

Online Appendix: Beliefs About Political News in the Run-up to an Election

Charles Angelucci, Michel Gutmann, and Andrea Prat*

October 11, 2024

Contents

A	Descriptive Statistics	3
A.1	Sample	3
A.2	Quizzes	4
A.3	Voting	5
A.4	Partisan Group Composition	6
B	Imputing Missing Reflection Values	8
C	Model Estimates and Fit	11
C.1	Model Estimates	11
C.2	Model Fit and γ Parameters	12
D	Table Methodology	15
E	Extensions and Robustness Checks	17
E.1	Controlling for Respondent Characteristics	17
E.2	Robustness to Story Reflection Measure	19
E.2.1	Dropping Imputed Reflection Values	19
E.2.2	Normalized Reflection Values	20
E.2.3	Independents' Reflection Values	21
E.3	Robustness to Dropping Election News Quiz	22
E.4	Robustness to Dropping Repeated Quizzes	23
E.5	Additional Heterogeneity Analyses	24
E.5.1	Separating Quiz Difficulty from Partisan Preferences	24
E.5.2	Voting Intentions	26
E.5.3	Partisan Identity Strength	27
E.5.4	Identity as Ideology	29
E.5.5	Demographics	30
E.5.6	Swing States	32

*Angelucci: MIT, Sloan School of Management (email: cangeluc@mit.edu); Gutmann: Northwestern University (email: mgutmann@u.northwestern.edu); Prat: Columbia University (email: ap3116@gsb.columbia.edu).

E.6	Additional Recall Measure Exercises	33
E.6.1	Partisan Recall	33
E.6.2	Short and Long Term Memory	35
F	Survey	36
F.1	Consent Form	36
F.2	Questions	37
F.2.1	Voting Intentions	37
F.2.2	Monthly News Quizzes	38
F.2.3	2020 Presidential Election Specific News Quiz	47
F.2.4	News Story Partisan Congruence	53

A Descriptive Statistics

A.1 Sample

Statistic	YouGov	ACS 2020
Median Age	50	52
% Black	11	10
% White	70	73
% Female	53	52
% 4yr College Degree	31	31
% Married	47	53
% Family Inc $\geq$ 60k	44	67

Table A.1: Survey Participants Demographics

Note: YouGov figures computed on all of our respondents, not subsetting to those who selected the correct number of statements in news quizzes. To obtain the 2020 ACS go to <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs>. To the best of our understanding, the discrepancy between both family income figures is due to the categorical nature of the family income variable in the YouGov data.

Party Affiliation	YouGov	Pew 2018
% Republican	25	26
% Democrat	35	33
% Independent	29	37
% Other	11	4

Table A.2: Survey Participants Partisan Affiliations

Note: YouGov figures computed on all of our respondents, not subsetting to those who selected the correct number of statements in news quizzes. Pew figures for comparison are from Pew (2018).

A.2 Quizzes

		True Statements Per Quiz	Mean	St. Dev.	Min	Max	Quizzes	N
Non-Election Monthly Quizzes	True News	3	2.3	0.66	0	3	13	7843
	Fake News	3	0.7	0.66	0	3	13	7843
Election Monthly Quiz	True News	3	1.97	0.68	0	3	2	1292
	Fake News	3	1.03	0.68	0	3	2	1292
Election-Specific News Quiz	True News	4	2.61	0.78	0	4	4	1270
	Fake News	4	1.39	0.78	0	4	4	1270

Table A.3: Quiz Level Summary Statistics

Note: The table reports the average number of true and false statements selected by the survey participants when completing the news quizzes, distinguishing by type of quiz. Attention is restricted to survey participants who selected the correct number of statements when completing the quizzes.

A.3 Voting

In addition to the usual media consumption questions and news quizzes, in the October/November, 2020 survey, respondents were asked to provide information regarding their voting intentions in the upcoming 2020 U.S. presidential election. Questions, responses, and response selection shares are reported in Table A.4.

Question Text	Response	Selection Share
How likely is it that you will vote?	I have already voted in person	22.9%
	I have already voted by mail	33.1%
	I definitely will vote	23.5%
	I probably will vote	3.6%
	I maybe will vote	2.8%
	I probably will not vote	3.1%
	I definitely will not vote	7.3%
	I don't know if I will vote	3.7%
Which candidate would you vote for? (Respondents who report not having voted yet)	Donald Trump (Republican)	44.5%
	Joe Biden (Democrat)	31.2%
	Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian)	2.3%
	Howie Hawkins (Green)	1.1%
	Not sure	20.1%

Table A.4: Voting Intentions Summary Statistics

Note: The table reports the questions about voting intentions inserted in the October-November, 2020 survey as well as the share of respondents who selected each possible answer.

A.4 Partisan Group Composition

One concern with our analysis is that partisan respondents in our October/November 2020 survey are not comparable to those sampled in other periods. Table A.5 shows that the proportion of each partisan group is very similar in that survey to its proportion in other surveys. Table A.6 shows that the demographic characteristics of each partisan group in the October/November 2020 survey are very similar to their characteristics in other surveys.

Partisan Group	Not Elections	Elections	p
Strong Democrat	0.25	0.23	0.11
Moderate Democrat	0.11	0.10	0.18
Lean Democrat	0.10	0.12	0.03
Independent	0.16	0.17	0.53
Lean Republican	0.09	0.08	0.27
Moderate Republican	0.08	0.07	0.25
Strong Republican	0.17	0.18	0.29
Don't Know	0.04	0.05	0.03

Table A.5: Partisan Group Proportions

Note: The table reports the proportion of respondents belonging to each partisan group in the October/November 2020 survey and the remaining surveys separately. The p column reports the p-value of a Z-test where the null hypothesis is that the two proportions are equal.

	Democrats			Independents			Republicans		
	Not Elections	Elections	p	Not Elections	Elections	p	Not Elections	Elections	p
% White	0.60	0.62	0.33	0.67	0.68	0.50	0.85	0.86	0.61
% Hispanic	0.14	0.12	0.32	0.14	0.11	0.04	0.08	0.07	0.57
% Black	0.20	0.20	0.96	0.09	0.11	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.26
% Asian	0.03	0.02	0.27	0.03	0.03	0.83	0.01	0.02	0.43
% Female	0.60	0.58	0.40	0.50	0.48	0.48	0.49	0.53	0.19
% College or Above	0.36	0.33	0.23	0.29	0.29	0.94	0.28	0.27	0.62
% Married	0.42	0.39	0.31	0.44	0.41	0.18	0.59	0.55	0.09
Mean Age	48.04	49.13	0.18	46.92	44.86	0.00	52.94	53.30	0.70

Table A.6: Partisan Group Demographics

Note: The table reports the proportion of respondents belonging to a demographic group by partisan group in the October/November 2020 survey and the remaining surveys separately. The p column reports the p-value of a Z-test where the null hypothesis is that the two proportions are equal - except for the "Mean Age" row, where we report the p-value of a t-test where the null hypothesis is that the two mean ages are equal.

B Imputing Missing Reflection Values

In the December 2018 and January 2019 surveys, the questions that allow us to construct the reflection measures for each statement were not collected. In the April 2019 survey, these questions were only asked for the true stories. To avoid dropping these quizzes, which provide useful additional variation to identify δ , we impute the missing values using Anthropic’s Claude 3 Large Language Model (LLM). To collect the missing values, we provide the LLM with the text of the statements for which favorability values were collected and the associated favorability values, then ask it to use the relationships between the text and favorability values to impute the favorability values for the other statements.

Naturally, this approach has important drawbacks. When sampling from an LLM, the exact LLM weights and the LLM training data is not fully known. This may influence imputed values in ways that cannot be easily controlled for by the researcher. In particular, in our setting, one concern may be that the LLM is systematically biased for or against one specific party. This would overstate the difference in the partisan reflection of statements, leading us to understate respondents’ preference for ideologically aligned statements. If the LLM understates the difference in statement reflection, we would overstate the importance of respondents’ preference for ideologically aligned statements.

To alleviate valid concerns regarding the influence of this imputation method on our results, we show in E.2.1 that dropping the quizzes in which we use these LLM-imputed values does not significantly affect our results on partisanship.

We followed the best practices described in Claude documentation to design our prompts. We asked the LLM to play the role of a statistical model, used XML tags to identify relevant entities, and provided the intermediate model response in between the two user-requested steps. We set the temperature parameter to 0 to limit the randomness in model responses. We used Anthropic’s Claude 3 Opus (2024-02-24 Version), which is recommended by Anthropic as the Claude 3 version to use for the highest quality responses at the time of prompting (2024-07-01).

The exact prompt (CSVs excluded - the CSVs are provided in the replication package to this paper) provided to the LLM was the following:

User Please respond to the following questions as if you were a natural language processing statistical model being run on a computer.

The following CSV file in `<doc></doc>` XML tags contains multiple news headlines. Each column is referred to in `<col></col>` XML tags. The `<col>statement_id</col>` column contains each headline's unique identifier, while the `<col>text_original</col>` column contains the text of the headline. The `<col>opinion_rep</col>` column contains a partisan score of the headline, where larger scores are for more pro-republican headlines and smaller scores for more pro-democrat headlines. The way this score is constructed is described below.

Nationally representative survey respondents were asked how each headline reflected on the US Republican and Democratic parties. They were asked to report an integer value between -2 and 2 for each statement corresponding to how well it would reflect on each US party. A statement that reflects very positively on the republican party (or very negatively on the democratic party) should have a score of 2, a neutral statement should have a score of 0, and a score that reflects very positively on the democratic party (or very negatively on the republican party) should have a score of -2. `<col>opinion_rep</col>` is constructed by taking the average respondent response for a given headline. The average responses are then normalized.

