

**User Name:** subscriber618780

**Date and Time:** Monday, 9 December 2024 23:24:00 GMT

**Job Number:** 240439631

**Documents (100)**

1. [FACT CHECK: Do Donald Trump's Proposed Immigration Policies Affect His Son Barron's Citizenship? 'A U.S. immigration law expert denied the claim's validity in an email to Check Your Fact'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DHC-J6H1-JBFB-H25B-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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2. [Fact checker: Senate candidate Moreno's immigration ad false Moreno faces Brown in Ohio ’s U.S. Senate race](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D0H-R4G1-JBCN-313H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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3. [FAKE OR REAL? EVALUATING INFORMATION](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CGV-0M41-JDKC-R3D1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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4. [FACT CHECK: Did Elon Musk Acquire Ford? 'The claim is false and appears to originally stem from a September 16 YouTube shared by the channel, 'Elon Musk Rewind,' according to PolitiFact'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DFY-T8S1-JBFB-H4V0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

5. [No donations from Sephora to Trump campaign | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DFW-6WK1-F03F-K3Y4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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6. [No proof of ‘white supremacist’ election threats in Georgia | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DBS-K1H1-JCMC-W4X3-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
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7. [Sign with swastika 'absolutely not' from Trump campaign, GOP official says | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DBS-DBM1-JCMC-W16V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

8. [Nonsense comment about Olympics attributed to Harris is fabricated | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CMD-HF51-JCMC-W46H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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9. [CBS Won't Fact Check Vance & Walz, Leftist 'Fact Checkers' Lament Their Lack of 'Courage'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D33-NK91-JCMN-Y4N4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

10. [14th Amendment doesn't ban felons from taking office | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D92-TG31-F03F-K55H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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11. [How to Protect Yourself from AI Election Misinformation](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D0H-5MB1-JCMC-W0FM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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12. [Decades-long ban on religious Easter eggs falsely attributed to Biden | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BPY-15G1-F03F-K1KM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

13. [OPINION-Media literacy is fundamental, especially in 2024 - The Daily Egyptian](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D7Y-0CG1-JBSN-32PP-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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14. [FACT CHECK: Video Of Kamala Harris Calling Trump 'Hitler' On Joe Rogan's Podcast Is AI-Generated 'The claim is false. Check Your Fact conducted a scan of the video using the website, 'TrueMedia.org,' and the results indicate the video has been generated with artificial intelligence (AI)'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DBJ-8911-JBFB-H4B2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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15. [Who is Robert F. Kennedy Jr. the man Trump wants to entrust with the U.S. Department of Health?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DH6-GWS1-JCG7-8448-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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16. [Column: Bungling Biden's Commencement Whoppers](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C34-CP61-JCMN-Y2NH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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17. [Fact Check: Donald Trump Says Nearly 15 Million People Have Crossed Border](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BGH-8K81-DY68-10X4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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18. [Our view: The importance of fact-checking, especially before an election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D0Y-X7S1-JBTP-M2P4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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19. [PBS Hurls Bad Fact Checks: GOP Voting Concerns Could Mean 'Political Violence'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CHF-0M01-JCMN-Y0X8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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20. [ChatGPT Pushes Leftist Media, Soros-Funded Sites When Asked About Soros Prosecutors](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CSS-52M1-JCMN-Y0JY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
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21. [Nikki Haley ad misleads on Donald Trump's 10% tariff proposal | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BGF-4SJ1-JCMC-W3JT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
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22. [Electoral misinformation in Texas : What you should know to avoid it.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DBH-G9K1-F03R-N0S0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

23. [Vice presidential debate fact check: What Tim Walz, JD Vance got right (and wrong)](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D3D-N8M1-JCMC-W41D-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

24. [Campaign to combat fake news](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C9W-J7S1-JDJN-60R6-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

25. [False claim the Democratic Party named Michelle Obama the 2024 presidential nominee | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6888-WR51-JCMC-W240-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

26. [Which Fact-Checker Won CNN Trump Town Hall Derby With Whopping 20 False Claims Debunked?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6875-X261-JCMN-Y4CP-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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27. [Dominion's voting systems will work in Florida , contrary to Internet claims](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D8T-PTD1-JCG7-8270-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

28. [FACT CHECK: Will Nicole Shanahan Be The Youngest Vice President In US History If Elected? John C. Breckenridge is the youngest vice president in U.S. history at age 36](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BPG-D131-JBFB-H00K-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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29. [Fact Check: Did Donald Trump Call Republicans 'Dumbest Voters' in U.S.?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:692W-1MV1-DY68-1001-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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30. [Fact Check: Did Bill Barr Visit Jeffrey Epstein in Prison Before His Death?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6B1R-BWC1-JBR6-94C8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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31. [PolitiFact Founder Bill Adair Indulges His Own Bias on PBS: Republicans LOVE to Lie!](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D72-95N1-JCMN-Y2CR-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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32. [Reuters Ignores Biden, Fact Checks Babylon Bee](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BJW-FMK1-JCMN-Y39F-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

33. [How social media has changed elections](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BSF-93B1-DY7P-T02S-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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34. [PolitiFact's 'Truth-O-Meter' Has a Dramatic Democratic Party TILT](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D50-RCH1-F03R-N43V-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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35. [Video shows Nancy Pelosi talking about Republican Party's 'smear' tactic | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:68DY-XGF1-JCMC-W075-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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36. [Is Meta Turning Its Back on Promise to Curb Censorship?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CXR-48C1-F03R-N38R-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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37. [Fact Check: Did Joe Biden Increase the Deficit by $800 Billion?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:67H5-10P1-DY68-142Y-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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38. [Election year puts misinformation fight in high gear](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6B77-TFT1-JBT2-3000-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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39. [Presidential debate fact check: Analyzing Trump , Harris on abortion, immigration, more](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CXY-2J81-JCMC-W445-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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40. [Judge didn't deny Trump request to skip hush money trial for son's graduation | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BTP-YKV1-JCMC-W3V8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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41. [Trump falsely presents Stormy Daniels letter as new in Truth Social post | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BV7-9MS1-JCMC-W0N0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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42. [FALSE ELECTION INFORMATION FROM AI CHATBOTS EXPERT EXPLAINS WHAT TO GUARD AGAINST AND AVOID](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CX6-49B1-DYTH-G0F4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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43. [PBS News and PolitiFact Announce Partnership Through 2024 Election Cycle](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CG6-SRS1-JC11-125C-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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44. [FACT CHECK: Is Donald Trump Offering $50 Gas To Floridians Trying To Escape Hurricane Milton? 'The claim is satirical and originally stems from an article published by WhoWhatWhy.org'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D5D-TCG1-DXXD-70KV-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

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45. [Soros-Funded Fact-Checkers: Who Cares About Free Speech, Our 'Facts' Are What Matter](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BR5-9Y31-F03R-N1TX-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

46. [The 2024 Presidential Debate: Student Reactions](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DDC-7391-JBSN-34Y0-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

47. [Democrat Secretary Of State Asks Michiganders To Report Their Neighbors For Election 'Misinformation'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CMP-H861-F03R-N4DN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

48. [Fact Check: Are Taylor Swift & Beyonce planning a concert to support Kamala Harris?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CJR-Y5T1-F12F-F052-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

49. [FACT CHECK: Donald Trump's 'Bloodbath' Comment Taken Out Of Context 'While Trump did make those comments, it appears he was mainly talking about the auto industry and not a literal bloodbath. The Trump campaign has issued other statements stating it was about the auto industry'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BKY-2R01-DXXD-70DX-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

50. [Soros-Funded Censorship Plot Targets Black Voters](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CTM-5X81-F03R-N0MW-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

51. [HERE WE GO: Michigan Launches Snitch Line to Stop 'Election Misinformation'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CNB-SP71-JCMN-Y0VC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

52. [Opinion: Black Americans aren’t buying election-year falsehoods. Here’s why.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CJS-MJN1-JCMC-W0X7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

53. [4 ways to spot election misinformation and stop its spread](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D1T-17N1-F03R-N30B-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

54. [Did Kamala Harris Pay Celebrities to Endorse Her? Oprah Winfrey Speaks Out](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DD7-KS81-JBR6-94K4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

55. [Kamala Harris Finance Mismanagement Claims. What We Know, What We Don't](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DD2-4KB1-DY68-100N-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

56. [Assange did not say WikiLeaks had evidence of Obama paedophile ring](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CD5-0G91-JD6R-T02H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

57. ['Can You Acknowledge That?': CNN Host Ignores Byron Donalds' Examples Of Harris' 'Lies,' Immediately Pivots To Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D09-GWR1-DXXD-70M4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

58. [Worried For Democracy, PBS And PolitiFact Unveil 2024 Election Partnership](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CG7-Y9T1-F03R-N2SK-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

59. [BEYOND TRUTH VS. FICTION IN THE MEDIA](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CX3-NJ21-DYTH-G4KM-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

60. [POLICING 'TRUTH': The Billionaires' 'Fact'-Checking Gang to Keep 'News'-Media 'Honest'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CXT-KWT1-JCMN-Y4J6-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

61. [MRC UnCensored: How PolitiFact Coddles 'Fibber-in-Chief-Biden'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BT8-PRJ1-JCMN-Y0KY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

62. [Fact check: How Elon Musk is spreading US election lies](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DB9-TRG1-JDKC-R3KP-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

63. [Biden administration officials took oaths of office, despite post's claim | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:68HR-PJ81-JCMC-W2VG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

64. [Column: PolitiFact Throws Its 200TH 'Pants On Fire' Tag at Donald Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D0G-PJR1-F03R-N4CD-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

65. [PolitiFact, USA Today Rate Trump, Biden 100 And 44 Percent False Respectively](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CC2-CN61-F03R-N50H-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

66. [Factchecking of Sunak's misleading tax claim shows broadcasters taking a new approach to impartiality](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C6K-6W81-DXP7-10MG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

67. [Trump repeatedly lied at his CNN town hall. His biggest claims, factchecked](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:686P-02J1-DY4H-K3J7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

68. [Records: Joe's war story is a tall tale](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BV3-3M81-JC3R-B007-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

69. [Fact Check: Trump Claims Patients From 'Insane Asylums' Emptied Into U.S.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:68H8-V6J1-DY68-10CG-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

70. [Fact Check: Did Joe Biden Bring Down National Debt by $1.7 Trillion?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:686J-BRJ1-JBR6-926R-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

71. [EDITORIAL: Dig into discovering the truth this election cycle](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BJ5-V6X1-JBTP-M0Y5-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

72. [Records show Biden wrong on uncle shot down in WWII](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BV3-3M81-JC3R-B014-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

73. [BUSTED: Guess How Deep in Search Google Buried US -Based 'Lean Right' News on 2024 Election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D39-M701-JCMN-Y1S1-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

74. [PBS News Relished Debate's Dubious Fact Checks on 'Defensive' Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CYD-VD31-F03R-N1RX-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

75. [Buckle Up! Soros Makes 'Scary' Purchase Ahead of 2024 Election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BBP-77D1-F03R-N3F3-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

76. ['YIKES on Every Level': PolitiFact Founder Urges More Social-Media Suppression for 2024](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:69XB-FF91-JCMN-Y27D-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

77. [Fact Check: Does CCTV Show 2020 Ballot Stuffing in Georgia?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:69J9-69N1-JBR6-902X-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

78. [Attention! Biden and Trump use misleading economic data to win your vote](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:696W-0M61-DYY9-04FH-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

79. [Poynter Institute: Angie Drobnic Holan Named to Lead the International Fact-Checking Network](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:68HX-HP71-JC11-13HT-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

80. [FactChecking the Biden-Trump Debate ' My Impressions of The Theater of the Absurd](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CJ3-8WS1-JCM9-H0M2-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

81. [Musk's false US election tweets 'seen 1bn times'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CP0-1071-DY66-53F4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

82. [Facthequeado's Tamoa Calzadilla: "we want people to vote based on evidence, not misinformation"](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C45-NVF1-JCMN-Y3XC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

83. [NewsBusters Podcast: The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad ABC Debate](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CY6-HV51-F03R-N0XJ-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

84. [Fact check: Trump makes false and unsubstantiated claims in border speech](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BFK-4FJ1-JBSS-S02J-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

85. [After Disastrous Debate, PBS's Barron-Lopez Parrots Biden Campaign Happy Talk](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CC2-PPR1-JCMN-Y454-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

86. [FACT CHECK: Viral Post Claims Fulton County DA Is Going To Charge Trump For Sullying Her Image 'There is no evidence that Trump is going to "face charges for sullying" Willis 's image. Trump likely cannot be disqualified from running for president if convicted on a criminal charge, according to experts'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:68YK-1HT1-JBFB-H43S-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

87. [Column: The 'Cheapfake' Video Claims of Pro-Biden Bedwetters](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C93-BFK1-F03R-N0YC-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

88. [Fact-checking the Harris-Trump debate](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CY1-BPF1-JCMC-W2X8-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

89. [Why Kamala Harris and Donald Trump Don't Need to Worry About Deepfakes](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D9D-F8B1-F118-90SY-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

90. [The Dangers Of An AI-Driven Rift In US Politics: How to Spot Fake News About The Elections](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CYD-VD31-F03R-N1RP-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

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| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

91. [NY Times Lead Story: Blame Trump, Musk, and Republicans in General for Election Lies](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D8J-3MJ1-JCMN-Y419-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

92. [PBS Fails at Debate Fact-Checking, Adores Taylor Swift's Harris Endorsement](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CY8-6M41-F03R-N0T4-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

93. [Fact-checking Biden’s State of the Union](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6BH6-8V41-F03F-K2G7-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

94. [Trump's claims that wind farms are driving whales 'crazy' fact-checked](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:698C-X7P1-DY4H-K15W-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

95. [Trump’s Closing Argument: Lies, Distortions and Inaccuracies Fact Check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6DB9-6CC1-DXY4-X0HN-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

96. [WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: Trump 's Disastrous Interview at the National NABJ Convention](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6CM9-W991-JC11-103M-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

97. [Donald Trump To Detroit: Drop Dead](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D5D-P0G1-F03R-N444-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

98. [Repetition of a meme with a false claim that the January 6 Committee destroyed evidence.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6D7Y-B491-JCG7-851J-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

99. [Biden confuses statistics on Hispanic students](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:6C22-0KF1-DYY9-02K9-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

100. [PolitiFact Screams 'Pants On Fire' at Tucker Carlson's 'QAnon Shaman' Video](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?id=urn:contentItem:67RF-5411-JCMN-Y2M6-00000-00&idtype=PID&context=1001073)

**Client/Matter:** -None-

**Search Terms:** fact check , elections, U.S., UK, Politifact, Factcheck.org, snopes

**Search Type:** Natural Language

**Narrowed by:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Content Type** | **Narrowed by** |
| US News | Timeline: Jan 01, 2023 to Dec 01, 2024 |

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# [FACT CHECK: Do Donald Trump's Proposed Immigration Policies Affect His Son Barron's Citizenship?; 'A U.S. immigration law expert denied the claim's validity in an email to Check Your Fact'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DHC-J6H1-JBFB-H25B-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

November 26, 2024 Tuesday 07:21 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 454 words

**Byline:** Christine Sellers, **Fact Check** Reporter, [christine@checkyourfact.com](mailto:christine@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/GettyImages-2183215855-scaled-e1732564787109.jpg)

A viral post [shared on Threads](https://www.threads.net/@notbob74/post/DCfgZdwMCpg) claims President-**elect** Donald Trump'**s** proposed immigration policies would affect his son Barron'**s** citizenship.

View on Threads

**Verdict: False**

The claim is false. A **U.S**. immigration law expert denied the claim'**s** validity in an email to **Check** Your **Fact**.

**Fact Check:**

Barron Trump was seen spending time with his parents at their Mar-a-Lago home ahead of Thanksgiving, according to a [recent video from TMZ](https://www.tmz.com/2024/11/25/barron-trump-eats-dinner-thanksgiving-break-with-donald-melania/). Barron, 18, is a freshman at New York University'**s** Stern School of Business, [The Independent](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/barron-trump-nyu-melania-letter-b2626198.html) reported.

The Threads post, which has received over 1,000 likes as of writing, claims Trump'**s** proposed immigration policies would affect his son Barron'**s** citizenship.

“Baron [sic] Trump was born [on] March 20, 2006. Melania became an American citizen [on] July 28, 2006 so.... She was not an American citizen when he was born. So Baron [sic] was not born to an American mother... doesn't that go against his immigration laws?,” the post reads.

The claim is false. The post appears to refer to a [May 2023 video](https://www.donaldjtrump.com/agenda47/agenda47-day-one-executive-order-ending-citizenship-for-children-of-illegals-and-outlawing-birth-tourism) posted on Trump'**s** official website in which he stated his intentions to sign an executive order to “end automatic citizenship for children of illegal aliens” on day one of his second term. According to Trump'**s** website, the policy will apply to children of illegal aliens “going forward,” meaning it is not retroactive.

“[The executive order] will make clear that going forward, the children of illegal aliens will not be granted automatic citizenship, and should not be issued passports, Social Security numbers, or be eligible for certain taxpayer funded welfare benefits,” the website indicates.

Likewise, the executive order “will direct federal agencies to require that at least one parent be a **U.S**. citizen or lawful permanent resident for their future children to become automatic **U.S**. citizens.” [**(RELATED: Did Trump's Border Czar Pick Say 'We Won't Have To Press One For English?')**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/11/22/fact-check-did-trumps-border-czar-pick-say-we-wont-have-to-press-one-for-english/)

In addition, according to [BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-43256318), Melania Trump was approved for the “Einstein Visa” or EB-1 in 2001, making her a lawful permanent resident at the time of Barron'**s** birth. Melania Trump became a citizen in 2006, the outlet indicated.

Furthermore, Erin Corcoran, a **U.S**. immigration law expert at the University of Notre Dame, denied the claim'**s** validity to **Check** Your **Fact** via email.

“Barron'**s** immigration status would not be affected.  He was born in the **U.S** to a **U.S**. citizen father who was married to Melania.  So even though she was not a [**U.S**. citizen] at the time of his birth he is still a US citizen,” Corcoran said.

Besides **Check** Your **Fact**, [USA Today](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/19/barron-trump-birthright-citizenship-fact-check/76406281007/), [Lead Stories](https://leadstories.com/hoax-alert/2024/11/fact-check-barron-trump-would-not-be-denied-us-citizenship-under-trumps-immigration-proposal.html), and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/11/posts-falsely-question-barron-trumps-citizenship-status/) all debunked the claim. [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2018/nov/04/blog-posting/would-trumps-own-son-be-affected-order-eliminating/) also previously debunked a similar iteration of the claim in 2018.

**Graphic**

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA - NOVEMBER 06: Republican presidential nominee, former **U.S**. President Donald Trump arrives to speak with former first lady Melania Trump and Barron Trump during an **election** night event at the Palm Beach Convention Center on November 06, 2024 in West Palm Beach, Florida. Americans cast their ballots today in the presidential race between Republican nominee former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris, as well as multiple state **elections** that will determine the balance of power in Congress. (Photo by Joe Raedle/Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (95%); CITIZENSHIP (94%); IMMIGRATION LAW (93%); IMMIGRATION (92%); IMMIGRATION REGULATION & POLICY (92%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (92%); CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS & TEENS (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); IMMIGRATION OF MINORS (90%); PREGNANCY & CHILDBIRTH (90%); PUBLIC POLICY (90%); EXECUTIVE ORDERS (89%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); APPROVALS (78%); NATURALIZATION (78%); PASSPORTS & VISAS (78%); SOCIAL ASSISTANCE REGULATION & POLICY (78%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (78%); US SOCIAL SECURITY (77%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (74%); BUSINESS EDUCATION (70%); GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES (50%); WELFARE BENEFITS (50%); barron-trump (%); immigration (%); president-donald-trump (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Industry:** PASSPORTS & VISAS (78%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%); MELANIA TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (95%)

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact checker: Senate candidate Moreno's immigration ad false; Moreno faces Brown in Ohio’s U.S. Senate race](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D0H-R4G1-JBCN-313H-00000-00&context=1001073)

Dayton Daily News (Ohio)

September 5, 2024 Thursday

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**Section:** **ELECTIONS**

**Length:** 601 words

**Byline:** Lynn Hulsey

**Body**

A new political advertisement from Bernie Moreno, the Republican running for **U.S**. Senate in Ohio, was declared "false" by the Poynter Institute'**s** nonpartisan **PolitiFact** this week.

Moreno'**s** political ad, released in August, attacks his opponent, **U.S**. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, on the issue of immigration, saying, "For nearly 50 years politician Sherrod Brown helped create the crisis at our southern border, voting with radicals like Kamala Harris to give illegals taxpayer funded stimulus **checks**, healthcare, even social security. Rewarding illegals," according to the video paid for by the National Republican Senatorial Committee and authorized by Moreno.

