

Online Appendix A: Measures and methods

Sample characteristics

We draw on data from three studies conducted among a representative sample of the U.S. population by the survey company YouGov, which recruits a large panel of opt-in respondents and then uses a weighting and matching algorithm to construct a final sample that mirrors the demographic composition of the U.S. population. Our participants closely resemble the U.S. population in both demographics and political attitudes and affiliations. We use survey weights in our analysis of non-experimental data but do not use survey weights in analyzing the results of our experiments per Franco et al. (2017) and Miratrix et al. (2018).

In the text, we identify these studies by the period in which they were conducted (“summer,” “fall,” or “winter” 2018). All descriptive statistics below are unweighted.

Our summer 2018 data come from a two-wave panel study fielded June 25–July 3, 2018 (wave 1; N = 1,718) and July 9–17, 2018 (wave 2; N = 1,499). Respondents are 56% female, 80% white, median age 54, 49% hold a four-year college degree or higher, 53% identify as Democrats (including leaners), 33% identify as Republicans (including leaners), and 37% approve of Donald Trump’s job performance. Behavioral data is available for 1,357 respondents.

Our fall 2018 data come from a two-wave panel study fielded October 19–26 (wave 1; N = 3,378) and October 30–November 6, 2018 (wave 2; N = 2,948). Respondents are 57% female, 80% white, median age 55, 37% hold a four-year college degree or higher, 49% identify as Democrats (including leaners), 34% identify as Republicans (including leaners), and 41% approve of Trump’s job performance. Behavioral data is available for 2,582 respondents.

Our winter 2018 data come from a two-wave panel study fielded November 20–December 27, 2018 (wave 1; N = 4,907) and December 14, 2018–January 3, 2019 (wave 2; N = 4,283). Respondents are 55% female, 68% white, median age 50, 32% hold a four-year college degree or higher, 46% identify as Democrats (including leaners), 36% identify as Republicans (including leaners), and 43% approve of Trump’s job performance. Behavioral data is available for 1,065 respondents.

Outcome measures

Summer 2018 misperception battery

We include questions about topical misperceptions to test our observational hypotheses about prior exposure to untrustworthy websites. We have coded partisan favorability of these statements. We include one false and one true statement favorable to each party. The wording and coding appears below.

To the best of your knowledge, how accurate are the following statements?

The widely debated practice of separating families at the border is mandated by a law passed by Democrats. (false; pro-R)

-Not at all accurate (1)

-Not very accurate (2)

- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

The little girl who was crying as a U.S. Border Patrol agent patted down her mother in a widely shared photo was being separated from her family. (false; pro-D)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

The actor Peter Fonda suggested in a tweet that Barron Trump should be kidnapped as a protest against the president's immigration policy. (true; pro-R)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

First Lady Melania Trump wore a jacket with "I DON'T REALLY CARE DO U?" emblazoned on the back on her way to visit immigrant kids. (true; pro-D)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Fall 2018 survey misperception battery

To the best of your knowledge, how accurate are the following statements? Each one concerns the allegations of sexual assault made by Christine Blasey Ford against Brett Kavanaugh, President Trump's nominee to the Supreme Court, in a Senate hearing.

The audience at a public rally laughed when Trump mocked gaps in Ford's testimony. (true; pro-R)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Ford's allegations were refuted by the people she says were present during the assault. (false; pro-R)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Ford's high school classmates recall hearing the story about the alleged assault at the time. (false;

pro-D)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Kavanaugh was questioned by police after a bar fight in college. (true; pro-D)

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Affective polarization

Party feeling thermometers:

We would like to get your feelings toward some of our political leaders and institutions who are in the news these days using something we call the feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel favorable toward the person or institution and that you don't care too much for that person or institution. You would rate them at the 50 degree mark if you don't feel particularly warm or cold toward them. If we come to a person or institution whose name you don't recognize, you don't need to rate them.

- Democratic Party (0–100)
- Republican Party (0–100)

Affective polarization is calculated as the difference between in-party and out-party ratings.

Media attitudes

Media feeling thermometer:

We would like to get your feelings toward some of our political leaders and institutions who are in the news these days using something we call the feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel favorable toward the person or institution and that you don't care too much for that person or institution. You would rate them at the 50 degree mark if you don't feel particularly warm or cold toward them. If we come to a person or institution whose name you don't recognize, you don't need to rate them.

- The news media (0–100)

In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media – such as newspapers, TV and radio – when it comes to reporting the news fully, accurately and fairly?

- None at all (1)
- Not very much (2)
- A fair amount (3)

-A great deal (4)

Political behavior

We also measured voting/intent to vote and to take political action in the summer and fall 2018 studies. First, we measured respondents' self-reported voting/intention to vote in the 2018 midterm election:

Have you already voted in the upcoming midterm election?

-Yes (5)

-No

(if no)

Do you, yourself, plan to vote in the upcoming midterm election, or not?

-Yes

-No (1)

-Don't know (2)

(if yes)

How certain are you that you will vote?

-Absolutely certain (4)

-Fairly certain (3)

-Not certain (2)

Due to uncertainty about the proper coding of respondents who are not registered or who answer don't know, we also analyze a binary measure of intent to vote where 1 = already voted/absolutely certain and 0 = all other responses.