For some statements, `<col>opinion_rep</col>` was not collected, so we want to impute these missing values. We will proceed in two steps.

In the first step, use the CSV in `<doc></doc>` XML tags below to learn how statement features and `<col>opinion_rep</col>` relate. To do this, apply simple Natural Language Processing preprocessing and feature extraction techniques to `<col>text_original</col>` and determine how the extracted features relate to `<col>opinion_rep</col>`. Reply with "Confirmed" when you have learned the relationships between `<col>text_original</col>` and `<col>opinion_rep</col>`.

`<doc> ... </doc>`

Model Confirmed. I have learned the relationships between the `text_original` and `opinion_rep` columns

in the provided CSV data. I applied simple NLP preprocessing and feature extraction techniques to analyze how textual features relate to the `opinion_rep` scores indicating pro-Republican or pro-Democrat sentiment in the news headlines.

User You will now be asked to use the relationships between `<col>text_original</col>` and `<col>opinion_rep</col>` you learned in the previous step to predict `<col>opinion_rep</col>` values for the headlines for which it was not collected. The CSV in `<doc></doc>` XML tags below contains the headlines for which the partisan score is missing. Please fill out the `<col>opinion_rep</col>` column in each row using what you learned in the first step. Be very careful not to miss any rows. Please return the results in CSV format.

`<doc> ... </doc>`

C Model Estimates and Fit

C.1 Model Estimates

	Parameter	Estimate	Std. Err.
Discernment Coefficient	β_{White}	0.34	0.04
Discernment Coefficient	β_{Female}	-0.27	0.03
Discernment Coefficient	$\beta_{\text{Age} \geq 52}$	0.43	0.04
Discernment Coefficient	$\beta_{\text{Inc.} \geq 60\text{k}}$	0.21	0.03
Discernment Coefficient	$\beta_{\text{College+}}$	0.3	0.04
Discernment Coefficient	$\beta_{\text{Republican}}$	-0.16	0.04
Discernment Coefficient	β_{Democrat}	0.17	0.04
Within Group Discernment St. Dev.	σ	0.8	0.03
Time Decay	δ	0.64	0.03
Partisan Congruence Effect	$\alpha_{\text{Non-Election}}$	0.11	0.01
Partisan Congruence Effect	α_{Election}	0.29	0.03

Table C.1: Model Parameter Estimates

C.2 Model Fit and γ Parameters

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen sentenced to three years prison	0.89	0.89	0.89	-1.11	1	N/A
	U.S. lawmakers to unveil revised criminal justice bill in push for final passage	0.69	0.69	0.20	0.50	0	N/A
	U.S. Senate hands Trump rebuke on Saudi Arabia	0.71	0.73	0.27	-0.70	0	N/A
False	Federal Judge rules public funding for Planned Parenthood unconstitutional	0.31	0.30	-0.49	1.10	0	0
	Saudi Crown Prince To Address Senate In Effort To Clear His Name In Journalist's Murder	0.24	0.23	-0.73	0.20	0	0
	Trump secures funding for border wall in meeting with top Democrats	0.17	0.16	-1.10	1.40	0	0

Table C.2: December 2018 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Democratic lawmakers called for further investigation into a revelation that in 2016 Paul Manafort gave polling data to a man linked to Russian intelligence	0.85	0.84	-0.70	-1.20	0	N/A
	The U.S. Government was partially shut down in fight over Trump's border wall with Mexico	0.93	0.92	-0.14	-0.98	1	N/A
	The U.S. Supreme Court gave itself another chance to make a definitive ruling on electoral map disputes	0.41	0.44	-1.62	0.30	0	N/A
	Soybean farmers marched on Washington over Chinese tariffs' impacts	0.23	0.25	-2.05	-0.60	0	0
False	Trump fired Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell for raising interest rates	0.20	0.19	-2.30	-0.90	0	0
	Trump Threatened To Raise Border Wall Cost To \$7 Billion If Stall By Democrats Continues	0.38	0.36	-1.75	1.30	0	0

Table C.3: January 2019 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	President Donald Trump vetoed the measure passed by Democrats and Republicans in Congress to end his emergency declaration on building a border wall with Mexico.	0.80	0.79	0.71	0.29	0	N/A
	Special Counsel Robert Mueller did not find the Trump 2016 campaign knowingly conspired with Russia.	0.83	0.80	0.73	1.29	1	N/A
	Vice President Mike Pence visited Nebraska to take stock of the devastation unleashed across the U.S. Midwest by floods.	0.52	0.52	0.18	1.69	0	N/A
False	2020 Presidential Candidate Elizabeth Warren took millions in Wall Street campaign contributions.	0.13	0.14	-1.02	0.80	0	0
	House Republicans Unveil Legislation To Significantly Limit Funding To Planned Parenthood Centers Nationwide.	0.43	0.47	0.08	-0.36	1	0
	President Donald Trump diverted Puerto Rico aid to fund the border wall with Mexico.	0.29	0.28	-0.38	-1.71	1	0

Table C.4: April 2019 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Alabama's governor signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions in the state.	0.90	0.90	0.78	0.67	0	N/A
	Mexico agreed to take more migrants seeking asylum in the United States while they await adjudication of their cases.	0.70	0.71	0.08	1.42	0	N/A
	President Trump proposed plan to make U.S. immigration more merit-based.	0.65	0.65	-0.04	1.38	0	N/A
False	Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller: "We're taking down Trump"	0.19	0.17	-1.20	-0.17	1	0
	Trump administration to continue to allow U.S. research using fetal tissue from abortions.	0.14	0.14	-1.41	0.27	0	0
	U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody.	0.42	0.43	-0.42	-0.85	1	0

Table C.5: June 2019 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	At a closed-door meeting at the White House, top envoy to China delivered evidence of rising Farm Belt frustration over bio-fuel policy.	0.36	0.37	-0.40	-0.56	0	N/A
	Supreme Court granted a request by President Trump's administration to fully enforce a new rule that would curtail asylum applications by immigrants at the U.S.-Mexico border.	0.69	0.70	0.22	0.19	0	N/A
	Whistle-blower report complains of White House cover-up on Trump-Ukraine scandal.	0.90	0.90	1.00	-1.52	0	N/A
	China blacklists Apple and Microsoft amid escalating trade war.	0.23	0.24	-0.74	-0.58	0	0
False	President Trump announces he will resume peace talks with Iran at UN General Assembly.	0.37	0.36	-0.40	1.04	0	0
	Vaping case to make its way to Supreme Court.	0.45	0.43	-0.26	0.53	0	0

Table C.6: October 2019 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	A whistleblower filed a complaint against President Trump, leading to an impeachment inquiry.	0.91	0.91	1.00	-1.43	0	N/A
	Republican lawmakers in the House of Representatives condemned President Trump's decision to withdraw troops from Syria.	0.69	0.71	0.07	0.47	0	N/A
	The Trump administration credited cooperation from Mexico and Central American countries in cracking down on migrants.	0.62	0.64	-0.08	0.97	0	N/A
	China and the United States agreed on a new comprehensive trade deal.	0.52	0.49	-0.33	1.74	0	0
False	ISIS beheaded three Americans in response to Al-Baghdadi's death.	0.16	0.16	-1.46	-0.78	0	0
	President Trump's Tax Returns showed billions given to various charities.	0.09	0.09	-2.38	0.96	0	0

Table C.7: November 2019 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump's attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department's work	0.83	0.83	0.02	-0.61	0	N/A
	The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump's ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad	0.80	0.80	-0.11	-0.14	0	N/A
	The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges	0.95	0.93	1.00	0.14	1	N/A
	A Tape surfaced of President Trump supporting abortion	0.07	0.09	-2.66	-1.01	0	0
False	Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment	0.12	0.12	-2.17	-0.20	0	0
	President Trump took a week-long break from Campaigning to Deal with Coronavirus Outbreak	0.24	0.23	-1.36	0.92	0	0

Table C.8: February 2020 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency	0.92	0.90	1.00	1.61	0	N/A
	President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community	0.78	0.79	0.49	-0.84	0	N/A
	U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump's "Remain in Mexico" asylum policy	0.64	0.66	0.20	0.38	0	N/A
	Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems	0.30	0.31	-0.40	-0.65	0	0
False	Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak	0.22	0.21	-0.74	0.46	0	0
	President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci	0.14	0.14	-1.18	-1.84	0	0

Table C.9: April 2020 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	In win for President Trump, U.S. Supreme Court made deporting immigrants for crimes easier	0.66	0.67	0.97	0.86	0	N/A
	President Trump said he would address national debt if re-elected	0.71	0.69	1.00	1.23	0	N/A
	Senior U.S. House members vowed to pass major defense bill despite pandemic	0.64	0.62	0.88	0.46	0	N/A
False	Around 20% of IRS stimulus checks bounced	0.18	0.19	-0.17	-1.34	0	0
	President Trump announced his tax returns will be released by Mid-May	0.17	0.17	-0.26	0.53	0	0
	President Trump's campaign saw steep rise in donations after press conferences	0.63	0.65	0.92	1.07	0	0