Brown'**s** campaign in August denied all of those claims, which other Republicans have used against other Democrats in recent years and all of which have been debunked in **fact checks** by various news organizations including the Associated Press, the Washington Post, **PolitiFact** and **FactCheck**.**org**.

Explore Immigration: Here'**s** where candidates Brown, Moreno, Harris and Trump stand

**PolitiFact** asked Moreno'**s** campaign for the source of the ad'**s** claims and was directed to votes Brown made in 2007, 2013 and 2021. **PolitiFact**'**s** review of those votes determined Moreno'**s** claims were false and misleading.

"The three votes Moreno'**s** campaign cited would not have provided any federal benefits to immigrants in the country illegally. The American Rescue Plan already barred them from receiving stimulus **checks**. Federal law already prohibited them from qualifying for Medicaid or the Children'**s** Health Insurance Program and barred them from buying insurance through the federal exchange," according to **PolitiFact**.

"Moreno also misleads on Brown'**s** vote regarding Social Security. The vote would not have granted benefits to immigrants who are in the country illegally, but would have changed the allocation from immigrants who later received legal status," **PolitiFact** said.

Poynter Institute is nonprofit that focuses on journalism ethics, media training and literacy and does political **fact-checking**. The **fact checks** can be found online at **PolitiFact**.com.

Explore Immigration key issue in Ohio Senate, presidential races: Here are the **facts**

"Independent **fact** checkers verified that Bernie Moreno is lying about Sherrod'**s** record, just like he lied about his 'rags-to-riches' upbringing, about selling Chinese-made cars, and even about how many times he'**s** been sued for refusing to pay his employees," Brown campaign spokesman Matt Keyes said on Wednesday.

The campaign for Vice President Harris, the Democrat running for **election** against Republican former President Donald Trump, did not respond to a request for comment on the Moreno ad naming her.

Reagan McCarthy, Moreno campaign spokeswoman, responded to the **PolitiFact** findings by saying, "This '**fact-check**' is the liberal media covering up for Sherrod'**s** clear pro-illegal, anti-American worker agenda that they've been complicit in. Sherrod has been caught giving our money to illegals."

Follow @LynnHulseyDDN on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and X.

Explore See more stories by Lynn Hulsey Explore Presidential and Ohio'**s** **U.S**. senate races highlight stark political divisions over guns Explore Haitian immigrants in Springfield face complex immigration system and long delays Explore Ohio Secretary of State wants to ban drop boxes, require proof of citizenship to register to vote ExploreIt'**s** illegal to hire immigrants who aren't authorized to work but the law is difficult to enforce

About the Author

Lynn Hulsey

Lynn Hulsey is an investigative reporter focusing on business, the economy, government and politics.

**Graphic**

**U.S**. Sen. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, (left) and Bernie Moreno, a Republican businessman from Westlake, (right) are running for **U.S**. Senate in Ohio.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Subject:** US SENATE **ELECTIONS** (94%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (92%); POLITICAL ADVERTISING (92%); US CONGRESS (92%); IMMIGRATION (91%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (91%); BIPARTISANSHIP (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (90%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (90%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (89%); SOCIAL SECURITY (89%); **ELECTIONS** (79%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (79%); ETHICS (78%); FALSE STATEMENTS (78%); LIBERALISM (78%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (78%); MIGRATION ISSUES (77%); NEGATIVE NEWS (77%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (77%); MEDICAID (75%); SUITS & CLAIMS (75%); LIBERAL MEDIA (73%); CHILDREN'**S** HEALTH (70%); GOVERNMENT CHILDREN'**S** HEALTH INSURANCE (70%); GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE (70%); LITIGATION (65%)

**Company:**  ASSOCIATED PRESS (56%)

**Industry:** SIC7383 NEWS SYNDICATES (56%); POLITICAL ADVERTISING (92%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING (90%); HEALTH INSURANCE (75%); MEDICAID (75%); LIBERAL MEDIA (73%); GOVERNMENT CHILDREN'**S** HEALTH INSURANCE (70%); GOVERNMENT HEALTH INSURANCE (70%)

**Person:** SHERROD BROWN (92%); DONALD TRUMP (89%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%)

**Geographic:** DAYTON, OH, USA (74%); OHIO, USA (94%); UNITED STATES (94%)

**Load-Date:** September 18, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FAKE OR REAL? EVALUATING INFORMATION](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CGV-0M41-JDKC-R3D1-00000-00&context=1001073)

US Fed News

July 15, 2024 Monday 12:32 PM EST

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**Length:** 613 words

**Body**

MESA, Ariz., July 15 -- The City of Mesa issued the following news release:

Tips for Evaluating Information

Adapted from the American Library Association

In today'**s** digital age, it'**s** important to evaluate the credibility of the news and information you consume. Here are some steps to help you verify the reliability of a story:

1. Consider the Source

Investigate the Site: Click away from the story to learn more about the website. Look into its mission and contact information to understand its purpose and potential biases.

2. Read Beyond the Headline

Headlines Can Be Misleading: Headlines are often designed to grab your attention. Make sure to read the entire article to get the full context.

3. Assess the Author'**s** Credibility

Research the Author: Do a quick Google search on the author. **Check** their expertise and affiliations. Understanding who wrote the article can give you insight into the reliability of the information.

4. Examine Links and Sources

**Check** Supporting Information: Review the links and sources cited in the article. Determine if they support the story and consider the reliability of these sources.

5. **Check** the Date

Stay Current: Ensure the information is up-to-date. Old news can sometimes resurface and be mistakenly taken as current.

6. Consider Satire

Outlandish Claims: If a story seems too bizarre, it might be satire. Research the site and author to see if satire is their style.

7. Watch for Promotional Content

**Check** for Bias: Determine if the article is trying to sell a product or promote a particular agenda.

8. **Check** Your Biases

Be Objective: Be aware of your own biases. They can affect how you perceive information.

9. Verify with Other Sources

Cross-**Check** Information: Search other news outlets to see if the story is widely reported. This can help confirm its validity.

10. Still Unsure? Ask the Experts

Librarians are reliable sources because they are trained on managing information, have access to high-quality resources, and aim to provide accurate information.

For a videoversion of these tips and more background, **check** outSpotting Misinformation Onlinefrom LinkedIn Learning (access with your library card number and PIN).

Information Literacy Reading List

Browse a list of information literacy book titles.

**Fact Checking** Sites

**FactCheck**.**org**

**FactCheck**.**org** is a project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, a nonpartisan, nonprofit "consumer advocate" for voters that aims to reduce the level of deception and confusion in **U.S**. politics.

**PolitiFact**

A **fact-checking** website that rates the accuracy of claims by **elected** officials and others who speak up in American politics. **PolitiFact** is run by editors and reporters from the Tampa Bay Times, an independent newspaper in Florida, as is

Pundit Fact, a site devoted to **fact-checking** pundits.

Pundit Fact

A project of the Tampa Bay Times and the Poynter Institute, dedicated to **checking** the accuracy of claims by pundits, columnists, bloggers, political analysts, the hosts and guests of talk shows, and other members of the media.

**Snopes**.com

**Snopes** was founded by David Mikkelson, who lives and works in the Los Angeles area. What he began in 1995 as an expression of his interest in researching urban legends has since grown into what is widely regarded by folklorists, journalists, and laypersons alike as one of the internet'**s** essential resources.

TruthOrFiction

Get the truth about rumors, inspirational stories, virus warnings, hoaxes, scams, humorous tales, pleas for help, urban legends, prayer requests, calls to action, and other forwarded emails. For any query with respect to this article or any other content requirement, please contact Editor at [contentservices@htdigital.in](mailto:contentservices@htdigital.in)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newswire

**Subject:** NEWS BRIEFS (90%); WRITERS (90%); BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); LIBRARIES (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (83%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (78%); LIBRARIANS (78%); LITERACY & ILLITERACY (78%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (78%); CONSUMER PROTECTION (73%); CONSUMER WATCHDOGS (73%); PRESS RELEASES (73%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (73%); SOCIAL MEDIA MISINFORMATION (73%); BACKGROUND **CHECKS** (71%); CONSUMER LAW (63%); POLITICS (63%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (60%); PUBLIC POLICY (60%)

**Organization:**  AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION (84%)

**Industry:** WRITERS (90%); LIBRARIES (89%); LIBRARIANS (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA MISINFORMATION (73%)

**Geographic:** TAMPA, FL, USA (91%); ARIZONA, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** July 16, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FACT CHECK: Did Elon Musk Acquire Ford?; 'The claim is false and appears to originally stem from a September 16 YouTube shared by the channel, 'Elon Musk Rewind,' according to PolitiFact'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DFY-T8S1-JBFB-H4V0-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

November 20, 2024 Wednesday 02:38 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 406 words

**Byline:** Christine Sellers, **Fact Check** Reporter, [christine@checkyourfact.com](mailto:christine@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/GettyImages-2184585949-scaled-e1732030637592.jpg)

A post [shared on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/tomibuenaflor/posts/998780465594750) claims Tesla CEO and owner of X, Elon Musk, has purportedly acquired Ford Motor Company.

**Verdict: False**

The claim is false and appears to originally stem from a Sept. 16 YouTube video shared by the channel “Elon Musk Rewind,” according to **PolitiFact**. A spokesperson for Ford denied the claim'**s** validity in an email to **Check** Your **Fact**.

**Fact Check:**

Musk has reportedly clashed with Boris Epshteyn over President-**Elect** Donald Trump'**s** cabinet picks, according to [Axios](https://www.axios.com/2024/11/18/trump-cabinet-musk-adviser-clash). Musk has accused Epshteyn, a top Trump adviser, of leaking the President-**Elect**'**s** personnel picks to the media, the outlet indicated.

The Facebook post claims Musk has purportedly acquired Ford Motor Company.

“In an unexpected move, Elon Musk has announced the acquisition of the iconic Ford automotive brand, marking a milestone in the automotive industry. The acquisition, which surprised investors and industry followers alike, is portrayed as a revolutionary step in the electric and autonomous vehicle market,” the post reads in part.

“With this purchase, Musk plans to combine Ford'**s** historic manufacturing experience with Tesla'**s** cutting-edge technology, driving the transition toward a future of sustainable mobility. Analysts speculate that this alliance will allow Ford to incorporate innovations in electrical technology and artificial intelligence, which could accelerate new model development and redefine the global automotive market,” it continues.

The claim is false. Musk does not appear to have publicly commented on the claim via his [verified X account](https://x.com/search?lang=en&q=%22elon%20musk%20acquires%20ford%22%20(from%3Aelonmusk)%20lang%3Aen&src=typed_query). Likewise, Ford Motor Company has not issued a [press release](https://media.ford.com/content/fordmedia/fna/us/en/news.html) or [social](https://www.facebook.com/profile/100064959991036/search?q=elon%20musk%20acquires%20ford&filters=eyJycF9jcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lOjAiOiJ7XCJuYW1lXCI6XCJjcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lXCIsXCJhcmdzXCI6XCJ7XFxcInN0YXJ0X3llYXJcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0XFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfeWVhclxcXCI6XFxcIjIwMjRcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTEyXFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xLTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xMi0zMVxcXCJ9XCJ9IiwicnBfY2hyb25vX3NvcnQ6MCI6IntcIm5hbWVcIjpcImNocm9ub3NvcnRcIixcImFyZ3NcIjpcIlwifSJ9) [media](https://x.com/search?lang=en&q=%22elon%20musk%20acquires%20ford%22%20(from%3AFord)%20lang%3Aen&src=typed_query) [statement](https://www.instagram.com/ford) confirming the purported acquisition.

In addition, **Check** Your **Fact** found [no credible news reports](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=b1ce1c954e88e9aa&q=elon+musk+acquires+ford&tbm=nws&source=lnms&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWtG_mNb-HwafvV8cKK_h1a5eSkyfXNgRC6a9SKsMT7FIVFrTRcgQ9wgg-AOu0QCUSi1WWZ90AVgAx1eSHdTBokyQW-1qqfJx0vHJjA1zMdyk6ISTR89NKTIV-reyk4gr4aI1VCz5WcGfAFYa6jbsgOCeH6fabkoqEEGXCDaKnbZf8ZTR8f8fK5htzQZVHfg7gEaT-cQ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjs6_KJ1uiJAxVmv4kEHfOWOY4Q0pQJegQIFRAB&biw=1576&bih=858&dpr=2) to support the claim. Actually, the opposite is true. On Nov. 14, [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/nov/14/facebook-posts/no-elon-musk-did-not-buy-ford-motor-co/) debunked the claim. According to the outlet, the claim seems to originate from a [Sept. 16 YouTube video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y64VuoBZcOM) shared by the channel “Elon Musk Rewind.” The video'**s** description indicates the content is “unverified,” and its information should not be “considered the truth.”

Besides **PolitiFact**, [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/elon-musk-buys-ford/), [VERIFY](https://www.verifythis.com/article/news/verify/business-verify/elon-musk-bought-ford-tesla-fact-check/536-d201c42b-601c-435a-9ee6-caa61e99dd0b), and [Rappler](https://www.rappler.com/newsbreak/fact-check/elon-musk-did-not-buy-ford/) also debunked the claim. [**(RELATED: No, Elon Musk Did Not Announce A Water-Powered Car Engine)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/11/18/fact-check-elon-musk-announce-water-powered-car-engine/)

Furthermore, a spokesperson for Ford denied the claim'**s** validity in an email to **Check** Your **Fact**.

“The story is completely false,” the spokesperson said.

**Check** Your **Fact** has also contacted Musk for comment.

**Graphic**

WASHINGTON, DC - NOVEMBER 13: Elon Musk listens as **U.S**. President-**elect** Donald Trump addresses a House Republicans Conference meeting at the Hyatt Regency on Capitol Hill on November 13, 2024 in Washington, DC. As is tradition with incoming presidents, Trump is traveling to Washington, DC to meet with **U.S**. President Joe Biden at the White House as well as meet with Republican congressmen on Capitol Hill. (Photo by Andrew Harnik/Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); FORTUNE 500 COMPANIES (90%); PRESS RELEASES (90%); TECHNOLOGY (90%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (79%); ELECTRIC VEHICLE INDUSTRY (78%); NEW PRODUCTS (73%); SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION (73%); EMERGING TECHNOLOGY (72%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (51%); elon-musk (%); ford-motor-company (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Company:**  FORD MOTOR CO (98%); META PLATFORMS INC (58%)

**Ticker:** F (NYSE) (98%); META (NASDAQ) (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS336110 AUTOMOBILE AND LIGHT DUTY MOTOR VEHICLE MANUFACTURING (98%); SIC3711 MOTOR VEHICLES & PASSENGER CAR BODIES (98%); NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (58%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (58%); AUTOMOTIVE (90%); INTERNET VIDEO (89%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (89%); AUTOMOTIVE MFG (78%); AUTONOMOUS MOTOR VEHICLES (78%); ELECTRIC VEHICLE INDUSTRY (78%); MANUFACTURING (78%); NEW PRODUCTS (73%); SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORTATION (73%); FUTURE MOBILITY (72%); AUTONOMOUS VEHICLES (68%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (51%)

**Person:** ELON MUSK (95%); DONALD TRUMP (79%)

**Load-Date:** November 20, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [No donations from Sephora to Trump campaign | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DFW-6WK1-F03F-K3Y4-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

November 19, 2024 11:05 PM EST

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**Length:** 482 words

**Body**

**The claim: Sephora donated to Trump's campaign**

A Nov. 10 Threads post ([direct link](https://www.threads.net/@angelique.ambers/post/DCMS30Pxzu8?fbclid=IwY2xjawGh_uJleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHaGifOAHTf3A0uHDqc0qGU5mYYlOt-VXGqe3N952md140pLmNV5mMOiF2w_aem_V7RXXuQ-po9HpR2z2Q7wIg), [archive link](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25337973-annotation-2024-11-18-141149?responsive=1&title=1)) claims a major beauty product retailer financially contributed to President-**elect** Donald Trump'**s** presidential campaign.

"Sephora donated BIG to Trump’**s** campaign," the post reads. "Ulta did not."

The post was shared more than 200 times in nine days. Other versions of the claim, including ones that name numerous other companies, were shared on [Facebook](https://mvau.lt/media/91a29b9e-3c02-4189-85ac-3e7be7029760).

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

Some of Sephora'**s** employees and their immediate family members donated to Trump – the company itself did not. It'**s** illegal for corporations to donate to political campaigns.

**Sephora didn't donate to Trump**

[The Federal **Election** Campaign Act](https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/taking-receipts-political-party/who-can-and-cant-contribute-party-committee/#:~:text=The%20Federal%20Election%20Campaign%20Actaccounts%20maintained%20by%20Hybrid%20PACs.) prohibits corporations from donating to federal candidates. Corporations may set up political committees, called PACs, through which their employees can donate to campaigns, but [the publicly available donation information](https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/lvmh-moet-hennessy-louis-vuitton/recipients?id=D000042116) for [Sephora'**s** parent company](https://www.sephora.com/beauty/about-us#:~:text=Owned%20by%20LVMH%20Mo%C3%ABt%20Hennessybrands%2C%20featuring%20emerging%20favorites%2C%20trusted), LVMH, shows this wasn't the case.

The company'**s** contributions can be found on the nonpartisan and nonprofit campaign finance tracking website [OpenSecrets](https://www.opensecrets.org/). The page lists $318 in "individual" donations to Trump'**s** campaign from "members, employees or owners of the organization and those individuals' immediate family members," but it doesn't show any contributions from the company itself or its PACs.

Meanwhile, the site lists more than $35,000 in donations from Sephora-connected individuals to Vice President Kamala Harris' campaign. Sephora declined to comment on the record.

**Fact check**: [Elon Musk'**s** Trump rally speech touted voter turnout, not $5 billion donation](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/14/elon-musk-5-billion-donation-trump-rally-fact-check/75637657007/)

The page includes a disclaimer reiterating that the company itself did not provide the financial contributions.

In comparison, [individuals affiliated with Ulta](https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/ulta-beauty/summary?id=D000069528) donated more than $7,000 to both Harris and Trump.

USA TODAY previously debunked false claims that [several media companies' CEOs](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/16/media-executives-donate-trump-campaign-fact-check/74407354007/) donated to Trump and that [Oprah Winfrey](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/05/oprah-winfrey-donate-kamala-harris-maui-fact-check/75071296007/) and [four federal agencies](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/04/federal-agencies-donate-harris-fact-check/75059513007/) donated to Harris.

USA TODAY reached out to the user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

[**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/nov/14/threads-posts/claims-that-sephora-donated-to-the-trump-campaign/), [AFP](https://factcheck.afp.com/doc.afp.com.36MC7MX) and [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/sephora-donation-trump-campaign/) also debunked the claim.

**Our fact-check sources**

* OpenSecrets, Oct. 26, [LVMH Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton](https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/lvmh-moet-hennessy-louis-vuitton/recipients?id=D000042116)

1. OpenSecrets, Nov. 19, [Ulta Beauty](https://www.opensecrets.org/orgs/ulta-beauty/summary?id=D000069528)
2. Federal **Election** Commission, accessed Nov. 18, [Who can and can't contribute to a party committee](https://www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/taking-receipts-political-party/who-can-and-cant-contribute-party-committee/#:~:text=The%20Federal%20Election%20Campaign%20Actaccounts%20maintained%20by%20Hybrid%20PACs.)

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*USA TODAY is a* [verified signatory](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/usa-today) *of the International* ***Fact-Checking*** *Network, which requires a demonstrated commitment to nonpartisanship, fairness and transparency. Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a* [grant from Meta](https://www.facebook.com/formedia/mjp/programs/third-party-fact-checking)*.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [No donations from Sephora to Trump campaign | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/19/sephora-donate-trump-campaign-fact-check/76410828007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); CORPORATE GIVING (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); POLITICAL DONATIONS & FUNDRAISING (90%); BIPARTISANSHIP (89%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); CAMPAIGN FINANCE (78%); **ELECTION** LAW (78%); EXECUTIVES (78%); HOLDING COMPANIES (78%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (78%); PARENT COMPANIES (78%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); **ELECTION** AUTHORITIES (77%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (77%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (77%); POLITICS (77%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (74%); GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES (73%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (73%); VOTERS & VOTING (72%); VOTER TURNOUT (68%); PRINT JOURNALISM (62%)

**Company:**  SEPHORA SA (92%); LVMH MOET HENNESSY LOUIS VUITTON SA (82%); META PLATFORMS INC (57%); ULTA BEAUTY INC (51%)

**Ticker:** LVMH (BIT) (82%); MC (PAR) (82%); META (NASDAQ) (57%); ULTA (NASDAQ) (51%)

**Industry:** NAICS456110 PHARMACIES AND DRUG RETAILERS (92%); SIC5912 DRUG STORES & PROPRIETARY STORES (92%); NAICS312130 WINERIES (82%); NAICS312140 DISTILLERIES (82%); NAICS316990 OTHER LEATHER AND ALLIED PRODUCT MANUFACTURING (82%); NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); NAICS325620 TOILET PREPARATION MANUFACTURING (51%); NAICS456120 COSMETICS, BEAUTY SUPPLIES, AND PERFUME RETAILERS (51%); COSMETICS & BEAUTY SUPPLY STORES (90%); RETAIL & WHOLESALE TRADE (90%); COSMETICS & TOILETRIES (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (78%); MEDIA & TELECOMMUNICATIONS (78%); PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS (78%); PRINT JOURNALISM (62%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (89%); ELON MUSK (79%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); OPRAH WINFREY (50%)

**Geographic:** Americas, Northern America

**Load-Date:** November 19, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [No proof of ‘white supremacist’ election threats in Georgia | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DBS-K1H1-JCMC-W4X3-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

November 5, 2024 5:31 PM EST

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**Length:** 495 words

**Body**

**The claim: Georgia sheriff’s office warned of ‘white supremacists’ planning attacks on Black women between Nov. 1 and inauguration**

A Nov. 1 Facebook post ([direct link](https://www.facebook.com/chekita.warner/posts/pfbid0kMafVZShx9AhbR6B1skwtyRkA3j3tNeVfaAE4BsfksMzwV9mrXMDcaD1STMuULT7l), [archive link](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25272437-screenshot-2024-11-05-093128)) warns of a supposed threat against people in one of Georgia’**s** most populous counties.