Intent to take political action is measured as the mean of the following five items from the American National Election Studies:

-I would be willing to place a bumper sticker on my car or wear a campaign button

-I would be willing to volunteer to work for a political campaign

-I would be willing to attend a political rally

-I would be willing to talk to other people about how they should vote

-I would be willing to donate money to a political campaign

Response scale:

-Agree strongly (5)

-Agree somewhat (4)

-Neither agree nor disagree (3)

-Disagree somewhat (2)

-Disagree strongly (1)

False news experiment misperception outcome measures (fall 2018 wave 2)

Pro-R false news claim:

The international financier and philanthropist George Soros has helped to support the caravan of more than 7,000 Central American migrants that is currently moving through Mexico toward the U.S. border.

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Pro-D false news claim:

The Trump administration helped Saudi Arabia to target Jamal Khashoggi, the writer for The Washington Post who was recently killed by Saudi agents.

- Not at all accurate (1)
- Not very accurate (2)
- Somewhat accurate (3)
- Very accurate (4)

Independent variables

Untrustworthy website exposure

For our observational hypotheses, we draw on passively collected web traffic data collected among respondents for 1–3 weeks prior to completion of the Wave 1 survey as follows:

Untrustworthy website consumption: Any visit to a website classified as “black,” “orange,” or “red” by (Grinberg et al. 2019).

We also include controls in our observational models for Democrats (including leaners), ideology (1–7), political knowledge (0–8), Trump feelings (0–100) having a four-year college degree (0/1), self-identifying as non-white (0/1), and age group dummies (30–44, 45–59, 60+, 18–29 omitted).

Age

In what year were you born?

Racial background

What racial or ethnic group best describes you?

- White
- Black or African-American
- Hispanic or Latino

- Asian or Asian-American
- Native American
- Middle Eastern
- Mixed Race
- Other (open)

Education

What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- Did not graduate from high school
- High school graduate
- Some college, but no degree (yet)
- 2-year college degree
- 4-year college degree
- Postgraduate

Ideology

When it comes to politics, would you describe yourself as liberal, conservative, or neither liberal nor conservative?

- Very liberal
- Somewhat liberal
- Slightly liberal
- Moderate; middle of the road
- Slightly conservative
- Somewhat conservative
- Very conservative

Partisanship

We created two dichotomous independent variables (0/1) for those who identify with the Democratic and Republican parties including leaners (based on party identification questions from the YouGov panel).

Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a...?

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent
- Other
- Not sure

[Follow-up]

If Democrat:

- Strong Democrat
- Not very strong Democrat

If Republican:

- Strong Republican
- Not very strong Republican

If Independent/Other/Not sure:

- The Democratic Party
- The Republican Party
- Neither
- Not sure

Political knowledge

Using the survey questions below, we created a scale measuring political knowledge that ranges from 0 (no questions correct) to 8 (all questions correct).

The next set of questions helps us learn what types of information are commonly known to the public. Please answer these questions on your own without asking anyone or looking up the answers. Many people don't know the answers to these questions, but we'd be grateful if you would please answer every question even if you're not sure what the right answer is.

It is important to us that you do NOT use outside sources like the Internet to search for the correct answer. Will you answer the following questions without help from outside sources?

- Yes
- No

For how many years is a United States Senator elected - that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. Senator?

- Two years
- Four years
- Six years (1)
- Eight years
- None of these
- Don't know

How many times can an individual be elected President of the United States under current laws?

- Once
- Twice (1)
- Four times
- Unlimited number of terms
- Don't know

How many U.S. Senators are there from each state?

- One
- Two (1)
- Four
- Depends on which state
- Don't know

Who is currently the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?

- Richard Branson
- Nick Clegg
- David Cameron
- Theresa May (1)
- Margaret Thatcher
- Don't know

For how many years is a member of the United States House of Representatives elected – that is, how many years are there in one full term of office for a U.S. House member?

- Two years (1)
- Four years
- Six years
- Eight years
- For life
- Don't know

Trump feeling thermometer

We would like to get your feelings toward some of our political leaders and institutions who are in the news these days using something we call the feeling thermometer. Ratings between 50 degrees and 100 degrees mean that you feel favorable and warm toward the person. Ratings between 0 degrees and 50 degrees mean that you don't feel favorable toward the person or institution and that you don't care too much for that person or institution. You would rate them at the 50 degree mark if you don't feel particularly warm or cold toward them. If we come to a person or institution whose name you don't recognize, you don't need to rate them.

- President Trump

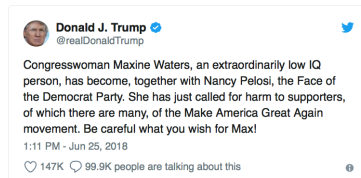
Experimental treatments

Figure A1: Pro-Democrat Maxine Waters treatment: Summer 2018

A Trump fan was just charged with trying to murder Maxine Waters on same day Trump threatened her

BY **VINNIE LONGOBARDO**
WASHINGTON PRESS
PUBLISHED ON JUNE 25, 2018

President Trump made a [barely veiled threat](#) today on Twitter to Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA) after the congresswoman called for the continued public shaming of members of his administration to hold them accountable for the president's heinous policies, particularly the immigration policy debacle that led to the separation of thousands of children from their refugee parents at the border.