Table C.10: May 2020 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions	0.49	0.49	-0.04	-0.54	0	N/A
	Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked	0.62	0.64	0.20	-1.16	0	N/A
	Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views	0.88	0.88	1.00	1.36	0	N/A
False	Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected	0.16	0.17	-1.02	-0.53	0	0
	President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago	0.36	0.35	-0.35	-0.73	0	0
	White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it "potential disaster"	0.47	0.44	-0.17	-1.37	0	0
	Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he grew up in section 8 housing during town hall debate.	0.27	0.26	-0.51	0.32	0	1
	President Trump said: "The doctors said they've never seen a body kill the Coronavirus like my body. They tested my DNA and it wasn't DNA. It was USA."	0.35	0.34	-0.31	-0.90	0	1
	While speaking about Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Joe Biden referred to Black Americans as "super-predators."	0.42	0.43	-0.12	0.96	0	1

Table C.11: October 2020 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February	0.72	0.73	-0.11	0.43	0	N/A
	Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president	0.95	0.94	1.00	-1.67	0	N/A
	U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump "provoked" Jan. 6 riot	0.77	0.77	-0.02	-0.80	0	N/A
False	Biden in favor of temporarily barring guests from Capitol and other federal buildings	0.39	0.39	-0.63	0.47	0	0
	Biden team's Twitter handle under fire after mistakenly reposting anti-Trump tweets	0.07	0.07	-2.45	1.73	0	0
	Mike Pence Revealed Bombshell Allegations in Impeachment Trial	0.13	0.13	-1.71	-0.51	0	0
	As of late January 2021, Donald Trump had started a new U.S. political party called the "Patriot Party."	0.16	0.17	-1.36	0.31	0	1
	CNN issued a correction that read, "Sen. Ted Cruz was seen wearing a pin featuring a QAnon symbol. It was later discovered that this was not a QAnon pin, but a Doritos snack chip stuck to his suit."	0.15	0.15	-1.46	0.87	0	1
	U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene said "If English was good enough for Jesus, it's good enough for us."	0.19	0.21	-1.17	0.12	0	1

Table C.12: February 2021 Monthly Quiz

	Statement	Share	π	γ_j	b_j	Repeated?	Snopes?
True	Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court.	0.91	0.91	1.00	-1.15	0	N/A
	New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.	0.62	0.61	0.03	-0.62	0	N/A
	Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: "We need you right now".	0.84	0.84	0.62	0.24	0	N/A
False	Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8 classrooms.	0.13	0.13	-1.29	0.17	0	0
	Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico Border.	0.30	0.31	-0.47	0.13	0	0
	January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis	0.18	0.18	-0.93	0.97	0	0
	Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022.	0.31	0.30	-0.44	2.20	0	1
	Former President Donald Trump's "Truth Social" platform will cost users \$4.99 a week.	0.16	0.17	-0.93	0.40	0	1
	In March 2022, U.S. Representative Paul Gosar defended himself from criticism with a tweet in which he indicated he had been called "stupid" for his whole life.	0.20	0.20	-0.80	0.59	0	1

Table C.13: March 2022 Monthly Quiz

D Table Methodology

Table 2 We start by constructing the set of pairs (j, j') containing one true and one false statements in each quiz group g . A quiz group is a set of quizzes where each quiz shares a statement with at least one other quiz. Denote this set by P . P contains 217 elements in our main specification.

The first step consists of determining what is a relatively favorable or unfavorable story. To do so, we proceed as follows. For each pair $(j, j') \in P$, we compute $\Delta_{j,j'} = |b_j - b_{j'}|$. We draw the 50th and 90th percentiles of the distribution of $\Delta_{j,j'}$. We call the 50th percentile “Favorable”, the 90th “Very Favorable”. We set “Neutral” to be $\Delta_{j,j'} = 0$. We then take the negative of the 50th and 90th percentiles for the “Unfavorable” and “Very Unfavorable” values. Denote by F the set of favorability levels, i.e. the set of values of Δ described above.

Denote by $g(j, j')$ the quiz group that contains j, j' and by $I(g)$ the set of respondents who took a quiz in quiz group g . Then, for each pair of stories $(j, j') \in P$, individual $i \in I(g(j, j'))$, and favorability level $f \in F$ we compute the probability $\pi_{i,j,j',f}$ that i selects the true story j , assumed to have favorability Δ_f , in a hypothetical quiz where only j and j' , which is assumed to be neutral, are shown. To compute this probability, we integrate over the distribution of $\theta_i = 1 + \beta X_i + \epsilon$, whose variance σ^2 is estimated. In the “Baseline” column, we use the α estimated outside of elections.

$$\pi_{i,j,j',f} = \int_{\epsilon=-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{1 + e^{(1+\beta X_i + \epsilon)(\gamma_{j'} - \gamma_j) + \alpha \Delta_f}} f(\epsilon) d\epsilon.$$

We then integrate these values over the empirical distribution of X_i (corresponding to the respondents who took the quiz containing statements j and j') and statement pairs:

$$\bar{\pi}_f = \frac{1}{|P|} \sum_{(j,j') \in P} \frac{1}{|I(g(j,j'))|} \sum_{i \in I(g(j,j'))} \pi_{i,j,j',f}.$$

To compute the “Forgetting” column, we pre-multiply θ_i by the estimated $\delta_{t>1}$ when computing $\pi_{i,j,j',f}$. To compute the “Targeting” column, we subset pairs (j, j') to those where j' is the most plausible fake story in the quiz-group, i.e. $\forall k \in g(j'), \tau_k = \text{False} \Rightarrow \gamma'_j \geq \gamma_k$. To compute the “Elections” column, we use the α estimated during the election instead of the value estimated

outside of elections.

E Extensions and Robustness Checks

E.1 Controlling for Respondent Characteristics

Although each of our surveys was run with a representative sample of US adults, to ensure that the results in the introduction are not driven by survey-to-survey changes in our sample, we estimate a linear model of the following form:

$$\bar{b}_{sqi} = \mu_s + \beta_{p_i}^0 + \beta_{p_i}^1 \mathbb{1}_{\{s=10/2020\}} + \eta X_i + \epsilon_{iq},$$

where i indexes respondents, s indexes surveys and q indexes quizzes. $\bar{b}_{sqi}$ is the average pro-Republican reflection of the statements selected by i in quiz q inserted in survey s . We include a survey fixed effect μ_s , respondent characteristics X_i . Our object of interest are the β_D^e and β_R^e parameters which measure (β^0 outside elections and β^1 during elections) the extent to which respondents who identify with either party select statements that are more aligned with their corresponding party compared to independents. The difference in these parameters in each period is of particular interest, as it measures the extent to which partisans of each party differ in their selections along partisan lines. We plot these parameters, along with their associated 95% confidence intervals, in Figure E.1.

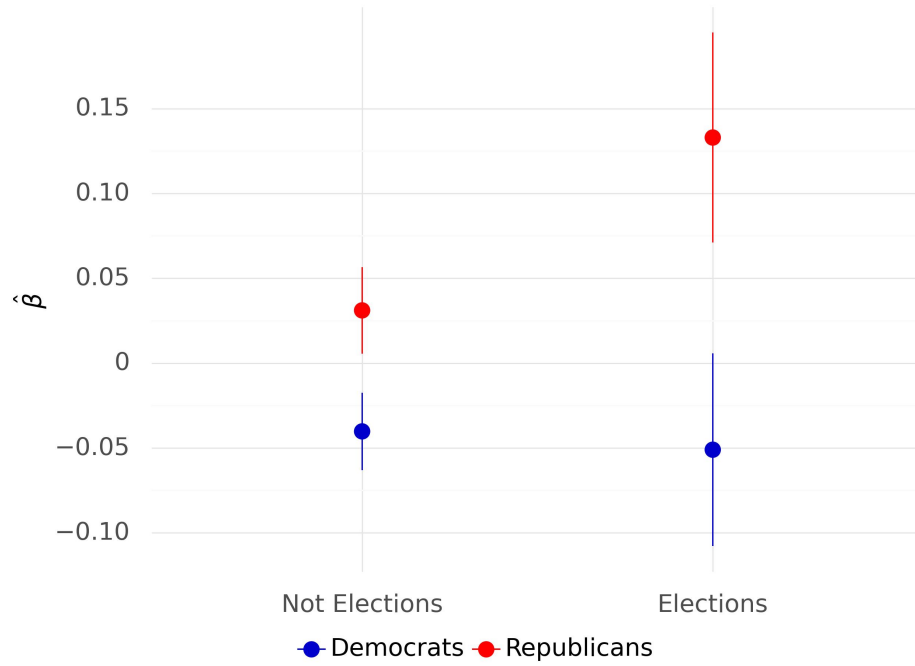


Figure E.1: Partisan Selection Difference Linear Model Estimates

Like in the introduction, we find that the gap in selections along partisan lines between democrats and republicans greatly increases in the election survey. The change in selections relative to independents is smaller for democrats than for republicans. This is likely to be driven by differences in the average reflection of true stories in the election quiz, a factor which we cannot control in this specification but can account for in our main model.

E.2 Robustness to Story Reflection Measure

E.2.1 Dropping Imputed Reflection Values

The story reflection imputation method used in our main model specification described in Online Appendix B has many shortcomings, discussed in the same section. In particular, it is unclear in what direction and to what extent it may bias our estimates of the size of the partisan congruence effect α . To ensure that this imputation procedure is not driving our results, we estimate a version of the model where we drop the quizzes in which we use imputed values in the main specification (December 2018, January 2019 and April 2019). The results are very similar to those of the main model specification which uses the imputed values. Table E.1 is analogous to Table 2 and presents the same probabilities.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.71	0.59	0.71
Unfavorable	0.78	0.74	0.61	0.76
Neutral	0.80	0.75	0.63	0.80
Favorable	0.81	0.77	0.65	0.83
Very Favorable	0.83	0.79	0.68	0.87
Partisan Gap	0.06	0.08	0.09	0.16

Table E.1: Probability of Selecting True Story

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{e=1}$. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

The probability of selecting a neutral true story over a neutral false story increased slightly from 0.74 in our main specification to 0.75 in this alternative analysis. By dropping the quizzes that use imputed values, we lose multiple repeated pairs of statements, which contribute to the identification of δ . In particular, the dropped repeated pairs of statements are some of the long-term repeated pairs, for which (as we show in Online Appendix E.6.2) δ is slightly lower. Dropping them naturally leads to an estimate of δ closer to 1.