“Hey ladies, I just received this from a friend who works in the Gwinnett County Sheriff'**s** office,” the post begins. “Be on alert. Last night, a deputy told a family that local White Supremacists/ KKK members originating out of Lexington, NC, are planning to attack from now until the Inauguration.”

It continues, “They are plotting against Blacks, especially black women because in their eyes, we are easy targets! Please be vigilant!”

**More from the Fact-Check Team:** How we pick and research claims | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

There'**s** no evidence of such a threat or such a warning from authorities. The Gwinnett County Sheriff’**s** Office stated that it isn't aware of any **election**-related threats toward any specific groups of people.

**Sheriff’s office hasn’t received threats described in post**

In a [statement released](https://www.facebook.com/gwinnettsheriff/posts/pfbid02qzZ4QBfNhb27pQ1pTwVSEfec52akFjSNKnwRZHQawMNxkDT71LjJXMRrpz9reB22l) Nov. 2 on its Facebook page, the [Gwinnett County Sheriff’**s** Office](https://www.gwinnettcountysheriff.org/) said it wasn’t aware of any such threats. Gwinnett County is northeast of Atlanta.

“We have not received any information indicating threats to any group(**s**) on or after **Election** Day,” the statement says. “Hateful discourse such as this aims to instill fear in the community and disrupt us from exercising our constitutional rights.”

The sheriff’**s** office added that it would work with local, state and federal authorities to investigate any threats related to the **election**.

**Fact check**: [Officials say Kentucky voting glitch an 'isolated incident'](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/04/kentucky-voting-glitch-election-interference-fact-check/76004871007/)

[Rockdale County Sheriff Eric Levett](https://www.rockdalesheriff.com/command-staff/) also debunked the claim, saying in a [Nov. 3 statement](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=955200833302471&set=a.232642325558329) that "we validated that this message is untrue through our sources such as FBI, (the Georgia Bureau of Investigation) and other criminal intelligence agencies." The county is east of Atlanta.

Some experts worry about the potential for **election**-related violence, especially if the race is close when votes are still being counted in the days after Nov. 5, as [USA TODAY previously reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/investigations/2024/11/04/experts-talk-election-violence-2024/76051508007/).

USA TODAY reached out to the social media user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

[**Check** Your **Fact**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/11/05/fact-check-posts-about-white-supremacists-threatening-violent-attacks-in-gwinnett-county-lack-evidence/?fbclid=IwY2xjawGXK8pleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHdsb1l6LF6PcboBOTzlXCi4BCuRs8_eqcZCHGJeHX9BtZzfkASy4B-s6aw_aem_9hcRgFm3YWOsSI6hy6N27w), [**Politifact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/nov/05/facebook-posts/a-georgia-sheriff-did-not-say-kkk-is-plotting-agai/?fbclid=IwY2xjawGXK9pleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHTL8eoJGqvhBTh8rKZu8bV_IUnxmao4GdjYd6etHEyn205O_hoekxcbo5g_aem_m1E7arU3OsavOwapL_lwmg) and [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/voting-georgia-white-supremacist-attacks/) also debunked the claim.

**Georgia Election Results 2024:** [Live updates, maps for every state race](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/11/05/georgia-election-results-live/75703546007/)

**Our fact-check sources:**

* Gwinnett County Sheriff'**s** Office, Nov. 2, [Facebook post](https://www.facebook.com/gwinnettsheriff/posts/pfbid02qzZ4QBfNhb27pQ1pTwVSEfec52akFjSNKnwRZHQawMNxkDT71LjJXMRrpz9reB22l)

1. Rockdale County Sheriff'**s** Office, Nov. 3, [Facebook post](https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=955200833302471&set=a.232642325558329)

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [No proof of ‘white supremacist’ **election** threats in Georgia | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/05/georgia-sheriff-white-supremacist-election-threat-fact-check/76067713007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (90%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (90%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (90%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%)

**Geographic:** ATLANTA, GA, USA (89%); GEORGIA, USA (94%); KENTUCKY, USA (92%); NORTH CAROLINA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%); WESTERN ASIA (59%); North Carolina, Georgia & Kentucky; Georgia & United States; Asia, Western Asia; Americas, Northern America

**Load-Date:** November 5, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Sign with swastika 'absolutely not' from Trump campaign, GOP official says | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DBS-DBM1-JCMC-W16V-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

November 5, 2024 2:11 PM EST

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**Length:** 671 words

**Body**

**The claim: Trump funded campaign sign with swastika on it**

An Oct. 29 Threads post ([direct link](https://www.threads.net/@bigredcelt/post/DBtkIQPxnhq?fbclid=IwY2xjawGQtfxleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHVGwWgeQOFKPYEaQbt2JhcXtCGW_MYlvCtUO3x3Ilh3e2M8RfFI5Wh3Zlg_aem_O5kEy9oIOx7jNtCkvDudGw), [archive link](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25263626-10-29-2024-threads-post-by-bigredcelt)) includes photos of a blue campaign sign for former President Donald Trump with a Nazi symbol embedded in a logo.

"You can't call republicans Nazis just because you don't like them," the post reads. “Here is Trump funded signs with swastikas on them.”

It was reposted more than 650 times in six days. Other versions of the claim that used the same photos, including ones that claimed the sign was spotted in Barnwell, South Carolina, [spread on Facebook](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25264678-10-28-2024-facebook-post-by-kathleen-duffy) and [X, formerly Twitter](https://mvau.lt/media/1bcb78d1-d20d-4c07-9924-fca9f3b9030a).

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

There'**s** no evidence the swastika sign came from Trump'**s** campaign. A Barnwell County official told **PolitiFact** the sign was tampered with, and a Trump spokesperson told USA TODAY the sign was "fake." A local GOP official said close-up images suggest the logo was a sticker placed over a legitimate campaign sign.

**South Carolina Election Results 2024:** [Live updates, maps for every state race](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/11/05/south-carolina-election-results-live/75717127007/)

**Posts circulate amid Democratic Party efforts to compare Trump, Hitler**

The claim circulated after [The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/22/us/politics/john-kelly-trump-fitness-character.html?searchResultPosition=1#:~:text=Trump%20told%20him%20that%20%E2%80%9CHitler%20did%20some%20good%20things.%E2%80%9D) reported on Oct. 22 that Trump said, "You know, Hitler did some good things, too," according to former White House Chief of Staff John Kelly. [The Atlantic](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/24/fabricated-image-headline-trump-hitler-fact-check/75813302007/) also published an article making [similar assertions](https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2024/10/trump-military-generals-hitler/680327/). Spokespeople for Trump refuted both stories.

The [Democratic National Committee](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-madison-square-garden-rally-dnc-projections/) subsequently projected "Trump praised Hitler," on the exterior of Madison Square Garden when former first lady Melania Trump joined her husband onstage during his rally there, prompting her to later say ["He is not Hitler”](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/10/29/melania-trump-hes-not-hitler/75913321007/) during a "Fox & Friends" appearance.

But a yard sign with the swastika logo seen in the social media posts is [not among merchandise](https://secure.winred.com/trump-national-committee-jfc/storefront/?collection=yardsigns) available for purchase from the Trump campaign, and officials said the claim is false.

“The sign was definitely tampered with,” Barnwell County Sheriff’**s** Office records clerk Faith Jackson [told **PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/nov/01/threads-posts/no-the-trump-campaign-is-not-selling-signs-with-sw/). “It wasn’t put out with that on there, somebody put it there.”

[Link to Image](https://www.gannett-cdn.com/authoring/authoring-images/2024/11/02/USAT/76001628007-usatsi-24437331.jpg)

A close review of the logo shows “a line consistent with a sticker placed over” a [legitimate yard sign sold](https://secure.winred.com/trump-national-committee-jfc/storefront/official-trump-2024-yard-sign/details) by the Trump campaign, [Abby Zilch](https://sc.gop/abby-zilch/), a spokesperson for the South Carolina Republican Party, told USA TODAY.

“This was absolutely not produced by the Trump campaign or anyone associated with the Republican Party,” Zilch said. “We condemn any and all forms of antisemitism and encourage local law enforcement to continue their efforts to identify those responsible.”

Trump spokesperson Alex Pfeiffer also told USA TODAY the “fake sign is abhorrent.”

**Fact check**: [Trump name misspelled on voting machine review screen not '**election** fraud'](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/01/typo-trump-name-voting-virginia-fraud-fact-check/75970888007/)

A Massachusetts man was arrested on suspicion of painting a swastika on a Trump campaign sign in late October, as [the Boston Globe reported](https://www.bostonglobe.com/2024/11/01/metro/swastika-cohasset-vandalism-political-sign/).

USA TODAY previously debunked claims that authentic images show [a headline from The Atlantic](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/24/fabricated-image-headline-trump-hitler-fact-check/75813302007/) saying “Trump is literally Hitler” and a Trump post on Truth Social [saying “I hate Adolf Hitler.”](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/29/altered-image-trump-post-hitler-fact-check/75892930007/)

USA TODAY reached out to the Barnwell County Sheriff'**s** Office and the user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive responses.

[**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/news/2024/10/28/trump-sign-swastika-barnwell/) also addressed the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* [Alex Pfeiffer](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/15/donald-trump-corey-lewandowski-2024-campaign/74812607007/https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/15/donald-trump-corey-lewandowski-2024-campaign/74812607007/), Nov. 2, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. **PolitiFact**, Nov. 1, [No, the Trump campaign is not selling signs with swastikas on them](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/nov/01/threads-posts/no-the-trump-campaign-is-not-selling-signs-with-sw/)
2. Trump National Committee, accessed Nov. 1, [Yard Signs](https://secure.winred.com/trump-national-committee-jfc/storefront/?collection=yardsigns)
3. [Abby Zilch](https://sc.gop/abby-zilch/), Oct. 31, Email exchange with USA TODAY

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*USA TODAY is a* [verified signatory](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/usa-today) *of the International* ***Fact-Checking*** *Network, which requires a demonstrated commitment to nonpartisanship, fairness and transparency. Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a* [grant from Meta](https://www.facebook.com/formedia/mjp/programs/third-party-fact-checking)*.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Sign with swastika 'absolutely not' from Trump campaign, GOP official says | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/11/05/swastika-sign-trump-campaign-fact-check/76001396007/)

**Classification**

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**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (89%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (89%); **ELECTION** CRIME (78%); FASCISM (78%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (78%); RACISM & XENOPHOBIA (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); COUNTY GOVERNMENT (77%); ARRESTS (73%); COUNTIES (73%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (73%); FRAUD & FINANCIAL CRIME (73%); ANTISEMITISM (72%); VOTERS & VOTING (72%); POLITICAL CORRUPTION (68%); **ELECTION** TECHNOLOGY (66%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (62%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (62%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (57%); DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (54%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (57%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); NAICS813940 POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (54%); SIC8651 POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (54%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); **ELECTION** TECHNOLOGY (66%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); MELANIA TRUMP (78%); JOHN F KELLY (73%)

**Geographic:** SOUTH CAROLINA, USA (94%); UNITED STATES (94%); EUROPE (90%); UNITED KINGDOM (79%); NORTHERN EUROPE (74%); Northamptonshire, South Carolina, Texas & Massachusetts; United Kingdom & United States; Europe, Northern Europe; Americas, Northern America

**Load-Date:** November 5, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Nonsense comment about Olympics attributed to Harris is fabricated | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CMD-HF51-JCMC-W46H-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

August 1, 2024 9:27 PM EST

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**Length:** 575 words

**Body**

**The claim: Kamala Harris made a nonsensical statement about Olympians**

A July 28 post on Threads ([direct link](https://www.threads.net/@auzenator/post/C9-vYs5zsNC?fbclid=IwY2xjawEWUYxleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHW-cTIoX41UF2JNeDuZLT31JR0LrQNSowbcqy5EfpYJy4Vb2bU-S16-iuw_aem_OakDOF59qcEt47hZELEHFw), [archive link](https://web.archive.org/web/20240731192934/https:/www.threads.net/@auzenator/post/C9-vYs5zsNC)) shows an image of Vice President Kamala Harris alongside a purported quote of hers.

“Today we celebrate the Olympics,” reads the supposed quote. “Because Olympians are Olympic, they are at the Olympics being Olympian, so it’**s** more important now than ever to support their Olympianism.”

The post was liked more than 600 times in four days.

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

The quote is fabricated, according to a spokesperson for Harris’ presidential campaign. There is no evidence she made such a remark.

**Fabricated comment is one of many false claims spreading about Harris**

The Summer Olympics [officially began](https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/olympics/2024/07/26/olympics-opening-ceremony-highlights-takeaways-replay/74555523007/) July 26 in Paris, with athletes from [more than 200 nations](https://www.usatoday.com/story/sports/olympics/2024/07/29/country-names-codes-2024-paris-olympics-national-olympic-committees/74594255007/#:~:text=The%202024%20Paris%20Olympics%20represent,events%20for%20their%20country%27s%20honor.) participating in opening ceremonies along the River Seine. The **U.S**. quickly climbed to the top of the medal count and as of Aug. 1 has [more medals](https://sportsdata.usatoday.com/olympics/medal-count?itm_source=oembed&itm_medium=sports&itm_campaign=medalcount) than any other country.

Harris has [commented](https://apnews.com/article/vice-president-kamala-harris-usa-basketball-b08e2b55e3d839a5df94aca3d646d65b) on the Olympics since announcing her presidential campaign in July, but she did not make the nonsensical comment in the post.

“This is obviously fake,” [Ammar Moussa](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ammar-moussa-629b5a35/), a spokesperson for Harris’ presidential campaign, told USA TODAY in an email.

The social media post did not say when or where Harris made the purported statement. No reliable news source has attributed such a statement to Harris, and a search of her social media accounts for “Olympics” and “Olympians” showed nothing resembling it.

On [July 9](https://apnews.com/article/vice-president-kamala-harris-usa-basketball-b08e2b55e3d839a5df94aca3d646d65b), while still running for re-**election** as vice president, Harris stopped by a **U.S**. men’**s** basketball practice and encouraged the team to “bring back the gold.” She also acknowledged members of several NCAA national championship teams at the White House and noted six of the athletes would be competing in the Olympics on July 22.

“As members of Team USA, you are ambassadors for our nation,” she said, according to a [transcript of the event](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/07/22/remarks-by-vice-president-harris-celebrating-the-2023-2024-ncaa-championship-teams/). “And with pride, we will cheer you on. And we look forward to congratulating you when you bring home the gold.”

**Fact check**: [Yesterday, today, tomorrow quote isn't from Kamala Harris](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/26/kamala-harris-yesterday-today-tomorrow-quote-fact-check/74547397007/)

Since President Joe Biden [ended his re-**election** campaign and endorsed Harris](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/politics/elections/2024/07/21/president-joe-biden-endorses-kamala-harris-in-heated-presidential-race/74491192007/) for president on July 21, misinformation about her has rapidly spread online. USA TODAY has debunked claims that she was [“in charge of the border](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/23/kamala-harris-not-border-czar-of-biden-administration-fact-check/74498717007/),” that photos [purportedly showing her with Jeffrey Epstein](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/29/altered-images-kamala-harris-jeffrey-epstein-fact-check/74586785007/) were authentic and that she [called a teen “racist”](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/30/fabricated-post-kamala-harris-teen-racist-fact-check/74600063007/) in a social media post.

USA TODAY could not reach the social media user who shared the claim for comment.

[**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/jul/29/threads-posts/no-kamala-harris-didnt-say-this-quote-about-the-ol/#:~:text=A%20July%2028%20Threads%20postever%20to%20support%20their%20Olympianism.%22), [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/kamala-harris-olympics-quote/), [AFP](https://factcheck.afp.com/doc.afp.com.367E2Y8) and [Lead Stories](https://leadstories.com/hoax-alert/2024/07/fact-check-kamala-harris-did-not-say-olympians-are-olympic.html) also debunked the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* [Ammar Moussa](https://www.linkedin.com/in/ammar-moussa-629b5a35/), July 31, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. Associated Press, July 9, [Vice Preside](https://apnews.com/article/vice-president-kamala-harris-usa-basketball-b08e2b55e3d839a5df94aca3d646d65b) [nt Kamala Harris stops by Team USA practice, says ‘Bring back the gold’](https://apnews.com/article/vice-president-kamala-harris-usa-basketball-b08e2b55e3d839a5df94aca3d646d65b)
2. The White House, July 22, [Remarks by Vice President Harris Celebrating the 2023-2024 NCAA Championship Teams](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/07/22/remarks-by-vice-president-harris-celebrating-the-2023-2024-ncaa-championship-teams/)

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Nonsense comment about Olympics attributed to Harris is fabricated | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/01/kamala-harris-quote-olympics-fabricated-fact-check/74624053007/)

**Classification**

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**Journal Code:** 666052891

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (56%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY SPORTS (75%); ELECTRONIC MAIL (75%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (94%); JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** PARIS, FRANCE (58%); UNITED STATES (94%); FRANCE (76%); Tennessee; United States; Americas, Northern America

**Load-Date:** August 1, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [CBS Won't Fact Check Vance & Walz, Leftist 'Fact Checkers' Lament Their Lack of 'Courage'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D33-NK91-JCMN-Y4N4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

September 30, 2024 Monday 6:50 PM EST

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**Length:** 385 words

**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

September 30th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52857662264525209200230) )

Associated Press media reporter [David Bauder reported on Friday that CBS News 'says it will be up to the politicians - not the moderators - to **check** the **facts** of their opponents.' That would be a shocking contrast to ABC.](https://apnews.com/article/cbs-debate-vice-president-fact-check-7a3b31c98ab092dd44915df57a359d10)

Angie Drobnic Holan, the former **PolitiFact** boss now overseeing Poynter'**s** International **Fact-Checking** Network, complained to Bauder:

'I'll be interested in seeing how this works in practice,' she said. 'Having said that, you're basically off-loading one of your journalistic responsibilities onto the candidates themselves, so I don't think that it'**s** ideal. It takes journalistic courage to be willing to **fact-check** the candidates, because the candidates are absolutely going to complain about it. I don't think the moderators' first goal is to avoid controversy.'

Or we could joke, moderator **fact-checking** is the Democrats offloading their political responsibilities onto journalists.To compare CNN'**s** approach with ABC'**s** approach this year, it clearly takes more "journalistic courage" to resist the Republican-bashing urges of the media mob.

Here'**s** one big reason to distrust "independent **fact**-checkers" like **PolitiFact** during and after Tuesday'**s** vice-presidential debate. Like their fellow Democrats, they're going to tilt against Vance as the obvious mangler of **facts**, and unload their '**fact checking**" on him.