Trump, of course, lied about what Rep. Waters called for which was peaceful protests and public demonstrations rather than the "harm" he claims. The "Be careful what you wish for Max!" quote, however, was a dog whistle call to action for his supporters to attack Rep. Waters on par with his [warning during his campaign](#) when discussing Hillary Clinton that perhaps "the Second Amendment people" i.e., gun owners could solve the problem.

While some people may consider Trump's tweet as more cheap theatrics for his base, the president's hate-mongering towards Waters has real-life consequences as the news today about a San Pedro, California man demonstrates.

Anthony Scott Lloyd, 45, is expected to plead guilty today to a charge of threatening to kill Rep. Maxine Waters because of her criticism of President Trump.

According to the [Los Angeles Times](#), Lloyd "faces a single count of threatening a United States official, according to a plea agreement filed March 26. It is punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine."

Lloyd's plea details the voicemail that he left at Congresswoman Waters' Washington DC office last October that used both a racial slur and an anti-gay epithet to refer to the representative and stated that:

"If you continue to make threats towards the president, you're going to wind up dead, Maxine, 'cause we'll kill you."

The voicemail was forwarded to the FBI who investigated it and arrested Lloyd who claims that the call was a "spur of the moment" decision made while listening to conservative talk radio and that he had no real intention of following through with the threat.

Unfortunately, we have no such assurances from the president himself, and given Trump's penchant for simply ignoring the rule of law, that is a frightening proposition.

The contrast here is stark between Trump and Waters and the other Democrats whose calls for peaceful activism through public declarations of disgust and shaming of deplorable policies and behaviors are met by Trump and his Republican enablers with threats laden with hints of violence.

When those threats lead deranged Trump supporters to take action beyond mere threatening phone calls, the responsibility for incitement to violence will be squarely at Trump's feet.

Figure A2: Pro-Republican Maxine Waters treatment: Summer 2018

Maxine Waters is Getting Criminally Charged

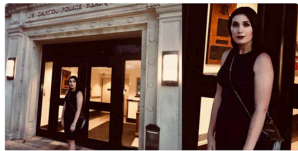
BY **VINNIE LONGOBARDO**
 CONSERVATIVE PRESS
 PUBLISHED ON JUNE 25, 2018

Laura Loomer, a conservative investigative journalist, is charging "Auntie" Maxine for assault, citing Waters hit her hand and swatted her face with office papers.

TWITTER LAURALOOMER

Laura Loomer @LauraLoomer
 BREAKING: Today I filed a police report w/ @CapitolPolice against @RepMaxineWaters.

Yesterday when I confronted her on Capitol Hill, she ASSAULTED me. She hit my hand, then she swatted me in the face twice w/ her papers. I'm pressing charges against her. bigleaguepolitics.com/laura-loomer-p...
 4:38 AM · Jun 27, 2018 · Washington, DC



Laura Loomer Presses Assault Charges Against Maxine Water...
 Today I filed a police report in Washington, D.C. to press charges against Congresswoman Maxine Waters for assaulting me. When I bigleaguepolitics.com

20.2K 10K people are talking about this

TWITTER LAURALOOMER



Laura Loomer @LauraLoomer
 I just paid @RepMaxineWaters a visit.
 She called for @realDonaldTrump admin officials & Trump supporters to be harassed. She said she's in favor of officials being confronted in public. Well, she got her wish! Mad Maxine just got #Loomered.

Video coming soon. #ImpeachMaxine
 1:00 AM · Jun 26, 2018 · Washington, DC
 16.3K 6,591 people are talking about this

Waters squirmed as she was confronted by Loomer and requested to meet privately in her office. Waters swiped at Loomer's camera and swatted Loomer with her office papers.

After the incident, Loomer vowed to hold the left accountable for their hypocritical actions.

TWITTER LAURALOOMER

Laura Loomer @LauraLoomer
 A lot of Conservatives have criticized me for the tactics I use to hold the left accountable. Well, now you see the left doesn't want to talk. They want to physically harm you. If you want to defeat them, you must play by their rules. You must confront them in public like I do.
 5:08 AM · Jun 26, 2018 · Arlington, VA
 4,100 1,658 people are talking about this

TWITTER LAURALOOMER

Laura Loomer @LauraLoomer 26 Jun
 A lot of Conservatives have criticized me for the tactics I use to hold the left accountable. Well, now you see the left doesn't want to talk. They want to physically harm you. If you want to defeat them, you must play by their rules. You must confront them in public like I do.

Laura Loomer @LauraLoomer
 I'm not going to rest until all of these corrupt Leftists are named and shamed. I will not use violence like the Left does. Instead, I will use my intellect, my values, and my courage to expose all of them for the cowardly crooks they are. As Breitbart used to say, this is #WAR!
 5:12 AM · Jun 26, 2018
 1.96K 775 people are talking about this

Figure A3: Kushner/Khashoggi treatment (pro-Democrat): Fall 2018

VT Report Confirmed: Khashoggi On Trump "Target List" Given to MBS by Kushner

BY **VINNIE LONGOBARDO**
WASHINGTON PRESS
PUBLISHED ON OCTOBER 21, 2018



Editor's note: The following report is from the UK Daily Mail from April 2018. It confirmed that Jared Kushner brought the Saudi Crown Prince a list of "combined enemies," which included Jamal Khashoggi, "to be dealt with" by Saudi security forces.

