

Examining the Association Between Trust, Attitudes Toward Violence and Violent Behaviour

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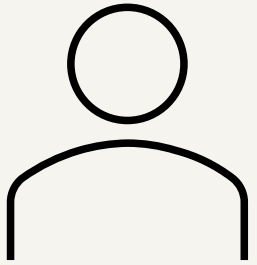


Defining Trust



Defining Trust

A

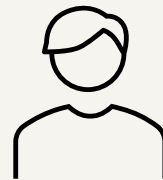
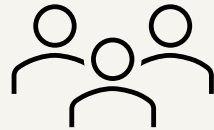
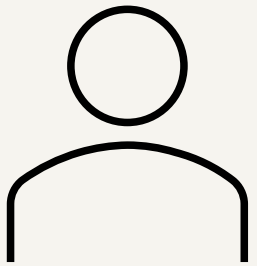


Defining Trust

A

trusts

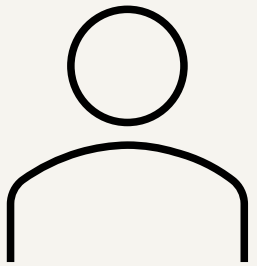
B



Defining Trust

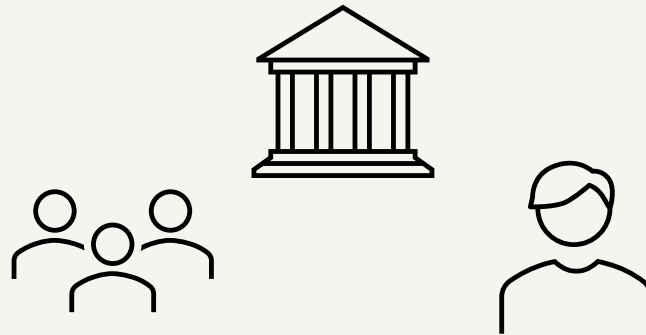
A

trusts



B

to do



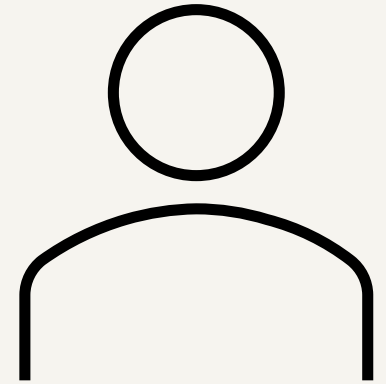
X



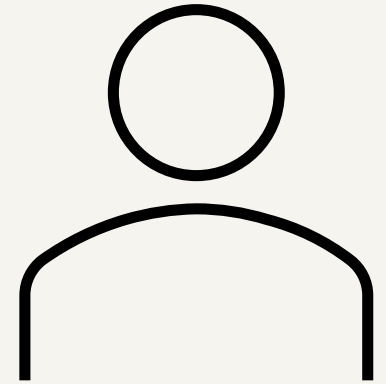
Defining Trust

A willingness to accept vulnerability when the outcome of an interaction is unknown

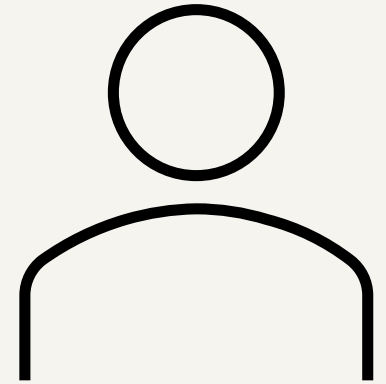
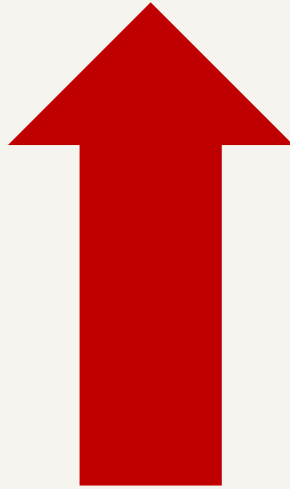
Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust



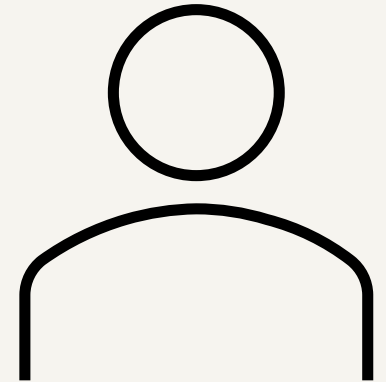
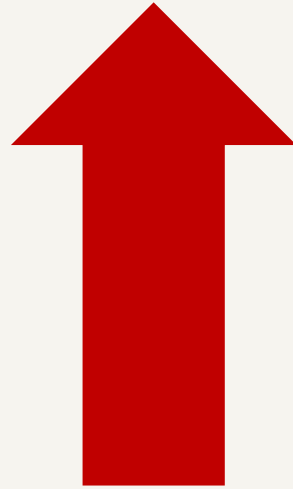
Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust



Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust



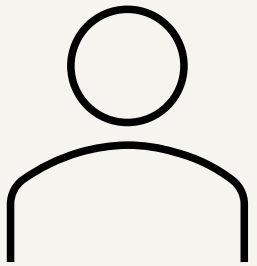
Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust



Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust

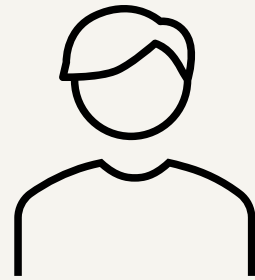
A

trusts



B

to do



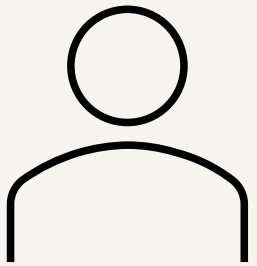
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Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust

A

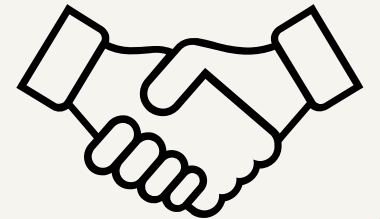
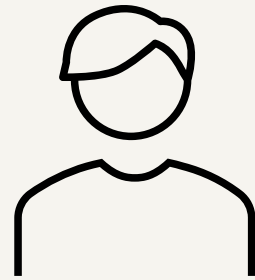
trusts



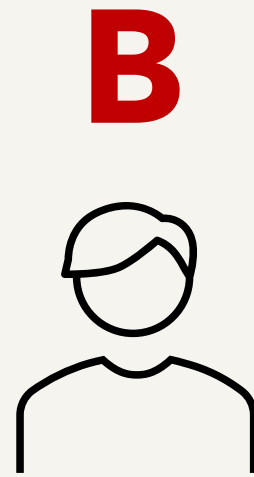
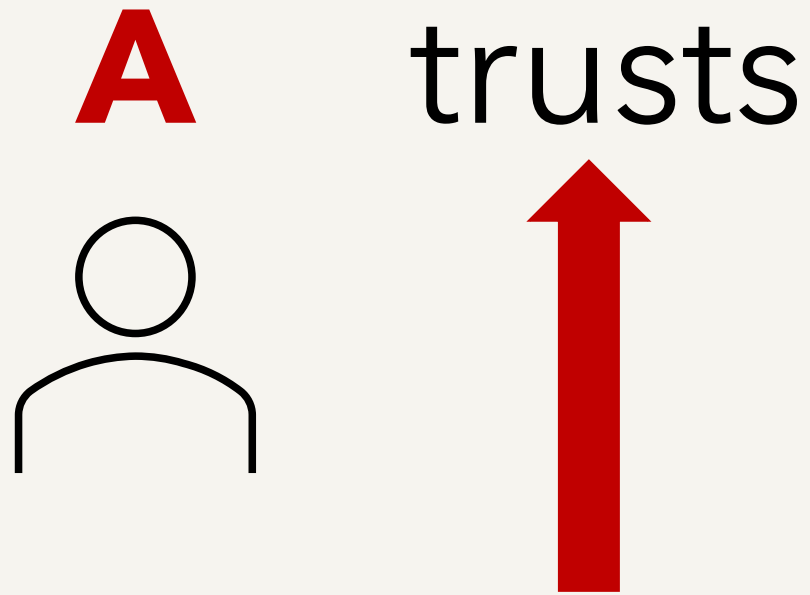
B

to do

X

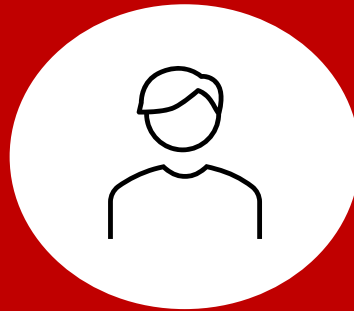


Institutional Trust and Generalized Trust



Trust and Violence

Lower Generalized Trust



- Increased homicide rates (Galea et al., 2002; Lederman et al., 2002; Messner et al., 2004)
- More right-wing extremist and authoritarian attitudes (Heller et al., 2022)
- Greater support for and participation in political violence (Alcorta et al., 2019)

