**Supplemental Analyses**

Below we present some additional analyses that could be of interest to readers, though were not central to our main findings. This is a non-exhaustive supplemental analyses section focusing primarily on demographics, and interested readers can contact the first author if they have further inquiries regarding the dataset and results.

**Manipulation Checks**

In Table S1, we present the manipulation-check questions with the proportion of participants who responded correctly.

**Table S1**

*Proportion correct for each manipulation check*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Manipulation Check Question | *N*(%) |
| According to the flashback in the simulation, did you leave the store with the designer sunglasses without providing payment for them? | 617(87) |
| According to the defense attorney, **because you rejected the plea offer**, where will you await trial? OR According to the defense attorney, **because you pled guilty**, when will you be free to go home? | 626 (89) |
| According to the defense attorney, how much time would you spend on probation if pleading guilty for the larceny charge? | 661(94) |
| According to the prosecuting attorney, how much time would you spend incarcerated if convicted at trial for the larceny charge? | 681(97) |
| Did your defense attorney provide any information regarding how the current COVID-19 pandemic could impact your case? | 686(97) |

*Note*: Total *N* = 704

**Gender and Guilty Plea**

Participant-defendants’ gender did not significantly predict plea decisions, Pearson χ2(5, *N* = 704) = 5.99, *p* = .307, θ = .09, or comparing only male and female, χ2(1, *N* = 685) = 2.47, *p* = .116, θ = .06.

**Table S2**

*Proportion of participant-defendants pleading guilty across experimental conditions*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gender | *N* (%) | Total |
| Female | 242 (66) | 365 |
| Male | 230 (72) | 320 |
| Trans Female | 1 (50) | 2 |
| Trans Male | 2 (100) | 2 |
| Gender Nonconforming | 12 (86) | 14 |
| Prefer not to answer | 1 (100) | 1 |

**Immunocompromised Participants and Plea**

A small proportion of participant-defendants reported being immunocompromised (*N* = 43). Being immunocompromised did not appear to impact guilty pleas, χ2(2, *N* = 704) = .276, *p* = .871, θ = .02, as a similar proportion of immunocompromised participants pled guilty (72%) compared to those were not (69%). Furthermore, removing immunocompromised participants from the main analyses did not substantially affect the full logistic regression model. Both the guilt status (*p* < .001, *OR* = 6.71) and COVID-information ((*p* = .05, *OR* = 1.56) effects remained.

**Essential Worker Status and Plea**

One-hundred thirty-eight participants (20%) identified themselves as an essential worker, while 16 participants did not respond to this question. Essential workers (70%) did not plead guilty at a different rate from non-essential workers (69%), χ2(1, *N* = 688) = .075, *p* = .785, θ = .01. Removing essential workers from the main analyses did not substantially affect the full logistic regression model. Both the guilt status (*p* < .001, *OR* = 7.03) and COVID-warning (*p* = .023, *OR* = 1.74) effects remained.

**Self-Reported Mask Wearing and Plea**

Participants dichotomously indicated whether they wear masks or face coverings when in enclosed public spaces (Y/N). The vast majority reported wearing masks (*N* = 677), with only a handful reporting they do not wear a mask (*N* = 27). There was an association between self-reported mask wearing and plea decisions, χ2(1, *N* = 704) = 4.03, *p* = .045, θ = .08. Mask-wearers pleaded guilty at a higher rate (70%) than non mask-wearers (52%). Conducting analyses with only mask-wearers did not change the main analyses. Both the guilt status (*p* < .001, *OR* = 6.87) and COVID-information (*p* = .039, *OR* = 1.59) effects remained.