

Team and Nation: Sports, Nationalism, and Attitudes toward Refugees

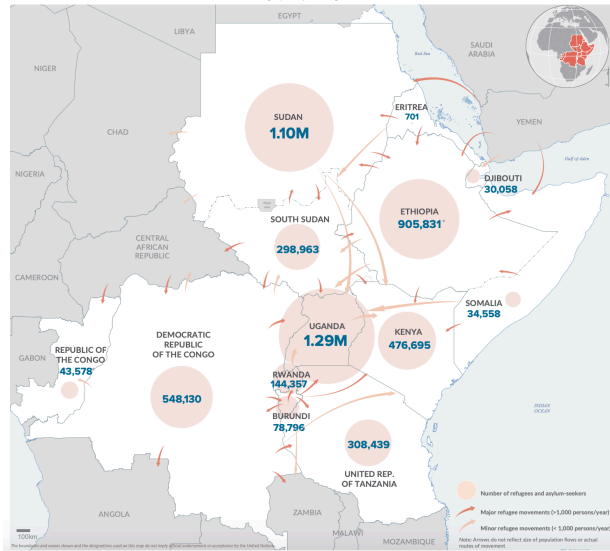
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APSA 2020

Link between Sports and Nationalism



Forced Migration in East Africa





Research Questions

How do major national events (*sports victories*) affect citizens' attitudes toward foreigners?

If national sports victories prompt exclusionary attitudes, can they be reframed to increase inclusion instead?

Nationalism, Sports, and Intergroup Relations

Contributions to Existing Literature

- National cultural events increase national pride (e.g. Billig, 1995).
- Strong national identification improves trust and dampens conflict for non-coethnic *conationals* (e.g. Miguel, 2004; Robinson, 2016; Depetris-Chauvin, Durante and Campante, 2018).
- Nationalism can intensify or reinforce *xenophobia* (e.g. Wimmer, 2002).
- Extend positive feelings toward out-group members by emphasizing a higher order common in-group identity (e.g. Gaertner et al., 1993).
- Growing number of studies using sports to explore dynamics of intergroup relations (e.g. Kim and Lopez de Leon, 2019).



Hypotheses

(H1): Winning and being primed of the win increases national identification and pride among the winners;

(H2): Winning and being primed of the win increases negative (superior) attitudes toward refugees, especially with respect to cultural and symbolic attitudes;

(H3): Priming inclusion (team diversity and Pan-African tournament) decreases negative (superior) attitudes toward refugees.

2019 Africa Cup as a Natural Experiment

Kenya and Tanzania: Two Neighboring Rivals

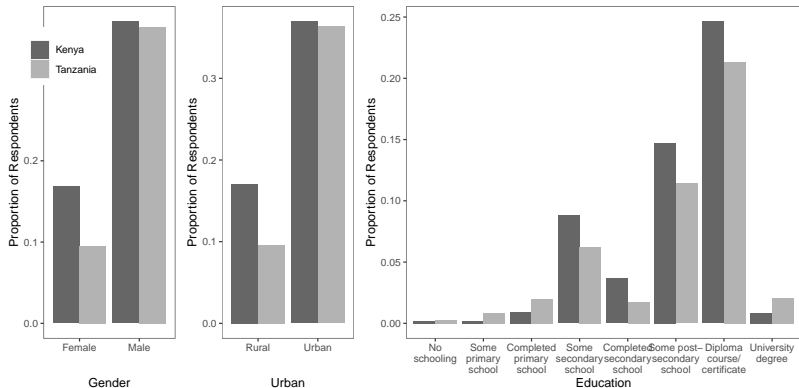
 **TEACHERS IN KENYA ONLINE** @TEACHERSInKE... · Jun 27, 2019

As teachers in Kenya we are concerned of the level of the teaching of English Language in our neighbouring country [#Tanzania](#)
We are willing to offer free lessons like the ones [#HarambeeStars](#) offered to [#TaifaStars](#) during the [#AFCON2019](#)
[#KenyaVsTanzania](#) [#KENTAN](#) @citizentvkenya



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Survey Sampling using Facebook, N = 2,647



See Rosenzweig, Bergquist, Hoffmann Pham, Rampazzo, and Mildenerger (2020) "Survey Sampling in the Global South Using Facebook Advertisements."