Trust and Violence

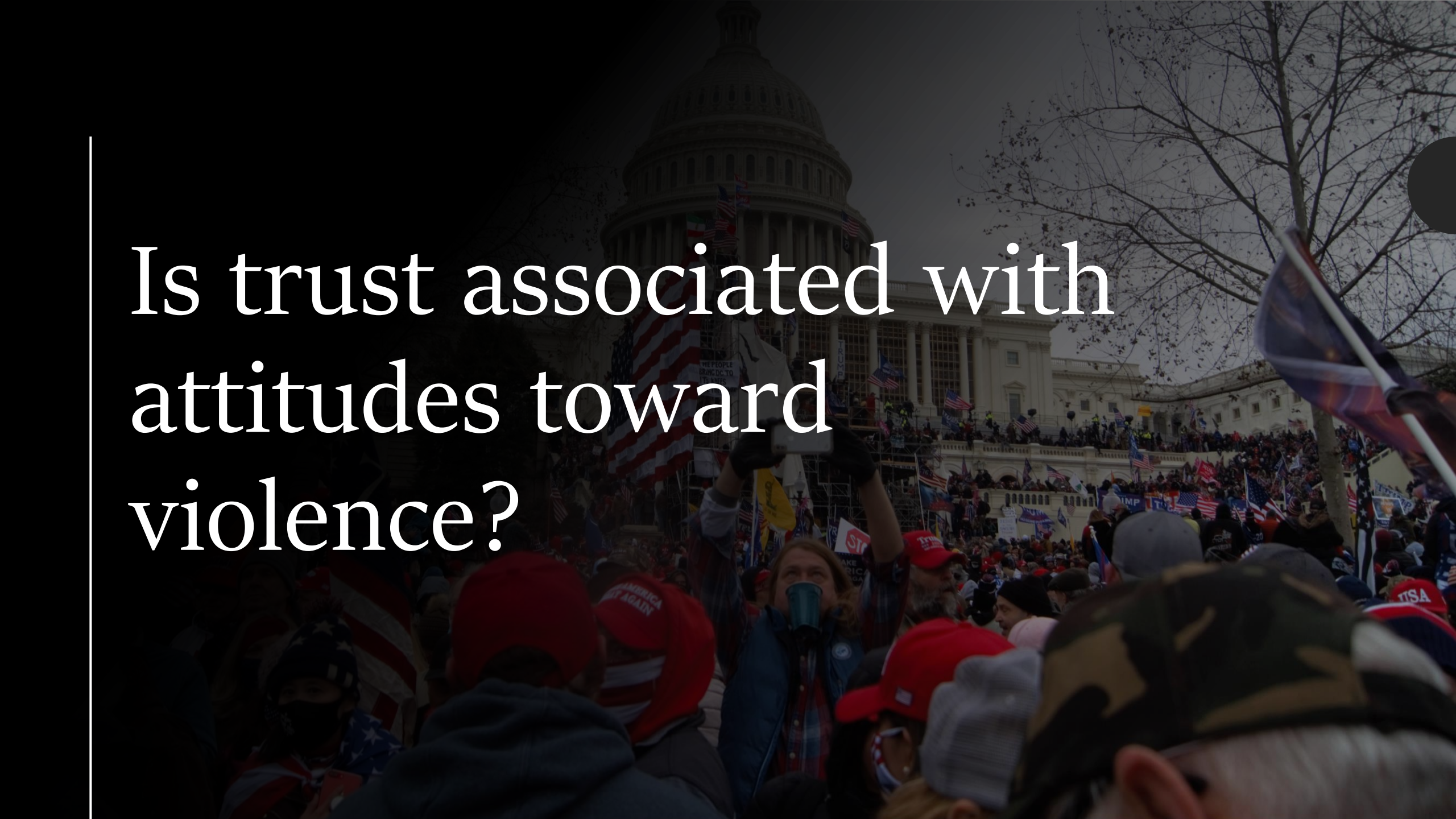
Lower Institutional Trust



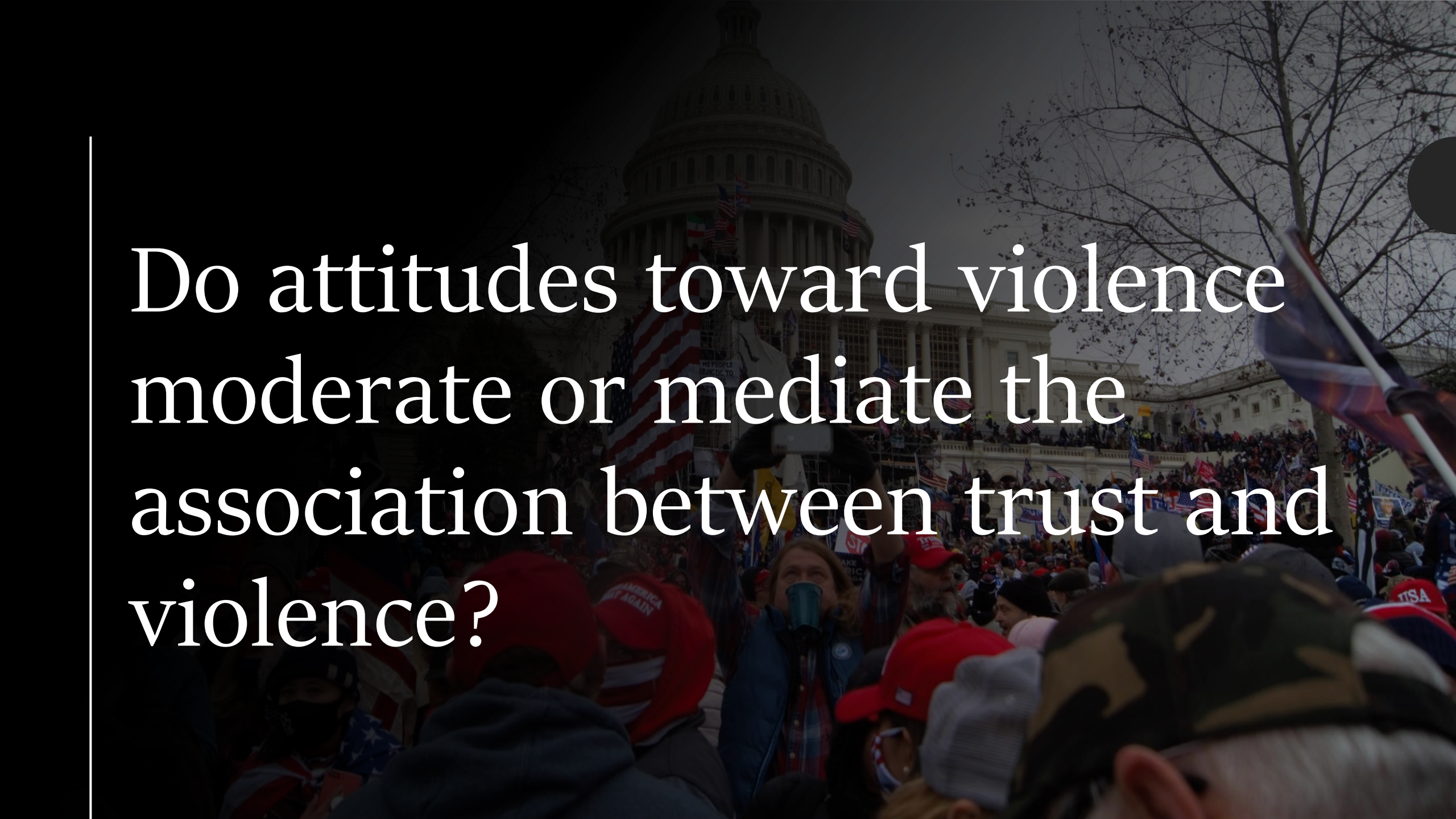
- Greater support for violent collective action when there is a perceived threat (Gulliver et al., 2022)

Current Study

A large crowd of people is gathered in front of the US Capitol building. Many individuals are wearing red hats, some with "TRUMP" or "MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN" visible. Several people are holding American flags, and one person in the foreground is using a megaphone. The scene is set in front of the iconic neoclassical architecture of the Capitol, with bare trees visible in the background under an overcast sky.

A large crowd of people is gathered in front of the US Capitol building. Many people are wearing red hats, some with "MAGA" or "TRUMP" written on them. Some are holding American flags. The scene is outdoors, and the Capitol building is visible in the background. The overall atmosphere appears to be one of a significant public demonstration or rally.

Is trust associated with
attitudes toward
violence?

A large crowd of people is gathered in front of the US Capitol building. Many people are wearing red hats, some with "MAGA" or "TRUMP" written on them. Some are holding American flags. The scene appears to be a political rally or protest. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font.

Do attitudes toward violence moderate or mediate the association between trust and violence?

Demographics

Sample Size

N = 497

M Age

29.6 yrs

Race

49.9% White

19.1% Black

***9.9% East/Southeast
Asian***

5.8% South Asian

6.2% Latino

1.6% Indigenous

0.6% Middle Eastern

5.6% Mixed Race

1.2% Other

Country

49.7% Canada

50.3% United States

Survey Measures

Institutional Trust



- Willingness to Accept Vulnerability subscale, Political Trustworthiness and Trust Scale (WAV; Hamm et al., 2019)

- 3 items
 - *I am open to letting the government make more decisions about issues that are important to me*
- 5-point scale
 - *Never (1) to Always (5)*
- Total score is average of items
 - Range 1 (low trust) to 5 (high trust)

Survey Measures

Generalized Trust



Generalized Trust

- General Trust Scale (GTS; Yamagishi & Yamagishi, 1994)

- 6 items
 - *Most people are trustworthy*
- 5-point scale
 - *Strongly Disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (5)*
- Total score is average of items
 - Range 1 (low trust) to 5 (high trust)

Survey Measures

Attitudes Toward Violence



- Evaluation of Violence Questionnaire (EVQ; Nunes et al., 2021)

- 17 items
 - *You hitting a guy you hate*
- 4-point scale
 - *Very bad/unpleasant/negative* (1) to *Very good/pleasant/positive* (4)
- Total score is average of items
 - Range 1 (more negative evaluations) to 4 (more positive evaluations)

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Physical Aggression Scale of Aggression Questionnaire (PA-AQ; Buss & Perry, 1992)

- 9 items
 - *If someone hits me, I hit back*
- 5-point scale
 - *Strongly Disagree (1) to Strongly Agree (5)*
- Total score is average of items
 - Range 1 (less aggressive) to 5 (more aggressive)

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)

- Imagine doll as someone you feel a great deal of anger about

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)



Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)

- Select number of pins you would like to stab into the doll from 0 to 51

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)



Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Doll Aggression Task (DeWall et al., 2013)

- The greater the number of pins represents more aggressive inclinations

Survey Measures

Violent/ Aggressive Behaviour



- Violent Behavior Vignette Questionnaire (VBVQ; Nunes et al., 2021)

- 10 scenarios
 - *You're at a bar standing beside your girlfriend/wife when a guy walks up to her, puts his arm around her, and starts trying to pick her up. He acts like you aren't even there.*
- Response options
 - **Non-violent** (*Report it, Talk it out, Insult him, Joke about it, Ignore it, Leave*)
 - **Violent** (*Shove him, Hit, punch, kick, or tackle him, Threaten to hurt him*)
- Total score is the average across the scenarios
 - Range from 0 (non-violent) to 1 (more violent)

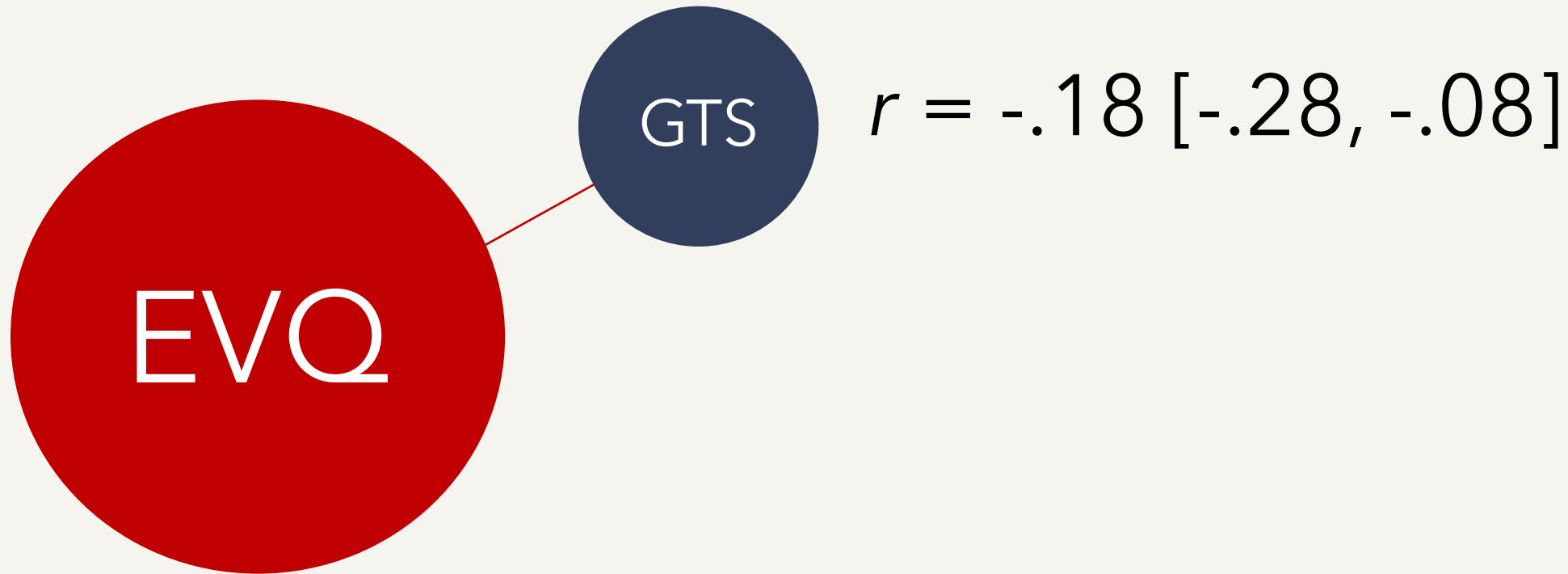
Trust is Associated with Attitudes Toward Violence



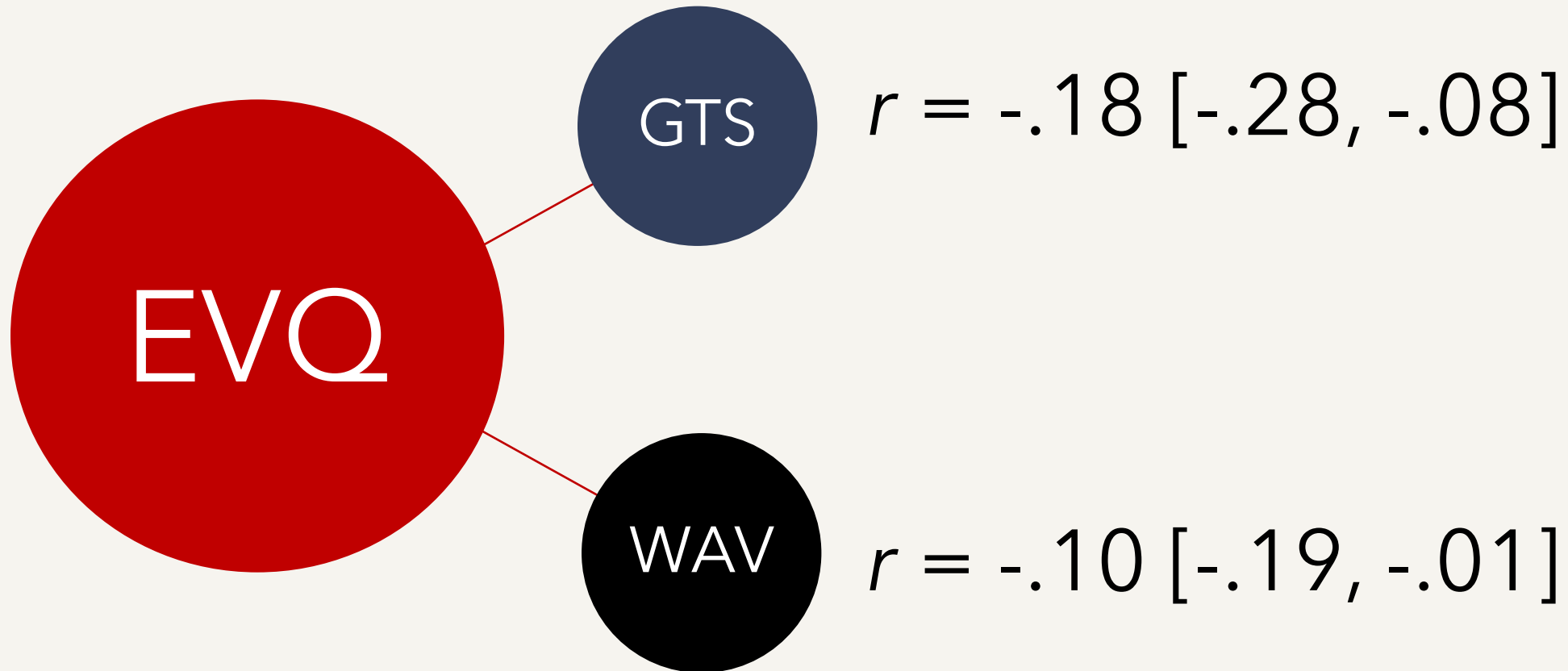
EVO



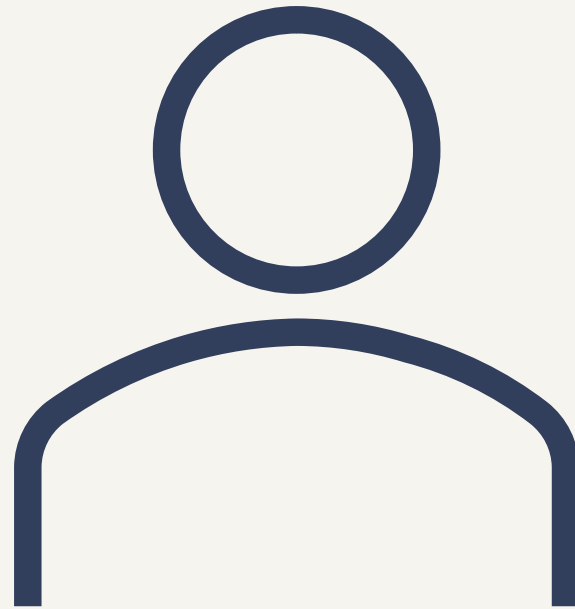
Trust is Associated with Attitudes Toward Violence