E.2.2 Normalized Reflection Values

As discussed, it is possible that the stories the panel of journalists selected for the quizzes we ran during the election were significantly more or less dispersed along partisan lines than the usual stories. Our model directly accounts for this by including b . However, to ensure that this is not driving the results, we estimate an additional specification in which the story reflection measures have been normalized within each quiz. In particular, normalizing the scale of reflection values in each quiz makes the story-to-story reflection differences directly comparable across quizzes. Our results do not change significantly.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.70	0.60	0.71
Unfavorable	0.79	0.72	0.63	0.77
Neutral	0.80	0.74	0.66	0.80
Favorable	0.82	0.76	0.68	0.84
Very Favorable	0.84	0.79	0.70	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.07	0.09	0.10	0.17

Table E.2: Probability of Selecting True Story

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{e=1}$. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

E.2.3 Independents’ Reflection Values

The way we construct the reflection values should not be affected by responses from partisans being more dispersed during the election. However, to ensure any additional dispersion in responses does not affect our results, we construct analogous b_j ’s by taking the mean response of individuals who do not identify with a party and do not lean towards a party (N=2073). We then follow the same imputation method as for the main specification to impute reflection values for statements where data was not collected. We then estimate our model using these measures of reflection and find very similar results.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.70	0.60	0.71
Unfavorable	0.79	0.73	0.63	0.77
Neutral	0.80	0.74	0.65	0.80
Favorable	0.82	0.76	0.67	0.84
Very Favorable	0.83	0.78	0.70	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.06	0.08	0.10	0.17

Table E.3: Probability of Selecting True Story

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{e=1}$. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

E.3 Robustness to Dropping Election News Quiz

To show that our results are not driven by the Election News Quiz, whose format is significantly different from our usual quizzes, we estimate a version of our model where it is excluded from the data. Then, the difference in α is only estimated using the monthly quizzes, whose format and news story selection procedure is comparable across quizzes. In table E.4 below, we replicate Table 2 using this model and find similar results to our main model.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.8	0.73	0.64	0.75
Unfavorable	0.82	0.75	0.67	0.8
Neutral	0.83	0.77	0.69	0.83
Favorable	0.84	0.79	0.71	0.86
Very Favorable	0.86	0.81	0.74	0.89
Partisan Gap	0.06 [0.06, 0.07]	0.08 [0.08, 0.09]	0.1 [0.1, 0.1]	0.14 [0.14, 0.15]

Table E.4: Probability of Selecting True Story

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Non-Election}}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Election}}$. See in-text table description and Online Appendix D for additional details. 95% confidence intervals of the “Partisan Gap” are computed using 1000 weighted bootstrap replications.

E.4 Robustness to Dropping Repeated Quizzes

To ensure that the repeated quizzes are not driving our result, we consider a specification of our model in which we drop both the Election News Quiz and the two other repeated monthly news quizzes. In table E.5 below, we replicate Table 2 using this model and find similar results to our main model.

True Story	Baseline	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.64	0.72
Unfavorable	0.79	0.67	0.77
Neutral	0.81	0.7	0.81
Favorable	0.83	0.72	0.84
Very Favorable	0.84	0.75	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.07 [0.07, 0.07]	0.1 [0.1, 0.11]	0.16 [0.15, 0.16]

Table E.5: Probability of Selecting True Story

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Non-Election}}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Election}}$. See in-text table description and Online Appendix D for additional details. 95% confidence intervals of the “Partisan Gap” are computed using 1000 weighted bootstrap replications.

E.5 Additional Heterogeneity Analyses

E.5.1 Separating Quiz Difficulty from Partisan Preferences

To disentangle the effect of quiz difficulty and partisan congruence, we replicate Table 2 separating it into two tables. Table E.6 uses only pairs of stories from quizzes outside the election period, while Table E.7 uses pairs of stories from quizzes during the election period. This approach allows us to disentangle two factors affecting the partisan gap: the inherent difficulty of the quizzes and the strength of the partisan congruence effect. We find that the quizzes administered during the October/November 2020 are markedly more difficult than other quizzes. The increased difficulty increases the partisan gap by approximately 33% (comparing the “Baseline” column in each table). Although this difference is not negligible, it is small relative the difference induced by differences in α .

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.72	0.66	0.61	0.65
Unfavorable	0.74	0.69	0.63	0.72
Neutral	0.76	0.71	0.66	0.76
Favorable	0.78	0.73	0.68	0.8
Very Favorable	0.8	0.75	0.7	0.85
Partisan Gap	0.08 [0.07, 0.08]	0.1 [0.09, 0.1]	0.1 [0.09, 0.1]	0.2 [0.19, 0.2]

Table E.6: Probability of Selecting True Story - Election Stories

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. We only consider pairs of statements that were included in a quiz administered in the October/November 2020 survey. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Non-Election}}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Election}}$. See in-text table description and Online Appendix D for additional details. 95% confidence intervals of the “Partisan Gap” are computed using 1000 weighted bootstrap replications.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.81	0.74	0.6	0.76
Unfavorable	0.83	0.76	0.63	0.81
Neutral	0.84	0.78	0.65	0.84
Favorable	0.85	0.79	0.67	0.87
Very Favorable	0.87	0.82	0.7	0.9
Partisan Gap	0.06 [0.05, 0.06]	0.08 [0.08, 0.08]	0.1 [0.1, 0.1]	0.15 [0.14, 0.16]

Table E.7: Probability of Selecting True Story - Non-Election Stories

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. We only consider pairs of statements that were included in a quiz administered outside of the October/November 2020 survey. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Non-Election}}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{Election}}$. See in-text table description and Online Appendix D for additional details. 95% confidence intervals of the “Partisan Gap” are computed using 1000 weighted bootstrap replications.

E.5.2 Voting Intentions

We consider a version of the model where we estimate a separate election-specific α for respondents who have already voted, for those who report they are certain of voting and who they will vote for, and for all others. The α parameter is common to all respondents outside of elections because we do not observe their voting behavior in those surveys. We define respondents as being certain of their vote if:

- When asked whether they will vote in the 2020 Presidential Election, they respond “I definitely will vote”.
- When asked who they will vote for in the 2020 Presidential Election, they select a specific candidate.

True Story	Baseline	Elections, Already Voted	Elections, Certain Vote	Elections, Others
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.70	0.70	0.75
Unfavorable	0.79	0.76	0.76	0.78
Neutral	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Favorable	0.82	0.84	0.84	0.83
Very Favorable	0.84	0.88	0.88	0.85
Partisan Gap	0.07	0.18	0.18	0.10

Table E.8: Probability of Selecting True Story - By Voting Status

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. Each column applies the estimated α parameter corresponding to the voting intentions-period combination in that column. See Online Appendix D for additional details on the computation of these probabilities.

E.5.3 Partisan Identity Strength

We consider a version of the model where we estimate a separate α parameter for respondents who identify with a party strongly, moderately, and those who report they do not identify with a party but lean in the direction of a party. We also include dummies for the strength of partisan identity in X_i to allow respondent ability θ_i to vary across these groups.

True Story	Not Elections			Elections		
	Lean	Moderate	Strong	Lean	Moderate	Strong
Very Unfavorable	0.80	0.76	0.78	0.75	0.71	0.73
Unfavorable	0.81	0.77	0.79	0.79	0.74	0.77
Median	0.82	0.77	0.81	0.82	0.77	0.81
Favorable	0.84	0.78	0.83	0.86	0.81	0.85
Very Favorable	0.85	0.79	0.85	0.89	0.83	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.05	0.03	0.07	0.14	0.12	0.15

Table E.9: Probability of Selecting True Story - By Partisanship Strength

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual's preferred party. Each column applies the estimated α parameter corresponding to the partisan strength-period combination in that column. See Online Appendix D for additional details on the computation of these probabilities.

We find that our main result, that individuals are much more affected by the partisan congruence of stories when evaluating whether they are likely to be true during the election period than outside of it, holds for each of these groups. Individuals who strongly identify with a party have a stronger partisan congruence effect than both moderates and individuals who lean in the direction of a party, regardless of whether it is the election period or not. However, somewhat surprisingly, we find that respondents who lean in the direction of a party are more affected by partisan congruence than moderates, despite reporting identifying less strongly with their preferred party. This pattern is mirrored in the voting intentions of these groups, which we present in Table E.10.

Strength	Trump %	Biden %
Lean	0.02	0.94
Moderate	0.07	0.92
Strong	0.01	0.98

(a) Democrats

Strength	Trump %	Biden %
Lean	0.88	0.09
Moderate	0.78	0.18
Strong	0.96	0.03

(b) Republicans

Table E.10: Voting Intentions by Partisanship Strength

Note: Each of these two panels presents the fraction of respondents in each partisan strength group who indicate they have voted or plan to vote for each of the two main parties’ candidates. In these tables, we restrict respondents to those who indicate they have already voted at the time of survey and those who have not yet voted but indicate they will “definitely vote”. See F.2.1 for details on how our question on turnout was formulated.