Match Outcome!



Olunga scored a La Liga hat-trick for Girona against Las Palmas in 2018

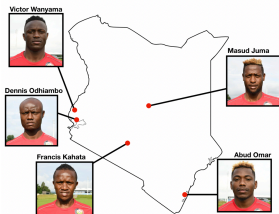
Michael Olunga scored twice as Kenya came from behind to beat Tanzania 3-2 in an Africa Cup of Nations thriller.

Match Info Prime



On June 27th Kenya and Tanzania played each other in the Africa Cup of Nations. The match score was 3 - 2. (For Kenyans) Kenya won by 1 goal. (For Tanzanians) Tanzania lost by 1 goal.

Diversity Primes



This photo shows the Kenyan (Tanzanian) national football team, Harambee Stars (Taifa Stars). The national team players are diverse. They come from and play in many different regions of Kenya (Tanzania).

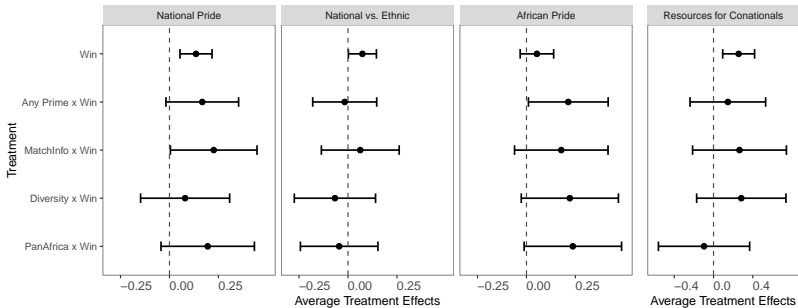
Pan-Africa Primes



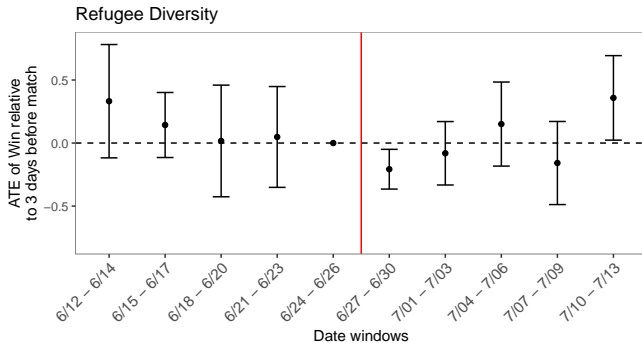
There are 24 countries participating in the Africa Cup of Nations this year. Many players on these national teams play for teams abroad, in Europe, UK, and the US, where they represent African talent. The Africa Cup of Nations is an opportunity for them to come home and showcase this talent.

Results

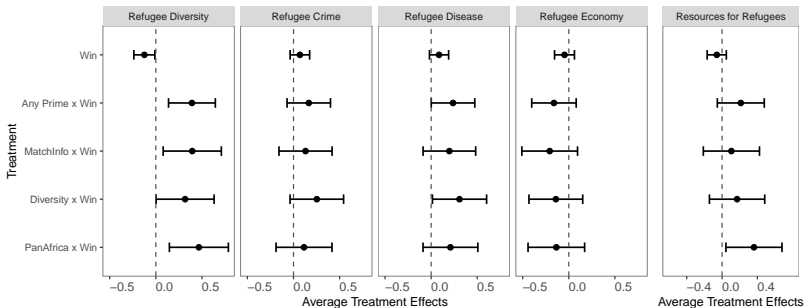
H1: Positive Effects on Nationalism



H2: Negative (Short-Term) Effects on "Refugees positively contribute to diversity"



H3: Positive Effects of Diversity and Pan-Africa Primes



Conclusion



In summary

- A national team win increases identification with the nation, national pride, generosity towards non-coethnic conationals.
- It does not affect practical concerns about refugees, i.e. negative impacts on the economy, crime, and public health.
- A negative short-term effect on views of refugees' *cultural* contribution to the country.
- **Reframing by highlighting diversity and shared superordinate identities can offset these negative views.**

Thank you! Questions?
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yangyangzhou.com

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