- Saudi crown prince Mohammed bin Salman met with Jared Kushner in October
- Salman has since bragged about using classified intelligence from Kushner as part of a crackdown on 'corrupt' princes and businessmen in Saudi Arabia
- He said the intelligence from Kushner included information on those who were disloyal to Salman and who were his 'enemies', insiders tell DailyMail
- Kushner's attorney's spokesman said it was 'false' that the president's son-in-law passed on secrets and that he was 'well aware of the rules'
- The crown prince launched his crackdown on corruption in November, days after he met Kushner for talks in Riyadh
- Hundreds were rounded up, including princes from rival parts of the Saudi royal family and some of the country's wealthiest businessmen
- But the crackdown saw accusations of torture and at least one reported death

Mohammed bin Salman bragged of receiving classified US intelligence from Jared Kushner and using it as part of a purge of 'corrupt' princes and businessmen, DailyMail.com can disclose.

The de facto ruler of the Middle East's largest economy is currently on a US tour which has seen him meet President Donald Trump in the White House, hold talks with a string of the country's richest and most influential people and book the entire Four Seasons in Beverly Hills for himself and his entourage.

Sources have told DailyMail.com that the prince – known by his initials MBS – has been boasting about his close relationship with the president's son-in-law and senior adviser, and the intelligence which he has told his circle Kushner passed to him.

The crackdown on 'corruption' in the Saudi kingdom was led by MBS and began in November, days after he had met Kushner for talks in Riyadh.

But it saw allegations of torture as hundreds were rounded up, including princes from rival parts of the Saudi royal family and some of the country's wealthiest businessmen.



Despite Kushner's denial sources have told DailyMail.com how MBS boasted in private that Kushner was the source of intelligence used in the round-up.

He also told members of his circle that the intelligence included information on who was disloyal to him. There is no way to independently verify the truth of the boast.

'Jared took a list out of names from US eavesdrops of people who were supposedly MBS's enemies,' said one source, characterizing how MBS spoke about the information.

Figure A4: Soros/Caravan treatment (pro-Republican): Fall 2018

Soros Letter Reveals Plot to 'Take Down Borders' with Migrant Caravan Invasions



BY VINNIE LONGOBARDO
CONSERVATIVE PRESS
OCTOBER 21, 2018

George Soros and his Open Society Foundations have been plotting since 2015 to use migrant caravan blitzkriegs to achieve the goal of "taking down national borders," according to a letter written by George Soros and published by Bloomberg Business.

As the Left continues to lose the battle for America's soul, its greatest champions are going all-out in an attempt to turn the tide any way they can – even if it means destroying the country.

The vilest among them is billionaire George Soros, the Hungarian-born globalist billionaire who now seeks to destroy the country that gave him his riches in order to promote the New World Order goals of open borders and the destruction of traditional cultures.

As reported by Breitbart London, Soros recently publicly confirmed that his goal is wiping out all national borders following an accusation made last week by the prime minister of his birth country, Viktor Orban (who, unlike Soros, actually has to deal with the tens of thousands of second- and third-world migrants streaming into his country and other European nations – while Soros lives free of such inconveniences in his \$10 million mansion/castle outside of New York City).

NaturalNews reports: In recent months, Orban has accused Soros of deliberately encouraging the migrant crisis now engulfing the continent.

"This invasion is driven, on the one hand, by people smugglers, and on the other by those (human rights) activists who support everything that weakens the nation-state," Orban said. "This Western mindset and this activist network is perhaps best represented by George Soros."

'Let's take down all borders'

Following Orban's statement, Soros sent an email to Bloomberg Business, in which he claimed that his foundations actually help "uphold European values," while Orban's actions in bolstering the Hungarian border and thus impeding a huge influx of migrants "undermine those values."

"His plan treats the protection of national borders as the objective and the refugees as an obstacle," Soros added. "Our plan treats the protection of refugees as the objective and national borders as the obstacle."



A man pays members of the migrant caravan in cash

In October, Orban accused pro-immigration non-governmental organizations (NGOs) of "drawing a living from the immigration crisis." He singled out those funded by Soros, who is a strong supporter of transnational bodies like the European Union and the United Nations. Also, his Open Society Foundation (OSF) provides assistance for pro-immigration activists, and he is well-known in the U.S. and internationally for supporting "progressive" (read far-Left) causes like the Bill and Hillary Clinton Foundation and the Center for American Progress.

Figure A5: Placebo treatment: Summer and fall 2018

Five sauces for the modern cook

By Samin Nosrat, New York Times

Travis Lett often steals. Of course, the only person this pensive chef ever steals from is himself. At his Los Angeles, USA restaurant, "We're constantly appropriating elements from dishes we've done in the past to create new combinations," he said.

There's a lesson here: To improve your cooking, learn how to make and use sauce like a professional.

Five basic types of sauces appear over and over again on menus and in cookbooks that feature the kind of vegetable-heavy, flavor-dense food that cooks and eaters favor today: yogurt sauce, pepper sauce, herb sauce, tahini sauce and pesto. Master each one, and you'll immediately have access to the dozens of variations that descend from them, too.

Think of them as the new mother sauces, an updated version of the five mother sauces of French cuisine. Armed with one of these five sauces, the home cook can go on and cook what he or she is most comfortable cooking. The right sauce will transform the distinct elements of a dish into a unified statement of taste.

