Islamism and Fundamentalism*s*
Role of values in Islamic political movement

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Idea of the Study

- Islamism is a political ideology alternative to liberal democracy
    - (Fukuyama's idea, not mine)

- Conflict between Islamism and liberalism will shape the future of Muslim societies

- My goal is to understand the key characteristics of these two ideological groups

Data

- Arab Barometer (AB), 1st wave
  - 2nd wave should be available soon

- 5 Sunni Muslim countries: Algeria, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine, Yemen
  - Lebanon: Shias and Christians
  - Kuwait: Less than 1,000 respondents

- 6,172 respondents total

Research Aims

- Elaborate an instrument allowing distinction between Islamists and liberals using AB data

- Check validity of the instrument

- Understand differences between the ideological groups in terms of values

- Investigate social and demographic characteristics of the ideological groups

- Look at the cross-country differences

Ideology: Theory

- The key argument between Islamists and liberals is about sovereignty (divine vs. popular)

- As a result, governments in liberal democracy and Islamic state serve different purposes

- **Liberalism:** Representation of the people's will

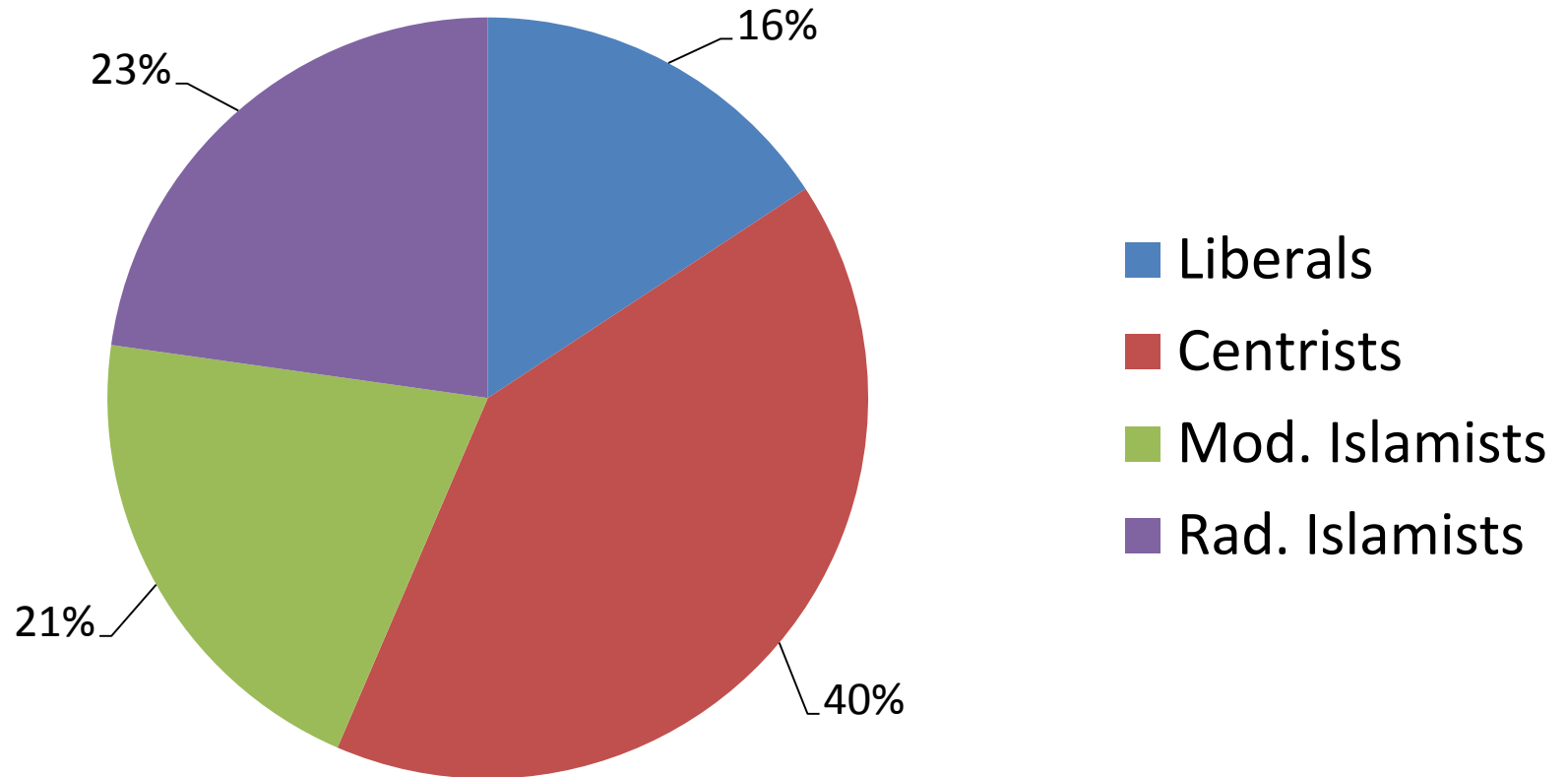- **Islamism:** Implementation of the divine law