Trust is Associated with Attitudes Toward Violence



Trust is Associated with Attitudes Toward Violence



Trust is Associated with Attitudes Toward Violence

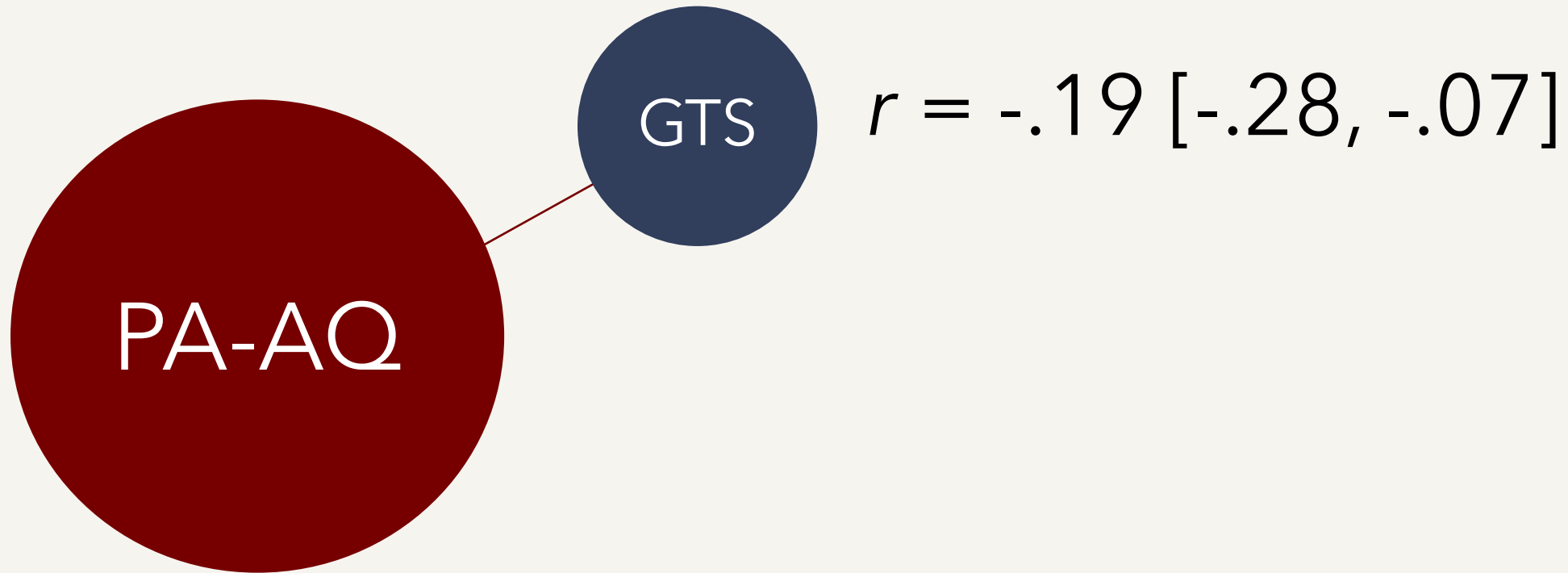


Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour

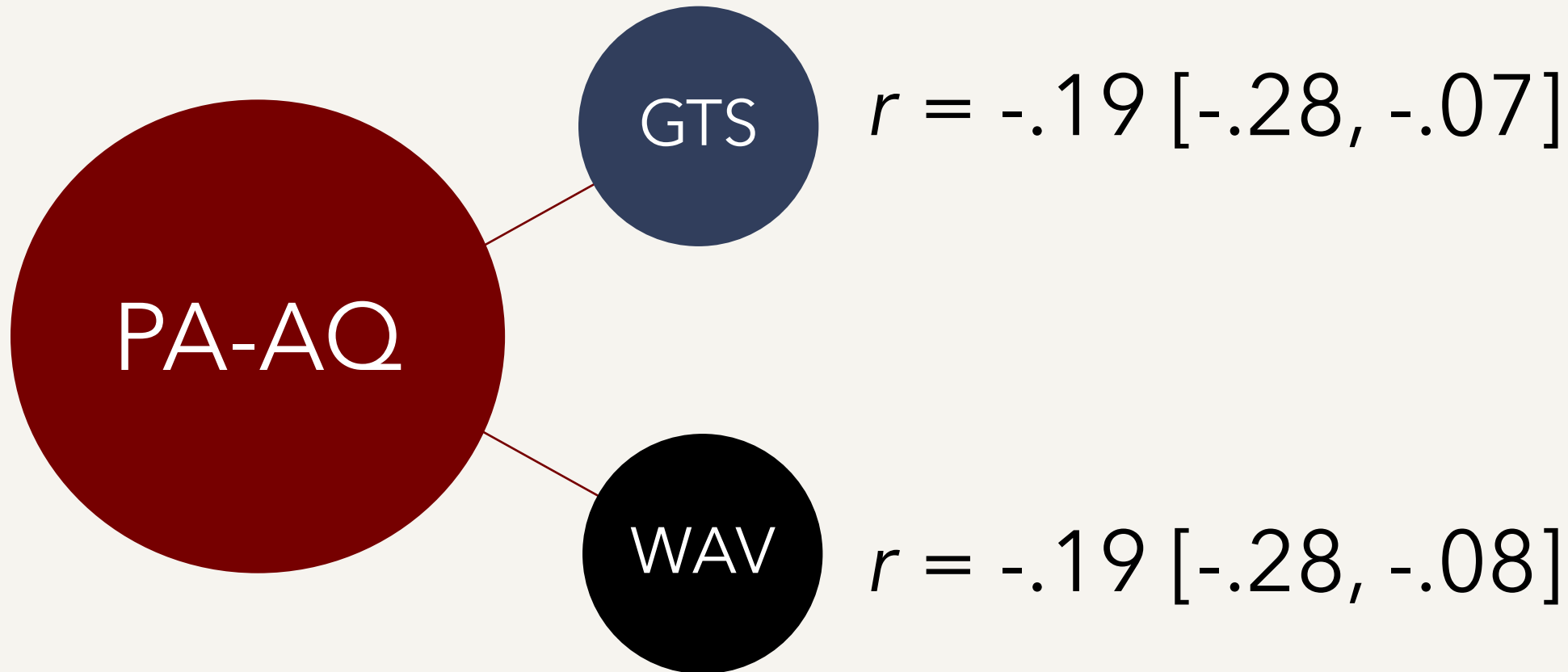


PA-AQ

Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour



Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour

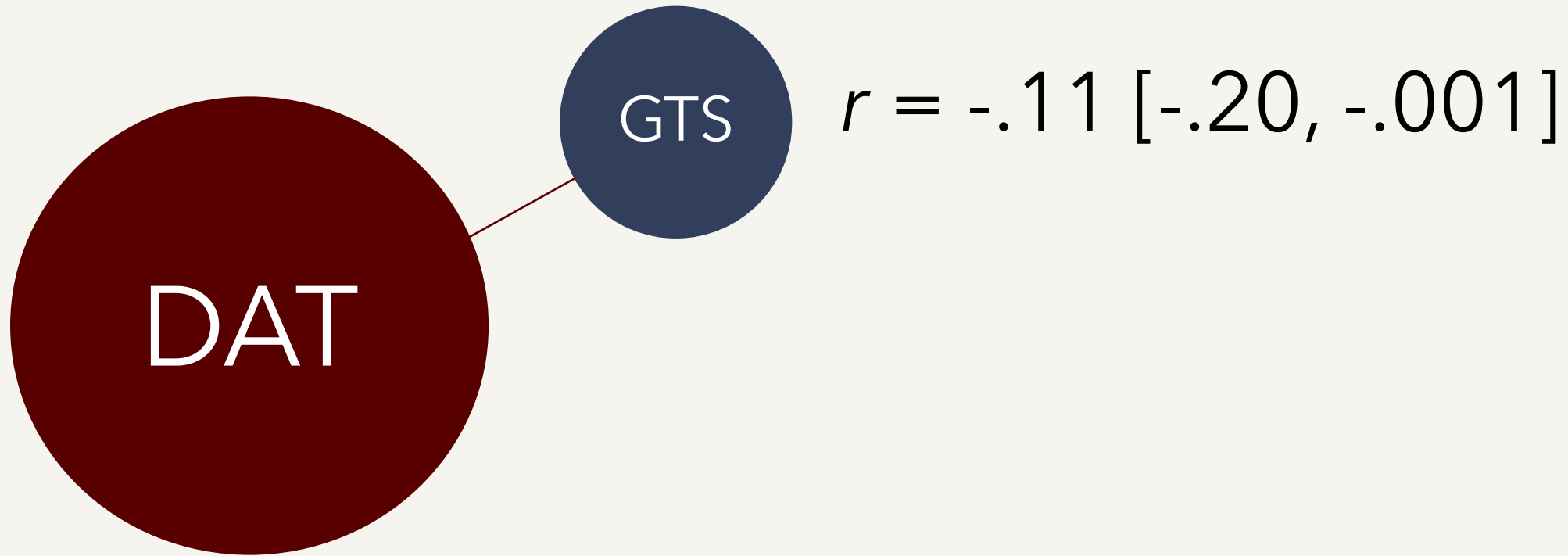


Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour

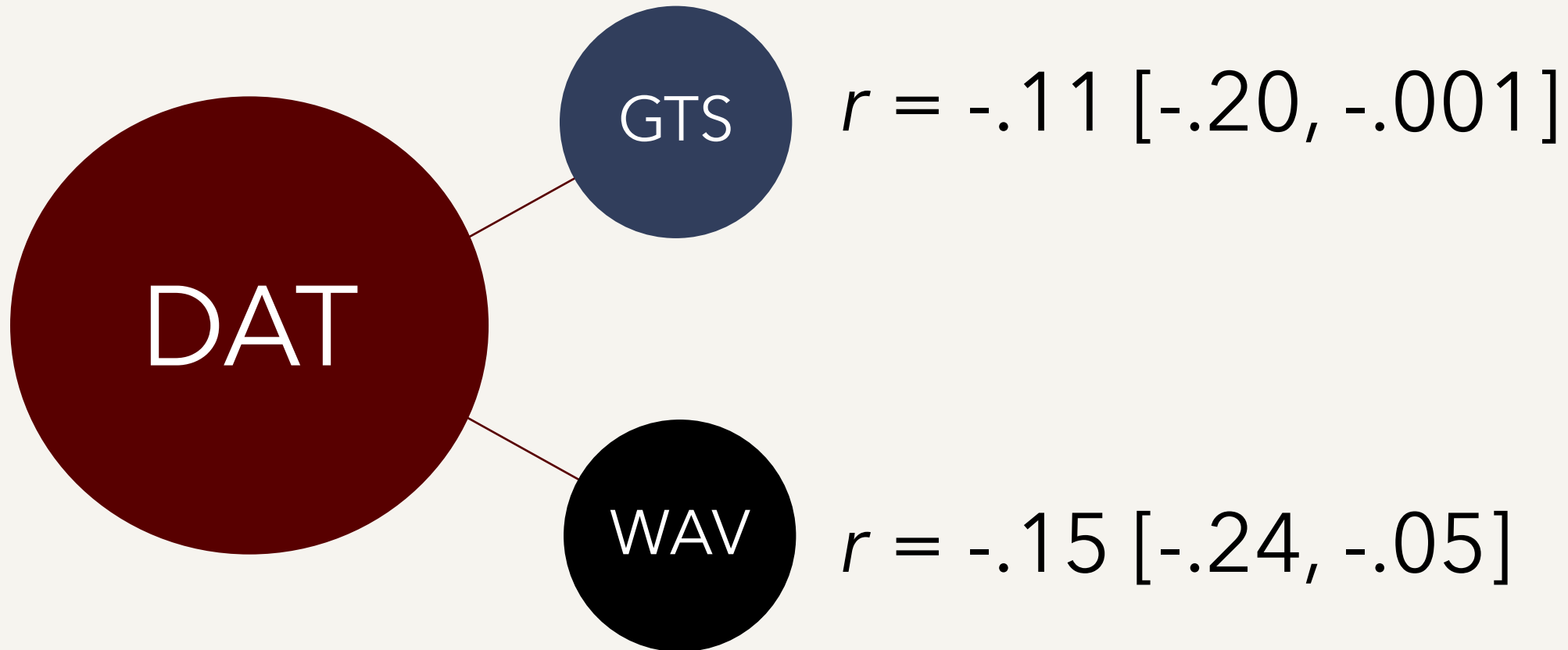


DAT

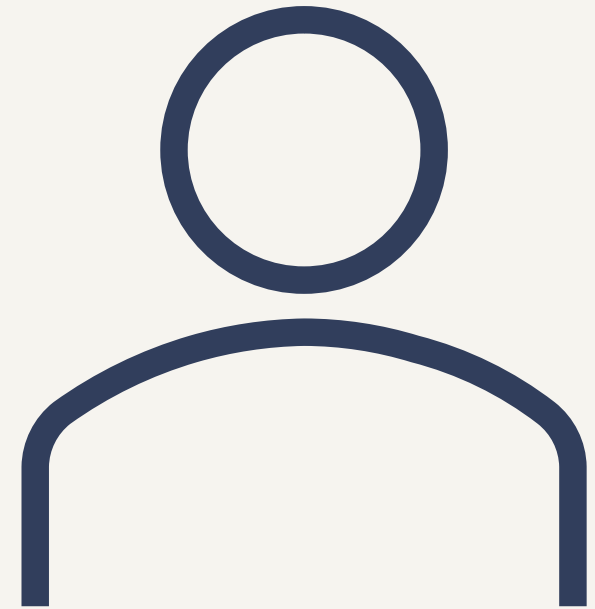
Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour



