Appendix B: Findings with only attentive participants

As a robustness check, we also report the data excluding people who failed the two attention check questions that occurred in the body of the study. As is evident below, these analyses are similar as to what is reported in the main text.

In total, 835 participants failed one or both of these questions and were removed from the data file for the following analyses. This left the sample at 1,183 individuals, who voted in the following way: 384 voted for Trump, 607 voted for Biden, 28 voted for a third-party candidate, 87 did not vote for reasons outside of their control, 50 who did not vote but could have, 14 who did not vote out of protest, and 13 who preferred not to say.



Figure 1. Belief in voter fraud. Percent of Biden (blue) versus Trump (red) voters who believe that voting (left panel) and specifically mail-in voting (right panel) is prone to fraud (top panel) or safe/reliable (bottom panel).







If Donald Trump loses his various legal challenges in swing states and courts indicate that there was **not** sufficient evidence of fraud to overturn the results of the election but Donald Trump still does **not** concede (that is, he still maintains that he won), I will view Joe Biden's Presidency as being legitimate.



Figure 3. Testing the strength of the belief that Trump won. Few Trump voters believe that Biden has been legitimately elected President (22%). However, many Trump voters would view Biden's Presidency as legitimate if Trump concedes (51%) or does not concede but loses his various legal challenges (46%).

80 70 60 50 Percent 40 30 20 10 0 Do nothing in Be upset Be upset Protest Protest nonprivately publicly peacefully peacefully particular Biden Voters Trump Voters

If Donald Trump does **not** concede but Joe Biden is nonetheless inaugurated as the President, I will:

Figure 4. Forecasted behavior following the inauguration. Percent of Biden (blue) and Trump (red) voters forecasting different reactions to the hypothetical of Biden becoming President despite a lack of concession from Trump. Note that the question wording was not exactly as stated in the figure.



Figure 5. Partisan violence and spite. Percent of Biden (blue) and Trump (red) voters' views on select questions relating to partisan spite (top panel) and violence (middle panel). A minority of both Trump and Biden voters wish to break the United States up along party lines (bottom panel). Note that the question wording has been slightly shortened here in some cases.

disagree

Biden Voters

Disagree Somewhat Neither Somewhat Agree

agree nor

disagree

Trump Voters

agree

Strongly

agree

0

Strongly

disagree

		Mainstream News Trust	Fox News Trust	Breitbart Trust	Following Election News	Political Knowledge	Cognitive Reflection
Trump Voters Biden Voters	(a) Election fraud	439***	147**	122*	.140**	.220***	.010
	(b) Trump won	405***	124*	127*	.125*	.179**	136**
	(c) Trump won vote	322***	100*	137*	.117*	.121*	201***
	(d) Accept Biden if Trump concedes?	.331***	.143**	.103*	056	155**	.087†
	(e) Accept Biden if Trump loses in court?	.370***	.202***	.190***	053	123*	.102 [†]
	(a) Election fraud	303***	.217***	.143**	299***	311***	055
	(b) Trump won	158***	.131**	.076 [†]	106*	177***	039
	(c) Trump won vote	147***	.221***	.078 [†]	105*	157***	078 [†]

Table 1. Correlations among major variables.

Partial correlations (r_p) between various measures of interest and (a) belief that election fraud is prevalent in the U.S., (b) that Trump won the election, (c) that Trump won the popular vote, (d) accepting Biden as President if Trump concedes, and (e) accepting Biden as President if Trump loses election battles in court. Covariates: Age, education (less than college/college degree or higher), income level, ethnicity (white/non-white), and gender (male/female). N_{Trump} = 354; N_{Biden} = 939. ***p<.001, **p<.01, *p<.05, [†]p<.10.