

## Introduction

### Background

- The Humboldt Graduation Pledge was introduced in 1987 and remains in use today
- Students voluntarily commit to taking the pledge upon graduation
- **Pledge statement:**
  - *“I pledge to explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of any job I consider and will try to improve these aspects of any organizations for which I work.”*
- The pledge has served as a model for similar initiatives across higher education institutions
- Prior studies suggest pledges can influence:
  - Intentions
  - Attitudes
  - Short-term behaviors

### The Present Study

- Understanding how alumni organize and express these behaviors is critical for evaluating the long-term effectiveness of the Humboldt Graduation Pledge
- This study uses exploratory factor analysis (EFA) to examine how pledge-related behaviors cluster

## Methods

### Participants

- The participants were 1,240 alumni from Cal Poly Humboldt

### Procedures

- Participants voluntarily responded to a survey about the impact of a graduation pledge on their social justice and environmental behaviors

### Measures

- We were interested in seeing how the items loaded into factors when the scales were run separately, compared to when combined

## Results

**Table 1**

*Exploratory Factor Analysis Models & Factors*

	Factor 1	Factor 2	Factor 3	Factor 4
<b>EFA Model 1:</b> Social Justice Questionnaire	Single social justice factor			
<b>EFA Model 2 :</b> Environmental Responsibility Questionnaire	Public-oriented environmental activism behaviors	Private environmental conservation/efficiency behaviors		
<b>EFA Model 3:</b> Social Justice + Environmental Responsibility Questionnaire	Interpersonal social justice behaviors	Concrete private environmental behaviors	Civic engagement	Workplace based activism

## Discussion

- The factor analysis indicates that environmental behaviors can be sorted into both public and private
- When the social justice and environmental behavior scales were combined, workplace-based activism explained the majority of the variance
- This has implications for how to encourage social and environmental activism in society going forward

## References



A complete reference list can be found via the QR code

## Acknowledgements

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