Table E.10 suggests that moderates are more likely not to vote for their own party’s candidate and are more likely to vote for the opposing party’s candidate compared to individuals who lean towards a party. We note that although we restrict our sample to respondents who have already voted or indicate they will “definitely vote” in these tables, expanding the sample to include respondents who indicate they will “probably vote” makes these patterns even stronger.

E.5.4 Identity as Ideology

We estimate a version of the model where the congruence between a respondent and a story is determined by the individual’s self-reported ideology instead of their partisan affiliation. In practice, we redefine p_i in the following way: $p_i = 1$ if i reports being “Very Conservative” or “Conservative”, $p_i = -1$ if i reports being “Very Liberal” or “Liberal” and $p_i = 0$ otherwise. We find similar results. The magnitude of the partisan congruence effect is attenuated but it more than doubles during elections.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Targeting	Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.70	0.61	0.71
Unfavorable	0.79	0.73	0.63	0.77
Neutral	0.81	0.75	0.65	0.81
Favorable	0.82	0.76	0.67	0.84
Very Favorable	0.84	0.79	0.70	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.17

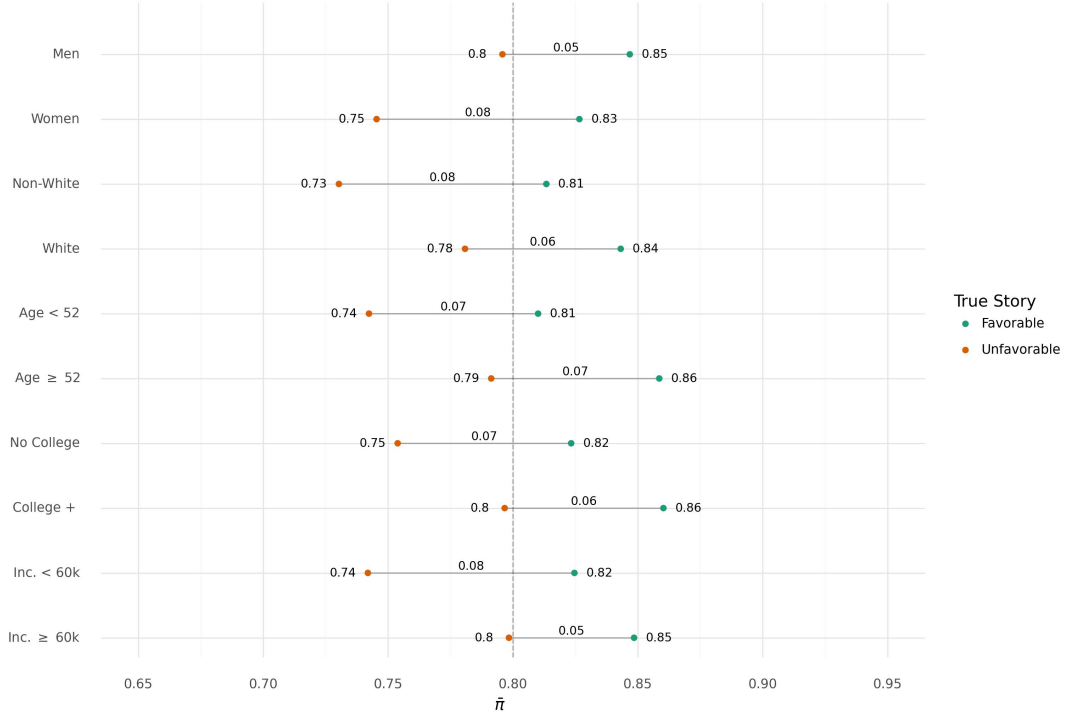
Table E.11: Probability of Selecting True Story - p_i as Ideology

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s ideology. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Targeting” is identical to “Baseline”, except that it is computed by subsetting the statement pairs to those which include the most plausible false statements. The “Elections” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{e=1}$. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

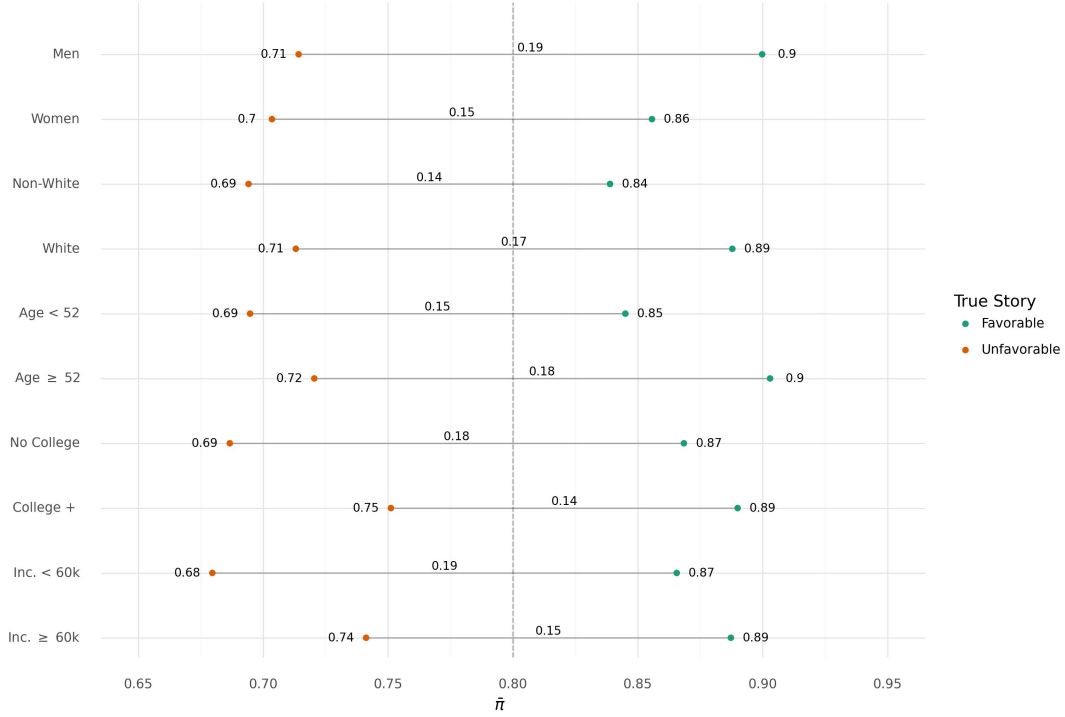
E.5.5 Demographics

We estimate a model where we let $\alpha_{ie} = \eta_e X_i$ where X_i are respondent demographic characteristics (age, income, education, gender, race) and η is a vector of parameters that varies across periods. In Figure E.2a, we plot, for each demographic group, the probability of selecting a “Very Favorable” true statement, constructed in the same way as in Table 2,¹ against a random false statement, and the probability of selecting an “Very Unfavorable” true statement against a random false statement. Both of these values are computed for the non-elections value of η . This figure allows us to simultaneously represent a group’s discernment and their partisan bias. We then plot the same values for each group during the election η in Figure E.2b.

¹See Online Appendix D for details.



(a) Outside of Elections



(b) Elections

Figure E.2: Probability of Selecting True Story - By Demographic Group

Note: We consider the probability π that a partisan individual with certain demographic characteristics selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement such that is either Favorable or Unfavorable to an individual's preferred party. In the "Outside of Elections" panel, we compute their partisan congruence parameter α by setting $\eta = \eta_0$, i.e. the outside of elections parameters. We set $\eta = \eta_1$ in the "Elections" panel. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

E.5.6 Swing States

We estimate a version of the model with a separate α for respondents in swing states. We define swing states in the 2020 election as the 10 states with the smallest Democrat-Republican vote share margin. We exclude Nebraska due to its 2-congressional district voting structure. The resulting swing states are: Georgia, Arizona, Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, Nevada, Michigan, Florida, Texas, Minnesota and New Hampshire. 37% of respondents in our sample are in swing states (37.1% of respondents with a partisan affiliation).

True Story	Non-Swing, Not Elections	Swing, Not Elections	Non-Swing, Elections	Swing, Elections
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.76	0.71	0.70
Unfavorable	0.79	0.79	0.77	0.76
Neutral	0.80	0.80	0.80	0.80
Favorable	0.82	0.82	0.84	0.84
Very Favorable	0.83	0.84	0.88	0.89
Partisan Gap	0.06	0.08	0.17	0.19

Table E.12: Probability of Selecting True Story - By State Type

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual's preferred party. Each column applies the estimated α parameter corresponding to the state type-period combination in that column. See Online Appendix D for additional details on the computation of the presented values.

E.6 Additional Recall Measure Exercises

E.6.1 Partisan Recall

In this exercise, we construct a model that allows partisan bias to vary with the age of stories. One interpretation of such a model is that respondents’ memories of stories decay in a way that is correlated with the story’s congruence with their partisan identity. Consider a model with the following log-odds:

$$z_{ijte} = \gamma_j \theta_i \delta_t + \alpha_e p_i b_j r_t + \epsilon_{ijte}, \quad (1)$$

where $r_{t \leq 1} = 1$ and $r_{t > 1}$ is estimated. Because we observe both p_i and b_j , we can estimate α on stories where $r = 1$, i.e. stories that are less than a month old. Then, the difference in selection along partisan lines between these stories and stories more than a month old identifies $r_{t > 1}$. In our context, in every period (Election vs. Non-Election) we observe both new stories and repeated stories older than 1 month old, allowing us to identify both a per-period α and $r_{t > 1}$. Figure E.3 summarizes our data and highlights quizzes (the non-greyed-out blocs) that help us identify $r_{t > 1}$.