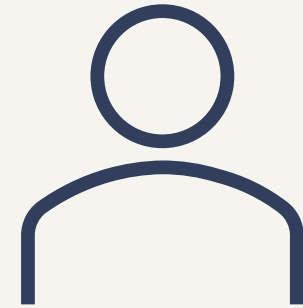
Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour



Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour



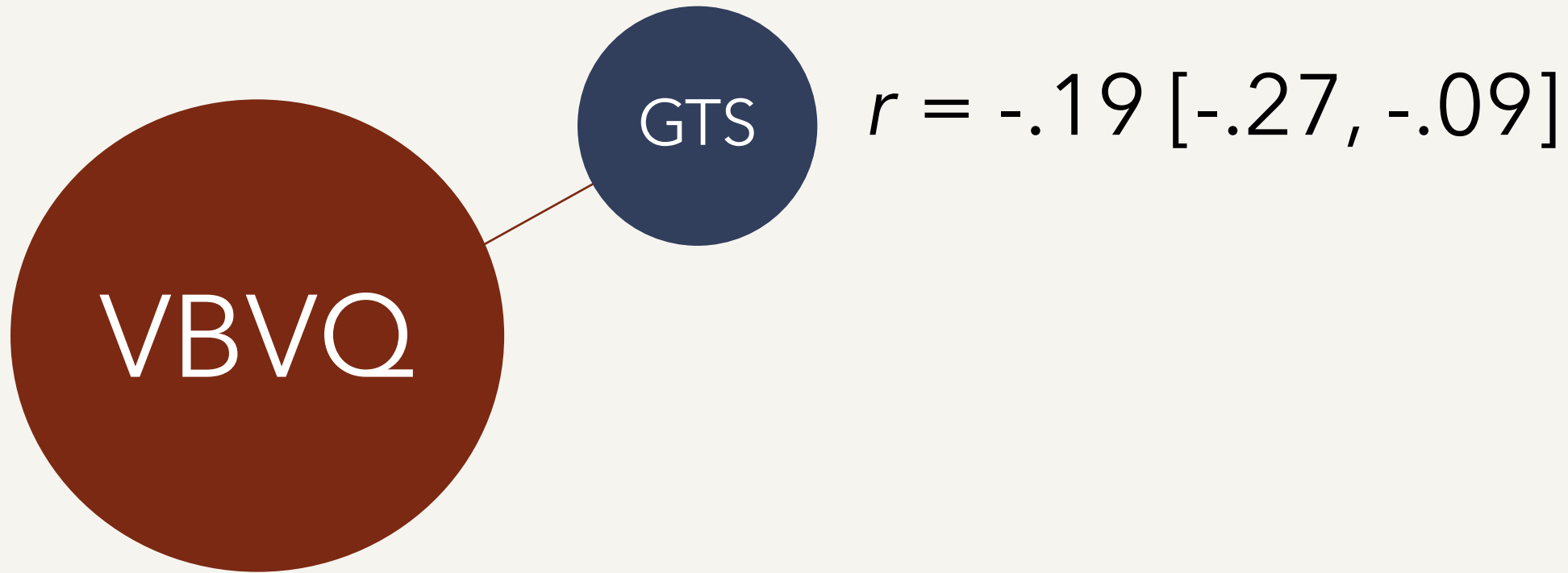
Trust is Associated with Aggressive Behaviour



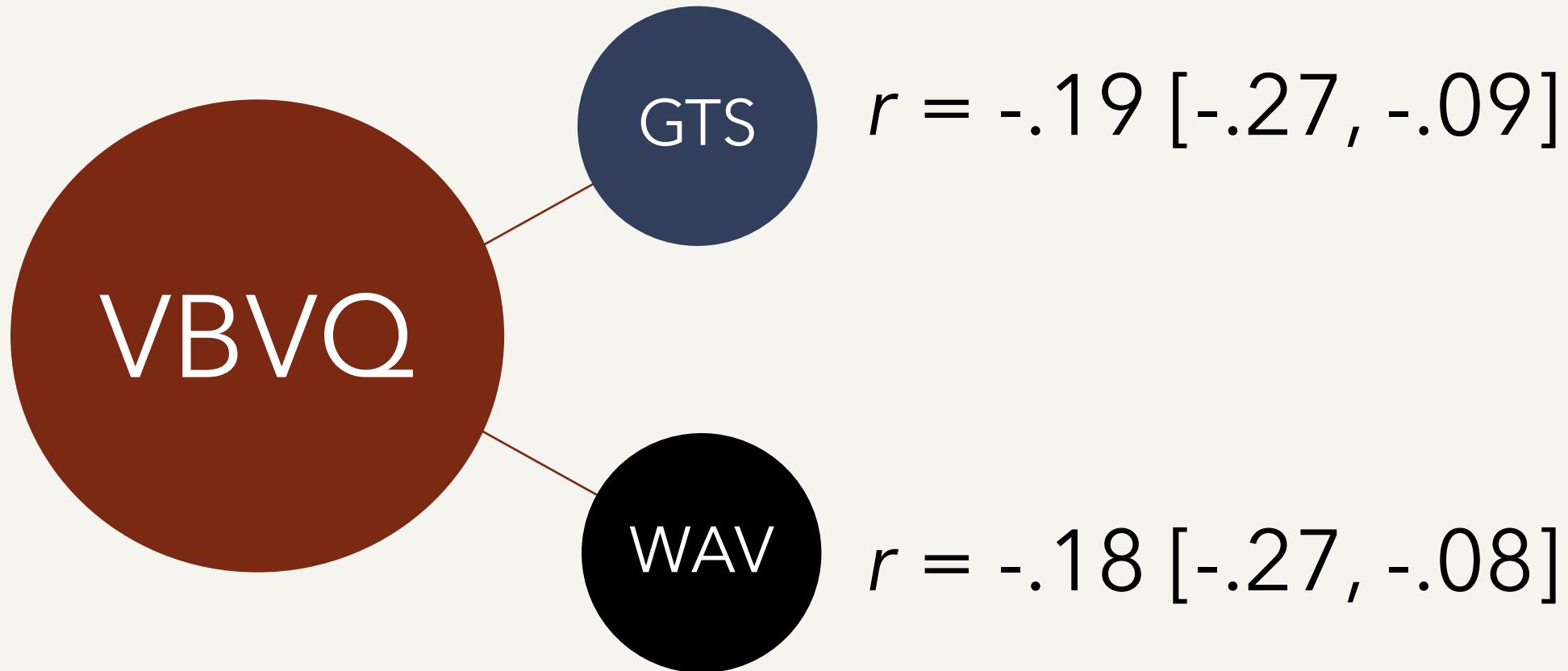
Trust is Associated with Violent Behaviour



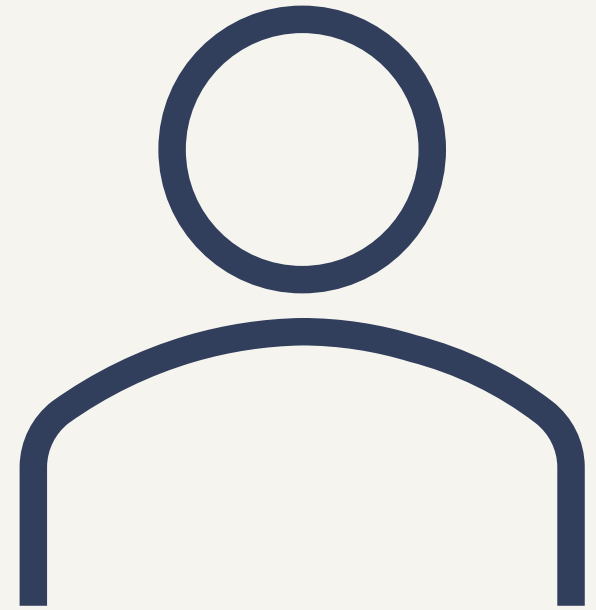
Trust is Associated with Violent Behaviour



Trust is Associated with Violent Behaviour



Trust is Associated with Violent Behaviour



Trust is Associated with Violent Behaviour

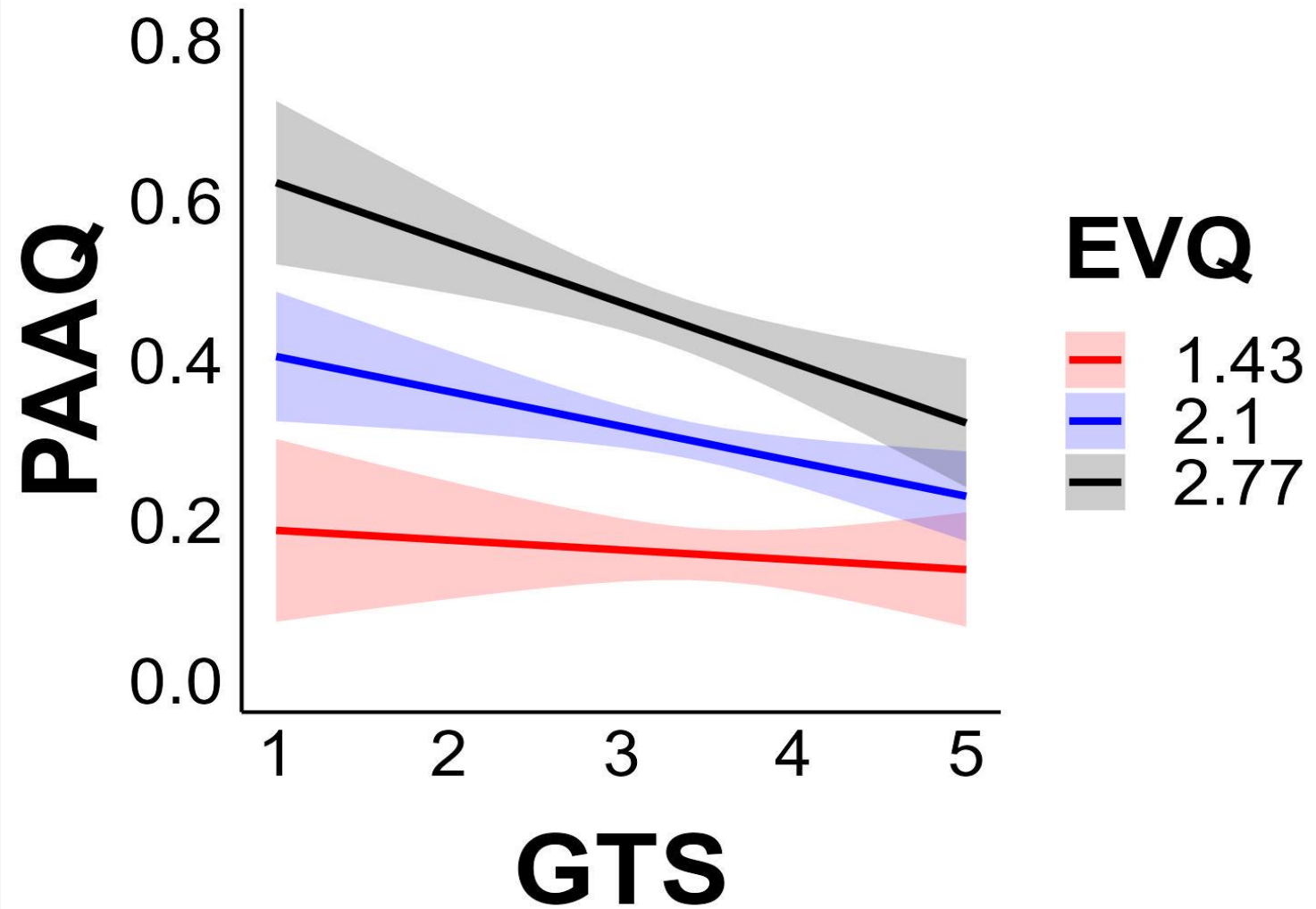


Attitudes Toward Violence Does NOT Moderate The Association Between Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

- ✘ No significant interaction between EVQ and WAV or EVQ and GTS for PA-AQ
- ✘ No significant interaction between EVQ and WAV or EVQ and GTS for DAT

Attitudes Toward Violence Moderates the Association Between Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour ...