Gov. Tim Walz was **elected** to the House in 2006, and never drew a **PolitiFact** **check** until August 7, 2024, after Harris picked Walz as her running mate. In [six **fact checks**, he was ruled as "True" once, "Half True" twice, and "Mostly False" or "False" three times.](https://www.politifact.com/personalities/tim-walz/)

None of those were about **fact**-mangling his own biography. They **fact-checked** Vance on [Walz'**s** lies.They also **fact-checked** Vance for getting Walz'**s** record wrong on](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/08/09/politifact-rates-vance-mostly-false-claim-walz-abandoned-unit) ["gender-affirming care."](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/08/29/politifact-rules-vance-was-false-mocking-walzs-weird-trans-refuge)

J.D. Vance was first **fact-checked** on February 20, 2018, before he ran for anything. [Overall now, he has one "True" (the first **check**), one "Mostly True," two "Half True," and 16 on the False side, including three "Pants On Fire" rulings.](https://www.politifact.com/personalities/jd-vance/)

So that'**s** six **checks** for Walz, three on the False side (50 percent), and 20 **checks** for Vance, 16 on the False side (80 percent). Or just note the False **checks** are 16 to 3.The "Pants on Fire" count is 3-zip.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/09/30/cbs-wont-fact-check-vance-walz-leftist-fact-checkers-lament-their)

**Notes**

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**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (94%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); LIBERALISM (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); POLITICS (90%); JOURNALISM (78%); WRITERS (73%); POLITICAL DEBATES (72%); PROFILES & BIOGRAPHIES (50%)

**Industry:** TELEVISION INDUSTRY (78%); WRITERS (73%)

**Person:** J D VANCE (79%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); TIMOTHY J WALZ (79%)

**Load-Date:** September 30, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [14th Amendment doesn't ban felons from taking office | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D92-TG31-F03F-K55H-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

October 28, 2024 5:32 PM EST

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**Length:** 885 words

**Body**

**The claim: The Constitution ‘clearly states that a felon cannot take elective office’**

An Oct. 17 Threads post ([direct link,](https://www.threads.net/@john_fuhr/post/DBPdccARSoF?fbclid=IwY2xjawGF7uRleHRuA2FlbQIxMAABHR2KwCBXm0Nslkv7QyiTWL0jIgddGZ_zRAVsdbR0uSo6VOZrUbNOGJR5Ow_aem_e-0E76ePWanSyPLLB9buCA) [archive link](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25247598-10-17-2024-threads-post-by-john_fuhr)) claims former President Donald Trump would be ineligible to assume office if he’**s** re-**elected** in November.

“OK, section 3 of the 14th Amendment clearly states that a felon cannot take **elective** office – even if that candidate is the winner of the **election**,” the post reads. "So, even if trump (sic) wins, he cannot become president. Is that incorrect?”

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

Neither the 14th Amendment nor any other part of the Constitution bans felons from taking office, an expert told USA TODAY. The section referenced in the post prohibits anyone who took an oath to uphold the Constitution and "engaged in insurrection" from taking office, but a Supreme Court decision in March requires Congress to act in order for it to be enforced.

**Congress tasked with enforcing anti-insurrectionist provision**

Trump was [found guilty in May](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/05/30/donald-trump-verdict-criminal-hush-money-trial/73891042007/) of all 34 felony counts in his New York hush money trial. He was originally [scheduled to be sentenced on July 11](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/05/30/when-donald-trump-sentencing-date/73915034007/), but Judge [Juan Merchan later delayed Trump'**s** sentencing](https://www.reuters.com/legal/judge-rule-donald-trumps-bid-delay-hush-money-sentencing-2024-09-06/) until after the presidential **election**.

But Trump'**s** convictions wouldn’t prevent him from assuming office if he wins re-**election**.

“There is no bar in the Constitution on felons serving as president,” said [David Cole](https://www.law.georgetown.edu/faculty/david-d-cole/), a constitutional law professor at Georgetown University Law Center.

The section referenced in the Threads post does ban people from taking office if they have participated in certain actions. Here’**s** [section three in full](https://constitution.congress.gov/browse/amendment-14/section-3/):

“No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice-President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any State, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any State legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any State, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.”

**Fact check**: [**Election** officials](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/24/ballots-marked-workers-invalidated-fact-check/75799169007/)  [debunk](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/24/ballots-marked-workers-invalidated-fact-check/75799169007/)  [claim that marked ballots are invalid](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/24/ballots-marked-workers-invalidated-fact-check/75799169007/)

The Supreme Court in March [overturned a Colorado Supreme Court ruling](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/03/04/supreme-court-keeps-trump-on-colorados-presidential-ballot/72573619007/) that [allowed Trump to be removed](https://www.scotusblog.com/2024/02/supreme-court-to-decide-whether-insurrection-provision-keeps-trump-off-ballot/) from the state’**s** primary ballots under the provision for [his role in the Jan. 6, 2021, attack](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/trump-calls-jan-6-rioters-we-presidential-debate/75167915007/) on the **U.S**. Capitol.

The [Supreme](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-719_19m2.pdf)  [Court](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-719_19m2.pdf)  [said](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-719_19m2.pdf) states do not have the authority to disqualify candidates for federal office based on the provision.

Granting states such a power could enable a “chaotic state-by-state patchwork, at odds with our nation’**s** federalism principles,” justices Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan and Ketanji Brown Jackson wrote in a concurring opinion.

Rather, "Congress must decide how to enforce" the provision, Columbia University law professor [Philip Bobbitt](https://www.law.columbia.edu/faculty/philip-c-bobbitt) told USA TODAY.

The ruling [cites section five of the 14th Amendment](https://constitution.congress.gov/constitution/amendment-14/) in saying Congress has the "power to enforce" it through "appropriate legislation," but Bobbitt said it has taken no such action since the case was decided.

"So the prospects of barring President Trump now, on the basis of the 14th Amendment, I would say are zero," Bobbitt said.

[Link to Image](https://www.gannett-cdn.com/authoring/authoring-images/2024/10/24/USAT/75831332007-usatsi-23420481.jpg)

It would not be unprecedented for a politician to serve in office as a convicted felon.

Former Alaska Republican Sen. Ted Stevens, for example, was [found guilty of seven felony](https://thehill.com/homenews/news/14376-sen-ted-stevens-guilty-of-all-7-felony-charges/) charges of [making false statements in financial disclosure forms](https://www.justice.gov/archive/opa/pr/2008/July/08-crm-668.html) in 2008. Stevens lost his re-**election** bid that November but remained [in office until January 2009](https://www.mcclatchydc.com/news/article24519271.html).

A federal judge threw out the case later that year after a whistleblower reported prosecutorial misconduct, as [the Anchorage Daily News reported](https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/article/federal-judge-ted-stevens-case-calls-change-evidence-rules/2013/12/14/).

More recently, New Jersey Democratic [Sen. Bob Menendez was convicted](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/07/16/new-jersey-bob-menendez-trial/74358660007/) of [16 felony counts, including](https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2024/07/16/bob-menendez-convicted-trial-bribery/) wire fraud, bribery and obstruction of justice on July 16. Menendez [sent a resignation letter](https://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/politics/read-the-full-text-senator-bob-menendez-resignation-letter/5624339/) to New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy the following week that said his last day in office would be Aug. 20.

USA TODAY has debunked an array of claims related to Trump’**s** hush money trial, including false assertions that Trump’**s** [convictions were overturned](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/16/donald-trump-conviction-overturned-false-fact-check/75699912007/) as of Oct. 10, that he faces up to [187 years in prison](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/05/31/trump-prison-time-fact-check/73916922007/) and that the jury [did not need a unanimous verdict](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/05/31/trump-guilty-verdict-required-unanimous-jury-fact-check/73917128007/) to convict him.

USA TODAY reached out to the user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

[**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2008/11/felons-in-office/) previously debunked a version of the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* [Philip Bobbitt](https://www.law.columbia.edu/faculty/philip-c-bobbitt), Oct. 24, Phone call with USA TODAY

1. [David Cole](https://www.law.georgetown.edu/faculty/david-d-cole/), Oct. 23, Email exchange with USA TODAY
2. Congress.gov, accessed Oct. 23, [Fourteenth Amendment, Section 3 Disqualification from Holding Office](https://constitution.congress.gov/browse/amendment-14/section-3/)

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [14th Amendment doesn't ban felons from taking office | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/10/28/trump-felonies-taking-office-constitution-fact-check/75831079007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (90%); CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); FELONIES (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); SENTENCING (90%); APPEALS (89%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (89%); CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (89%); DECISIONS & RULINGS (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (89%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (89%); SUPREME COURTS (89%); LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (88%); LITIGATION (88%); CRIMINAL OFFENSES (78%); JUDGES (78%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (78%); US STATE GOVERNMENT (78%); 2021 US CAPITOL RIOTS (77%); BALLOTS (77%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (77%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (77%); PRIMARY **ELECTIONS** (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (77%); **ELECTION** AUTHORITIES (76%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (73%); VERDICTS (72%); **ELECTION** WORKERS (71%); LAW SCHOOLS (63%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (50%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (56%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (73%); LAW SCHOOLS (63%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (50%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%)

**Geographic:** COLORADO, USA (79%); WASHINGTON DC, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (97%); New York, Alaska & New Jersey; United States; Americas, Northern America

**Load-Date:** November 1, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [How to Protect Yourself from AI Election Misinformation](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D0H-5MB1-JCMC-W0FM-00000-00&context=1001073)

Time Online

September 17, 2024 Tuesday 7:25 PM EST

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**Length:** 852 words

**Byline:** Rebecca Schneid

**Body**

As the 2024 race for President heats up, so too does concern over the spread of AI misinformation in **elections**.

"It'**s** an arms race," says Andy Parsons, senior director of Adobe'**s** Content Authenticity Initiative (CAI). And it'**s** not a fair race: the use of artificial intelligence to spread misinformation is a struggle in which the "bad guys don't have to open source their data sets or present at conferences or prepare papers," Parsons says.

AI misinformation has already become an issue this year. Pop sensation Taylor Swift [endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris](https://time.com/7020451/taylor-swift-kamala-harris-donald-trump-ai/) after former President Donald Trump posted a fake image of her endorsing him. "It really conjured up my fears around AI, and the dangers of spreading misinformation," Swift stated in the Instagram caption of her Harris endorsement.

The Swift incident isn't the first instance of AI misinformation this **election** cycle. Florida Governor and then Republican presidential candidate Ron DeSantis [posted a campaign video](https://www.npr.org/2023/06/08/1181097435/desantis-campaign-shares-apparent-ai-generated-fake-images-of-trump-and-fauci) in June 2023 including apparently fake images of Trump hugging former National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases director Anthony Fauci. Earlier this year, a political consultant utilized [artificial intelligence-generated robocalls mimicking President Joe Biden'**s** voice](https://apnews.com/article/biden-robocalls-ai-new-hampshire-charges-fines-9e9cc63a71eb9c78b9bb0d1ec2aa6e9c) to voters ahead of New Hampshire'**s** presidential primary, suggesting that voting in the primary would preclude voters from casting ballots in November.

A new study by Parsons and the CAI, published Wednesday, found that a large majority of respondents (94%) are concerned that the spread of misinformation will impact the upcoming **election**, and 87% of respondents said that the rise of generative AI has made it more challenging to discern **fact** from fiction online. The data was collected from 2,002 responses from **U.S**. citizens, all of whom were 18 and older.

"I don't think there'**s** anything that 93% of the American public agrees on, but apparently this is one of them, and I think there'**s** a good reason for that," said Hany Farid, professor at the University of California, Berkeley and advisor to the CAI. "There are people on both sides creating fake content, people denying real content, and suddenly you go online like, 'What? What do I make of anything?'"

A bipartisan group of lawmakers  [introduced legislation Tuesday](https://apnews.com/article/ai-artificial-intelligence-schiff-fitzpatrick-congress-6ef47dcc0e71470957e29767ed5422b1) that would prohibit political campaigns and outside political groups from using AI to pretend to be politicians. [Multiple state legislatures](https://www.citizen.org/article/tracker-legislation-on-deepfakes-in-elections/) have now also introduced bills regulating deepfakes in **elections**.

Parsons believes now is a "true tipping point" in which "consumers are demanding transparency." But in the absence of significant laws or effective technological guardrails, there are things you can do to protect yourself from AI misinformation heading into November, researchers say.

One key tactic is to not rely on social media for **election** news. "Getting off social media is step number one, two, three, four, and five; it is not a place to get reliable information," says Farid. You should view X (formerly Twitter) and Facebook as spaces for fun, not spaces to "become an informed citizen," he says.

Since social media is where many deepfakes and AI misinformation disseminate, informed citizens must **fact check** their information with sites like **Politifact**, **factcheck**.**org**, and **Snopes**, or major media outlets, before reposting. "The **fact** is: more likely than not you're part of the problem, not the solution," Farid says. "If you want to be an informed citizen, fantastic. But that also means not poisoning the minds of people, and going to serious outlets doing **fact checks**."

Another strategy is to carefully examine the images you're seeing spread online. Kaylyn Jackson Schiff and Daniel Schiff, assistant professors of political science at Purdue University, are working on a database tracking politically-relevant deepfakes. They say technology has made it harder than ever for consumers to be proactive and spot the differences between AI-generated content and reality. Still, they have found in their research that many of the popular deepfakes they study are "lower quality" than real photos.

"We'll go to conferences and people say, 'Well, I knew those were fake. I knew that Trump wasn't meeting with Putin.' But we don't know if this works for everybody," Daniel Schiff says. "We know that the images that can be created can be super persuasive to coin-flip levels of accuracy detection by the public." And as the technology advances, that'**s** only going to become more difficult, and the strategy may "not work in two years or three years," he says.

To help users evaluate what they're seeing online, the CAI is working to implement "Content Credentials," which they describe as a "nutrition label" for digital content, carrying verifiable metadata like the date and time the content was created, edited, and signaling whether and how AI may have been used. Still, researchers agree that reestablishing public faith in trusted information will need to be a multifaceted effort-including regulations, technology, and consumer media literacy. Says Farid: "There is no silver bullet."

**Contact us** at [letters@time.com](mailto:letters@time.com?subject=(READER%20FEEDBACK)%20How%20to%20Protect%20Yourself%20from%20AI%20Election%20Misinformation&body=https%3A%2F%2Ftime.com%2F7022120%2Fai-election-misinformation-2024%2F).

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 671821019

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (93%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (91%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); PRIMARY **ELECTIONS** (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (89%); GENERATIVE AI (89%); POLITICS (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (79%); BALLOTS (78%); BIPARTISANSHIP (78%); DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (78%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (78%); POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (78%); POLITICAL PARTIES (78%); US STATE GOVERNMENT (78%); POLLS & SURVEYS (76%); RESEARCH REPORTS (71%); LEGISLATION (70%); DISEASES & DISORDERS (68%); HEALTH DEPARTMENTS (66%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (50%)

**Organization:** NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY & INFECTIOUS DISEASES (55%)

**Industry:** ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); GENERATIVE AI (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); HEALTH DEPARTMENTS (66%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (50%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); JOE BIDEN (79%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); RON DESANTIS (79%); ANTHONY FAUCI (71%)

**Geographic:** SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA, CA, USA (67%); CALIFORNIA, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%); EUROPE (92%); UNITED KINGDOM (79%); NORTHERN EUROPE (73%); New Hampshire & Gloucestershire; United States & United Kingdom; Americas, Northern America; Europe, Northern Europe

**Load-Date:** September 18, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Decades-long ban on religious Easter eggs falsely attributed to Biden | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BPY-15G1-F03F-K1KM-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

April 4, 2024

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**Section:** RELIGION NEWS

**Length:** 799 words

**Byline:** Hannah Hudnall, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: New Biden rule bans religious-themed eggs from White House Easter event**

A March 30 Instagram post ([direct link](https://www.instagram.com/olemuricanews/p/C5JZMKuutx5/), [archive link](https://archive.is/CXOpS)) shows President Joe Biden standing beside a person in a bunny suit in front of a crowd of onlookers.

"White House bans religious Easter egg designs from its art contest event for the children of National Guard members," reads the text beneath the picture.

The post'**s** caption says, "Breaking: Joe Biden’**s** White House is laying down new rules for the religious holiday tradition – no 'religious symbols' or 'overtly religious themes.'"

The post garnered more than 2,000 likes in four days. Other versions of the claim were shared on [Facebook](https://archive.org/details/screenshot-360) and [X, formerly Twitter](https://archive.is/LCTXa). [Speaker of the House Mike Johnson](https://twitter.com/SpeakerJohnson/status/1774147658841493617/photo/2) and [South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem](https://twitter.com/KristiNoem/status/1774250831275016525) also shared the claim.

Many of these claims surfaced alongside claims that Biden replaced Easter Sunday with Transgender Visibility Day, which USA TODAY [previously debunked](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/03/white-house-biden-easter-transgender-day-of-visibility/73181508007/). Biden issued states in recognition of both events.

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

The restriction on religious imagery isn't new and isn't from Biden. The rule has been enforced for decades by the government-sponsored organization that hosts White House Easter events.

**Religious restriction predates Biden administration**

The post appears to reference [a flyer released by the White House](https://va.ng.mil/Portals/55/Documents/2024_WHEER_EggSubmissionForm.pdf), which advertised an Easter egg decorating event for children of National Guard members. The flyer states under its "restrictions" section that the eggs must not be decorated with "religious symbols" or "overtly religious themes." It also cautions against decorating the eggs with a number of other restricted themes, symbols and topics, including anything that "promotes bigotry, racism, hatred or harm against any group or individual."

But these rules were not implemented by Biden or his administration.

[Emily Metz](https://www.incredibleegg.org/about-us/newsroom/american-egg-board-names-emily-metz-president-and-chief-executive-officer/), president and CEO of the event'**s** organizer, the American Egg Board, told USA TODAY these guidelines had been in place long before the Biden administration.

"The Egg Board and other [commodity boards](https://nationalaglawcenter.org/overview/checkoff/#:~:text=Checkoff%20programs%20%E2%80%93%20also%20referred%20to,to%20specific%20producers%20or%20brands.) are prohibited from discriminating in all programming and activities on the basis of religion, political beliefs and all other stated categories," Mertz said in an email. "The American Egg Board has been a supporter of the White House Easter Egg Roll for over 45 years and the guideline language referenced in recent news reports has consistently applied to the board since its founding, across administrations."

As Metz noted, the board is part of a government-sponsored [checkoff program](https://nationalaglawcenter.org/overview/checkoff/), meaning it promotes and provides research for a particular agricultural commodity – in this case, eggs – and [must remain secular](https://www.uscourts.gov/educational-resources/educational-activities/first-amendment-and-religion) in its messages.

The board has also presented [the First Lady'**s** Commemorative Egg](https://www.incredibleegg.org/commemorative-egg/) on behalf of American egg farmers since 1977. An archive of the specialized eggs from the past six decades shows that none have portrayed any religious imagery.

The board said in [a March 31 statement](https://www.incredibleegg.org/about-us/newsroom/special-easter-egg-exhibit-at-the-white-house-in-collaboration-with-americas-egg-farmers-celebrates-national-guard-children/) that it has been hosting events such as these for years, while "remaining non-discriminatory and not showing preference to any individual religious or political viewpoints as (the board) is prohibited from doing as a national checkoff organization."

**Fact check**: [False claim Pope Francis said Catholics could 'eat whatever you want' during Lent](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/02/19/pope-lent-quote-eat-whatever-you-want-fact-check/72642302007/)

Elizabeth Alexander, a White House spokesperson, [shared a post on X](https://twitter.com/EAlexander46/status/1774171002684993579) saying, "The American Egg Board flyer’**s** standard non-discrimination language requesting artwork has been used for the last 45 years, across all Dem & Republican Admins – for all WH Easter Egg Rolls – incl. previous Administration’**s**."

