

Title: Experiment S1 appendix for “People are more susceptible to misinformation with realistic AI-synthesized images that provide strong evidence to headlines”

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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.

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## Appendix A: Experiment S1

Experiment S1 examined belief in headlines without completing stimulus ratings prior to belief ratings.

### *Participants*

We recruited 160 participants with Prolific Academic. We excluded participants due to multiple submissions from the same user ( $n = 2$ ) and high likelihood of an automated submission informed via Qualtrics security measures ( $n = 4$ ). We also excluded participants if they admitted to answering randomly in the honesty check ( $n = 2$ ), or if they admitted to looking up headlines during the study without specifying which ones ( $n = 1$ ). One participant’s responses were not recorded on Qualtrics due to technical issues ( $n = 1$ ). In our final sample of 150 participants, there were 82 males and 68 females. Ages ranged between 21 to 81 ( $M = 45.75$ ,  $SD = 14.66$ ).

### *Procedure*

The instructions we provided to participants were identical to those in the initial belief phase (phase 2) in the main experiment. After providing informed consent, we showed 20 false and 20 true headlines individually in a random order to participants. For each, they indicated their belief on a 0 (*definitely false*) to 10 (*definitely true*) scale.