- Significant interaction between EVQ and GTS for VBQ
- The effects of generalized trust on violent behaviour decreases as attitudes toward violence become more positive.
- This effect is only found for EVQ values greater than 1.89
- Interaction uniquely explains very small portion of variance (1%)

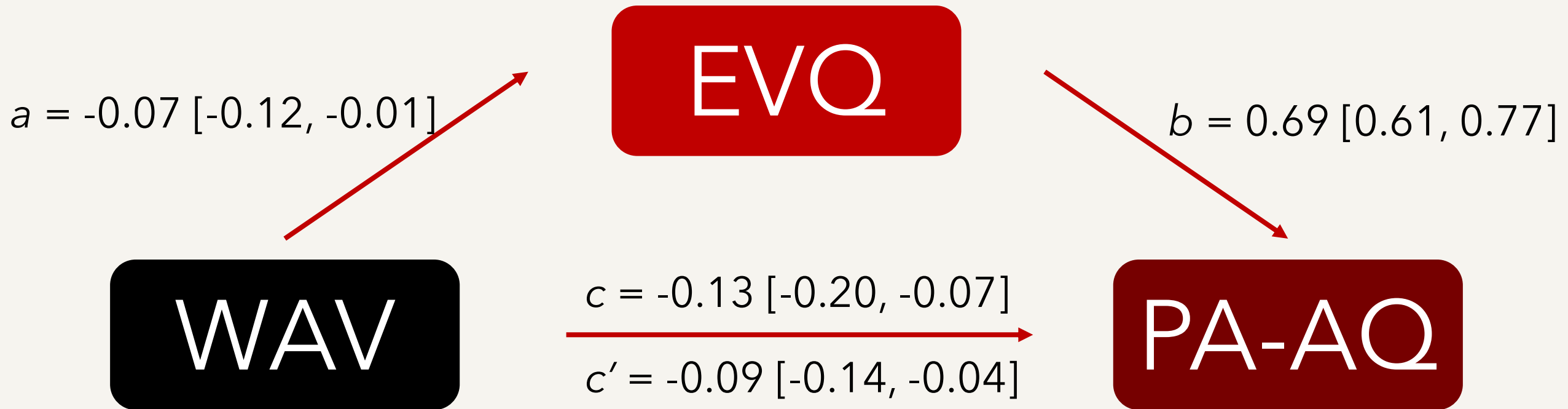


... But NOT Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour



No significant interaction between EVOQ and WAV for VBVOQ

Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



$$ab_{cs} = -0.06 [-0.12, -0.01]$$

Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



1.00



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

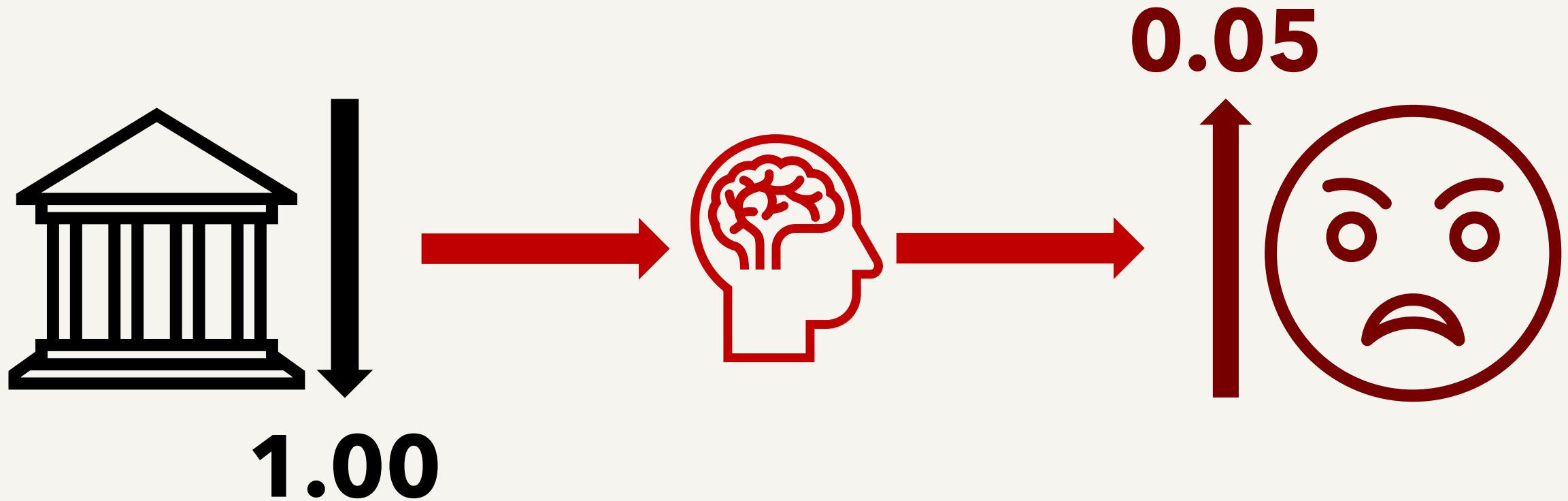


1.00

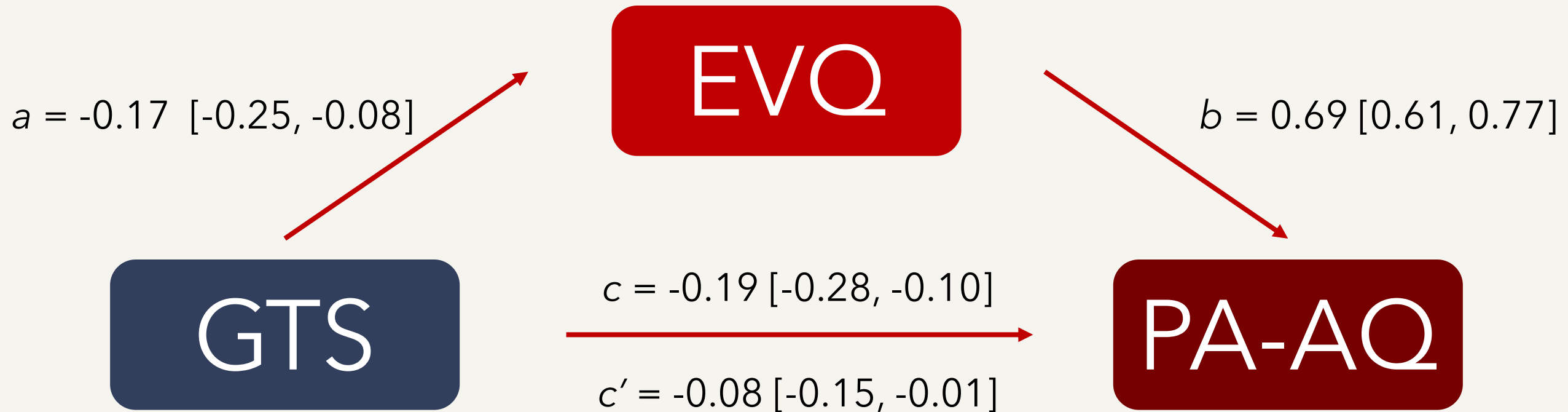
0.05



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

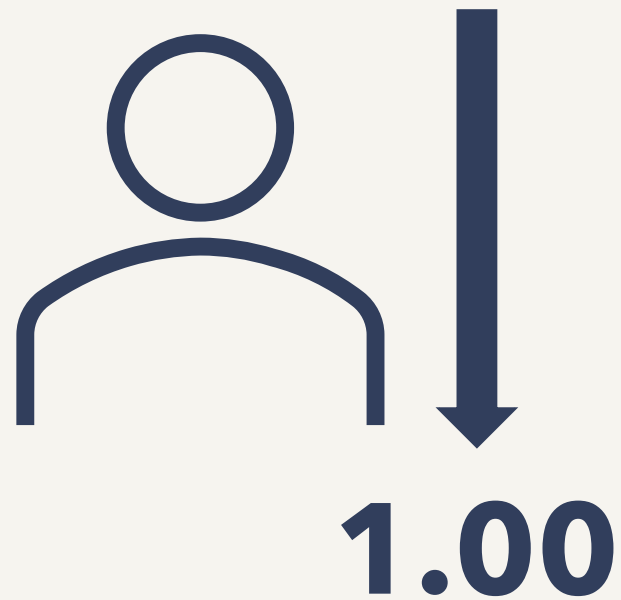


$$ab_{cs} = -0.11 [-0.16, -0.05]$$

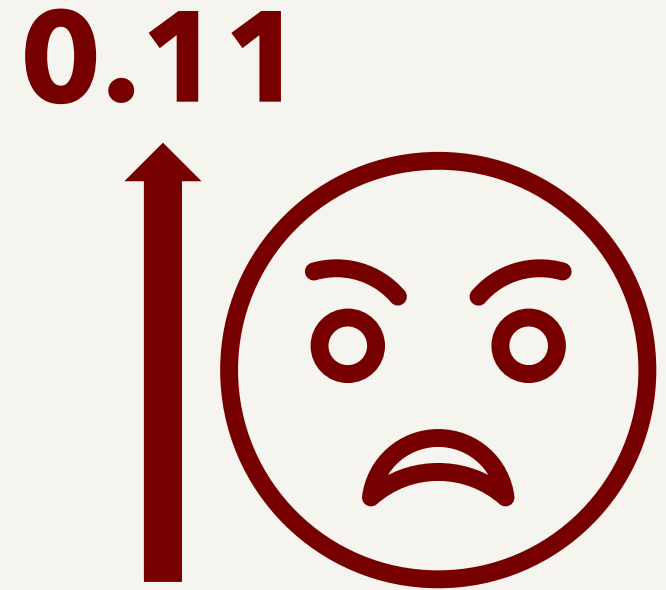
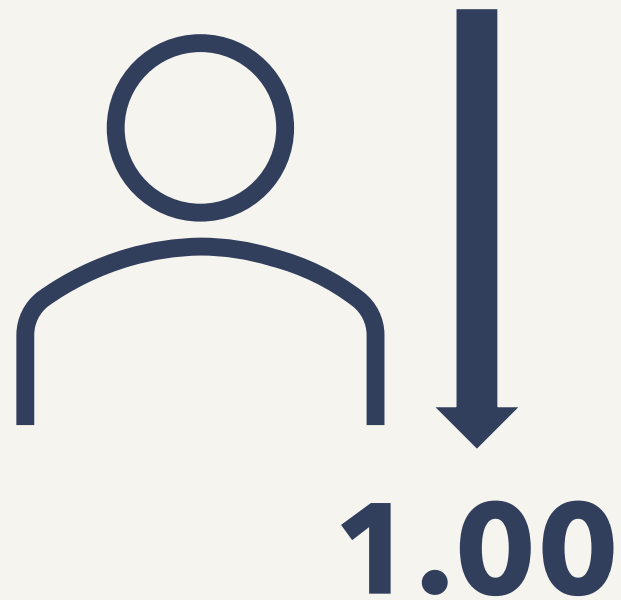
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



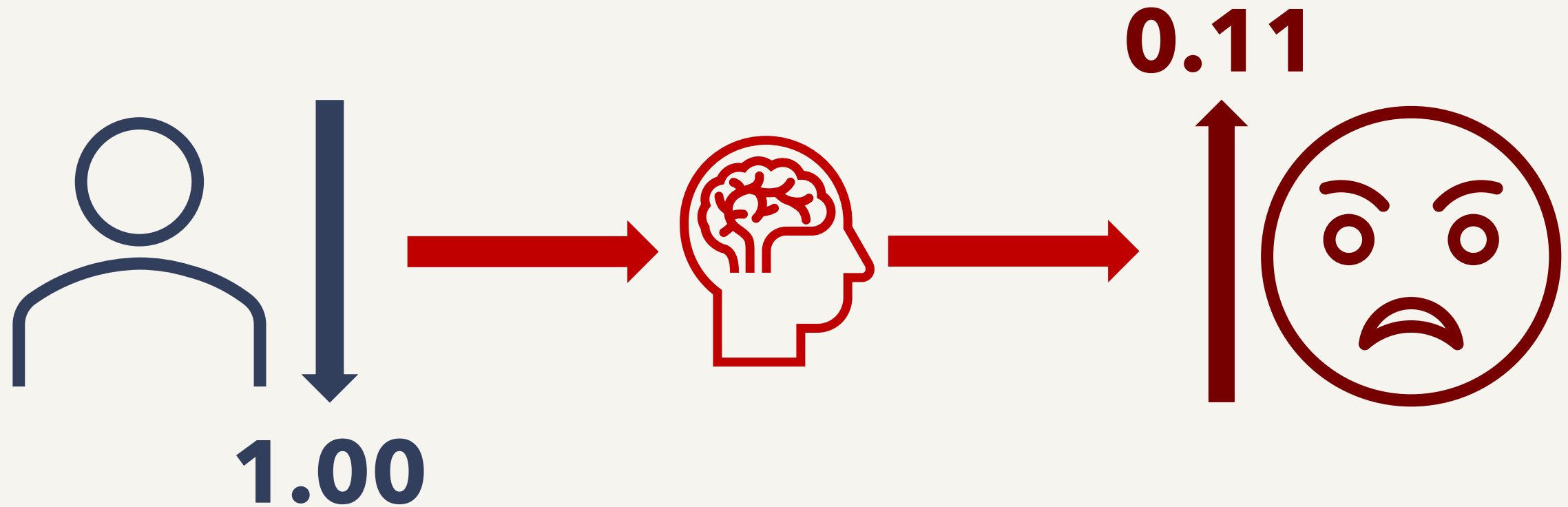
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