Ideology: Assessment

- AB: series of questions regarding the source of legislation (402q)

- The government and parliament should
  - make laws according to the wishes of the people
  - implement only the laws of the sharia
  - try to accommodate both

- Three rating-type questions

Ideology: Categories

- I used "Ponarin—Kustov" method to construct ranking and got four categories of respondents

- **Liberals:** people's will most important

- **Centrists:** both equally are important

- **Moderate Islamists:** sharia more important

- **Radical Islamists:** sharia without compromise

Ideology: Composition
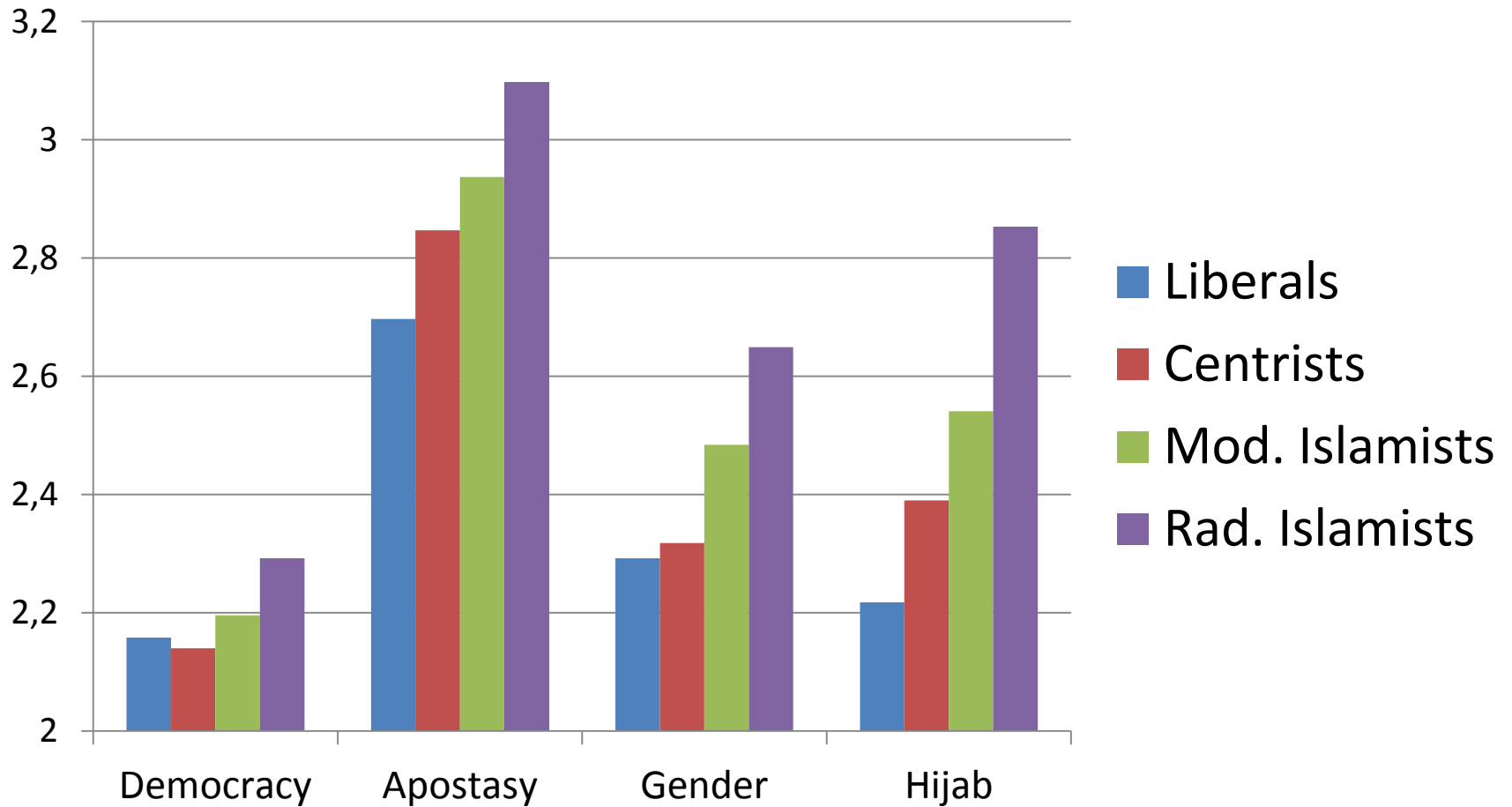
Values: Assessment

- AB: series of questions regarding personal interpretation of Islamic norms (504q)

- **Democracy** is not compatible with Islam

- **Apostasy** must be punished by execution

- **Gender** segregation in universities

- **Hijab** as a requirement for women

- Scale is 1 to 4; 4 = most conservative values

	Democracy	Apostasy	Gender	Hijab
Liberals = ref.				
Centrists	n.s.	0.150**	n.s.	0.172***
Moderate Islamists	n.s.	0.240***	0.192***	0.323***
Radical Islamists	0.134**	0.401***	0.357***	0.635***
Constant	2.158***	2.697***	2.292***	2.218***

