

Title: Survey instrument appendix for “Legislator criticism of a candidate’s conspiracy beliefs reduces support for the conspiracy but not the candidate”

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Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

Appendix A: Survey instrument

[Text in brackets indicates notes that the participants did not see.]

[pid3]

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

- Democrat
- Republican
- Independent
- Other [open response]
- Not sure

[pid7]

Would you call yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat? [if selected Democrat]

- Strong Democrat
- Not very strong Democrat

Would you call yourself a strong Republican or a not very strong Republican? [if selected Republican]

- Strong Republican
- Not very strong Republican

Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican or Democratic party? [if selected Independent, Other, or Not sure]

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

[Pre-treatment feeling thermometer]

We would like to get your feelings toward some people, groups, and countries 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, group, or country. 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, group, or country. You would rate them at the 50 degree mark if you don’t feel particularly warm or cold toward that person, group, or country.

[People/group/country in question named here: Democratic Party, Republican Party, Donald Trump, Joe Biden, the news media, Anthony Fauci, China, election officials, black people, white people, Marjorie Taylor Greene, QAnon]

Click on the thermometer to give a rating.

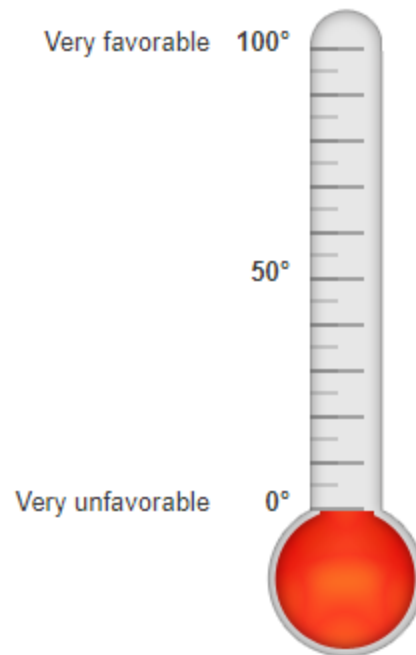


Figure A1. Feeling thermometer.

[Respondents see one of the following seven conditions with equal probability.]

[Condition 1: Bio baseline]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Elected in 2020

Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, 46, is the first open supporter of QAnon to win a seat in Congress.

In November 2020, Greene cruised to victory in Georgia's reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes.

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising "Q," its anonymous leader.

[Condition 2: Unattributed media criticism]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by News Outlet for Promoting Conspiracy Theories

Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire in news coverage for promoting conspiracy theories.

In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia's reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

“Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene is facing intense backlash,” reported one news outlet, “for indicating support for political violence and pushing wild conspiracy theories and extreme anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic comments before she was elected to Congress.”

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising “Q,” its anonymous leader.

[Condition 3: Media criticism]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by CNN for Promoting Conspiracy Theories

Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire in news coverage for promoting conspiracy theories.

In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia’s reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

“Georgia Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene is facing intense backlash,” CNN reporters Em Steck and Andrew Kaczynski wrote, “for indicating support for political violence and pushing wild conspiracy theories and extreme anti-Muslim and anti-Semitic comments before she was elected to Congress.”

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising “Q,” its anonymous leader.

[Condition 4: Unattributed Congress criticism (Democrat)]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by Member of Congress for Promoting Conspiracy Theories
Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire by members of Congress for promoting conspiracy theories.

In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia’s reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

“Congresswoman Greene of Georgia has a long history of amplifying dangerous conspiracy theories on-line and threatening violent, racist, Islamophobic, and anti-Semitic conduct,” said a member of Congress. “Conspiracy theories and hate are malignant.”

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising “Q,” its anonymous leader.

[Condition 5: Democrat criticism]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by Democratic Member of Congress for Promoting Conspiracy Theories

Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire by Democrats for promoting conspiracy theories. In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia's reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

"Congresswoman Greene of Georgia has a long history of amplifying dangerous conspiracy theories online and threatening violent, racist, Islamophobic, and anti-Semitic conduct," said Rep. Ted Deutch, a Democratic member of Congress. "Conspiracy theories and hate are malignant."

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising "Q," its anonymous leader.

[Condition 6: Unattributed Congress criticism (Republican)]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by Member of Congress for Promoting Conspiracy Theories
Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire by members of Congress for promoting conspiracy theories.

In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia's reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

"Anti-Semitism, conspiracy theories and threats should never be part of our political discourse," said a member of Congress. "Rep. Greene's comments and actions, from spreading anti-Semitic conspiracy theories to questioning 9/11 and school shootings, are wrong in any context."

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising "Q," its anonymous leader.

[Condition 7: Republican criticism]

Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene Criticized by Republican Member of Congress for Promoting Conspiracy Theories

Georgia Republican Marjorie Taylor Greene, the first open supporter of the QAnon conspiracy theory to win a seat in Congress, has recently come under fire by Republicans for promoting conspiracy theories. In November 2020, Greene, 46, cruised to victory in Georgia's reliably conservative 14th Congressional District, beating her Democratic opponent, IT specialist Kevin Van Ausdal, by more than 225,000 votes. Since then, she has been embroiled in controversy.

"Anti-Semitism, conspiracy theories and threats should never be part of our political discourse," said Rep. Young Kim, a Republican member of Congress. "Rep. Greene's comments and actions, from spreading anti-Semitic conspiracy theories to questioning 9/11 and school shootings, are wrong in any context."

Greene, who co-owns a commercial construction and renovation company with her husband, previously posted videos elevating QAnon and praising “Q,” its anonymous leader.

[Post-treatment feeling thermometer]

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[People/group/country in question named here: Marjorie Taylor Greene, QAnon]

Click on the thermometer to give a rating.

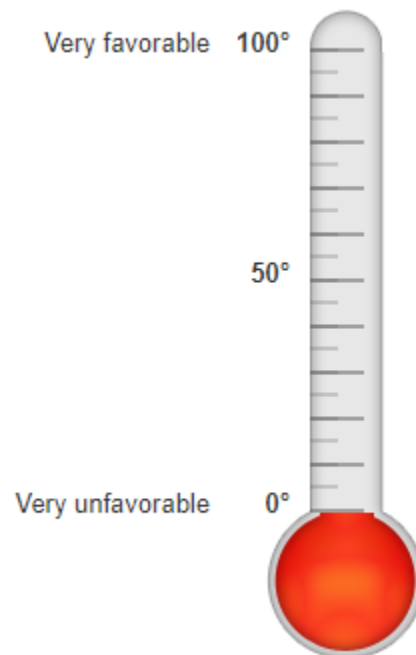


Figure A2. Feeling thermometer.