, despite vaccine shifts after the first two doses (Sinopharm $B = .304, p < .05$; Pfizer/BioNTech $B = -.331, p < .05$). The same pattern of results was observed for relations between conservatism-liberalism and vaccine preferences in a subsample of unvaccinated individuals (Sinopharm $B = .448, p < .01$; Pfizer/BioNTech $B = -.345, p < .05$). The results suggest that basic ideological beliefs impact people’s health-related choices and readiness to adopt targeted health-related behavior.

Keywords: COVID-19 vaccination, conservatism-liberalism, vaccine hesitancy, vaccine type selection

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