C1: It is clear that political conflict largely coincides with cultural one

C2: At the same time there's general consensus about democracy
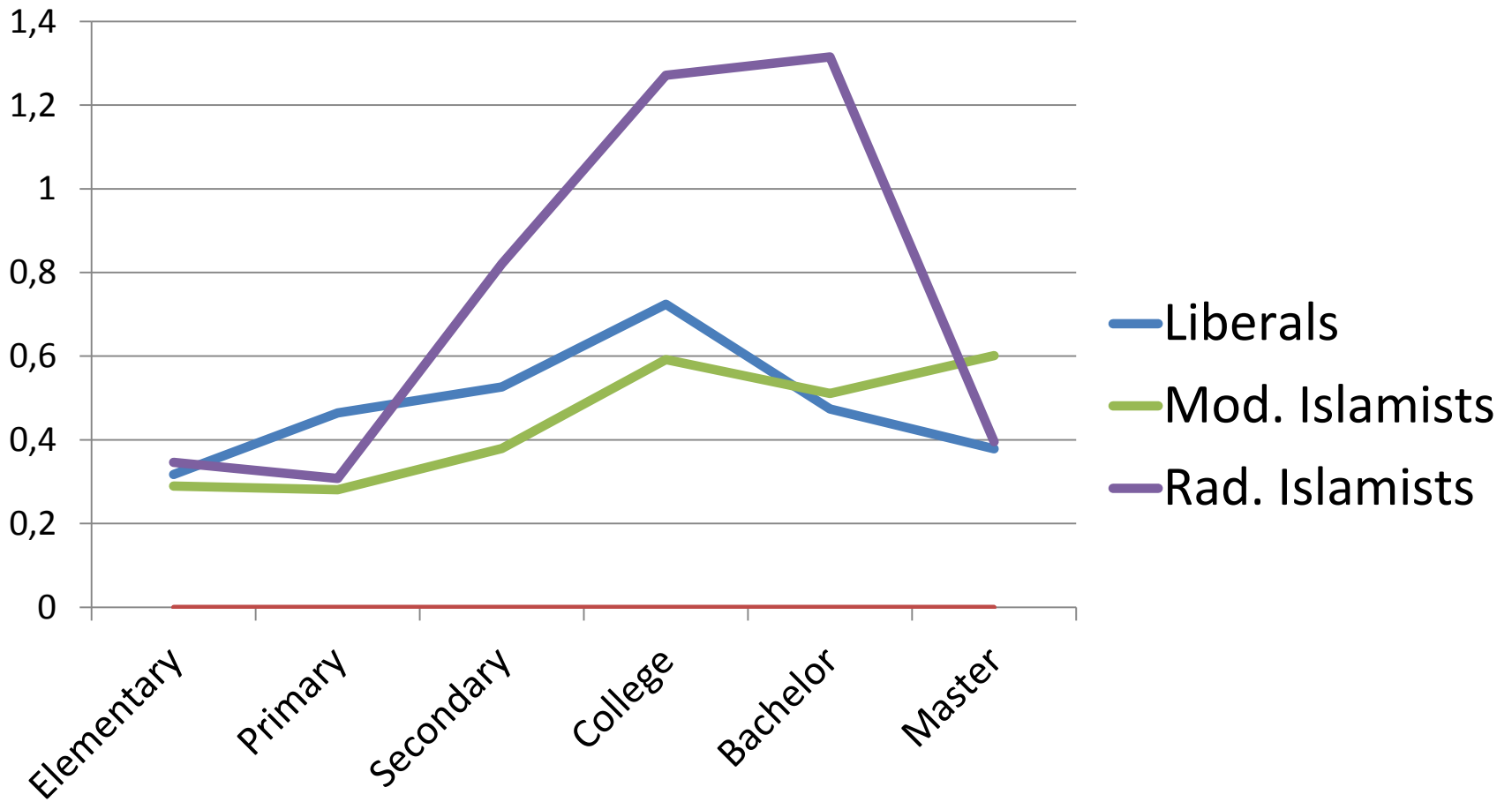
Ideologies feat. Values

Ideologies: Demographics

- What are the social and demographic characteristics of the four groups?

- Variables used:

  - Age (in 10s)

  - Gender (1 = female)

  - Education (categorical)

  - Income (deciles)

  - Religiosity (reading Quran)

	Liberals	Mod. Islamists	Rad. Islamists
Age	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Female	n.s.	n.s.	-0.250**
Education	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Income	n.s.	n.s.	0.060***
Religiosity	n.s.	0.108**	0.103**
Country (Jordan = ref.)			
Palestine	1.057***	n.s.	n.s.
Algeria	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Morocco	-0.311*	-0.341**	-0.838***
Yemen	n.s.	n.s.	1.411***

C3: Ideologies are spread more or less evenly among social and demographic groups

Ideologies feat. Education

Preliminary Results

- Presence of political and cultural conflict within Muslim societies in the Middle East

- Cultural conflict concerns primarily gender relations, not attitude to democracy
  - In line with Inglehart and Norris (2002)

- Interesting educational differences between ideological groups