USA TODAY reached out to the user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

[**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/apr/01/kristi-noem/claim-that-joe-biden-banned-religious-easter-egg-d/), [the Associated Press](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-biden-easter-egg-transgender-proclamation-667689922248), [AFP](https://factcheck.afp.com/doc.afp.com.34N694W), [**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/04/partisan-controversy-over-easter-and-transgender-day-of-visibility/) and [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/biden-ban-religion-easter-egg/) also debunked the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* [Emily Metz](https://www.incredibleegg.org/about-us/newsroom/american-egg-board-names-emily-metz-president-and-chief-executive-officer/), March 2, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. American Egg Board, accessed April 3, [The First Lady’**s** Commemorative Egg](https://www.incredibleegg.org/commemorative-egg/)
2. American Egg Board, March 31, [Special Easter Egg Exhibit at the White House in Collaboration with America’**s** Egg Farmers Celebrates National Guard Children](https://www.incredibleegg.org/about-us/newsroom/special-easter-egg-exhibit-at-the-white-house-in-collaboration-with-americas-egg-farmers-celebrates-national-guard-children/)
3. National Agricultural Law Center, accessed April 3, [Checkoff Programs – An Overview](https://nationalaglawcenter.org/overview/checkoff/)
4. Elizabeth Alexander, March 30, [X post](https://twitter.com/EAlexander46/status/1774171002684993579)
5. White House, Jan. 9, [Egg Submission Form](https://va.ng.mil/Portals/55/Documents/2024_WHEER_EggSubmissionForm.pdf)

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Decades-long ban on religious Easter eggs falsely attributed to Biden | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/04/ban-on-religious-easter-egg-designs-not-biden/73183276007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** EASTER SEASON (92%); RELIGION (91%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (89%); CHRISTIANS & CHRISTIANITY (79%); DISCRIMINATION (79%); RACE & ETHNICITY (79%); RACISM & XENOPHOBIA (79%); RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION (79%); AGENCY RULEMAKING (78%); AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY REGULATION (78%); CUSTOMS & CULTURAL HERITAGE (78%); EXECUTIVES (78%); NEGATIVE SOCIETAL NEWS (78%); COMMODITIES TRADING (76%); TRANSGENDER PERSONS (73%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (56%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); CHICKEN EGG PRODUCTION (89%); AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY REGULATION (78%); COMMODITIES TRADING (76%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (92%); KRISTI NOEM (89%)

**Geographic:** SOUTH DAKOTA, USA (93%); WASHINGTON DC, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%); District of Columbia & South Dakota; United States; Americas, Northern America

SUB: TRANSGENDER PERSONS

SUB: AGENCY RULEMAKING

SUB: CUSTOMS & CULTURAL HERITAGE

SUB: RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION

GEO: UNITED STATES; SOUTH DAKOTA, USA

PEO: JOE BIDEN

SUB: HOLIDAYS & OBSERVANCES

SUB: DISCRIMINATION

SUB: EXECUTIVES

SUB: EASTER SEASON

GEO: UNITED STATES

PEO: KRISTI NOEM

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

SUB: RELIGION

SUB: NEGATIVE SOCIETAL NEWS

SUB: AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY REGULATION

IND: AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY REGULATION

SUB: NEGATIVE NEWS

SUB: RACISM & XENOPHOBIA

SUB: CHRISTIANS & CHRISTIANITY

SUB: RACE & ETHNICITY

**Load-Date:** April 4, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [OPINION-Media literacy is fundamental, especially in 2024 - The Daily Egyptian](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D7Y-0CG1-JBSN-32PP-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Egyptian: Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

October 22, 2024 Tuesday

University Wire

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 1

**Length:** 787 words

**Body**

Because of the 9.4 million dollar deficit SIU'**s** Carbondale campus is running on, the School of Music faces massive challenges. However, the... COLUMN - Beyond the newsroom: The power of interdisciplinary researchBy Carly Gist, News Editor · October 22, 2024

EDITOR'**S** NOTE - This story includes content related to suicide. If you or someone you know needs help, the national suicide and crisis lifeline... OPINION-Media literacy is fundamental, especially in 2024By Mylee Walker, Staff Reporter · October 22, 2024

When you read an article, what is the first question you ask yourself? Do you think of the potential bias? Do you **fact check**? In the age of artificial...

Tweets by dailyegyptian

Categories:

* Latest News

1. Opinion
2. Showcase

OPINION-Media literacy is fundamental, especially in 2024

By Mylee Walker, Staff Reporter

October 22, 2024

Illustrated by Dena Rendlemen | [email protected]

When you read an article, what is the first question you ask yourself? Do you think of the potential bias? Do you **fact check**? In the age of artificial intelligence and fake news it is even more important to be media literate. It can be hard to notice these things, especially as technology advances and it becomes harder to distinguish truth from fiction. In honor of Media Literacy Week, let'**s** deep dive into

Media is a part of our life. We absorb information at every moment of every day. We look at media through our phones, computers and televisions. There are pros to most media, just as there are cons. Media can breed creativity, providing outlets for people to express themselves. It can also spread information quickly, allowing people to learn about things faster.

While this is beneficial, it can also be a double-edged sword. The creativity can evolve into deviance, and morally corrupt media can be made. The spread of information can cause the spread of misinformation.

Misinformation is defined by The National Association of Media Literacy Education as false information, while disinformation is defined as false information that is intended to trick or mislead people. NAMLE is an association of educators who place importance of media literacy.

But many Americans are undereducated in media literacy. According to Media Literacy Now, an organization that researches and releases data on media literacy, a majority of Americans were not taught how to analyze media. In a survey, they found that 62% of respondents felt they did not have an opportunity in class to reflect on media messages, such as advertising or on TV programs, and how they might affect people'**s** thoughts, beliefs, feelings or actions.

Advertisement\*

 There has been a call for more cohesive media literacy education in the nation, with the rise in media exposure in younger generations. Younger people are on the internet earlier than ever, so teaching them how to think critically about the media they are consuming is important.

According to Media Literacy Now, children aged 2 to 8 spend an average of two hours per day consuming media of all kinds. Children aged 8 and 12 spend four to six hours. Additionally, adolescents over 12 years old spend an average of seven to nine hours per day.

This education can be beneficial all of the time, but being media literate can benefit people especially during **election** years. Candidates and their associates can say things that are half-truths or just full-on lies. There are many places to **fact check**, one being The News Literacy Project. They have a couple of places to find **election** information, including **fact checking**. There are plenty more, like **Snopes**, [https://www.**snopes**.com](https://www.snopes.com)/ ; **Politifact**, [https://www.**politifact**.com](https://www.politifact.com)/ (which is a part of Poyner); and RumorGuard <https://www.rumorguard.org>/ (which is a part of The News Literacy Project).

The trick to finding the balance is finding resources, of which there are many.

The National Association of Media Literacy Education, <https://namle.org/about/>, is a good resource because it has a lot of information in regard to media literacy. It has a lot of resources for children, including free activities.

Media Literacy Now, <https://medialiteracynow.org/about/mission/> ,

is similar, providing free media literacy research.

Media literacy is super important for people to know, and not something to ignore. Most people have seen a social media post that they took as a truth when it was not. Knowing how to process information given to you can make the difference in your life.

I know personally I have been tricked by AI images or fake news. It takes one glance and a moment for you to make a decision about something. It takes another to realize that it may be manipulated. Especially during **election** season, please be careful about the information you consume.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); FAKE NEWS (79%); MUSIC EDUCATION (78%); TEACHING & TEACHERS (78%); EMOTIONS (76%); CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS & TEENS (73%); TECHNOLOGY (67%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (66%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (52%)

**Industry:** TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (77%); TELEVISION EQUIPMENT (64%); TELEVISION ADVERTISING (60%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (52%)

**Geographic:** ILLINOIS, USA (90%); UNITED STATES (92%); Carbondale; IL

**Load-Date:** October 23, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FACT CHECK: Video Of Kamala Harris Calling Trump 'Hitler' On Joe Rogan's Podcast Is AI-Generated; 'The claim is false. Check Your Fact conducted a scan of the video using the website, 'TrueMedia.org,' and the results indicate the video has been generated with artificial intelligence (AI)'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DBJ-8911-JBFB-H4B2-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

November 4, 2024 Monday 03:36 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 494 words

**Byline:** Christine Sellers, **Fact Check** Reporter, [christine@checkyourfact.com](mailto:christine@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/GettyImages-2181641241-e1730486021102.jpg)

A viral video [shared on X](https://x.com/Dannyjokes/status/1850239837191704985) claims 2024 Democratic nominee Vice President Kamala Harris called 2024 Republican nominee and former President Donald Trump “Hitler” on Joe Rogan'**s** podcast, “The Joe Rogan Experience.”

BREAKING NEWS: Kamala Harris Goes On The Joe Rogan Podcast [pic.twitter.com/un2hegCQ8m](https://t.co/un2hegCQ8m)

- Danny Polishchuk (@Dannyjokes) [October 26, 2024](https://twitter.com/Dannyjokes/status/1850239837191704985?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Verdict: False**

**Check** Your **Fact** conducted a scan of the video using the website “TrueMedia.org,” and the results indicate the video has been generated with artificial intelligence (AI). In addition, a media forensics and AI expert denied the video'**s** authenticity in an email to **Check** Your **Fact**.

**Fact Check:**

USA Today/Suffolk University'**s** final poll before the 2024 presidential **election** shows Harris and Trump are tied at 49% in Pennsylvania among likely voters, according to [Newsweek](https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-erases-kamala-harris-lead-final-pennsylvania-poll-1978561). A Sept. 16 poll from USA Today/Suffolk University showed Harris was ahead of Trump in Pennsylvania by three points, the outlet reported.

The X video, viewed over four million times as of writing, claims Harris called Trump “Hitler” on Rogan'**s** podcast, “The Joe Rogan Experience.”

“Joe, Donald Trump is literally Adolf Hitler,” Harris appears to say. Later in the same video, Harris appears to liken Trump'**s** campaign rally at Madison Square Garden to a Nazi rally held at the same venue in 1939. Besides X, the claim also circulated on [Threads](https://www.threads.net/@secondbreakfastinvesting/post/DBof3ECPI2a).

The claim is false. **Check** Your **Fact** conducted a scan of the video using the website “[TrueMedia.org](https://www.truemedia.org/),” and the results indicate the video has been generated with AI. According to the results of the scan, the video features AI-generated audio as well as “face manipulation.”

Likewise, **Check** Your **Fact** did not find the claim referenced on [Harris' 2024 campaign website](https://kamalaharris.com/) or her [verified](https://www.facebook.com/profile/100044293396335/search?q=BREAKING%20NEWS%3A%20Kamala%20Harris%20Goes%20On%20The%20Joe%20Rogan%20Podcast%20calls%20trump%20hitler&filters=eyJycF9jcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lOjAiOiJ7XCJuYW1lXCI6XCJjcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lXCIsXCJhcmdzXCI6XCJ7XFxcInN0YXJ0X3llYXJcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0XFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfeWVhclxcXCI6XFxcIjIwMjRcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTEyXFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xLTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xMi0zMVxcXCJ9XCJ9IiwicnBfY2hyb25vX3NvcnQ6MCI6IntcIm5hbWVcIjpcImNocm9ub3NvcnRcIixcImFyZ3NcIjpcIlwifSJ9) [social](https://x.com/search?lang=en&q=%22BREAKING%20NEWS%3A%20Kamala%20Harris%20Goes%20On%20The%20Joe%20Rogan%20Podcast%20calls%20trump%20hitler%22%20(from%3AKamalaHarris)%20lang%3Aen&src=typed_query) [media](https://www.instagram.com/kamalaharris/) [accounts](https://www.tiktok.com/@kamalaharris). In addition, **Check** Your **Fact** found [no credible news reports](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=831957950881813e&q=vice+president+kamala+harris+calls+former+president+trump+%27hitler%27+on+joe+rogan%27s+podcast&tbm=nws&source=lnms&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWZJPk1C9buWu--tLPKEpSxLqGfZiWMqdk6VF37sVUbkfuZLTj2oNC7EnrW0kOrs5_yzXFS7PD2zj-5Cc29Wnj5IzUaHojAIdqyC1HLwD4s3t6yQTN3GWiMOqP8qmSGPrM-HvbeP0BNRK8Wqte9HmotWM1zQEo4dCAawyxemAaFagOZxAL5y9hRm7COvNj7qslVUA19g&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwi5wf7C5ruJAxXDAHkGHeYZPZkQ0pQJegQIExAB&biw=1578&bih=860&dpr=2) suggesting Harris has appeared on Rogan'**s** podcast. Actually, the opposite is true.

On Oct. 30, [Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/media/joe-rogan-explains-details-about-harris-missed-opportunity-appear-his-podcast) reported Harris' campaign had reached out to Rogan following his “open invitation” to have her on his podcast. The interview was scrapped, however, because Rogan would not agree to the campaign'**s** demands that the interview only be one hour and that Rogan would travel to meet the Vice President, according to the outlet. [**(RELATED: Does Viral Photo Show Kamala Harris In McDonald's Uniform?)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/10/28/fact-check-does-viral-photo-show-kamala-harris-in-a-mcdonalds-uniform/)

[**Politifact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/oct/31/threads-posts/harris-hasnt-appeared-on-the-joe-rogan-experience/) also **fact-checked** the viral X video, indicating it was AI-generated.

Furthermore, Dr. Walter Scheirer, a media forensics and AI expert at the University of Notre Dame, denied the video'**s** authenticity in an email to **Check** Your **Fact**.

“This video allegedly from the Joe Rogan podcast is likely the product of AI editing or other software editing. The jaw of Harris deforms in unnatural ways when delivering lines about Hitler. And the audio sounds synthesized throughout the clip. Further, the video was posted by comedian Danny Polishchuk, making it highly likely it was produced for entertainment purposes,” Scheirer said.

**Graphic**

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN - OCTOBER 28: Democratic presidential nominee, **U.S**. Vice President Kamala Harris speaks during a campaign rally on October 28, 2024 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. With one week remaining before **Election** Day, Harris continues rallying with supporters in the battleground swing state of Michigan while campaigning against Republican presidential nominee, former **U.S**. President Donald Trump. (Photo by Brandon Bell/Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** POLITICAL CANDIDATES (91%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); GENERATIVE AI (90%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); VIRAL VIDEOS (90%); INTERVIEWS (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); POLITICS (79%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (78%); VOTERS & VOTING (74%); FORENSICS (70%); 2024-**election** (%); president-donald-trump (%); vice-president-kamala-harris (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (62%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (62%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (62%); PODCASTING (91%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); GENERATIVE AI (90%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (90%); VIRAL VIDEOS (90%); VIDEO INDUSTRY (78%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (94%); JOE ROGAN (94%); KAMALA HARRIS (94%)

**Geographic:** PENNSYLVANIA, USA (92%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Who is Robert F. Kennedy Jr. the man Trump wants to entrust with the U.S. Department of Health?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DH6-GWS1-JCG7-8448-00000-00&context=1001073)

CE Noticias Financieras English

November 25, 2024 Monday

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**Length:** 1365 words

**Body**

<p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">The announcements of who will occupy the top positions in the new US administration headed by Donald Trump have not taken long to follow once the re-**election** of the former president has been confirmed. He has chosen Elon Musk (along with Vivek Ramaswamy) to co-lead the new Department of Government Efficiency, Linda McMahon (a former wrestling executive) as Secretary of Education, Pete Hegseth (a Fox News contributor) to lead the Pentagon and Chris Wright (an oil company executive and climate change denier) to head the Department of Energy.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">However, all eyes are focused on the nomination of Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to lead the **U.S**. Department of Health. The 70-year-old lawyer has no proven training in the field of health, and stood out throughout the covid-19 pandemic for defending a discourse full of falsehoods and deceptions in this regard. His campaign throughout 2023 for this year'**s** presidential **election** took the title of "lie of the year" according to **Politifact**, a **fact-checking** entity member as Verificat of the International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN).</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Throughout that 2023 Kennedy spread several anti-vaccine misinformations (even though he rejects the anti-vaccine label), linked gender dysphoria to environmental chemicals, blamed antidepressants for school shootings, and denied that the HIV virus is the cause of AIDS.

We **check** out the most viral misinformations!</p> <h3 class="subtitle">Covid-19: from ethnic bioweapon to fake treatments</h3><p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">The name of John F. Kennedy'**s** nephew resounded loudly during the covid-19 pandemic. The lawyer claimed that the disease "is targeted to attack Caucasians and black people" while "the most immune people are Ashkenazi Jews and Chinese". Still, there is no evidence that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes the disease, is a biological weapon, and no **U.S**. intelligence agency considers it to be one. This was explained by **Factcheck**.**org**, a member verification platform like IFCN'**s** Verificat.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Kennedy has also been - and remains - a fervent advocate of ivermectin (a drug used to treat parasites such as scabies) and hydroxychloroquine (useful in the treatment of malaria, lupus and rheumatoid arthritis) as treatments against covid-19, even though several clinical trials have shown neither to be useful or recommended.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Disinformation about the disease vaccines was not long in coming. Kennedy went so far as to claim that they were "the deadliest vaccines ever made," citing data from the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS). Even so, as we have repeatedly explained from Verificat, this platform collects all adverse events following vaccination, regardless of whether or not they are related to it, and therefore it is not a tool for counting the consequences of the vials.</p> <h3 class="subtitle">Vaccines and autism, a largely disproven link</h3><p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Robert Kennedy heads the non-profit organization Children'**s** Health Defense, an entity dedicated to promoting anti-vaccine disinformation. Several investigations, such as this one by the Centers Against Digital Hate (CCDH) or this one by the Journal of Medical Internet Research, point him out as one of the great influencers of disinformation in this aspect, due to the great loudspeaker he has in social networks.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">In an interview with Fox News in July 2023, he claimed to believe that "autism comes from vaccines". This idea has been widely dismantled by scientific evidence, which has never found any causal relationship between the two **facts**. A 1998 study proposed the link, but it was later retracted and subsequent work has denied it. A journalistic investigation conducted by Brian Deer in the British newspaper The Times revealed that Andrew Wakefield, the lead author, had manipulated the data and had conflicts of interest.</p> <h3 class="subtitle">Gender dysphoria is not caused by a weed killer</h3><p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">In a June 2023 podcast, the man who has been appointed as the next director of the **U.S**. Department of Health claimed that "a lot of the sexual dysphoria we're seeing" in children supposedly comes "from chemical exposures." Throughout his speech he specified that he was referring to an herbicide called atrazine, which dissolved in water would have caused male frogs to develop female sexual organs and become infertile, according to a study.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">The dictionary of medical terms of the Spanish Royal National Academy of Medicine lists the term sexual dysphoria as a synonym for gender dysphoria, which refers to the discomfort people suffer when their biological sex does not match their gender identity. There is no evidence, however, that this is the result of exposure to any environmental chemical. The frog study Kennedy refers to is real, but it does not validate the link between a transgender identity and atrazine in humans, as the research leader explained to **Politifact**.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Atrazine has been a banned herbicide in the European Union since 2004 due to environmental and animal health concerns. In contrast, it is authorized in the United States. Several studies have linked its exposure in humans to health problems, especially hormone-related ones. These include birth defects and lower birth weight, as well as liver and breathing problems. It has also been linked to reproductive problems in mammals. No work, therefore, links it to gender identity.</p> <h3 class="subtitle">Antidepressants, HIV and wifi</h3><p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Over the past few years, Kennedy has also repeated other evidence-free claims, such as that school shootings are the result of antidepressant use. The link, however, does not hold up. For one thing, because 13% of the **U.S**. population takes them. If they encouraged shootings, these events would be much more common, according to experts consulted by **Politifact**. On the other, because on most occasions the attacker was not taking antidepressants, as an investigation by USA Today, also a member of the IFCN, found.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Another claim that the lawyer has repeated, and even put in writing in his 2021 book, is that there is no evidence that AIDS is caused by HIV. In reality, however, the scientific community has established the link for years, and today knows perfectly well the mechanism by which HIV infects cells and causes AIDS. In addition, there are treatments that to some extent put the virus to sleep and prevent the syndrome from developing.</p> <p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Kennedy has also claimed that wifi causes cancer, a link that Verificat has already denied. Entities such as the World Health Organization (WHO), the **U.S**. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the National Cancer Institute, among others, rule out such an effect. Wi-Fi emits non-ionizing, i.e., low-energy radiation. The only reported health effect is tissue heating.</p> -----------------------------------------------------------------<p data-gtm-element-container="modulo-texto-link" class="paragraph">Verificat is a Catalan non-profit **fact-checking** platform. It is dedicated to verify the political discourse and content circulating in the networks and to education for the critical consumption of information. It is part of the International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN) and the European **Fact-Checking** Standards Network (EFCSN).</p>

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CENFENG

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (90%); GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES (90%); HEALTH DEPARTMENTS (90%); PUBLIC HEALTH (90%); PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (90%); ANTI-VACCINE MOVEMENT (89%); ARTHRITIS (89%); COVID CORONAVIRUS (89%); COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS (89%); DISEASES & DISORDERS (89%); EPIDEMICS (89%); HEALTH MISINFORMATION (89%); INFECTIOUS DISEASE (89%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (89%); VACCINES (89%); ADVERSE DRUG EVENT REPORTING (87%); VIRUSES (87%); CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (86%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (77%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (77%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (77%); CORONAVIRUSES (76%); EDUCATION DEPARTMENTS (76%); LUPUS (76%); ENERGY DEPARTMENTS (75%); AIDS & HIV (74%); NEGATIVE NEWS (73%); PANDEMICS (73%); VACCINATION & IMMUNIZATION (73%); EXECUTIVES (72%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (72%); LAWYERS (70%); AUTOIMMUNE DISORDERS (68%); INFLAMMATORY DISEASES (68%); RHEUMATIC DISEASES (67%); IMMUNE SYSTEM DISORDERS (66%); MALARIA (65%); SCHOOL VIOLENCE (65%); SKIN DISORDERS (62%); INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (61%); GENDER DYSPHORIA (50%); JEWS & JUDAISM (50%); SCHOOL SHOOTINGS (50%); SHOOTINGS (50%); vida (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (83%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (83%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (83%); HEALTH DEPARTMENTS (90%); ANTI-VACCINE MOVEMENT (89%); HEALTH MISINFORMATION (89%); VACCINES (89%); ADVERSE DRUG EVENT REPORTING (87%); CHEMICAL & BIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (86%); ENERGY & UTILITIES (76%); ENERGY DEPARTMENTS (75%); VACCINATION & IMMUNIZATION (73%); ANTI-INFECTIVES (72%); LAWYERS (70%); OIL & GAS INDUSTRY (70%); PHARMACEUTICALS PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT (70%); CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DRUGS (67%); ANTIDEPRESSANTS (65%); PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS (65%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); JOHN F KENNEDY (79%); LINDA MCMAHON (79%); ELON MUSK (73%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (93%)

**Load-Date:** November 26, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Column: Bungling Biden's Commencement Whoppers](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C34-CP61-JCMN-Y2NH-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Length:** 607 words

**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

May 22nd, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-171637239563925976100152) )

<?xml encoding="UTF-8"?????>

President Biden made a well-publicized commencement address on Sunday morning, May 19 at Morehouse College in Atlanta, a historically black college. The networks touted the speech, but didn't put any '**fact** checkers' on it. It contained at least four fibs.