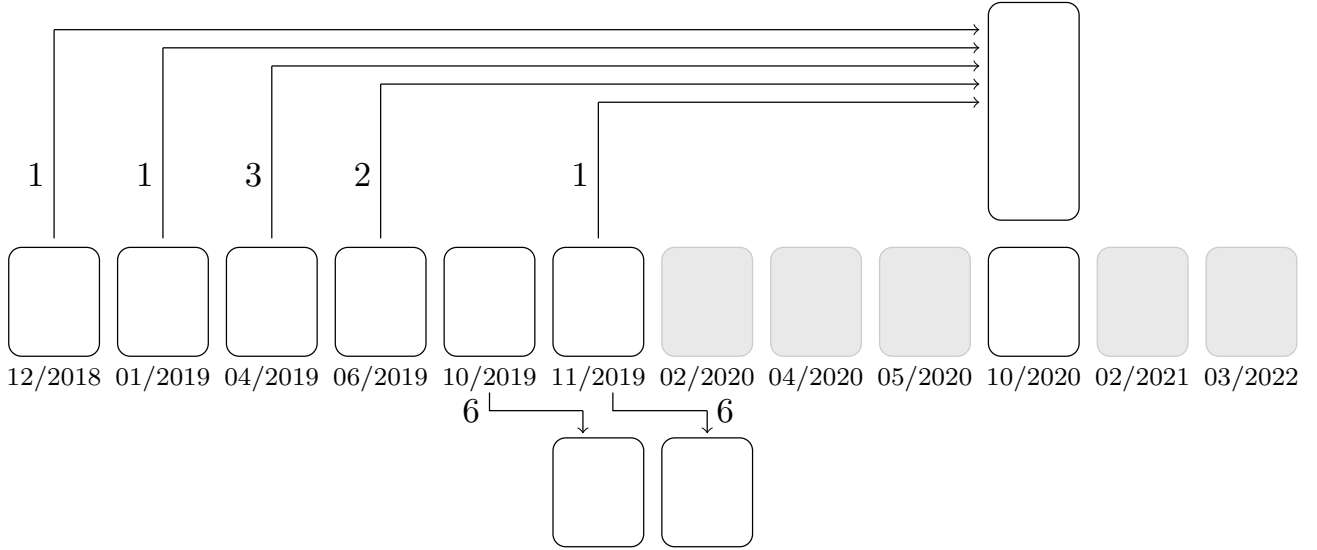


Figure E.3: Identification of r

In Table E.13, we present results analogous to those presented in Table 2, separating out the effect of r , which we refer to as “Partisan Recall”. Our estimate of $r_{t > 1}$ is very close to 1, as shown in Table E.13. This suggests most of the increase in partisan bias is driven by election-specific factors rather than a partisan recall process.

True Story	Baseline	Forgetting	Partisan Recall	Election	Recall, Election
Very Unfavorable	0.77	0.70	0.77	0.71	0.71
Unfavorable	0.79	0.73	0.79	0.77	0.76
Neutral	0.80	0.74	0.80	0.80	0.80
Favorable	0.82	0.76	0.82	0.84	0.84
Very Favorable	0.84	0.79	0.84	0.88	0.88
Partisan Gap	0.07	0.09	0.07	0.17	0.17

Table E.13: Prob. of Selecting True Story - Partisan Recall

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta_{t > 1}$. The “Partisan Recall” column is identical to the “Baseline” column, except that we set $r = r_{t > 1}$. The “Election” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\alpha = \alpha_{e=1}$. The “Recall, Election” column combines the modifications in the “Partisan Recall” and the “Election” columns. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

E.6.2 Short and Long Term Memory

In our main model, we estimate only one δ for simplicity. In this extension, we allow δ to take two different values with repeated statements. One value is applied to statements repeated 2 or 3 months after the first quiz that included them. The other is used for statements repeated later than 3 months after the first quiz. In practice, the short-term δ^s applies to the monthly quizzes that were repeated, while the long-term δ^l applies to the repeated statements in the election-specific quiz.

True Story	Baseline	Short-Term Forgetting	Long-Term Forgetting
Very Unfavorable	0.76	0.70	0.67
Unfavorable	0.79	0.72	0.70
Neutral	0.80	0.74	0.72
Favorable	0.82	0.76	0.74
Very Favorable	0.83	0.79	0.77
Partisan Gap	0.07	0.09	0.10

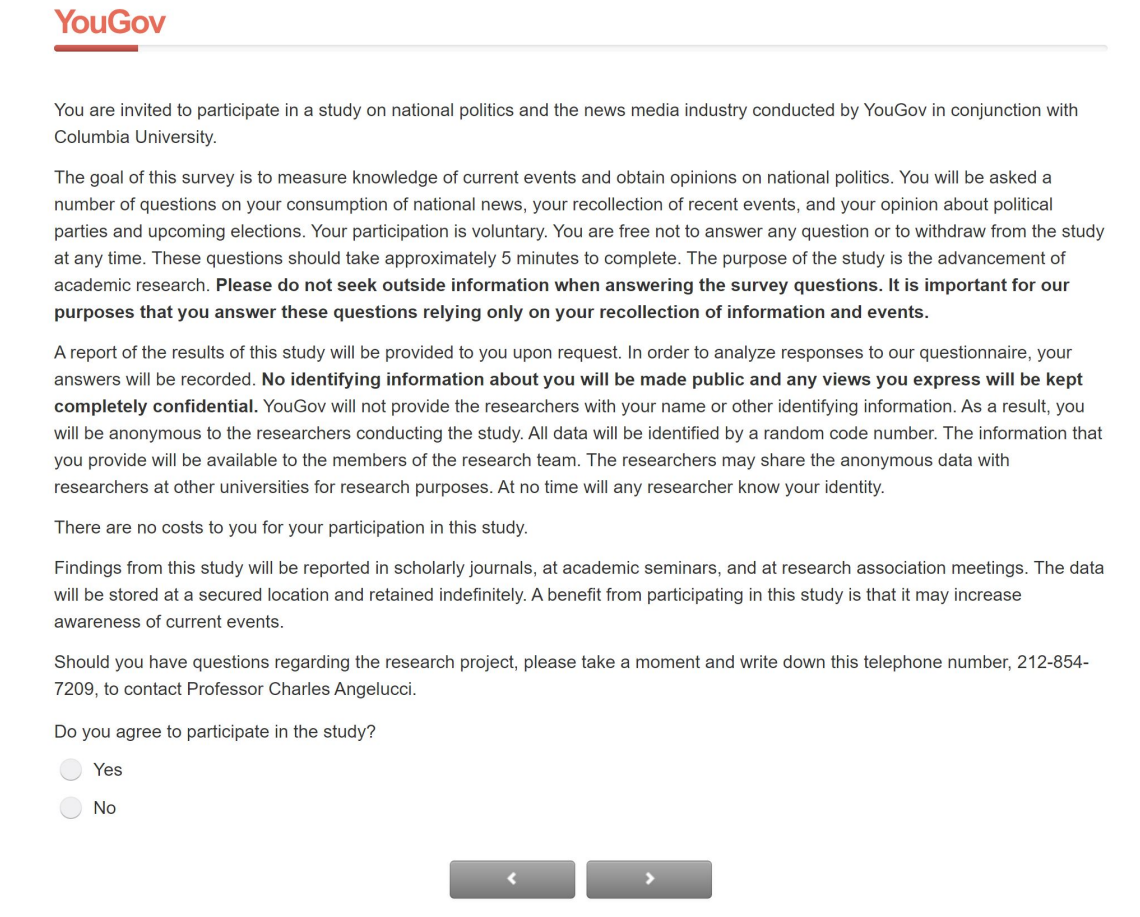
Table E.14: Prob. of Selecting True Story - Multiple δ_t

Note: In every column, we report the predicted probability π that a partisan individual selects the true statement in a counterfactual quiz with one true and one false statement. The false statement is set to be neutral. We vary the reflection of the true statement towards an individual’s preferred party. In the “Baseline” column, $\delta = \delta_{t \leq 1} = 1$, $\alpha = \alpha_{e=0}$ and π is computed by averaging selection probabilities across all pairs of statements. The “Short-Term Forgetting” column is identical to “Baseline”, except that we set $\delta = \delta^s$. The “Long-Term Forgetting” column is identical to the “Baseline” column, except that we set $\delta = \delta^l$. See Online Appendix D for additional details.

F Survey

The following section presents the text of the questions asked in our surveys.

F.1 Consent Form



The image is a screenshot of a web-based consent form titled "YouGov". The form is presented in a clean, white layout with a light gray border. At the top, the "YouGov" logo is displayed in red. Below the logo, the text invites participation in a study on national politics and the news media industry, conducted by YouGov in conjunction with Columbia University. The form details the study's purpose, which is to measure knowledge of current events and obtain opinions on national politics. It states that participation is voluntary and that questions should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. A bolded instruction emphasizes that participants should not seek outside information and should rely on their recollection of information and events. The form also addresses confidentiality, stating that no identifying information will be made public and that all data will be identified by a random code number. It mentions that findings will be reported in scholarly journals, at academic seminars, and at research association meetings. A contact number, 212-854-7209, is provided for questions regarding the research project. At the bottom, there is a question "Do you agree to participate in the study?" with two radio button options: "Yes" and "No". Below the radio buttons are two gray buttons with white arrows, one pointing left and one pointing right, likely for navigating between questions.

YouGov

You are invited to participate in a study on national politics and the news media industry conducted by YouGov in conjunction with Columbia University.