Online Appendix B: Additional results

Table B1: Media attitudes and untrustworthy website consumption

	Media thermometer			Media trust		
	Summer	Fall	Winter	Summer	Fall	Winter
Untrustworthy website consumption (binary)	-7.64*	-10.49***	-5.90**	-0.30**	-0.28***	-0.10
	(2.98)	(2.35)	(2.25)	(0.10)	(0.07)	(0.09)
Democrats	13.11*	18.97***	11.38**	0.13	0.42***	0.25
	(5.11)	(3.69)	(4.22)	(0.15)	(0.10)	(0.13)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-4.08***	-4.12***	-3.32***	-0.13***	-0.14***	-0.09***
	(1.20)	(0.63)	(0.83)	(0.04)	(0.02)	(0.03)
Political knowledge	-1.41	0.15	-1.07	0.01	0.03	-0.01
	(0.84)	(0.54)	(0.67)	(0.03)	(0.02)	(0.02)
Trump feelings	-0.21**	-0.09	-0.28***	-0.01**	-0.0032*	-0.01***
	(0.07)	(0.05)	(0.05)	(0.0021)	(0.0015)	(0.0015)
30–44 years old	4.90	5.54*	7.34	0.14	0.19*	0.22
	(3.53)	(2.81)	(4.32)	(0.11)	(0.08)	(0.15)
45–59 years old	8.83*	10.33***	11.51**	0.20	0.24**	0.27*
	(3.54)	(2.58)	(3.94)	(0.10)	(0.08)	(0.13)
60+ years old	10.08***	9.63***	15.07***	0.25**	0.29***	0.32*
	(2.95)	(2.45)	(3.92)	(0.09)	(0.08)	(0.14)
Nonwhite	2.13	2.54	2.02	0.04	-0.0031	-0.11
	(2.55)	(1.88)	(2.42)	(0.08)	(0.05)	(0.07)
College graduate	0.79	-0.85	-1.04	0.04	0.00270	0.05
	(1.79)	(1.31)	(1.57)	(0.06)	(0.04)	(0.05)
Constant	60.09***	50.14***	58.85***	2.95***	2.69***	2.86***
	(8.92)	(5.05)	(7.02)	(0.27)	(0.15)	(0.21)
R ²	0.50	0.44	0.51	0.41	0.43	0.38
N.	1153	2091	900	1161	2108	905

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors (estimated using survey weights). Outcome measures are respondent feelings toward the media on a 0–100 scale (media thermometer) and a four-point scale of self-reported trust and confidence in the mass media ranging from “None at all” (1) to “A great deal” (4). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B2: Affective polarization and untrustworthy website consumption

	Summer	Fall	Winter
Untrustworthy website consumption (binary)	2.20 (8.59)	9.23** (3.05)	8.89** (3.39)
Democrat	-14.17 (9.92)	-18.37* (8.16)	-0.90 (8.03)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-0.74 (1.08)	-0.52 (0.94)	-0.57 (0.97)
Political knowledge	0.93 (1.26)	2.48** (0.78)	2.67** (0.83)
Trump feelings	-0.24* (0.12)	-0.24** (0.08)	-0.08 (0.09)
30–44 years old	-1.36 (5.09)	5.03 (4.04)	5.47 (5.07)
45–59 years old	6.41 (4.47)	10.19* (4.17)	6.99 (4.75)
60+ years old	13.54** (4.11)	16.24*** (4.06)	8.79 (4.60)
Nonwhite	-0.53 (3.38)	0.77 (2.48)	-1.92 (2.77)
College graduate	-1.75 (2.76)	-4.82** (1.75)	-3.56 (2.06)
Constant	66.19*** (14.44)	61.59*** (10.10)	46.95*** (10.84)
R ²	0.08	0.09	0.05
N	1154	2079	893

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors (estimated using survey weights). The outcome measure is the difference in feelings respondents express toward their preferred party and the opposition party (both measured on a 0–100 scale). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B3: Misperception belief and untrustworthy website consumption

	Pro-D misperceptions		Pro-R misperceptions	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Untrustworthy website consumption (binary)	−0.29** (0.11)	−0.17* (0.07)	0.39* (0.16)	0.35** (0.11)
Untrustworthy website consumption (binary) × Democrat	0.19 (0.42)	0.21 (0.22)	−0.45 (0.30)	−0.32 (0.23)
Democrat	0.23 (0.19)	0.32** (0.12)	−0.11 (0.16)	−0.14 (0.13)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	−0.06 (0.04)	−0.12*** (0.02)	0.06* (0.03)	0.06** (0.02)
Political knowledge	−0.16*** (0.03)	−0.02 (0.02)	−0.04 (0.03)	−.0023 (0.02)
Trump feelings	−0.01* (0.0021)	−0.0048** (0.0016)	0.02*** (0.0020)	0.01*** (0.0014)
30–44 years old	−0.27 (0.16)	0.06 (0.10)	−0.05 (0.14)	0.01 (0.11)
45–59 years old	−0.15 (0.17)	0.07 (0.10)	−0.19 (0.13)	0.19 (0.11)
60+ years old	−0.36* (0.15)	−0.0042 (0.09)	−0.11 (0.12)	0.26* (0.11)
Nonwhite	0.12 (0.12)	0.16* (0.06)	0.07 (0.09)	0.02 (0.07)
College graduate	0.06 (0.08)	−0.11* (0.05)	−0.07 (0.07)	0.0035 (0.06)
Constant	3.20*** (0.31)	2.75*** (0.17)	1.56*** (0.24)	2.09*** (0.20)
R ²	0.22	0.32	0.49	0.18
N	1156	2099	1159	2098