In an echo of his 1987 lies that crumbled his first presidential campaign, Biden claimed, 'I was the first Biden to ever graduate from college.' A newspaper obituary for his maternal grandfather Ambrose Finnegan noted he graduated college.

He repeated his story that his son Beau died of a brain tumor after he spent 'a year in Iraq as a major - he won the Bronze Star -living next to a burn pit.' In 2019, **FactCheck**.**org** noted the science on cancer from exposure to burn pits in Iraq was 'insufficient,' but Biden tells that story often.

Then Biden uncorked his typical race-baiting: 'Today in Georgia, they won't allow water to be available to you while you wait in line to vote in an **election**.' Georgia'**s** legislature passed a bill in 2021 that said no person should 'give, offer to give, or participate in the giving of any money or gifts, including, but not limited to, food and drink' within 150 feet of a polling place. It doesn't mean you can't have water!

 Biden also claimed, 'there'**s** a national effort to ban books - not to write history, but to erase history. They don't see you in the future of America.' The leftists all said that 'erasing history' bunk about Florida'**s** education standards, when it was crystal clear that black history was mandated, not erased.

None of these **fact-check** moments made the front-page New York Times story gushing over the Morehouse speech. They mentioned Biden spoke of deaths in his family, and left out the 'burn pits' part.

Biden'**s** recent lie that inflation was at nine percent when he became president was so blatant that most of the liberal '**fact** checkers' called it out: AP, CNN, **FactCheck**.**org**, **PolitiFact**, **Snopes**, and The Washington Post. (Lead Stories and Reuters did not.) We'll see if these latest Biden falsehoods get **checked** (again).

They could also **check** Biden'**s** four whoppers in remarks the day before at a campaign fundraiser in Atlanta. The president told his backers, 'I wasn't going to run again after my son died because of being in Iraq for a year in those burn pits.' He said 'We were supposed to lose in 2020.' He claimed Trump told Time magazine, 'States should monitor women'**s** pregnancies and prosecute those who violate the abortion bans.' Trump did not say that.  Biden also claimed Trump said there were 'really good people on both sides' in Charlottesville protests, implying he praised neo-Nazis. That'**s** an ongoing hoax.

 At a Sunday afternoon campaign event in Detroit, the president again dragged out the line, 'I'm the first in my family ever to go to college.'

 A Sunday night speech at the NAACP brought more of the tired-brain gaffes. Biden claimed he was vice president 'during the pandemic.' He said Obamacare was 'saving millions of families $800,000 -- $8,000 a year in premiums.' The White House transcript adjusted it down to $800.

Then he returned to 'folks wanting to ban books' and 'erase black history, literally.' He misquoted Trump as saying 'I'll be dictator on day one' and 'just inject bleach' to cure Covid. He bungled in claiming Trump said if he lost, there will be 'bloodshed.' Trump implied an economic 'bloodbath.'

The more Biden mangles the **facts**, the more you can be sure that national TV coverage is going to edit out the embarrassing parts. Call it 'erasing history as it unfolds.'

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/05/22/column-bungling-bidens-commencement-whoppers)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

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**Subject:** HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES (94%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); DEATH NOTICES & OBITUARIES (90%); EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION GRADUATION (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); CENSORSHIP (78%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (78%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (78%); PREGNANCY & CHILDBIRTH (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (78%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (77%); FUNDRAISING (77%); US STATE GOVERNMENT (77%); DEATH & DYING (76%); VOTERS & VOTING (76%); ACADEMIC STANDARDS (72%); HISTORY (72%); CAMPAIGN FINANCE (71%); LEGISLATIVE VOTING (71%); NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS & INJURIES (69%); TUMORS (69%); POLLING SITES (66%); ACADEMIC STANDARDS & TESTING (50%)

**Company:**  GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (57%)

**Ticker:** GHC (NYSE) (57%)

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**Person:** JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** ATLANTA, GA, USA (90%); GEORGIA, USA (90%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); IRAQ (92%)

**Load-Date:** May 22, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact Check: Donald Trump Says Nearly 15 Million People Have Crossed Border](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BGH-8K81-DY68-10X4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

March 5, 2024 Tuesday 11:08 AM EST

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**Length:** 534 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** Trump said during a speech that he believed nearly 15 million had crossed the **U.S**.-Mexico border during Joe Biden'**s** presidency.

**Body**

Former President [Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) has made immigration reform a central aspect of his Republican primary campaign, with promises to begin the largest deportation operation in American history if **elected** to a second term.

During this campaign, Trump has also repeated several debunked claims about migration and border security, [inflating the size of the border wall built during his administration](https://www.newsweek.com/fact-check-donald-trump-built-border-wall-twice-length-grand-canyon-1872462?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) and the unfounded belief that people from "insane asylums" [are being emptied from facilities and migrating to the **U.S**](https://www.newsweek.com/trump-bret-baier-fox-news-border-insane-asylum-claim-1807887?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

In a speech following the **U.S**. Supreme Court decision to keep him on the Colorado primary ballot, Trump made a host of unrelated claims, including his estimate that the number of migrants who had crossed the border during Joe Biden'**s** presidency may have reached nearly 15 million people.

The Claim

A post on Truth Social by Donald Trump, posted on March 4, 2023, included a video in which Trump said he believed the "real number" of migrants that had attempted to cross the **U.S**. border during [Joe Biden](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-biden?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'**s** presidency "was probably closer to 15 million people."

The **Facts**

The context of Trump'**s** claims relates to encounters at the southern border, with Trump also speaking about his construction of the border wall between the **U.S**. and Mexico.

No evidence supports that 15 million people, or a number close to it, have attempted to cross the border during Biden'**s** presidency.

According to [**U.S**. Customs and Border Protection](https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters) data, there have been 7,332,800 encounters on the southern border since January 2021.

There are additional "gotaway" cases, in which migrants have evaded authorities. In a February 2024 article by **FactCheck**.**org**, a [Department of Homeland Security](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/department-of-homeland-security?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) (DHS) spokesperson said the "estimated annual apprehension rate has averaged 78%."

Even if we were to apply an estimate of "gotaways" to the total using that rate, it does not account for the number of people within that number who have attempted to enter the **U.S**. more than once, nor the number of people who were removed under Title 42 alone, estimated to have been used more than 2.8 million times.

After that, as noted by **FactCheck**.**org**, which assessed figures from February 2021 to October 2023, the DHS is thought to have removed, returned or expelled about 57 percent of migrants it encountered.

Trump'**s** belief that 15 million people have entered the United States, even if we were to include "gotaways" into that total and fold in encounters that included more than one attempt at entry, isn't supported by the available evidence.

*Newsweek* has contacted a representative for Trump via email for comment.

The Ruling

**False.**

There is no evidence to support this claim. Encounters on the southern border from January 2021 to January 2023 totaled about 7.3 million.

The figures, however, include encounters in which people have attempted to cross the southern border more than once and the millions of immigrants who have been removed, returned or expelled from the border.

Even if estimates for those who have managed to evade authorities are factored in, there are no grounds to suggest that 15 million people, or a figure close to it, have entered the **U.S**. during Biden'**s** presidency.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2357516/donald-trump.jpg)

**Graphic**

Donald Trump

Alon Skuy/Getty Images

Donald Trump speaks in the library at Mar-a-Lago on March 4, 2024, in Palm Beach, Florida. Trump used his speech at Mar-a-Lago, after the Supreme Court ruled Trump should remain on the Colorado primary ballot, that nearly 15 million people had crossed the border during President Joe Biden'**s** presidency.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

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**Subject:** BORDER CONTROL (94%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (93%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (91%); PRIMARY **ELECTIONS** (91%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); IMMIGRATION (90%); IMMIGRATION LAW (90%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (90%); DEPORTATION (89%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (89%); IMMIGRATION REGULATION & POLICY (89%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (89%); IMMIGRATION REFORM (78%); NATIONAL SECURITY (78%); DECISIONS & RULINGS (76%); HISTORY (73%); SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE FORCES (73%); APPEALS (70%); SUPREME COURTS (70%); EXCISE & CUSTOMS (50%); **Fact Check** (%)

**Organization:** SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES (83%); US CUSTOMS & BORDER PROTECTION (54%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (93%); JOE BIDEN (93%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (96%); NORTH AMERICA (93%); MEXICO (92%)

**Load-Date:** March 5, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Our view: The importance of fact-checking, especially before an election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D0Y-X7S1-JBTP-M2P4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Pharos-Tribune, Logansport, Ind.

September 19, 2024 Thursday

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**Section:** COMMENTARY

**Length:** 555 words

**Byline:** Pharos-Tribune, Pharos-Tribune, Logansport, Ind.

**Body**

On Sept. 10, Democratic candidate and current vice president Kamala Harris and Republican candidate and former president Donald Trump faced off for their first in person debate, discussing abortion, the economy and immigration. When asked about immigration and the border, Trump said millions of people are coming into towns across the country, saying immigrants are eating citizens’ pets.

This echoes a statement made by Trump’**s** vice president candidate JD Vance, who said in a Sept. 9 tweet that reports show that people have had their pets abducted and eaten by illegal Haitian immigrants.

The claims spread rapidly across the Internet and have led to real world consequences. Schools and universities have received bomb threats, causing classes to be cancelled and security to be increased, according to CNN. Members of the Haitian community said in a New York Times article that they do not feel safe and are considering leaving the city.

The rumor has reached Logansport too, where many in the Haitian community come for job opportunities at locations like Tyson and Subaru. Giovanni Sejour, manager of Haitian grocery Sejour’**s** Caribbean Grocery, said the rumors and viral images are taking a step backwards. He said the claims are not only affecting Haitians, but African Americans too.

“I think it’**s** pretty messed up. It makes me a little scared, especially living in a state that’**s** pretty red,” Sejour said. “As a political tactic, I think it’**s** pretty low to do.”

However, so much of the information and evidence that has spread alongside this rumor is simply not true and has been debunked. A video of a supposed Haitian immigrant, who is actually US citizen, eating a cat was taken in Canton, the Columbus Dispatch says. The Springfield woman who made the initial Facebook post claiming Haitians killed her neighbor’**s** daughter’**s** friend’**s** cat has admitted she has no evidence to support this, an article from Newsweek says.

Officials have also come out to debunk claims, with Springfield police saying there have been no reports of people’**s** pets being abducted by immigrants, according to the Springfield News-Sun. Ohio governor Mike DeWine said there are no evidence to the rumors and that the Haitians in Springfield are here legally to work, according to CNN.

As this rumor has shown, the spread of misinformation and claims without evidence can do real damage to real people. As the 2024 presidential **election** draws closer, it is a good time to remember to **fact-check** and research what you see online.

AARP recommends utilizing resources like **Politifact** and **factcheck**.**org** to double-**check** politicians’ statements. They also suggest finding reliable sources that verify their information, not relying on one source for a story, especially if it seems extreme, and stopping to think before sharing something online.

Wright State University says one of the most effective ways to prevent misinformation and fake news is to stop and evaluate it before sharing. In a time where lies spread faster than truth, and where simple misinformation online can have real world consequences, we owe it to both ourselves and everyone else to ensure what we share online is truthful.

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**Classification**

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**Acc-No:** 20240919-LG-Our-view-importance-**fact-checking**-especially-bef-0919

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (53%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (53%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (53%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (53%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (76%); EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (74%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); J D VANCE (79%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); MIKE DEWINE (79%)

**Geographic:** COLUMBUS, OH, USA (79%); INDIANA, USA (93%); OHIO, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%); CARIBBEAN ISLANDS (73%)

**Load-Date:** September 20, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [PBS Hurls Bad Fact Checks: GOP Voting Concerns Could Mean 'Political Violence'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CHF-0M01-JCMN-Y0X8-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

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**Length:** 1177 words

**Byline:** Clay Waters

**Body**

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PBS'**s** biased coverage of Night Three of the Republican National Convention began even before the main event, on Wednesday evening'**s** PBS News Hour, aiming not only to **fact-check** the Republicans but even to suggest some Republican voting 'misinformation' could lead to "political violence."

The tax-funded network'**s** [first **fact-check** target wasreality TV star, Savannah Chrisley, who discussed](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/trumps-one-time-republican-rivals-make-peace-and-urge-the-party-to-unite) [her family'**s** legal woes in her speech. Lisa Desjardins, reporting from the convention floor, played the hypocrisy card before moving to the **fact check**.](https://www.msn.com/en-us/tv/other/savannah-chrisley-under-rnc-spotlight-pins-parents-legal-woes-on-rogue-prosecutors/)

Desjardins: But amid praise of Trump, on a night focused on law and order, Republicans generally ignored Trump'**s** own 34 felony convictions, except as evidence of what they see as a weaponized justice system.

Savannah Chrisley: Today, we have a two-faced justice system. Just look at what they're doing to President Trump, all while, let'**s** face it, Hunter Biden is roaming around free and attending classified meetings.

PBS pounced, with the help of their convention **fact-check** partners, the left-leaning **PolitiFact** .

Katie Sanders, Editor in Chief, **PolitiFact**: So this is unproven.

Lisa Desjardins: We spoke with **PolitiFact**'**s** Katie Sanders. The organization is **checking** statements made at both 2024 conventions. In this case, the claim comes from an NBC report about Hunter Biden. But:

Sanders: That report did not say anything about Hunter Biden attending classified briefings. That would be something that would be illegal, because he does not have a security clearance to be in those sessions. So it'**s** not a proven claim.

Desjardins gave a pass on the statement of a mother whose son died of fentanyl poisoning.

Desjardins: But several other statements didn't hold up, like this from [Republican Rep. Steve] Scalise:

Rep. Steve Scalise: On the border, Biden and Harris opened it up to the entire world. Prisons are being emptied.

Sanders was awfully confident: This claim is false. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris have not opened up the border. Even more egregious here is the idea that there'**s** an organized effort to recruit people from prisons in other countries. We have done research to look into whether it'**s** been documented that these governments, these countries, there'**s** some group that'**s** organizing prisoners and releasing them to the **U.S**. It'**s** just not proven.

In the [next segment, White House reporter Laura Barron-Lopez (who'**s** kept a low profile during the convention) fretted over the dangers of 2024 Republican **election** concerns.](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/fact-checking-right-wing-claims-about-election-security-and-noncitizens-voting)

Co-host Geoff Bennett: Some speakers here at the Republican National Convention have repeated the unsubstantiated claim that Democrats are rigging the presidential **election**, specifically about noncitizens voting.

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Co-host Amna Nawaz: That claim is just one of many conspiracy theories about the security of America'**s** **election** system that are being spread in the lead-up to November.

Laura Barron-Lopez: This lie dates back to 2016, Amna, when then-candidate Donald Trump said that he lost the popular vote because three to five million noncitizen immigrants voted for Hillary Clinton. That'**s** -- of course is not true. But now it'**s** become much more pervasive among Republicans this **election** cycle, going all the way from Republican nominee Donald Trump to House Speaker Mike Johnson, who has repeated this baseless claim over and over again.It'**s** important to note, Amna, that it is already illegal for noncitizens to vote under federal law.

Republican voting concerns are certainly not 'baseless,' given that many municipalities across the country have begun allowing [non-citizens to vote in state and local **elections**.](https://ballotpedia.org/Laws_permitting_noncitizens_to_vote_in_the_United_States)

The segment closed with Barron-Lopez raising up a familiar left-wing scarecrow, the Heritage Foundation (creators of the feared and loathed but rarely read Project 2025). Barron-Lopez ranted:

This is part of a larger effort, Geoff, to sow doubt about America'**s** **election** system, to convince the electorate that the country'**s** system can't be trusted and that the -- and that, if Donald Trump were to lose, that that result is not legitimate. And an example of this comes from Heritage Foundation, the right-wing think tank that has issued a blueprint for a potential second Trump term. Mike Howell, executive director of The Heritage Foundation'**s** Oversight Project, said recently at an event that: "As things stand right now, there is a zero percent chance of a free and fair **election** in the United States of America." And that transition report from Heritage Foundation also claimed -- without any evidence -- that President Biden will retain power quote, "by force" and that President Biden will disregard the will of the voters, whatever the ultimate result is. Some fear from **election** security experts that I have spoken to is that what happens with all this disinformation if Donald Trump were to lose, that it could potentially result in some political violence in the end, Geoff.

(Surprise: The transition report itself [is a bit more nuanced than that breathless rendering; the threat is posed as a hypothetical, not a certainty.)](https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/other/the-gop-group-behind-project-2025-floats-conspiracy-theory-that-biden-will-use-force-to-keep-power/ar-BB1pPBSA)

During the actual convention coverage, PBS brought on **PolitiFact** editor-in-chief Katie Sanders at 8:38 p.m. (ET) to issue three real-time '**fact checks**,' disputing Texas Rep. Ronny Jackson'**s** claim of 'record-high inflation under the Biden administration' (it had been higher in the late 1970s and early 1980s). 'It'**s** important to look up the numbers,' she stated smugly.

PBS brought in [@**PolitiFact** editor-in-chief Katie Sanders to act as Biden Defense Squad. Biden didn't cause "record-high inflation," Kamala Harris isn't really "Border Czar," and some of the two years without a combat death in Afghanistan were in Biden'**s** term.](https://twitter.com/PolitiFact?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [#DemocratHelpers](https://twitter.com/hashtag/DemocratHelpers?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [pic.twitter.com/vbk2SrP8Y9- Tim Graham (@TimJGraham)](https://t.co/vbk2SrP8Y9)

[July 18, 2024](https://twitter.com/TimJGraham/status/1813897480674676769?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Sanders also claimed that Florida Rep. Matt Gaetz calling Vice-President Kamala Harris 'border czar' 'needs context.' She assured PBS listeners that it was merely a nickname bestowed on Harris by hostile Republicans, and that Harris was tasked only to 'investigate the root causes of immigration in Northern Triangle countries, he didn't say, you're in charge now, he left that to the Department of Homeland Security.' The problem with that assurance: [The administration itself said one of her tasks was to curb the current flow of migrants!](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/white-house/biden-taps-harris-lead-coordination-efforts-southern-border-n1261952)

The last **fact-check** involved an assertion in a speech by former House Speaker Newt Gingrich that 'no American [had been] killed in nearly two years' in Afghanistan under Trump. Sanders again issued the classic, 'needs a little context,' which **PolitiFact** is always eager to provide struggling Democrats.

NewsBusters' Alex Christy [has previously outlined the case that **PolitiFact** tips the scale against conservatives. And **PolitiFact** doesn't just shriek its liberal **fact checks** into the void;](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/07/13/worried-democracy-pbs-and-politifact-unveil-2024-election) [it is a partner with Meta (the owners of Facebook) and TikTok 'to help try and slow the spread of misinformation online. Meta and TikTok flag posts that they believe may be factually inaccurate or misleading.'](https://www.politifact.com/article/2018/feb/12/principles-truth-o-meter-politifacts-methodology-i/#Our%20participation%20in%20the%20International%20Fact-checking%20Network)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/07/18/pbs-hurls-bad-fact-checks-gop-voting-concerns-could-mean-political)

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**Industry:** MEDIA BIAS (78%); NARCOTICS (70%); ANESTHETICS (65%); OPIATES & OPIOIDS (50%)

**Person:** HUNTER BIDEN (93%); KAMALA HARRIS (91%); JOE BIDEN (89%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); STEVE SCALISE (58%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** July 18, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [ChatGPT Pushes Leftist Media, Soros-Funded Sites When Asked About Soros Prosecutors](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CSS-52M1-JCMN-Y0JY-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Michael Morris

**Body**

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Looking for the number of George Soros-funded prosecutors? The Media Research Center has the receipts, but if you look to artificial intelligence to find the answer, don't think it will direct you to a media outlet that will give you the results you're looking for.