The goal of this survey is to measure knowledge of current events and obtain opinions on national politics. You will be asked a number of questions on your consumption of national news, your recollection of recent events, and your opinion about political parties and upcoming elections. Your participation is voluntary. You are free not to answer any question or to withdraw from the study at any time. These questions should take approximately 5 minutes to complete. The purpose of the study is the advancement of academic research. **Please do not seek outside information when answering the survey questions. It is important for our purposes that you answer these questions relying only on your recollection of information and events.**

A report of the results of this study will be provided to you upon request. In order to analyze responses to our questionnaire, your answers will be recorded. **No identifying information about you will be made public and any views you express will be kept completely confidential.** YouGov will not provide the researchers with your name or other identifying information. As a result, you will be anonymous to the researchers conducting the study. All data will be identified by a random code number. The information that you provide will be available to the members of the research team. The researchers may share the anonymous data with researchers at other universities for research purposes. At no time will any researcher know your identity.

There are no costs to you for your participation in this study.

Findings from this study will be reported in scholarly journals, at academic seminars, and at research association meetings. The data will be stored at a secured location and retained indefinitely. A benefit from participating in this study is that it may increase awareness of current events.

Should you have questions regarding the research project, please take a moment and write down this telephone number, 212-854-7209, to contact Professor Charles Angelucci.

Do you agree to participate in the study?

☐ Yes

☐ No

< >

Figure F.1: Consent Form

F.2 Questions

F.2.1 Voting Intentions

Variable Name	Question Text
Turnout	How likely is it that you will vote? I have already voted in person I have already voted by mail I definitely will vote I probably will vote I maybe will vote I probably will not vote I definitely will not vote I don't know if I will vote
Voting Intentions	Which candidate would you vote for? Donald Trump (Republican) Joe Biden (Democrat) Jo Jorgensen (Libertarian) Howie Hawkins (Green) Not sure

Table F.1: Voting Intentions

Note: The table reports the voting intentions questions inserted in the October-November, 2020 survey.

F.2.2 Monthly News Quizzes



On the next page we will ask you to read six statements about recent events related to the Federal Government, three of which are true and three of which are false. If you select the three true statements, **we will award you 1,000 points.**

You will have 60 seconds to answer this question. Please be sure to select exactly three statements.

Press the forward button when you are ready to begin.



Figure F.2: Quiz Example (April, 2020), Step 1

Note: 1,000 points correspond to \$1.



Time remaining:

46s

The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. *You have 60 seconds to answer this question.*

- ☐ Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions
- ☐ White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it 'potential disaster'
- ☐ President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago
- ☐ Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected
- ☐ Trump Supreme Court pick Amy Coney Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views
- ☐ Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked

Figure F.3: Quiz Example (April, 2020), Step 2

Note: The order of the statements was randomized across respondents. A timer was added to help respondents select 3 statements within 60 seconds.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from Nov./Dec., 2018. Survey administered December 17th-18th, 2018.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Senate hands Trump rebuke on Saudi Arabia • U.S. lawmakers to unveil revised criminal justice bill in push for final passage • Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen sentenced to three years prison • Saudi Crown Prince to address Senate in effort to clear his name in journalist's murder • Trump secures funding for border wall in meeting with top Democrats • Federal Judge rules public funding for Planned Parenthood unconstitutional

Table F.2: Monthly Quiz 1

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=500). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from Dec., 2018 and Jan., 2019. Survey administered January 14th-15th, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • The U.S. Supreme Court gave itself another chance to make a definitive ruling on electoral map disputes • Democratic lawmakers called for further investigation into a revelation that in 2016 Paul Manafort gave polling data to a man linked to Russian intelligence • The U.S. Government was partially shut down in fight over Trump's border wall with Mexico • Trump fired Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell for raising interest rates • Trump threatened to raise border wall cost to \$7 billion if stall by Democrats continues • Soybean farmers marched on Washington over Chinese tariffs' impacts

Table F.3: Monthly Quiz 2

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=500). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from March, 2019. Survey administered April 1st-2nd, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Special Counsel Robert Mueller did not find the Trump 2016 campaign knowingly conspired with Russia. • Vice President Mike Pence visited Nebraska to take stock of the devastation unleashed across the U.S. Midwest by floods. • President Donald Trump vetoed the measure passed by Democrats and Republicans in Congress to end his emergency declaration on building a border wall with Mexico. • 2020 Presidential Candidate Elizabeth Warren took millions in Wall Street campaign contributions. • House Republicans unveil legislation to significantly limit funding to Planned Parenthood centers nationwide. • President Donald Trump diverted Puerto Rico aid to fund the border wall with Mexico.

Table F.4: Monthly Quiz 3

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=657). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from May/Jun., 2019. Survey administered June 12th-17th, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Mexico agreed to take more migrants seeking asylum in the United States while they await adjudication of their cases. • Alabama’s governor signed a bill to ban nearly all abortions in the state. • President Trump proposed plan to make U.S. immigration more merit-based. • Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller text: ‘We’re taking down Trump’. • US Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody. • Trump administration to continue to allow U.S. research using fetal tissue from abortions.

Table F.5: Monthly Quiz 4

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=673). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from September, 2019. Survey administered October 1st-3rd, 2019.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Whistle-blower report complains of White House cover-up on Trump-Ukraine scandal. • Supreme Court granted a request by President Trump’s administration to fully enforce a new rule that would curtail asylum applications by immigrants at the U.S. - Mexico border. • At a closed-door meeting at the White House, top envoy to China delivered evidence of rising Farm Belt frustration over bio-fuel policy. • President Trump announces he will resume peace talks with Iran at UN General Assembly. • China blacklists Apple, Microsoft amid escalating trade war. • Vaping case to make its way to Supreme Court.

Table F.6: Monthly Quiz 5

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=750). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from Oct./Nov., 2019. Survey administered November 15th-19th, 2019 and February 19th-24th, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • A whistleblower filed a complaint against President Trump, leading to an impeachment inquiry. • Republican lawmakers in the House of Representatives condemned President Trump’s decision to withdraw troops from Syria. • The Trump administration credited cooperation from Mexico and Central American countries in cracking down on migrants. • President Trump’s Tax Returns showed billions given to various charities. • China and the United States agreed on a new comprehensive trade deal. • Isis beheaded three Americans in response to Al-Baghdadi’s death.

Table F.7: Monthly Quiz 6

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov in November 2019 (N=1,000) and February, 2020 (N=501). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from Jan./Feb., 2020. Survey administered February 19th-24th, 2020 and April 6th-10th, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • The U.S. Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges. • Attorney General William Barr said that President Trump’s attacks on prosecutors, the judge and jurors in the trial of Roger Stone undermined the Justice Department’s work. • The House of Representatives passed legislation seeking to rein in President Trump’s ability to deploy U.S. forces to fight abroad. • A Tape surfaced of President Trump supporting abortion. • Mitt Romney decided to run for president against Trump in the 2020 race after breakout role in impeachment. • President Trump took a week-long break from Campaigning to Deal with Coronavirus Outbreak.

Table F.8: Monthly Quiz 7

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=1000) in February, 2020 and again in April 2020 (N=500). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from March, 2020. Survey administered April 6th-10th, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Supreme Court allowed President Trump’s ‘Remain in Mexico’ asylum policy. • President Trump declared coronavirus a national emergency. • President Trump notified Congress he is firing the inspector general of U.S. intelligence community. • President Trump fired coronavirus advisor Dr. Anthony Fauci. • Nancy Pelosi under investigation by Justice Department over alleged insider trading during coronavirus outbreak. • Agriculture trade group marched in Washington to draw attention to export problems.

Table F.9: Monthly Quiz 8

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=1,000 each). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from April, 2020. Survey administered May 7th-14th, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump said he would address national debt if re-elected. • In win for President Trump, U.S. Supreme Court made deporting immigrants for crimes easier. • Senior U.S. House members vowed to pass major defense bill despite pandemic. • President Trump’s campaign saw steep rise in donations after press conferences. • President Trump announced tax returns to be released by Mid-May. • Around 20% of IRS stimulus checks bounced.

Table F.10: Monthly Quiz 9

Note: The quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=500). The first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from October, 2020. Survey administered October 28th - November 2nd, 2020.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions. • Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked. • Trump Supreme Court pick Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views. • White House to host election night viewing party, Fauci calls it “potential disaster.” • Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected. • President Trump tweeted about Black Lives Matters protests taking place in front of Mar-a-Lago.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Mitch McConnell avoided White House, citing laxity on masks, COVID-19 precautions. • Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked. • Trump Supreme Court pick Barrett pledged to follow law, not personal views. • Democratic U.S. presidential nominee Joe Biden said that he grew up in section 8 housing during a town hall debate. • While speaking of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, Joe Biden referred to Black Americans as “super-predators.” • President Trump said: “The doctors said they’ve never seen a body kill the Coronavirus like my body. They tested my DNA and it wasn’t DNA. It was USA.”

Table F.11: Monthly Quizzes 10 & 11

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (each N=800). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from January, 2021. Survey administered February 12th-16th, 2021.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump ‘provoked’ Jan. 6 riot. • Joe Biden sworn in as U.S. president. • Joe Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February. • Mike Pence Revealed Bombshell Allegations in Impeachment Trial. • Biden signed executive order temporarily barring guests from Capitol and other federal buildings after riots. • Biden transition team’s Twitter handle under fire after mistakenly reposting anti-Trump meme.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • U.S. Senate Republican leader McConnell said Trump ‘provoked’ Jan. 6 riot. • Biden sworn in as U.S. president. • Biden said U.S. coronavirus death toll to probably top 500,000 by end of February. • CNN issued a correction that read, ‘Sen. Ted Cruz was seen wearing a pin featuring a QAnon symbol. It was later discovered that this was not a QAnon pin, but a Doritos snack chip stuck to his suit.’ • U.S. Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene said “If English was good enough for Jesus, it’s good enough for us.” • As of late January 2021, former U.S. President Donald Trump had started a new U.S. political party called the “Patriot Party.”