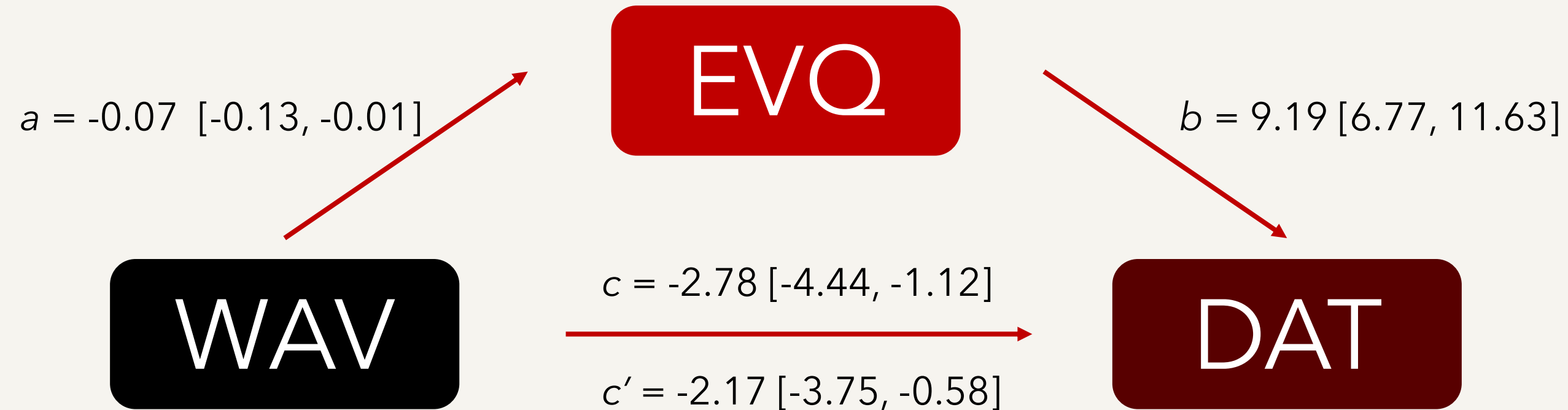
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



$$ab_{cs} = -0.03 [-0.07, -0.004]$$

Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



1.00



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

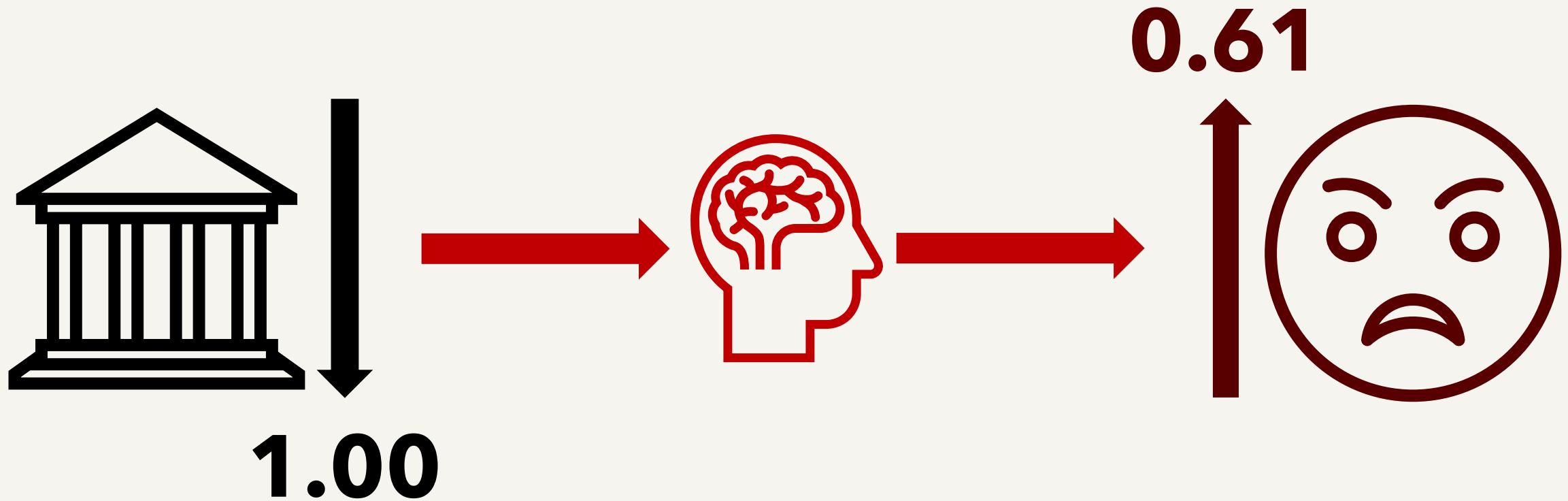


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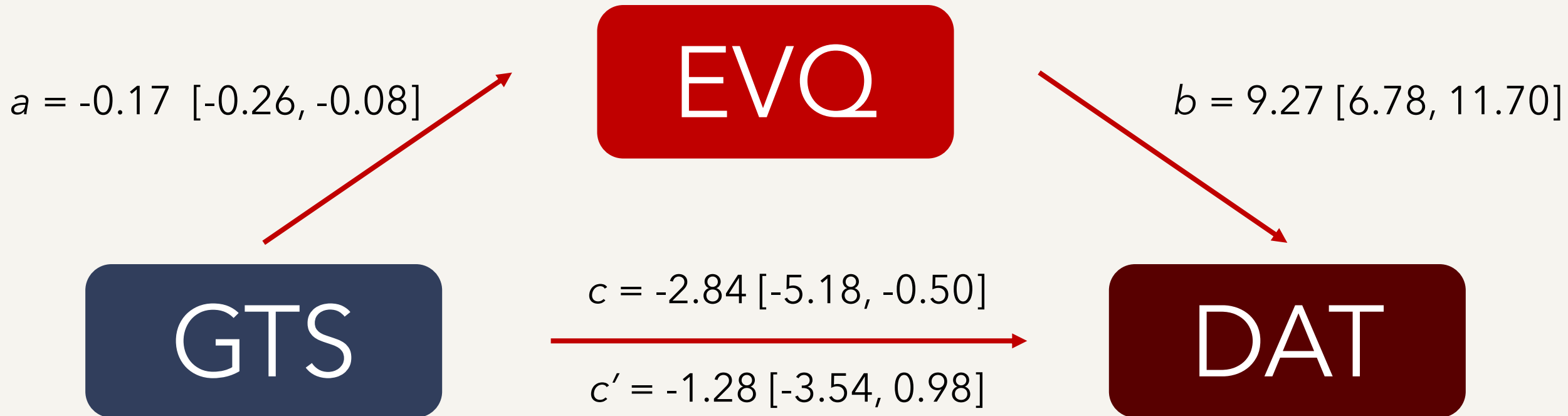
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Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

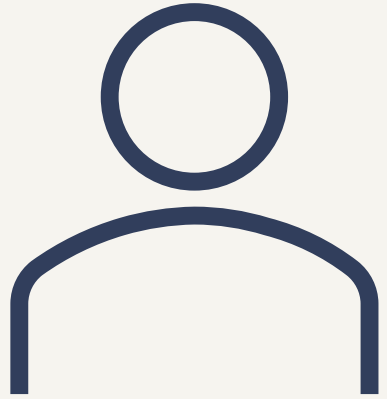


Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour

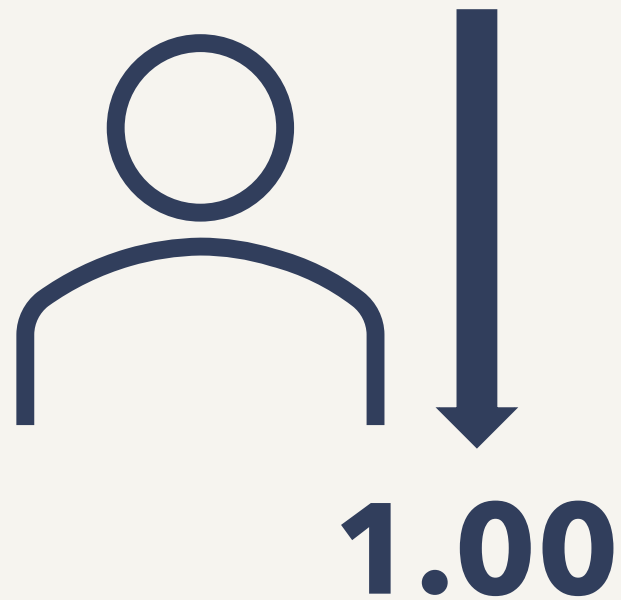


$$ab_{cs} = -0.06 [-0.10, -0.03]$$

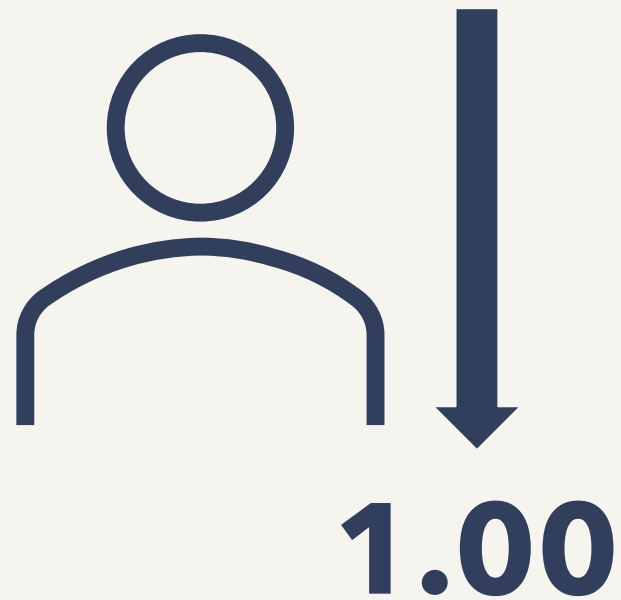
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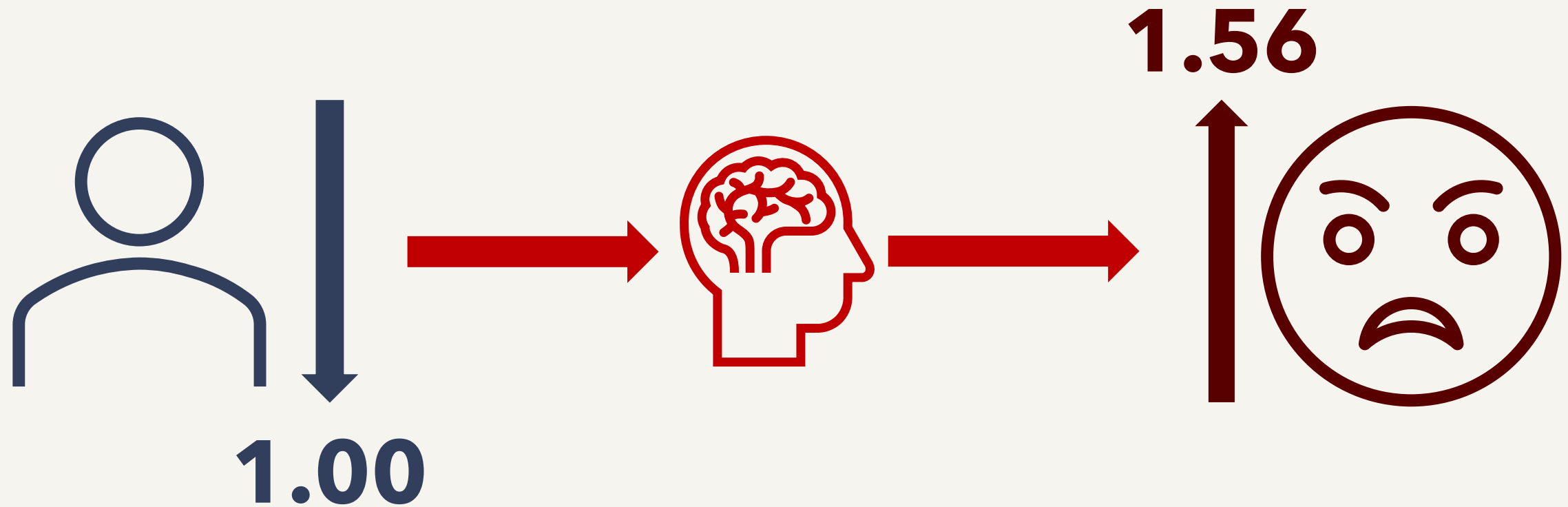
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