MRC released a bombshell Special Report on Aug. 12, providing a precise number of Soros-funded prosecutors (126) and exposing how [the Soros machine directs and controls prosecutors across America to implement his leftist agenda. One week after the expos, MRC researchers turned to artificial intelligence (AI), specifically the free version of OpenAI'**s** ChatGPT, to see whether it would relay how many Soros-funded prosecutors there are, and which media outlets it claimed users should be directed to for research on the topic. The AI did not provide a figure for the number of Soros-funded prosecutors, and as it has done in the past, it directed MRC researchers to leftist sources.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/tim-kilcullen-joseph-vazquez-tom-olohan-dan-schneider/2024/08/12/law-dis-order-how)

MRC prompted OpenAI'**s** chatbot with three questions and analyzed the results. The biased chatbot unsurprisingly did what it has done many times before, promoting the leftist narrative and pushing users to leftist sources, including unironically promoting media outlet [ProPublica and](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/jeffrey-clark/2022/11/02/soros-funded-propublica-harangues-right-wing-media) ['**fact-checking**' organization **PolitiFact**, both Soros-funded sites.](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/04/05/soros-funded-fact-checkers-who-cares-about-free)

When asked, 'Which media outlets should be used to research George Soros-funded prosecutors?' the chatbot was anything but balanced. Instead of providing both left-leaning and right-leaning sources for information, the chatbot almost exclusively promoted leftist legacy media outlets and so-called **fact**-checkers.

Among the named organizations, ChatGPT recommended leftist media outlets The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, NPR, ProPublica, The Center for Investigative Reporting and The Intercept. The chatbot also promoted leftist so-called **fact-checking** organizations **FactCheck**.**org**, **PolitiFact** and **Snopes** and even leftist political and legal analysis sites Politico, The Hill and Law360. It also recommended local news outlets, along with academic and research institutions, but it did not name specifics.

The AI chatbot then absurdly suggested that '[b]y consulting a range of these sources, you can gather diverse viewpoints and a more comprehensive understanding of the influence and impact of Soros'**s** funding on prosecutors and criminal justice reform.'

MRC researchers then asked ChatGPT why it didn't include numbers from Capital Research Center, The Blaze or the Media Research Center, three organizations known for their exhaustive Soros research. Again, ChatGPT'**s** unabashed bias did not disappoint. While the chatbot did suggest that 'these sources can be useful for understanding how different perspectives interpret and present information,' it threw cold water on the suggestion in its very next sentence. 'However, for a balanced view, it'**s** generally beneficial to also refer to mainstream and investigative news outlets that aim for broad journalistic standards and are less likely to present information with a specific ideological bias,' wrote ChatGPT, naturally referring to legacy media outlets.

When asked, 'How many George Soros-funded prosecutors are there?' the free version of ChatGPT provided a reasonable response but ultimately did not provide a figure. It claimed, 'The exact number of prosecutors funded by George Soros is difficult to pinpoint because it can fluctuate based on new **elections** and changes in officeholders.' The AI rightly denoted that Soros, through his Open Society Foundations and other groups, 'has supported a number of district attorney races' around the country, aiming to promote 'criminal justice reform and progressive policies.'

None of this is new, of course.

MRC Free Speech America [caught OpenAI'**s** chatbot touting legacy media and the leftist so-called media ratings firms Ad Fontes and NewsGuard in February 2024. The newest version of GPT-4 refused to list the five worst news sources when asked to list the five worst and five best news sources, claiming instead that doing so can be 'highly' subjective. The chatbot then directed users to leftist firms Ad Fontes and NewsGuard.](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/luis-cornelio/2024/02/15/openai-chatbot-caught-touting-legacy-media-so-called) [MRC has exposed NewsGuard for leftist bias three years in a row. MRC similarly laid bare how](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/joseph-vazquez/2023/12/12/mrc-exposes-newsguard-leftist-bias-third-year-row) [Ad Fontes Media is rigged to favor left-wing media in a September 2023 expos.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/luis-cornelio/2023/09/21/mrc-original-media-literacy-firm-rigged-favor-left-wing)

Conservatives are under attack. Contact your representatives and demand that Big Tech be held to account to mirror the First Amendment and provide an equal platform for conservatives. If you have been censored, [contact us using MRC Free Speech America'**s** contact form, and help us hold Big Tech accountable.](https://censortrack.org/about#Contact)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/michael-morris/2024/08/22/chatgpt-pushes-leftist-media-soros-funded-sites-when)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** CHATBOTS (92%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); LIBERAL MEDIA (90%); RESEARCH INSTITUTES (90%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (89%); CONVERSATIONAL AI (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); GENERATIVE AI (89%); INVESTIGATIONS (89%); LIBERALISM (89%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (89%); CRIMINAL JUSTICE (78%); CRIMINAL LAW (78%); JOURNALISM (78%); NEGATIVE NEWS (78%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (73%); CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM (73%)

**Company:**  GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (53%)

**Ticker:** GHC (NYSE) (53%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (53%); CHATBOTS (92%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); LIBERAL MEDIA (90%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (89%); CONVERSATIONAL AI (89%); GENERATIVE AI (89%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (89%); MAINSTREAM MEDIA (78%)

**Person:** GEORGE SOROS (89%)

**Load-Date:** August 22, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Nikki Haley ad misleads on Donald Trump's 10% tariff proposal | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BGF-4SJ1-JCMC-W3JT-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

March 4, 2024

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**Section:** ADVERTISING INDUSTRY NEWS

**Length:** 636 words

**Byline:** Hannah Hudnall, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: Trump proposed a 10% 'across-the-board' tax increase if re-elected**

A Feb. 13 Facebook video ([direct link](https://www.facebook.com/NikkiHaley/videos/914262006848770), [archive link](https://archive.org/details/screenshot-341)) shared by Republican presidential candidate Nikki Haley claims former President Donald Trump'**s** re-**election** would only bring "more chaos."

"What is Trump saying he'll actually do in office?" a narrator asks over black-and-white clips of Trump. "A 10% across-the-board tax increase."

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

Trump proposed placing a 10% tariff on imported goods in a 2023 interview, not an "across-the-board" tax.

**Trump proposed tariff, not widespread tax**

Text in the ad attributes the tax claim to a Jan. 22 CNBC article titled, "[Trump’**s** proposed 10% tariff plan would ‘shake up every asset class,’ strategist says](https://www.cnbc.com/2024/01/22/trumps-proposed-10percent-tariff-plan-would-shake-up-every-asset-class-strategist.html)."

That article focuses on an [Aug. 18, 2023, interview](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI8ifwwwoj0) Trump did with Fox News anchor Larry Kudlow in which the former president proposed placing a 10% tariff on all imported products as a way to raise revenue in the **U.S**.

"I think when companies come in and they dump their products in the United States, they should pay automatically, let'**s** say a 10% tax," he said in the interview. "That money would be used to pay off debt."

Trump didn't propose an "across-the-board" tax in the interview, nor is such a tax mentioned in the CNBC article.

**Fact check**: [Yes, Nikki Haley is eligible to run for president](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/01/09/nikki-haley-eligibility-fact-check/72155449007/)

Both [Pope McCorkle](https://sanford.duke.edu/profile/pope-mccorkle/), a professor of the practice at the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University, and [Caroline Bruckner](https://www.american.edu/kogod/faculty/cbruck.cfm), managing director of the Kogod Tax Policy Center at American University, told USA TODAY Haley'**s** ad misrepresented Trump'**s** proposal.

"This tariff could ultimately be paid by **U.S**. consumers of foreign goods, and it could cause a trade war and increase prices," Bruckner said in an email. "The higher prices would feel like a tax to consumers, if importers passed on the tariff to consumers in the former of higher prices. But it’**s** important to clarify that a tariff on goods is not the same thing as an income or even sales tax imposed by the federal or state government on taxpayers."

McCorkle said this is not the first time tariffs have been falsely linked to consumer taxes, noting the idea'**s** roots in American populism and some conservative think tanks, such as [the Tax Foundation](https://taxfoundation.org/blog/donald-trump-10-percent-tariff/) which estimated the proposed tariff would effectively raise taxes on **U.S**. consumers by more than $300 billion a year.

When asked for a comment on the claim, AnnMarie Graham-Barnes, a spokesperson for Haley, told USA TODAY in an email that "a tariff is a tax on imported goods and economists agree."

But that'**s** moving the goalposts on this claim: the ad doesn't mention the word tariff, it just says across the board. And Graham-Barnes offered no evidence of Trump proposing an across-the-board tax increase of 10%.

She then linked to articles by [the Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2023/08/22/trump-trade-tariffs/) and [the Tax Foundation](https://taxfoundation.org/blog/donald-trump-10-percent-tariff/?utm_content=277651314&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-16686673), which both report Trump proposed a tariff on imported goods, not a tax.

[**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/02/haleys-ad-misleads-about-trumps-proposed-tariffs/) also debunked the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* CNBC, Jan. 22, [Trump’**s** proposed 10% tariff plan would ‘shake up every asset class,’ strategist says](https://www.cnbc.com/2024/01/22/trumps-proposed-10percent-tariff-plan-would-shake-up-every-asset-class-strategist.html)

1. Fox Business (YouTube), Aug. 18, 2023, [Trump: If they charge us, we charge them](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DI8ifwwwoj0)
2. [Pope McCorkle](https://sanford.duke.edu/profile/pope-mccorkle/), March 1, Phone interview with USA TODAY
3. [Caroline Bruckner](https://www.american.edu/kogod/faculty/cbruck.cfm), March 4, Email exchange with USA TODAY

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Nikki Haley ad misleads on Donald Trump'**s** 10% tariff proposal | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/03/04/trump-tariff-haley-ad-fact-check/72805198007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** TAXES & TAXATION (92%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); TARIFFS & DUTIES (90%); TAX LAW (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); CONSUMERS (89%); IMPORT TRADE (89%); INTERVIEWS (89%); PRICE INCREASES (89%); PRICES (89%); PUBLIC POLICY (89%); TAX INCREASES (89%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (89%); BUSINESS NEWS (78%); CONSERVATISM (78%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (78%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (78%); POLITICAL & SOCIAL IDEOLOGIES (78%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (78%); POPULISM (78%); PUBLIC FINANCE (78%); SALES TAX (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2020 (78%); EXECUTIVES (77%); RESEARCH INSTITUTES (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (77%); REGIONAL & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (73%); TRADE DISPUTES (73%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (72%); MANAGERS & SUPERVISORS (72%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (68%); META PLATFORMS INC (58%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (68%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (68%); NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (58%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (58%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); INTERNET VIDEO (90%); PRICE INCREASES (89%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING (74%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (72%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (93%); NIKKI HALEY (89%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (97%); United States; Americas, Northern America

SUB: TRADE DISPUTES

SUB: GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES

SUB: TARIFFS & DUTIES

SUB: PUBLIC FINANCE

SUB: SALES TAX

SUB: POPULISM

SUB: RESEARCH INSTITUTES

SUB: **ELECTIONS**

SUB: US REPUBLICAN PARTY

SUB: REGIONAL & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

SUB: INTERVIEWS

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

SUB: EXECUTIVES

IND: INTERNET VIDEO

SUB: US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS**

SUB: TAX INCREASES

SUB: CONSERVATISM

SUB: HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS**

SUB: COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

IND: COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS

GEO: UNITED STATES

SUB: POLITICAL & SOCIAL IDEOLOGIES

SUB: IMPORT TRADE

SUB: TAXES & TAXATION

SUB: CONSUMERS

SUB: GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

SUB: MANAGERS & SUPERVISORS

PEO: NIKKI HALEY

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

SUB: POLITICAL CANDIDATES

SUB: PUBLIC POLICY

SUB: TAX LAW

SUB: PRICES

**Load-Date:** March 4, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Electoral misinformation in Texas: What you should know to avoid it.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DBH-G9K1-F03R-N0S0-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

The Texas Tribune

November 4, 2024 Monday 11:00 AM EST

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**Length:** 1303 words

**Byline:** Story by Carolina Bazante

**Body**

November 4th, 2024 ( [The Texas Tribune](http://texastribune.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=The+Texas+Tribune&utm_id=10009345&utm_content=TXTR-10009345-53157272413425219800085) )

Voters wait in line at the Lakewood Branch Library in Dallas on Feb. 25, 2022, the last day of early voting in the Texas primary. Dallas County voting centers' hours were extended till 10 P.M. on the last day of early voting to make up for early closures due to icy weather. Credit: Shelby Tauber for The Texas Tribune

[Sign up for The Brief, The Texas Tribune'**s** daily newsletter that keeps readers up to speed on the most essential Texas news.](https://www.texastribune.org/newsletters/the-brief/?utm_medium=website&utm_source=trib-ads-owned&utm_campaign=trib-marketing&utm_term=inline-CTA-brief)

With every major **U.S**. **election** cycle, disinformation takes center stage once again, sowing confusion and eroding trust in democratic processes. This trend is far from surprising: the [Global Risks Report from the World Economic Forum estimates that disinformation will be one of humanity'**s** greatest threats over the next two years.](https://www.weforum.org/publications/global-risks-report-2024/)

Rumors and falsehoods circulating on social media, often spread by politicians and influential figures, have become a problem of unprecedented scale - nearly six new false claims about the **election** have emerged each week since late August, according to the **Election** Disinformation Tracking Center at [NewsGuard.](https://www.newsguardtech.com/press/newsguard-launches-2024-election-misinformation-tracking-center-rolls-out-new-election-safety-assurance-package-for-brand-advertising/)

Many of these narratives are not new. Sources of disinformation often recycle and adapt to current context unfounded claims about fraud, the integrity of mail-in voting, and other baseless narratives. To avoid misinformation, the most important thing is what it is about.

Common False Narratives: Voting Machines

In Texas, a persistent rumor suggests that electronic voting machines switch votes between Democrat and Republican candidates. In 2022, [it was confirmed that this is](https://www.texastribune.org/2022/10/28/texas-voting-machines/) [false. While some touch screens can be challenging to use and may lead to accidental selections, officials and security experts explain that this does not indicate an intentional vote change.](https://www.texastribune.org/2022/10/28/texas-voting-machines/)

Voting machines, implemented 20 years ago, have been subject to speculation regarding their accuracy and potential for manipulation. Carolyn Graves, Midland County **election** administrator, compared using these machines to typing a message on a small keyboard.

'If you don't hit it with the tip of your finger, you might press one of the letters around it,' Graves said. 'It'**s** basically the same. If you don't press with the tip of your finger or tilt it to one side, you might hit the other [option].'

For this reason, both authorities and experts advise voters to carefully review their ballots to confirm their selections before submitting. If there is an error on a printed ballot, voters are entitled to request up to two additional ballots to make corrections. Incorrect ballots are voided and not counted.

Common false narratives: Migrants voting

Another recurring rumor in the 2024 presidential campaign suggests that undocumented immigrants are registering to vote using only a Social Security Number (SSN). This claim has been spread by politicians, influential figures like entrepreneur Elon Musk, and in Texas, a [Fox News presenter mentioned this theory on air. Although debunked, it prompted an investigation by Attorney General Ken Paxton.](https://www.texastribune.org/2024/08/26/texas-voter-registration-election-ken-paxton-investigation/)

An account on X that disseminated this misinformation claimed that in Texas, the number of people registering to vote without a photo ID was 1,250,710. Texas Secretary of State Jane Nelson stated in a [press release on April 3, that 'it is completely inaccurate to claim that 1.2 million voters have registered to vote in Texas without a photo ID this year. The truth is that our voter roll has increased by 57,711 voters since the beginning of 2024. This is less than the number of people registered in the same timeframe in 2022 (about 65,000) and in 2020 (about 104,000).'](https://www.sos.state.tx.us/about/newsreleases/2024/040324.shtml)

Moreover, Texas law is clear: only **U.S**. citizens aged 18 or older can register to vote. Citizens who have been convicted of a felony and are still serving a sentence, including probation or parole are not allowed to register to vote.

The state'**s** [registration process involves filling out a paper form and submitting it to the county voter registrar where they reside. Texans can also register through the Texas Department of Public Safety when renewing their driver'**s** license or state ID. Additionally, they can register with a trained volunteer deputy voter registrar appointed by the county.](https://www.texastribune.org/2024/09/03/texas-voter-assistance-registration-mail-in-ballots-guide/)

The voter registration form requires voters to verify the eligibility criteria listed on the form and sign an affidavit acknowledging that lying may result in perjury penalties.

What to do about misinformation and how to prevent it

Anyone with a cell phone can contribute to combating misinformation, and you don't need specific **fact-checking** skills. The first and most important step: if you're not sure that an informational content is true, don't share it!

Experts like Laura Zommer, founder of the Spanish **fact-checking** initiative in the **U.S**. [FactChequeado, recommend being especially cautious in the days immediately before and after **elections**, as misinformation tends to increase during these times. Therefore, it is essential to consider the following aspects:](https://factchequeado.com/tag/elecciones-en-estados-unidos-2024)

\* Verify sources: Before sharing information, consult reliable sources, such as established media outlets and official organizations. Make sure to identify the author of the content and **check** their credentials to ensure reliability.

\* Be cautious with sensational content: Viral stories often use exaggerated claims to provoke strong emotions. Verify these stories with established and trustworthy news outlets.

\* Use **fact-checking** tools: Free **fact-checking** tools can help you quickly assess the reliability of claims, especially on social media. Platforms like [**Politifact**, **FactCheck**.**org**, FactChequeado, and others provide comprehensive analyses on various topics.](https://www.politifact.com/texas/)

What to expect with the results

No national agency is charged with collecting and publishing **election** results. **Elections** are managed locally, following the standards set by each state. In Texas, this responsibility falls to the Office of the [Secretary of State.](https://www.sos.state.tx.us/index.shtml)

On Nov. 5, at 7 p.m., the first preliminary results, including early voting returns, will be available as soon as the polls close. However, official results will not be published until after Nov.18, once all late-arriving mail-in ballots, as well as military and overseas citizen votes, have been received and counted.

You can follow the vote count in real time on the Office of the Secretary of State'**s** [website. In this](https://results.texas-election.com/landing-page) [Tribune article, we explain the vote-counting process in more detail.](https://www.texastribune.org/2024/10/31/texas-2024-election-results-counting-process/)

Another reliable resource for obtaining accurate results is the counting conducted by the [Associated Press (AP). Since 1848, AP has carried out counts of results in national, state, and local **elections**, which attests to its extensive experience and reach in electoral coverage. The news agency works closely with local **election** officials to receive results directly from the counties and districts where votes are counted. The collected information is sent to AP'**s** reporting center, a process that involves approximately 4,000 people.](https://www.ap.org/elections/our-role/counting-the-vote/)

**Election** results undergo thorough verification. AP'**s** reporting focuses on one key question: Can trailing candidates catch the leader? [The race is only called when the answer is a definite 'no.'](https://www.ap.org/elections/our-role/how-we-call-races/)

Minimal possibilities of electoral fraud

While there are documented cases of **election** fraud in Texas and across the United States, [they are extremely rare. The Heritage Foundation recorded 103 cases in Texas between 2005 and 2022, but more than 107 million votes were cast in the state during this period. This suggests that fraudulent votes represented about 0.000096% of votes cast in 2020.](https://www.texastribune.org/2024/09/03/texas-voter-assistance-registration-mail-in-ballots-guide/)

Regarding immigrant voting, the [Brennan Center for Justice concluded that out of a total of 23.5 million votes cast in 42 jurisdictions during the 2016 **elections**, only 30 cases of possible non-citizens voting were reported for further investigation or prosecution.](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/noncitizen-voting-missing-millions)

[Link to the original story.](https://www.texastribune.org/2024/11/04/texas-2024-election-misinformation/)

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**Classification**

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**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 10009345

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**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (60%)

**Organization:** WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (56%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (60%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (60%); **ELECTION** TECHNOLOGY (89%); ELECTRONIC VOTING MACHINES (89%); LIBRARIES (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (73%); SOCIAL MEDIA MISINFORMATION (73%); HAPTIC TECHNOLOGY (63%)

**Person:** ELON MUSK (64%)

**Geographic:** DALLAS, TX, USA (88%); TEXAS, USA (94%)

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Vice presidential debate fact check: What Tim Walz, JD Vance got right (and wrong)](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D3D-N8M1-JCMC-W41D-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

October 1, 2024 11:00 PM EST

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**Length:** 4196 words

**Body**

The two vice presidential nominees, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz and Ohio Sen. JD Vance, [faced off tonight on a debate stage](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/25/when-is-vp-debate/75364640007/) in New York City with just over a month until the Nov. 5 **election**.

The [USA TODAY **Fact Check** Team](https://www.usatoday.com/news/factcheck/) investigated claims from both nominees and added context where it was missing on issues such as abortion, immigration and Project 2025.

Read on for our analysis of statements that exaggerated, misled, misrepresented or otherwise strayed from reality. Our team uses primary documents, trustworthy nonpartisan sources, data and other research tools to assess the accuracy of claims.

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/?ipid=signuptop10) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Debate live updates**: [JD Vance, Tim Walz face off in high-stakes vice presidential debate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/10/01/walz-vance-vp-debate-live-updates/75449829007/)

*“(Trump) actually implemented some of these regulations when he was president … and I think you could make a really good argument that it salvaged Obamacare, which was doing disastrously until Donald Trump came along.”*

Vance didn't clarify what he meant by "salvaged," but the description doesn't line up with Trump'**s** actions against the landmark legislation.