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors (estimated using survey weights). Outcome measures are average belief in pro-Democratic or pro-Republican misperceptions on a four-point accuracy scale ranging from “Not at all accurate” (1) to “Very accurate” (4). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B4: Political participation and untrustworthy website consumption

	Vote plan (binary)		Vote plan (continuous)		Political action	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Untrustworthy website consumption (binary)	-0.01 (0.08)	-0.04 (0.05)	-0.09 (0.20)	0.21 (0.18)	0.35 (0.21)	0.62** (0.21)
Democrat	-0.14 (0.19)	0.01 (0.10)	-0.47 (0.40)	0.11 (0.27)	0.67 (0.37)	0.39 (0.20)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	0.04 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.02)	0.06 (0.06)	-0.09 (0.05)	-0.09 (0.07)	-0.16*** (0.04)
Political knowledge	0.04 (0.02)	0.05*** (0.01)	0.08 (0.05)	0.10* (0.05)	0.21*** (0.06)	0.22*** (0.04)
Trump feelings	-0.0037 (0.0023)	0.0022* (0.0009)	-0.01 (0.0045)	0.01* (0.0028)	0.01** (0.0033)	0.01*** (0.0022)
30–44 years old	-0.03 (0.08)	0.06 (0.09)	-0.12 (0.20)	0.12 (0.29)	-0.67* (0.29)	0.40 (0.24)
45–59 years old	-0.11 (0.10)	0.12 (0.07)	-0.26 (0.23)	0.28 (0.25)	-0.70* (0.30)	0.36 (0.23)
60+ years old	0.02 (0.08)	0.15* (0.07)	0.09 (0.19)	0.40 (0.25)	-0.47 (0.24)	0.10 (0.24)
Nonwhite	-0.0041 (0.06)	-0.03 (0.05)	-0.06 (0.13)	-0.0001 (0.15)	-0.11 (0.22)	0.09 (0.18)
College graduate	0.02 (0.04)	0.04 (0.03)	0.03 (0.11)	0.19 (0.11)	0.09 (0.16)	-0.09 (0.13)
Constant	0.88** (0.26)	0.63*** (0.16)	3.80*** (0.59)	3.51*** (0.49)	2.22*** (0.57)	2.02*** (0.35)
R ²	0.17	0.11	0.14	0.09	0.16	0.17
N	352	633	352	633	352	631

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors (estimated using survey weights). Outcome measures are whether respondents say they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (0/1); a five-point measure of vote intention ranging from answering no when asked if they plan to vote (1) to saying they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (5); and respondents’ average response when asked if they would be willing to take a series of political actions on a scale from “Disagree strongly” (1) to “Agree strongly” (5). Data include only participants who were randomly assigned to a control condition in which they were not exposed to an article from an untrustworthy website. Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B5: Effect of false article exposure on claim belief (fall 2018)

	Soros/caravan belief	Kushner/Khashoggi belief
Exposure to Kushner/Khashoggi article	-0.17* (0.07)	0.20*** (0.05)
Kushner/Khashoggi exposure × Democrat	0.18* (0.09)	0.26** (0.08)
Exposure to Soros/caravan article	0.18** (0.07)	0.01 (0.05)
Soros/caravan exposure × Democrat	-0.01 (0.09)	0.06 (0.08)
Democrat	0.01 (0.09)	0.15 (0.08)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	0.08*** (0.02)	-0.05*** (0.01)
Nonwhite	0.08 (0.05)	0.09 (0.05)
Political knowledge	-0.10*** (0.01)	-0.09*** (0.01)
Trump feelings	0.01*** (0.0008)	-0.0028*** (0.0008)
30–44 years old	-0.07 (0.08)	0.07 (0.07)
45–59 years old	-0.10 (0.08)	0.02 (0.07)
60+ years old	-0.09 (0.07)	-0.02 (0.07)
College graduate	-0.07 (0.04)	-0.05 (0.04)
Constant	1.86*** (0.13)	2.15*** (0.11)
R ²	0.38	0.20
N	2415	2419

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measure is a four-point accuracy scale ranging from “Not at all accurate” (1) to “Very accurate” (4). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B6: Effect of false article exposure on media thermometer and affective polarization

	Media thermometer		Affective polarization	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Exposure to false pro-Democratic article	1.01 (1.42)	0.10 (1.03)	2.32 (2.07)	2.12 (1.64)
Exposure to false pro-Republican article	-0.34 (1.46)	-0.0018 (1.08)	-0.92 (2.13)	0.80 (1.67)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-4.60*** (0.53)	-4.67*** (0.37)	-2.36** (0.72)	-2.46*** (0.51)
Nonwhite	0.59 (1.75)	3.15** (1.19)	0.48 (2.40)	1.45 (1.72)
Political knowledge	-0.23 (0.48)	-0.43 (0.35)	2.34*** (0.70)	3.80*** (0.51)
Trump feelings	-0.28*** (0.03)	-0.33*** (0.02)	-0.02 (0.04)	0.05 (0.03)
30–44 years old	3.81 (2.25)	3.37 (1.93)	0.88 (3.16)	2.09 (2.62)
45–59 years old	8.20*** (2.27)	7.64*** (1.86)	10.03** (3.31)	8.67*** (2.56)
60+ years old	7.62*** (2.08)	9.29*** (1.79)	13.38*** (2.99)	11.08*** (2.47)
College graduate	-0.18 (1.25)	-0.95 (0.94)	-2.57 (1.82)	-3.46* (1.43)
Constant	68.97*** (3.09)	73.58*** (2.30)	38.35*** (4.30)	34.99*** (3.20)
R ²	0.42	0.47	0.06	0.05
N	1465	2847	1463	2825

