



# FACULTY OF ARTS

## Adelaide Summer Research Scholarship 2021-2022

### What Drives Anti-Refugee Sentiment in Australia?

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What drives anti-refugee sentiment Australia? This project is a new direction for Dr Stefanovic's work that builds on, but also goes beyond, his current research on right-wing populism and his previous research on refugees. While there is a vast literature on predictors of anti-immigrant sentiment, the research on the anti-refugee sentiment still remains comparatively undeveloped. Our current study (Stefanovic, Tan, and Chastelain 2020) analyses the 2016 PEW Research data set to identify the drivers of anti-refugee opinion in Canada, Germany, Greece, Poland, Sweden, and the UK.

<https://www.pewglobal.org/2016/07/11/europeans-fear-wave-of-refugees-will-mean-more-terrorism-fewer-jobs/>

During the Summer of 2021-22, Dr Stefanovic plans to advance this line of research by testing whether the statistical models based on the six already studied countries also explain the anti-refugee sentiment in Australia, as measured by the 2019 Australian Election Study (AES). Specifically, he aims to explain why are so many Australians generally very supportive of immigration and multiculturalism, but also simultaneously strongly opposed to processing of refugee applications of the "boat people"? The student's contribution to this project would be in conducting a preliminary data analysis of the 2019 AES Research data set on anti-refugee opinion in Australia. Data analysis and preliminary findings have strong potential to lead to a co-authored publication with the student. Moreover, this work would also enable Dr Stefanovic to formulate better hypotheses and design a better original study of anti-refugee, far right populist sentiment in Australia, thereby strengthening our 2022 ARC Discovery Grant application.

In the long term, this kind of training will directly benefit a student considering a research analyst position in the public or private sectors or pursuing doctoral studies in social sciences.

The student will gain the following research skills and experience;

- Co-publication with the supervisor
- Collating background information for a competitive grant application
- Practice the use of at least one major quantitative analysis software packages (SPSS).
- Training in advanced quantitative analysis methods, and the ability to write technically correct and clear data analysis reports.