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EXPLORING PUBLIC ATTITUDES TOWARDS SPACE EXPLORATION - A LITERATURE REVIEW

**Abstract**

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This poster presents a comprehensive analysis of existing research on public perception of space exploration. The attitudes of individuals towards space exploration are multifaceted and contradictory. While viewed as necessary and thrilling, it is also seen as excessively expensive and less critical compared to other societal needs. Public perception of space exploration is intertwined with various societal factors including gender, age, science literacy, and political orientation. The review highlights gaps in the literature, both in terms of subjects covered and methodological approaches employed. The analysis reveals that current literature is fragmented, primarily focusing on Western countries and predominantly relying on correlational data with minimal experimental or longitudinal studies. Additionally, varied operationalizations of space exploration perception pose challenges in drawing definitive conclusions. Given the rapid advancements in space exploration endeavors, these divergent attitudes could impact public support for this field of research. This review aims to synthesize the existing threads of investigation and propose a consensus based on the available data.