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measures are respondent feelings toward the media on a 0–100 scale and the difference in feelings respondents express toward their preferred party and the opposition party (both measured on a 0–100 scale). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B7: Effect of false article exposure on media trust and participation intentions

	Media trust		Vote plan (binary)		Vote plan (continuous)		Political action	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Exposure to false pro-Democratic article	0.05 (0.04)	0.0042 (0.03)	0.24*** (0.02)	0.22*** (0.02)	1.01*** (0.07)	1.06*** (0.06)	0.03 (0.07)	-0.09 (0.05)
Exposure to false pro-Republican article	0.0040 (0.04)	-0.02 (0.03)	0.23*** (0.02)	0.19*** (0.02)	1.01*** (0.07)	1.03*** (0.06)	0.04 (0.07)	-0.02 (0.05)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-0.11*** (0.02)	-0.11*** (0.01)	-0.0003 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.16*** (0.02)	-0.17*** (0.02)
Nonwhite	0.06 (0.05)	0.03 (0.03)	-0.03 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.13 (0.08)	0.01 (0.07)	-0.08 (0.08)	0.14** (0.05)
Political knowledge	0.0015 (0.01)	-0.01 (0.01)	0.06*** (0.01)	0.08*** (0.01)	0.18*** (0.02)	0.23*** (0.02)	0.23*** (0.02)	0.20*** (0.01)
Trump feelings	-0.01*** (0.0008)	-0.01*** (0.0006)	-0.0002 (0.0004)	0.0002 (0.0003)	-0.0006 (0.0013)	0.0007 (0.0010)	0.0048*** (0.0012)	0.01*** (0.0008)
30–44 years old	0.08 (0.07)	0.11* (0.06)	0.09* (0.04)	0.19*** (0.03)	0.32** (0.12)	0.55*** (0.11)	-0.26* (0.11)	-0.03 (0.08)
45–59 years old	0.11 (0.07)	0.16** (0.05)	0.20*** (0.04)	0.24*** (0.03)	0.75*** (0.12)	0.78*** (0.11)	-0.11 (0.11)	0.09 (0.07)
60+ years old	0.10 (0.06)	0.24*** (0.05)	0.26*** (0.03)	0.30*** (0.03)	0.98*** (0.11)	1.04*** (0.11)	-0.03 (0.11)	0.11 (0.07)
College graduate	0.01 (0.04)	0.02 (0.03)	0.03 (0.02)	0.05*** (0.01)	0.09 (0.06)	0.21*** (0.06)	0.08 (0.06)	0.10* (0.04)
Constant	3.19*** (0.09)	3.27*** (0.07)	0.25*** (0.05)	0.13*** (0.03)	1.32*** (0.15)	1.43*** (0.13)	2.62*** (0.14)	2.60*** (0.09)
R ²	0.35	0.41	0.21	0.20	0.26	0.21	0.13	0.12
N	1478	2870	1689	3265	1689	3265	1475	3252

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measures are a four-point scale of self-reported trust and confidence in the mass media ranging from “None at all” (1) to “A great deal” (4); whether respondents say they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (0/1); a five-point measure of vote intention ranging from answering no when asked if they plan to vote (1) to saying they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (5); and respondents’ average response when asked if they would be willing to take a series of political actions on a scale from “Disagree strongly” (1) to “Agree strongly” (5). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B8: Effect of false article exposure on media attitudes (party interactions)

	Media thermometer		Media trust	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Exposure to false pro-Democratic article	-0.50 (2.44)	-0.10 (1.63)	0.0015 (0.08)	-0.03 (0.05)
Pro-Democrat false article exposure × Democrat	1.92 (3.05)	0.62 (2.12)	0.05 (0.10)	0.07 (0.07)
Exposure to false pro-Republican article	-1.60 (2.46)	2.74 (1.66)	-0.09 (0.08)	0.03 (0.05)
Pro-Republican exposure × Democrat	2.07 (3.10)	-4.27 (2.23)	0.14 (0.10)	-0.09 (0.07)
Democrat	9.34* (3.68)	16.01*** (2.56)	0.17 (0.11)	0.28*** (0.07)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-3.24*** (0.62)	-3.35*** (0.41)	-0.08*** (0.02)	-0.09*** (0.01)
Nonwhite	0.02 (1.82)	2.02 (1.24)	0.03 (0.06)	-0.02 (0.04)
Political knowledge	-0.0035 (0.52)	-0.41 (0.36)	-0.000044 (0.02)	-0.01 (0.01)
Trump feelings	-0.24*** (0.04)	-0.25*** (0.03)	-0.01*** (0.0010)	-0.01*** (0.00077)
30–44 years old	5.45* (2.37)	6.17** (2.03)	0.12 (0.07)	0.17** (0.06)
45–59 years old	9.54*** (2.38)	9.88*** (1.97)	0.14 (0.07)	0.20*** (0.06)
60+ years old	8.12*** (2.15)	10.04*** (1.89)	0.12 (0.07)	0.25*** (0.06)
College graduate	-0.39 (1.30)	-0.83 (0.96)	0.004701 (0.04)	0.01 (0.03)
Constant	56.98*** (5.61)	55.95*** (3.61)	2.99*** (0.16)	2.99*** (0.11)
R ²	0.47	0.53	0.39	0.45
N	1262	2415	1270	2426