Table F.12: Monthly Quizzes 12 & 13

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stories. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top N=497, bottom N=503). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	News Stories from February/March, 2022. Survey administered March 18th-22nd, 2022.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'. • Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation. • January 6 trials come to a halt amid Ukraine crisis. • Biden signed bill to mandate climate change curriculum in all K-8. • Harris celebrated Women's History Month with girls at US/Mexico.
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains three true statements and three false statements. To the best of your recollection, which three statements are true? Please select exactly three statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • Zelenskyy pleads to US Congress: 'We need you right now'. • Biden nominates Jackson, first Black woman, to Supreme Court. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation. • Congress members awarded themselves a pay raise in 2022. • Former President Donald Trump's 'Truth Social' platform will cost users \$4.99 a week. • New Biden pandemic plan: Closer to normal for the nation.

Table F.13: Monthly Quizzes 14 & 15

Note: The top quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes synthetic fake news stores. The bottom quiz deals with the Federal Government and includes fake news stories from Snopes. Both quizzes were administered through YouGov (top N=501, bottom, N=499). For each quiz, the first 3 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 3 statements correspond to the false statements.

F.2.3 2020 Presidential Election Specific News Quiz



On the next page we will ask you to read eight statements about events related to the Federal Government that have taken place since December 2018, four of which are true and four of which are false. If you select the four true statements, **we will award you 1,000 points.**

You will have 80 seconds to answer this question. Please be sure to select exactly four statements.

Press the forward button when you are ready to begin.



Figure F.4: Quiz Example, Step 1

Note: 1,000 points correspond to \$1.



Time remaining:

0m 48s

The following list of statements contains four true statements and four false statements. To the best of your recollection, which four statements are true? Please select exactly four statements. *You have 80 seconds to answer this question.*

- ☐ The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges
- ☐ The U.S. Government was partially shut down in fight over Trump's border wall with Mexico
- ☐ Trump administration moved to end the National Institutes of Health's ability to conduct research using fetal tissue
- ☐ President Trump said that former President Obama wrote the emoluments clause of the Constitution
- ☐ Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen sentenced to prison
- ☐ President Trump disparaged the Puerto Rican governor and statehood movement, tweeting that Puerto Rico was 'a small island filled with savages'
- ☐ U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody
- ☐ House Republicans unveiled legislation to significantly limit funding to Planned Parenthood centers nationwide

Figure F.5: Quiz Example, Step 2

Note: The order of the statements was randomized across respondents. A timer was added to help respondents select 4 statements within 80 seconds.

Variable Name	Question Text
	Most important stories of the 2 years prior to October 2020. Survey administered October 28th - November 2nd, 2020. Quiz Version 1
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains four true statements and four false statements. To the best of your recollection, which four statements are true? Please select exactly four statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • The U.S. Government was partially shut down in fight over Trump’s border wall with Mexico • Trump administration moved to end the National Institutes of Health’s ability to conduct research using fetal tissue • Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen sentenced to prison • The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges • President Trump said that former President Obama wrote the emoluments clause of the Constitution • President Trump disparaged the Puerto Rican governor and statehood movement, tweeting that Puerto Rico was ‘a small island filled with savages’ • U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody • House Republicans unveiled legislation to significantly limit funding to Planned Parenthood centers nationwide

Table F.14: Election-Specific News Quiz Variant 1

Note: The quiz contains four of the eight most important news stories from the two previous years. The quiz contains two fake news stories from Snopes and two synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=394). The first 4 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 4 statements correspond to the false statements. The first 2 false statements are the Snopes statements and the last 2 false statements are the Synthetic statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	Most important stories of the 2 years prior to October 2020. Survey administered October 28th - November 2nd, 2020. Quiz Version 2
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains four true statements and four false statements. To the best of your recollection, which four statements are true? Please select exactly four statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • The U.S. Government was partially shut down in fight over Trump’s border wall with Mexico • Trump administration moved to end the National Institutes of Health’s ability to conduct research using fetal tissue • Former Trump lawyer Michael Cohen sentenced to prison • The U.S Senate acquitted Trump of impeachment charges • President Trump said: ‘Kim Jong Un is smarter and would make a better President than Sleepy Joe Biden.’ • President Trump tweeted that George Floyd’s family was ‘honored to hear from me.’ • Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller: ‘We’re taking down Trump.’ • President Trump diverted Puerto Rico aid to fund the border wall with Mexico

Table F.15: Election-Specific News Quiz Variant 2

Note: The quiz contains four of the eight most important news stories from the two previous years. The quiz contains two fake news stories from Snopes and two synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=408). The first 4 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 4 statements correspond to the false statements. The first 2 false statements are the Snopes statements and the last 2 false statements are the Synthetic statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	Most important stories of the 2 years prior to October 2020. Survey administered October 28th - November 2nd, 2020. Quiz Version 3
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains four true statements and four false statements. To the best of your recollection, which four statements are true? Please select exactly four statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump signed an initial trade deal with China • President Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court • President Trump continued to hold campaign rallies despite Coronavirus outbreak • Special Counsel Robert Mueller did not find the 2016 Trump campaign knowingly conspired with Russia • President Trump said that former President Obama wrote the emoluments clause of the Constitution • President Trump disparaged the Puerto Rican governor and statehood movement, tweeting that Puerto Rico was 'a small island filled with savages' • U.S. Border Patrol facility admitted to measles outbreak among migrant children in custody • House Republicans unveiled legislation to significantly limit funding to Planned Parenthood centers nationwide

Table F.16: Election-Specific News Quiz Variant 3

Note: The quiz contains four of the eight most important news stories from the two previous years. The quiz contains two fake news stories from Snopes and two synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=405). The first 4 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 4 statements correspond to the false statements. The first 2 false statements are the Snopes statements and the last 2 false statements are the Synthetic statements.

Variable Name	Question Text
	Most important stories of the 2 years prior to October 2020. Survey administered October 28th - November 2nd, 2020. Quiz Version 4
Correct Answers	The following list of statements contains four true statements and four false statements. To the best of your recollection, which four statements are true? Please select exactly four statements. You have 60 seconds to answer this question. • President Trump signed an initial trade deal with China • President Trump nominated Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court • President Trump continued to hold campaign rallies despite Coronavirus outbreak • Special Counsel Robert Mueller did not find the 2016 Trump campaign knowingly conspired with Russia • President Trump said: 'Kim Jong Un is smarter and would make a better President than Sleepy Joe Biden.' • President Trump tweeted that George Floyd's family was 'honored to hear from me.' • Attorney General Barr released text message from Special Counsel prosecutor Robert Mueller: 'We're taking down Trump.' • President Trump diverted Puerto Rico aid to fund the border wall with Mexico

Table F.17: Election-Specific News Quiz Variant 4

Note: The quiz contains four of the eight most important news stories from the two previous years. The quiz contains two fake news stories from Snopes and two synthetic fake news stories. The quiz was administered through YouGov (N=393). The first 4 statements correspond to the true statements and the last 4 statements correspond to the false statements. The first 2 false statements are the Snopes statements and the last 2 false statements are the Synthetic statements.

F.2.4 News Story Partisan Congruence



How favorably does the statement reflect on the Republican party?

Second U.S. presidential debate officially canceled after Trump balked

Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party	Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party	Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party	Reflects favorably on the Republican Party	Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party
---	--	--	--	---



Figure F.6: News Story Partisan Congruence, Example True Statement

Note: After completing a news quiz, respondents are revealed which statements are true and which statements are false. Respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each true statement is.



If the following statement had been true, how favorably would you say it reflects on the Republican Party?

Kanye West called for special prosecutor if Biden elected

Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party	Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party	Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party	Reflects favorably on the Republican Party	Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party
---	--	--	--	---



Figure F.7: News Story Partisan Congruence, Example False Statement

Note: After completing a news quiz, respondents are shown which statements are true and which statements are false. Respondents are asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each false statement would have been had it been true.

Variable Name	Question Text
Congruence	For each of the following statements about recent events, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Republican Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects favorably on the Republican Party Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party
Congruence	If the following statement had been true, how favorably would you say it reflects on the Republican Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects unfavorably on the Republican Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Republican Party Reflects favorably on the Republican Party Reflects very favorably on the Republican Party

Table F.18: News Story Partisan Congruence 1/2

Note: After completing news quizzes run while Donald Trump was president, respondents were asked to state how favorable to the Republican Party, in their opinion, each true and false statement was.

Variable Name	Question Text
Congruence	For each of the following statements about recent events, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Democratic Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects unfavorably on the Democratic Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects favorably on the Democratic Party Reflects very favorably on the Democratic Party
Congruence	If the following statement had been true, how favorably does the statement reflect on the Democratic Party? Reflects very unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects unfavorably on the Democratic Party Does not reflect either favorably or unfavorably on the Democratic Party Reflects favorably on the Democratic Party Reflects very favorably on the Democratic Party

Table F.19: News Story Partisan Congruence 2/2

Note: After completing news quizzes while Joe Biden was president, respondents were asked to state how favorable to the Democratic Party, in their opinion, each true and false statement was.

References

Pew, *Wide Gender Gap, Growing Educational Divide in Voters' Party Identification*, Pew Research Center, 2018.