This upcoming publication in the Journal of Communication explores the relationship between Fear of Isolation and two allied concepts derived from the Communication Apprehension literature: Trait- and State-based Apprehension. The study looks at these concepts’ impacts on political opinion expression. Data were gathered just prior to the Fall 2002 Congressional elections. The research focused on the debate surrounding the possibility of invading Iraq. Results indicate that Trait-based Apprehension, State-based Apprehension, and Fear of Isolation are empirically distinct concepts. These constructs differentially predict opinion expression. The authors urge political and mass media scholars, in their future research efforts, to assess each of the three factors separately and include each in their explorations of political opinion expression.