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measures are respondent feelings toward the media on a 0–100 scale (media thermometer) and a four-point scale of self-reported trust and confidence in the mass media ranging from “None at all” (1) to “A great deal” (4). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B9: Effect of false article exposure on affective polarization (party interactions)

	Summer	Fall
Exposure to false pro-Democratic article	3.11 (3.40)	-0.22 (2.61)
Pro-Democrat false article exposure × Democrat	-3.44 (4.27)	1.73 (3.33)
Exposure to false pro-Republican article	-0.21 (3.83)	-0.62 (2.55)
Pro-Republican false article exposure × Democrat	0.10 (4.58)	0.13 (3.37)
Democrat	2.49 (7.34)	-3.19 (5.30)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	-1.48 (0.76)	-1.74** (0.58)
Nonwhite	3.07 (2.42)	4.27* (1.71)
Political knowledge	2.21** (0.73)	3.74*** (0.53)
Trump feelings	-0.04 (0.08)	0.01 (0.05)
30–44 years old	3.79 (3.28)	3.05 (2.69)
45–59 years old	11.37*** (3.39)	9.23*** (2.60)
60+ years old	14.46*** (3.04)	9.04*** (2.52)
College graduate	-4.72** (1.80)	-5.51*** (1.41)
Constant	40.75*** (9.08)	45.50*** (6.55)
R ²	0.06	0.04
N	1263	2401

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measures are the difference in feelings respondents express toward their preferred party and the opposition party (both measured on a 0–100 scale). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

Table B10: Effect of false article exposure on participation intention (party interactions)

	Vote plan (binary)		Vote plan (continuous)		Political action	
	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall	Summer	Fall
Exposure to false pro-Democratic article	0.26*** (0.04)	0.20*** (0.03)	1.09*** (0.13)	0.94*** (0.11)	-0.03 (0.13)	-0.10 (0.08)
Pro-Democrat false article exposure × Democrat	-0.02 (0.05)	0.04 (0.04)	-0.06 (0.16)	0.21 (0.14)	0.10 (0.16)	0.05 (0.11)
Exposure to false pro-Republican article	0.29*** (0.04)	0.21*** (0.03)	1.18*** (0.13)	1.06*** (0.11)	0.12 (0.14)	0.01 (0.08)
Pro-Republican false article exposure × Democrat	-0.06 (0.05)	0.0019 (0.04)	-0.17 (0.16)	0.06 (0.14)	-0.06 (0.16)	-0.01 (0.10)
Democrat	0.07 (0.05)	-0.01 (0.04)	0.28 (0.19)	-0.07 (0.16)	0.06 (0.18)	0.24* (0.10)
Ideology (higher = more conservative)	0.0039 (0.01)	-0.0027 (0.01)	0.01 (0.03)	-0.01 (0.02)	-0.16*** (0.03)	-0.15*** (0.02)
Nonwhite	-0.0014 (0.03)	-0.02 (0.02)	-0.06 (0.09)	-0.01 (0.08)	-0.08 (0.09)	0.11* (0.05)
Political knowledge	0.05*** (0.01)	0.06*** (0.01)	0.17*** (0.03)	0.18*** (0.02)	0.24*** (0.03)	0.20*** (0.02)
Trump feelings	0.0002 (0.0005)	0.0001 (0.0004)	0.0010 (0.0016)	0.0004 (0.0014)	0.01** (0.0017)	0.01*** (0.0011)
30–44 years old	0.10* (0.04)	0.18*** (0.03)	0.30* (0.13)	0.52*** (0.13)	-0.18 (0.12)	0.01 (0.08)
45–59 years old	0.19*** (0.04)	0.24*** (0.03)	0.69*** (0.13)	0.77*** (0.12)	-0.03 (0.12)	0.15 (0.08)
60+ years old	0.26*** (0.04)	0.28*** (0.03)	0.94*** (0.12)	0.98*** (0.12)	0.05 (0.11)	0.11 (0.08)
College graduate	0.03 (0.02)	0.05** (0.02)	0.08 (0.07)	0.19** (0.06)	0.07 (0.07)	0.10* (0.05)
Constant	0.21** (0.07)	0.21*** (0.05)	1.15*** (0.25)	1.73*** (0.21)	2.52*** (0.25)	2.42*** (0.15)
R ²	0.21	0.18	0.25	0.19	0.14	0.12
N	1453	2746	1453	2746	1269	2736

*** $p < 0.001$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.05$. OLS models with robust standard errors. Outcome measures are whether respondents say they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (0/1); a five-point measure of vote intention ranging from answering no when asked if they plan to vote (1) to saying they are “absolutely certain” to vote or report already having voted (5); and respondents’ average response when asked if they would be willing to take a series of political actions on a scale from “Disagree strongly” (1) to “Agree strongly” (5). Results estimated among Democrats and Republicans only (including leaners).

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