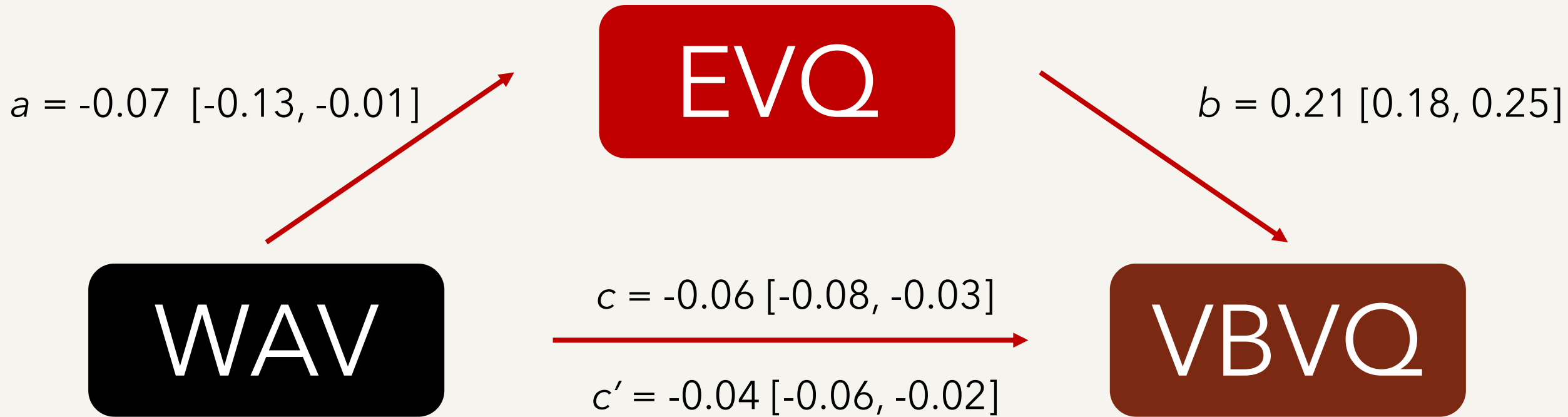
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Aggressive Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour



$$ab_{cs} = -0.05 [-0.10, -0.002]$$

Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour



1.00



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour

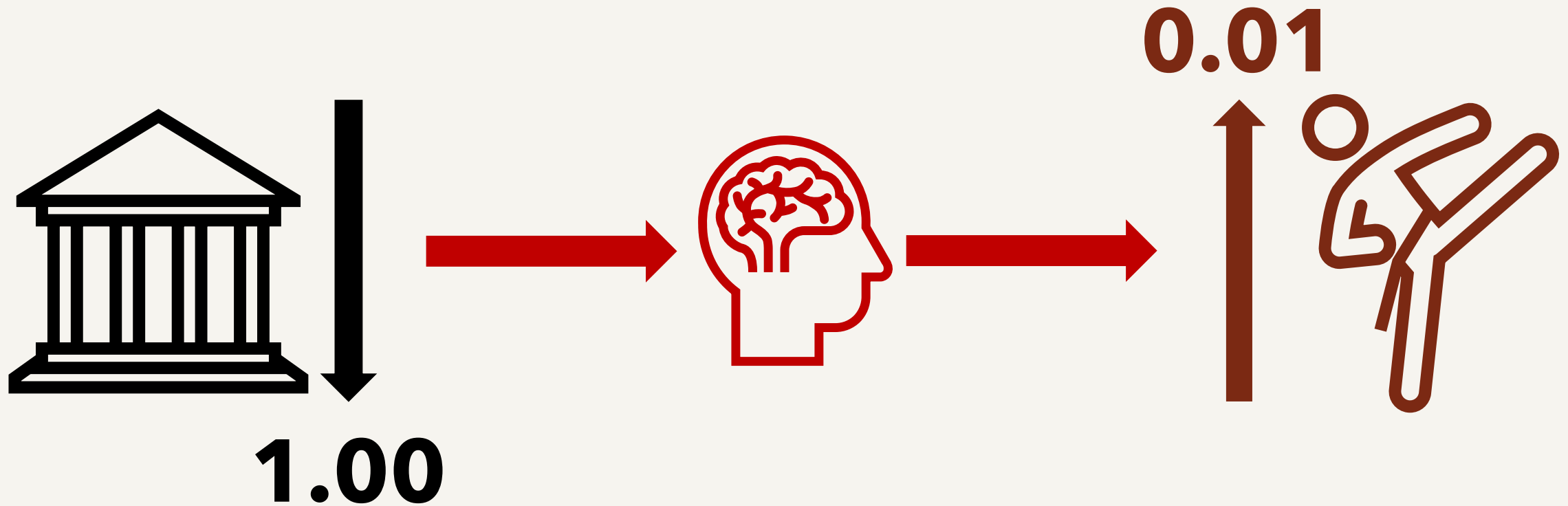


1.00

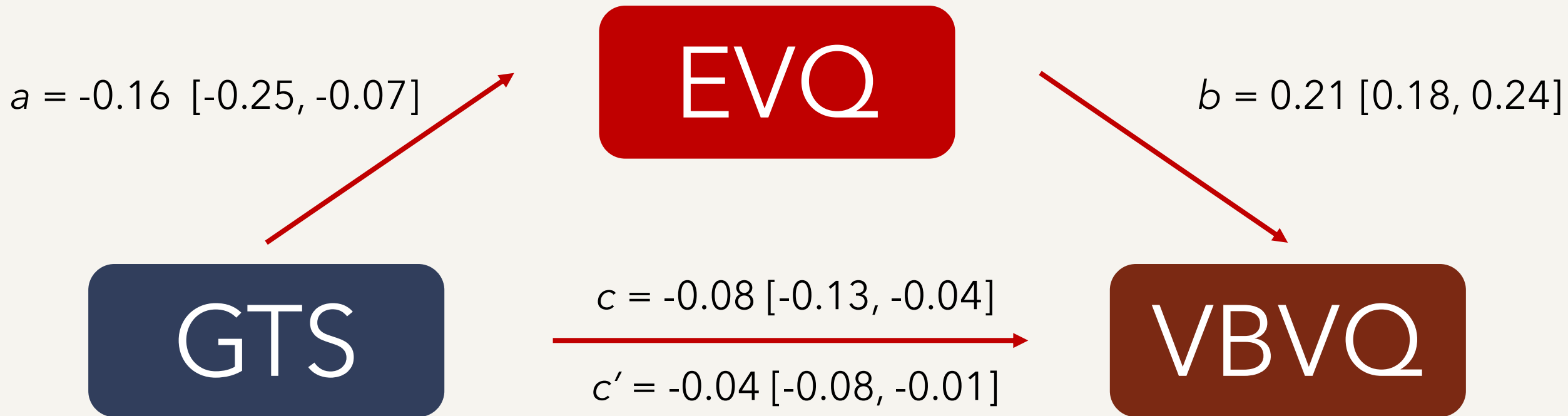
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Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Institutional Trust and Violent Behaviour

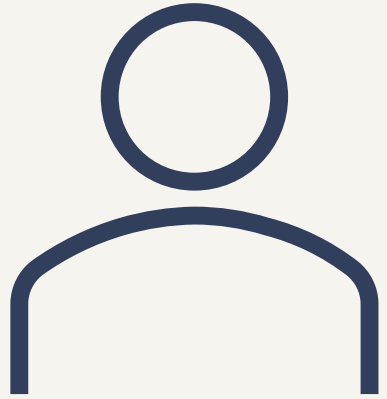


Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour

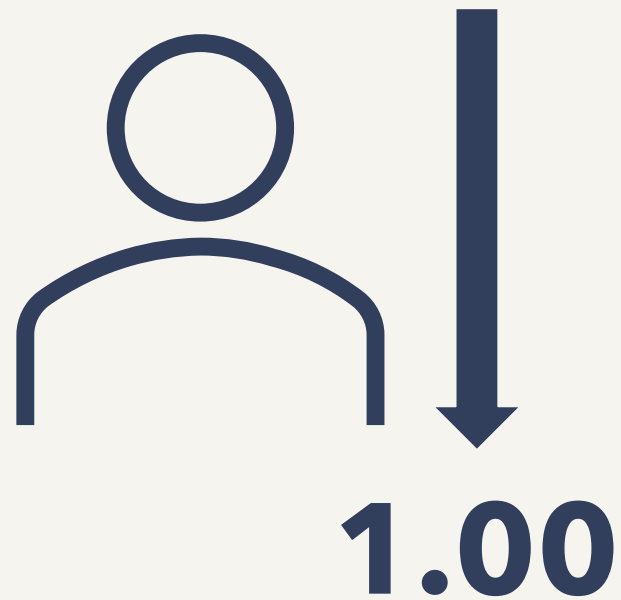


$$ab_{cs} = -0.08 [-0.13, -0.04]$$

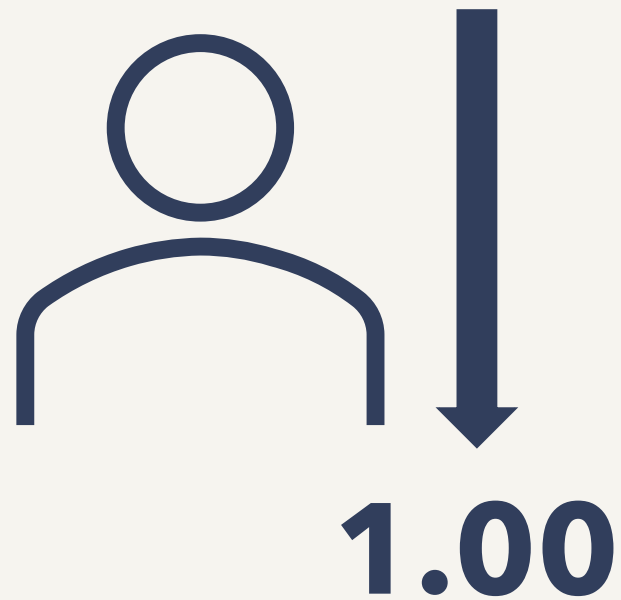
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour



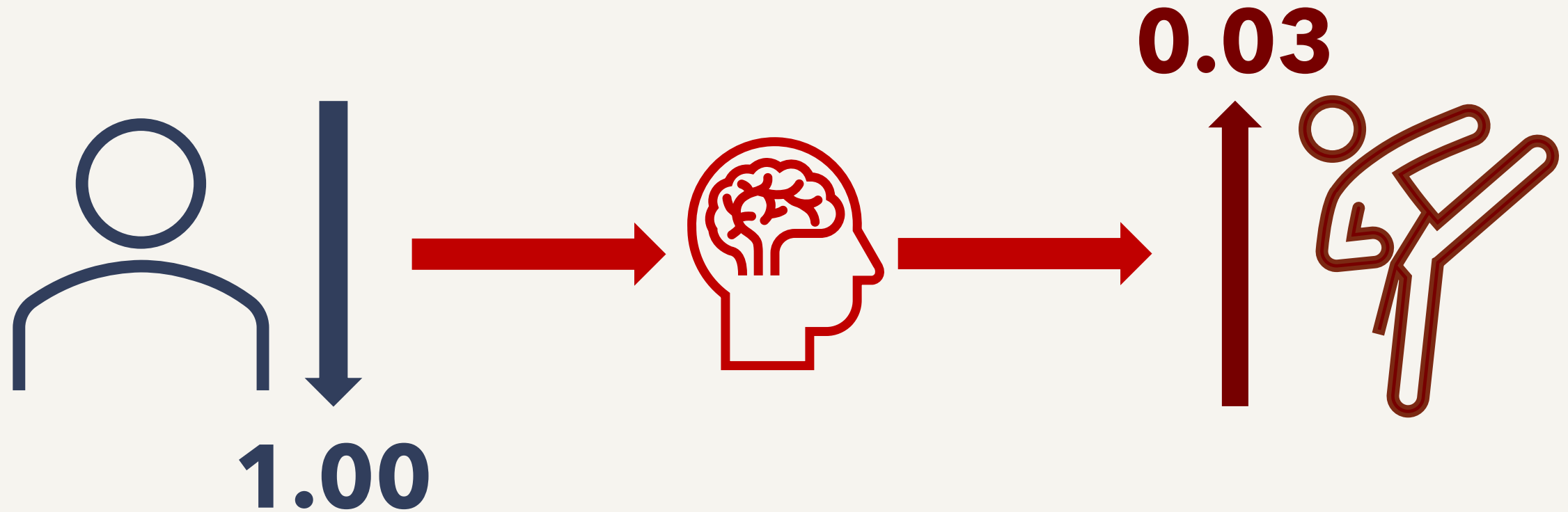
Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour



Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour

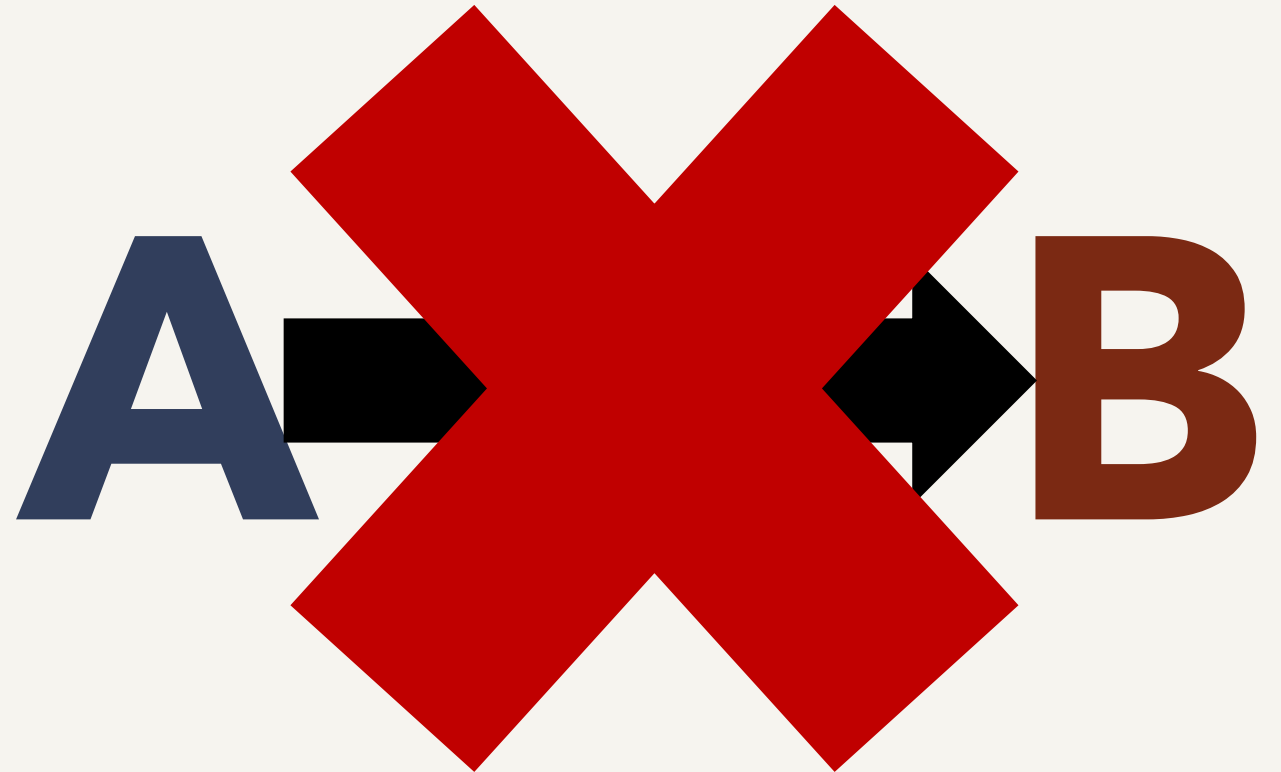


Attitudes Toward Violence Mediates Generalized Trust and Violent Behaviour



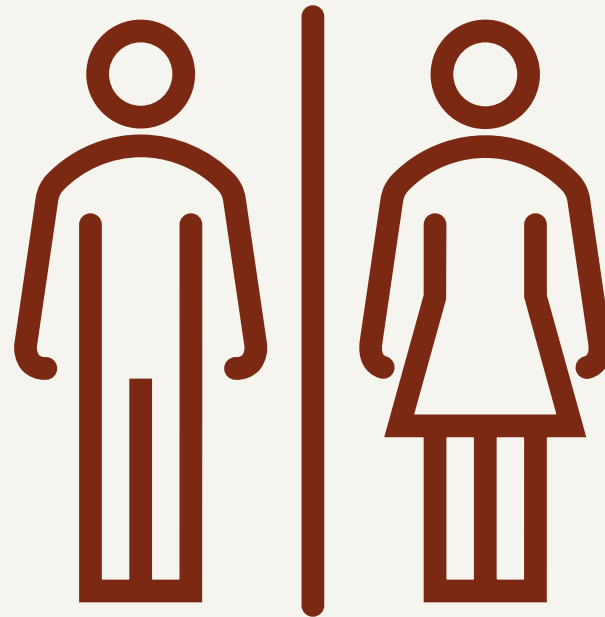
Limitations

Cross-sectional design
therefore we cannot
draw conclusions
about causality



Limitations

Generalizability to
other populations
unknown



Limitations



Measurement of
constructs

Limitations

Measurement of
constructs



Limitations

Measurement of
constructs



trusts



to do



Limitations

Measurement of
constructs



trusts



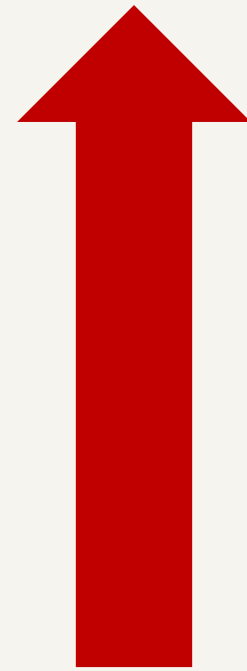
to do

X



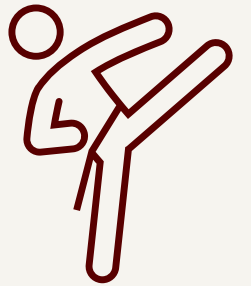
Conclusions

Trust was found to be negatively associated with attitudes towards violence



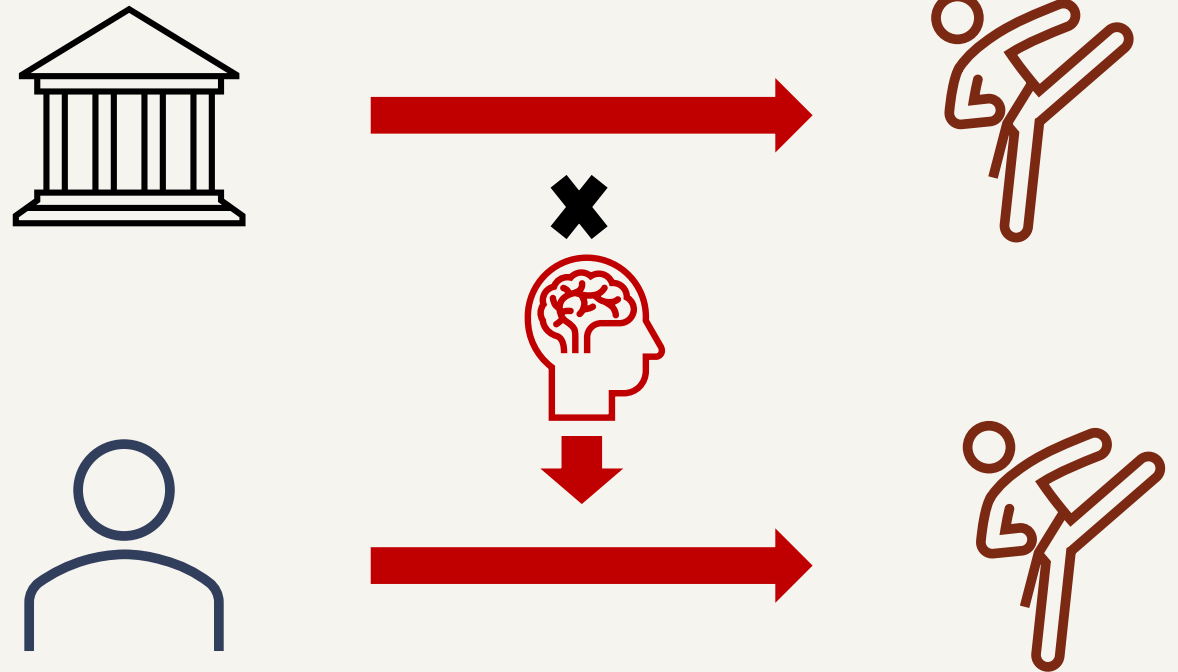
Conclusions

Trust was found to be negatively associated with violent and aggressive behaviour



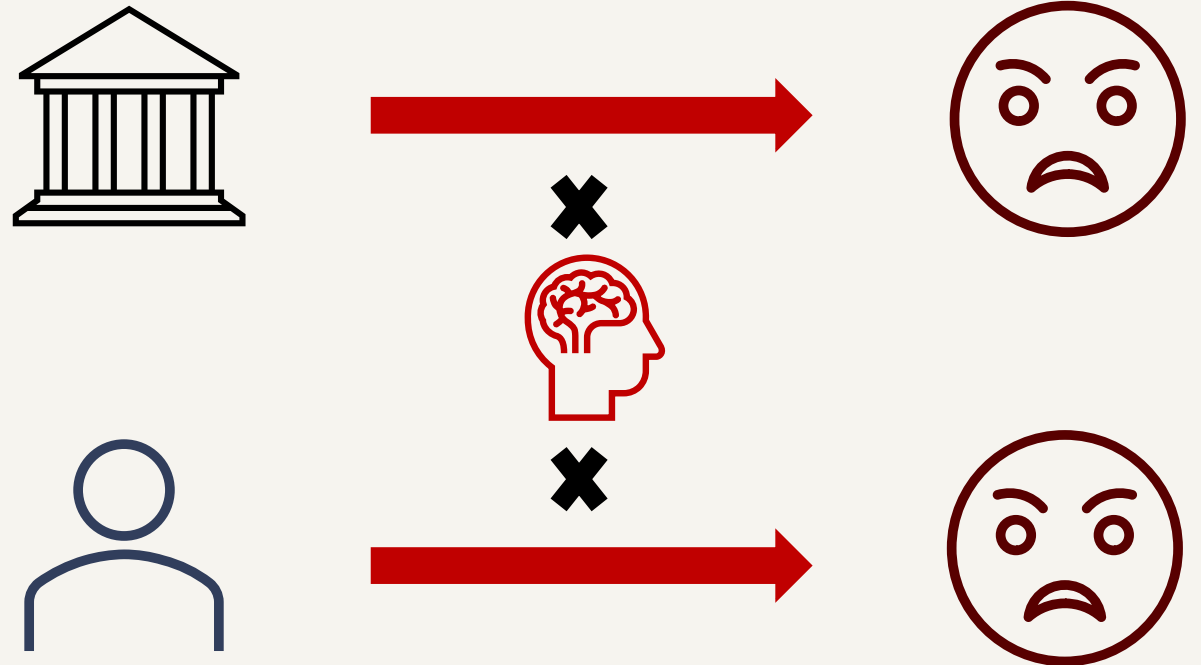
Conclusions

Attitudes toward violence was found to moderate the association between **generalized trust** and violent behaviour, but **NOT** **institutional trust** and violent behaviour



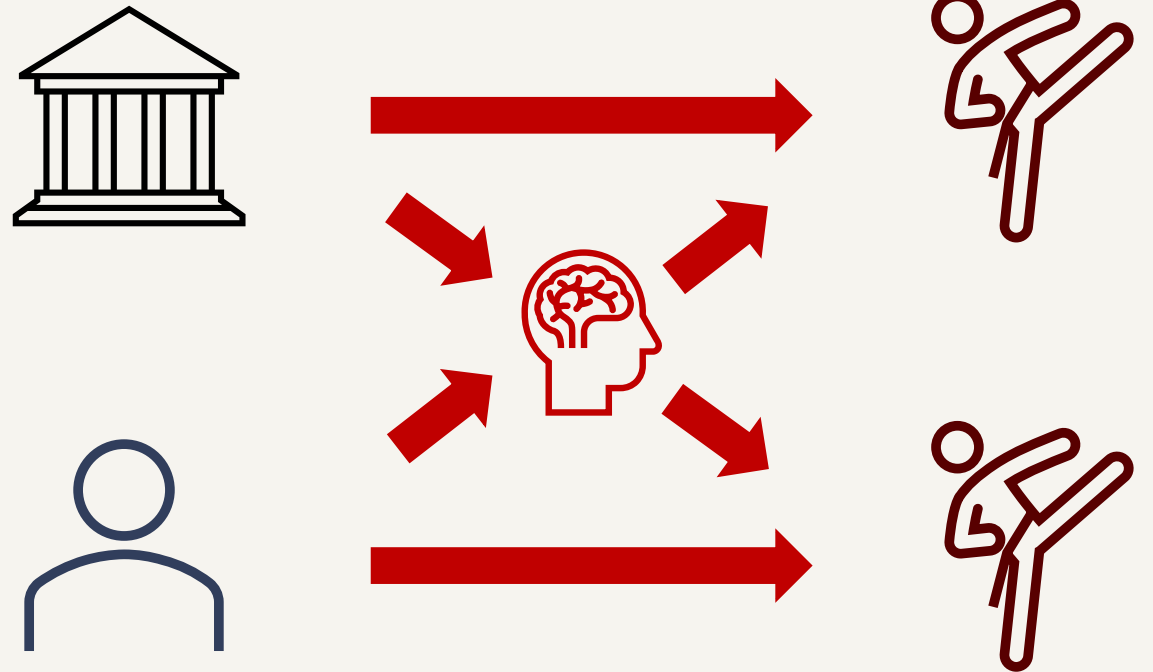
Conclusions

Attitudes toward violence did **NOT** moderate the association between trust and aggressive behaviour



Conclusions

Attitudes toward violence was found to **partially mediate** the association between trust and violent/aggressive behaviour



Future Directions

1. Replicate findings with more diverse populations

Future Directions

2. Build on findings using behavioural measures of aggression (e.g., Taylor Aggression Paradigm)

Future Directions

3. Explore the potential causal pathways through longitudinal and experimental designs

Thank you!

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