# **Past/Future is Bright Final Version**

**Instructions:** Some people feel that things aren’t as good as they were in the past (and the future is bleak), whereas some people feel the things are better now than they were in the past (and future is bright).  This short survey asks how people feel about the world today, relative to the past.

Please compare life now to life in the past (i.e., 40 years ago):

Please use this scale: 1= strongly agree, 5 strongly disagree (use all numbers from 1-5)

**Past is Bright Factor 1**

* The government plays a more positive role in our life now than in the past.
* The world is a better place now than it was 40 years ago.
* When playing around the neighborhood unsupervised, children are safer today than in the past.
* A child born today is better off than a child born 40 years ago.
* Today it is better to raise a child in this country than another country compared to the past.
* Older adults are living a better life now than in the past.

**Past is Bright Factor 2**

* Overall, the past was bleak for my friends and family.
* Overall, the past was bleak for me.
* Overall, the past was bleak for humankind.

**Future is Bright Factor 1**

* People will be healthier in the future than today.
* Older adults will live a better life in the future than now.
* It will be easier in the future for an average middle-income American to become financially secure than in it is today.
* A child born 40 years from now will be better off than a child born today.
* When playing around the neighborhood unsupervised, children will be safer in the future than today.
* It will be easier to maintain friendships in the future.

**Future is Bright Factor 2**

* Overall, the future is bleak for my friends and family.
* Overall, the future is bleak for me.
* Overall, the future is bleak for humankind.