During his presidency, Trump [supported congressional attempts](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/04/11/us/politics/trump-biden-affordable-care-act.html#:~:text=The%20former%20president%E2%80%99s%20pledge%20to%20repeal%20the%20health%20care%20legislation%20dates%20to%20his%20first%20presidential%20campaign%20in%202016%2C%20when%20many%20Republicans%20were%20issuing%20calls%20to%20%E2%80%9Crepeal%20and%20replace%E2%80%9D%20the%20law.) to repeal and replace the [Affordable Care Act](https://www.hhs.gov/answers/health-insurance-reform/what-is-the-affordable-care-act/index.html). While those efforts [ultimately failed](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/07/25/us/politics/senate-votes-repeal-obamacare.html), the Trump administration still significantly reduced spending on advertising and in-person enrollment assistance, and shortened the amount of time people had to enroll in the program, according to the [Brookings Institution](https://www.brookings.edu/articles/six-ways-trump-has-sabotaged-the-affordable-care-act/#:~:text=1.%20Reduce%20outreachnumber%20of%20days.), a [Washington, D.C.-based nonprofit](https://www.brookings.edu/about-us/).

In 2017, Trump [scrapped federal subsidies](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/12/us/politics/trump-obamacare-executive-order-health-insurance.html) intended to help insurance companies [reduce their risk of losing money](https://www.brookings.edu/articles/six-ways-trump-has-sabotaged-the-affordable-care-act/#:~:text=2.%20Cut%20ACAthese%20financial%20commitments) by offering coverage under the Affordable Care Act. And in June 2020, the Trump administration asked the Supreme Court to overturn the law, but the court eventually [dismissed the case](https://www.cnn.com/2021/06/17/politics/supreme-court-affordable-care-act-obamacare/index.html), leaving the Affordable Care Act in place.

If Vance is referring to salvaging the ACA from a budget perspective, Larry Levitt, executive vice president for health policy at KFF, a healthy policy research firm, pointed out in a [blog post in September](https://www.kff.org/quick-take/the-concept-of-a-plan-president-trump-proposed-to-replace-the-aca/#:~:text=Trump%E2%80%99s%20past%20proposals%20would%20certainly%20have%20made%20the%20ACA%20less%20expensive%20for%20the%20federal%20government%2C%20but%20with%20the%20trade%2Doff%20of%20higher%20out%2Dof%2Dpocket%20premiums%20for%20people%2C%20more%20uninsured%2C%20and%20higher%20spending%20and%20greater%20risk%20for%20states.) that comes at a cost.

“Trump’**s** past proposals would certainly have made the ACA less expensive for the federal government, but with the trade-off of higher out-of-pocket premiums for people, more uninsured and higher spending and greater risk for states,” Levitt said.

The number of Americans without health insurance [rose by about 2.3 million](https://www.hsph.harvard.edu/news/hsph-in-the-news/quantifying-health-coverage-losses-under-trump/) from 2016 to 2019, while Trump was president.

In January, [The Washington Post reported](https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2024/01/24/obamacare-record-enrollment-biden/) that more than 21 million people had signed up for health plans under the Affordable Care Act, a record amount.

-*Chris Mueller*

The question of how many jobs were created by the law, which allocated [billions for clean energy investments](https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2023/05/25/guide-to-the-inflation-reduction-act/70249464007/) in the **U.S**., does not have a clear answer, but Walz’**s** number is in line with estimates.

The counts are inconsistent on which jobs they tally, with some referencing jobs created and others jobs that have only been announced.

The [White House](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/08/16/fact-sheet-two-years-in-the-inflation-reduction-act-is-lowering-costs-for-millions-of-americans-tackling-the-climate-crisis-and-creating-jobs/) cited an outside report claiming investments spurred by the law’**s** climate provisions are “creating over 330,000 new jobs.” [Climate Power](https://climatepower.us/news/new-clean-energy-boom-soars-past-300000-jobs/), a cleantech communications firm, put the number of "announced" jobs north of 300,000 as of May 2024.

On the lower end, the [Department of Energy](https://www.energy.gov/articles/doe-report-shows-clean-energy-jobs-grew-more-twice-rate-overall-us-employment#:~:text=WASHINGTON%2C%20D.C.%E2%80%94%20Spurred%20by%20the,for%20the%20rest%20of%20the) says 142,000 new clean energy jobs were created in 2023, the first full year after the law was signed. And [E2](https://blog.advancedenergyunited.org/five-indicators-the-inflation-reduction-act-is-working-for-america#:~:text=One%20review%20showed%20that%20the,IRA%20was%20signed%20into%20law.), a clean energy group, says more than 109,000 jobs have been or stand to be created if projects announced in the law’**s** first two years are completed.

Some counts do not indicate if they include temporary jobs to build new factories or green energy assets, while some counts only include permanent jobs to run the projects, contributing to the wide range in the estimates.

*-Nate Trela*

*“Look, in Springfield, Ohio, and in communities all across this country, you’ve got schools that are overwhelmed, you’ve got hospitals that are overwhelmed … because we brought in millions of illegal immigrants to compete with Americans for scarce homes.”*

About 10,000 to 15,000 Haitian migrants have moved to Springfield over the past five years, according to [the Springfield News-Sun](https://www.springfieldnewssun.com/news/ohio-ag-rips-springfield-immigration-eyes-lawsuit-local-leaders-talk-solutions/BBUFTOOMSVGOFGCAD4KE4JOWMQ/#:~:text=Springfield%20has%20seen%20an%20estimated%20increase%20of%2010%2C000%2D15%2C000%20Haitian%20immigrants%20to%20the%20area%20in%20the%20last%20five%20or%20so%20years.%20The%20vast%20majority%20of%20immigrants%20are%20here%20legally%2C%20coming%20to%20the%20country%20through%20a%20parole%20program%20and%20many%20staying%20on%20Temporary%20Protected%20Status%2C%20a%20legal%20status.). But it’**s** misleading to group that population in with a national reference to illegal immigration. The migrants aren’t living in the city illegally, they are living and working in the **U.S**. [under the Immigration Parole Program](https://www.npr.org/2024/06/28/g-s1-7061/migrants-haiti-tps-immigration-parole) Biden extended in June as Haiti copes with political instability and natural disasters.

Vance and former President Donald Trump [previously claimed](https://www.npr.org/2024/09/10/nx-s1-5107320/jd-vance-springfield-ohio-haitians-pets) [Haitian immigrants](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/presidential-debate-fact-check-2024/75089233007/) are eating cats and dogs in Springfield but Springfield city officials, [including the city manager](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/trump-eating-dogs-springfield-ohio-false-claim/75167810007/#:~:text=Springfield%20City%20Manager%20Bryan%20Heck%20said%20there%E2%80%99s%20no%20evidence), [told USA TODAY](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/11/haitian-migrants-pets-ducks-ohio-fact-check/75177917007/) there is no evidence of this.

There was an incident in Canton, Ohio, about 170 miles northeast of Springfield, involving a 27-year-old woman who was arrested in August on suspicion of killing and eating a cat, but the woman was not a Haitian immigrant, according to the [Cincinnati Enquirer](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/crime/2024/08/17/canton-woman-in-stark-county-jail-for-allegedly-killing-eating-cat/74841992007/).

*-Hannah Hudnall*

*“Donald Trump hasn’t paid any federal tax in the last 15 years.”*

This is false.

Trump paid [a total of $1.1 million](https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/30/us/politics/trump-tax-returns-takeaways.html) in federal income taxes during the first three years of his presidency, according to documents released in 2022 by Democrats on the House Ways and Means Committee.

Walz appears to be misstating the [findings of an investigation](https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2020/09/27/us/donald-trump-taxes.html) by The New York Times in 2020.

It found that Trump paid no federal income taxes 10 times in the 15 years before he was **elected** president in 2016, primarily because he reported losing significantly more money than he made. Trump paid $750 in both 2016 and 2017, his first year in office, the newspaper reported.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“Prescription drugs fell in 2018 for the first time in a very long time. Under Kamala Harris’ leadership prescription drugs are up about 7%. Under Donald Trump’****s*** *entire four years they were up about 1.5%.”*

Prescription drug costs can be analyzed using the **U.S**. Bureau of Labor Statistics’ [Consumer Price Index](https://www.bls.gov/cpi/). The bureau [calculates its index](https://www.bls.gov/cpi/factsheets/medical-care.htm#A3) for prescription drugs by measuring the “price change of drugs purchased with a prescription at a retail, mail order or internet pharmacy,” according to its website. [A chart illustrating the index](https://data.bls.gov/pdq/SurveyOutputServlet) tracks the percent change in costs over a 12-month period.

The chart shows drug costs fluctuated during former President Donald Trump’**s** term. From January 2017 to January 2018, costs increased by 2.4%, but they then dropped by 0.5% as of January 2019. That was the first year-over-year decrease in a Janauary in decades, though there were some months with small drops in 2013.

Costs grew again as of January 2020 by 2.5% then sank by 2.4% as of January 2021.

In comparison, the chart shows drug costs solely increased under President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris’ administration, with year-over-year increases of 1.3% as of January 2022, 2.6% in January 2023 and 0.4% in January 2024.

*-Hannah Hudnall*

*“I come from a major healthcare state. … We understand health care. It’****s*** *why we’re ranked first on affordability and accessibility and quality of health care.”*

Walz is presumably referring to a [WalletHub report](https://wallethub.com/edu/states-with-best-health-care/23457) in July that found Minnesota is the country’**s** “best state” for health care, based on methodology that took into account cost, access and health outcomes.

Minnesota has the “fourth-lowest average out-of-pocket medical spending and the sixth-lowest average monthly insurance premium,” said the report, which ranked the state at No. 2 for cost. Iowa was ranked No. 1 for cost, and fourth overall. Walz had also touted the WalletHub report in a [press release](https://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/press-releases/?id=1055-639131) from his office.

Such rankings can vary widely between organizations given the various methodologies in use.

A [study by Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/advisor/health-insurance/most-and-least-expensive-states-for-health-care-ranked/) ranked Minnesota No. 34 in their study of the most expensive states for health care. North Carolina took the top spot for the most expensive state for health care, ranking at No. 1. US News & World Report [ranks Minnesota No. 6](https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/rankings/health-care/healthcare-access/health-care-affordability) for health care affordability.

*-Andre Byik*

*“He peacefully gave over power on Jan. 20.”*

This is missing a glaring piece of context given what happened 14 days earlier.

Yes, former President Donald Trump didn’t do anything to interrupt [President Joe Biden’**s** inauguration](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2021/01/20/donald-trump-plans-end-his-presidency-mar-lago-florida/4210601001/) that specific day in 2021, skipping the ceremony and flying to his Mar-a-Lago estate in Florida for the final minutes of his term.

But that ignores the reason for Trump’**s** second impeachment – [for inciting the insurrection on Jan. 6](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/01/13/impeachment-live-updates-house-vote-gop-rift-trump-grows/6644827002/). It'**s** a day that was anything but peaceful, and Trump played a key role in it.

Trump “[lit that fire](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/trump-lit-that-fire-of-capitol-insurrection-jan-6-committee-report-says),” Democratic Mississippi Rep. Bennie Thompson, chairman of the bipartisan House Committee that investigated the riots, wrote in the body'**s** [814-page report](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/read-the-final-report-from-the-jan-6-committee).

Before Trump’**s** supporters stormed the Capitol, he [spoke on the Ellipse](https://www.npr.org/2021/02/10/966396848/read-trumps-jan-6-speech-a-key-part-of-impeachment-trial) and urged them to march while Congress was voting to certify the 2020 **election** results. Democrats have pointed to one phrase Trump used as an incitement: “We fight like hell. And if you don't fight like hell, you're not going to have a country anymore,” Trump said. His attorneys, however, argued that he urged his supporters to “[peacefully and patriotically make your voices heard](https://www.npr.org/2021/02/10/966396848/read-trumps-jan-6-speech-a-key-part-of-impeachment-trial#:~:text=Capitol%20building%20to-peacefully%20and%20patriotically%20make%20your%20voices%20heard-.%22%20They%20argue%20that).”

Trump, who [faces federal criminal charges over his efforts to overturn the 2020 **election**](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/justice-department/trump-refuses-acknowledge-2020-loss-dodges-debate-question-jan-6-actio-rcna170540), has for four years refused to acknowledge that he lost it. An [array of recounts, reviews and lawsuits](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/12/08/fact-check-president-donald-trump-did-not-win-2020-election/6467942002/) have generated no evidence of widespread voter fraud or a Trump win – and repeatedly confirmed Biden'**s** victory.

Notably, Vance did not directly answer a question from Walz about whether Trump lost the 2020 presidential **election**, saying he is “focused on the future.”

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“Donald Trump was the guy who created the largest trade deficit in American history with China.”*

Assigning responsibility for a trade deficit to a president may be an oversimplification, according to industry experts and media reports that point to both [policies](https://www.imf.org/en/Blogs/Articles/2024/09/12/trade-balances-in-china-and-the-us-are-largely-driven-by-domestic-macro-forces) and the habits of [consumers abroad](https://www.barrons.com/articles/whos-really-to-blame-for-americas-trade-deficit-51552048201) as drivers of deficits.

But the numbers do show the trade deficit with China hit a record high in 2018 under Trump, reaching $419.2 billion, according to data from the [**U.S**. Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/highlights/annual.html#:~:text=The%202018%20deficit%20with%20Chinawas%20the%20highest%20on%20record.). The largest gap during the Biden administration was $367 billion in 2022, according to the [**U.S**. Trade Representative](https://ustr.gov/countries-regions/china-mongolia-taiwan/peoples-republic-china#:~:text=China%20Trade%20%26%20Investment%20Summary&text=The%20U.S.%20goods%20and%20servicesup%2039%20percent%20from%202012.).

*-Nate Trela*

*“Less than 2% of that wall got built, and Mexico didn’t pay a dime.*

Former President Donald Trump had said the [**U.S**. needed 1,000 miles](https://youtu.be/FyEs4nulEgE?t=2492) of border wall during the 2016 campaign.

Under his term in office, [458 miles of barriers](https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-21-372.pdf) were constructed at the southern border, but [as **U.S**. News reported](https://www.usnews.com/news/politics/articles/2022-02-07/how-much-of-president-donald-trumps-border-wall-was-built), the “vast majority” of these miles were built where “some kind of barrier already existed.”

Before Trump took office, the **U.S**.-Mexico border had about 654 miles of primary barriers and 37 miles of secondary barriers, [**PolitiFact** reported](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2023/aug/09/donald-trump/how-many-miles-of-border-wall-did-donald-trump-bui/#:~:text=Before%20Trump%E2%80%99s%202017%20inauguration), citing a **U.S**. Customs Border Protection report it obtained. By January 2021, the border had 706 miles of primary barriers and 70 miles of secondary barriers, the article said.

Those 52 miles of new primary barriers represent about 2.7% of the total length of the **U.S**.-Mexico border, which is [1,933 miles](https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2018/12/politics/border-wall-cnnphotos/). [USA TODAY’**s** interactive border wall map](https://www.usatoday.com/border-wall/us-mexico-interactive-border-map/) shows large stretches with no barriers at all.

Trump [had said Mexico would pay](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/01/10/fact-check-trump-mexico-pay-indirectly/2535573002/#:~:text=He%20did%20say%20Mexico%20would%20pay%20directly) for his border wall construction, but the country did not, multiple [media](https://www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/fact-check-mexico-never-paid-it-what-about-trump-s-n1253983#:~:text=Mexico%20did%20not%20pay%20for%20the%20wall) [outlets](https://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/promises/trumpometer/promise/1397/build-wall-and-make-mexico-pay-it/#:~:text=Mexico%20also%20hasn%27t%20paid%20for%20the%20construction) [reported](https://www.cnn.com/2020/10/14/politics/fact-check-trump-mexico-paying-for-the-wall/index.html).

*-Andre Byik, Brad Sylvester*

*“When was the last time that an American president didn’t have a major conflict break out? The only answer was during the four years Donald Trump was president.”*

This claim echoes [one Trump made](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/07/19/trump-republican-national-convention-speech/#:~:text=I%20don%E2%80%99t%20have%20wars.%20I%20had%20no%20wars%20other%20than%20ISIS%20which%20I%20defeated%20but%20that%20was%20a%20war%20that%20was%20started.%20We%20had%20no%20wars) during his Republican National Convention speech that “we had no wars,” and it depends on how you define a major conflict.

It’**s** true that no new wars started during Trump’**s** term. Nor were there any [authorizations of military force](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/11/01/fact-check-trump-not-first-president-since-eisenhower-without-new-war/6086636002/#:~:text=authorizations%20of%20military%20force). But no new wars broke out during the presidencies of Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford or Jimmy Carter, either. While Nixon governed through the Vietnam War, [as our previous **fact check** determined](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/11/01/fact-check-trump-not-first-president-since-eisenhower-without-new-war/6086636002/), he didn’t start any foreign wars. And Carter – who turned 100 on Oct. 1 – has expressed pride that “[we never dropped a bomb](https://www.theguardian.com/world/2011/sep/11/president-jimmy-carter-interview#:~:text=We%20kept%20our%20country%20at%20peace.%20We%20never%20went%20to%20war.%20We%20never%20dropped%20a%20bomb.%20We%20never%20fired%20a%20bullet.%20But%20still%20we%20achieved%20our%20international%20goals.).”

The claim also fails to acknowledge the military actions taken by Trump, who [ordered airstrikes on Syria in 2018](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/trump-announces-strikes-syria-following-suspected-chemical-weapons-attack-assad-n865966) in retaliation for a [suspected chemical weapons attack](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/state-dept-monitoring-reports-new-chemical-attack-syria-n863691) and killed [Iranian military leader Gen. Qassem Soleimani](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2020/01/03/what-we-know-strike-iranian-military-leader-qasem-soleimani/2801355001/) in a 2020 airstrike. And according to a [2020 Brown University report](https://watson.brown.edu/costsofwar/files/cow/imce/papers/2020/Rising%20Civilian%20Death%20Toll%20in%20Afghanistan_Costs%20of%20War_Dec%207%202020.pdf), the rules of engagement for airstrikes in Afghanistan were relaxed in 2017, leading to [a 330% increase in civilian fatalities](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-55225827).

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“We’re the cleanest economy in the entire world.”*

Discussions of "clean" economies or industries generally focus on carbon dioxide emissions, and by that measure this claim is off base. The **U.S**. is not the world’**s** cleanest economy in terms of carbon intensity, which measures carbon dioxide emissions per dollar of a country’**s** gross domestic product.

In 2022, the **U.S**. emitted [0.26 kilograms per dollar of GDP](https://ourworldindata.org/grapher/co2-intensity?country=~USA), according to [Our World in Data](https://ourworldindata.org/about). That is less efficient than many European and South American countries, such as France at 0.11 kilograms per dollar of GDP or Brazil at 0.15 kilograms per dollar.

The **U.S**. also emits more CO2 per capita than most other countries in the world – about [14.9 tons per person](https://ourworldindata.org/co2-emissions) in 2022. That’**s** higher than China, which emitted about eight tons per person in 2022, though it has more than [four times as many people](https://www.census.gov/popclock/population_widget_310x200.php?component=density&no_scode) as the **U.S**.

*-Chris Mueller*

*“Iran has received over $100 billion in unfrozen assets thanks to the Kamala Harris administration.”*

This is an apparent reference to a pair of agreements that allowed Iran to access up to $16 billion of previously frozen assets – not $100 billion, as Vance claimed.

First, in September 2023, a prisoner exchange between the **U.S**. and Iran included the [unfreezing of $6 billion in Iranian assets](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/05/posts-misrepresent-unfreezing-of-16-billion-in-iranian-funds/#:~:text=In%20September%2C%20the%20U.S.%20and%20Iran%20exchanged%20prisoners%20in%20a%20deal%20that%20also%20included%20the%20unfreezing%20of%20%246%20billion%20in%20Iranian%20assets.), **Factcheck**.**org** reported. It also led to [the release of five Americans from Iranian custody](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/05/posts-misrepresent-unfreezing-of-16-billion-in-iranian-funds/#:~:text=Five%20Americans%20were%20released%20from%20Iranian%20jails%20and%20returned%20to%20the%20U.S.%2C%20and%20five%20Iranians%20who%20had%20either%20been%20charged%20or%20convicted%20in%20the%20U.S.%20received%20clemency.%20The%20other%20part%20of%20the%20deal%20freed%20up%20%246%20billion%20in%20previously%20frozen%20Iranian%20assets.) and allowed them to return to the **U.S**., while five Iranians either charged or convicted in the **U.S**. also received clemency.

Second, in November 2023, Secretary of State Antony Blinken [renewed a waiver](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/05/posts-misrepresent-unfreezing-of-16-billion-in-iranian-funds/#:~:text=In%202018%2C%20afteragain%2C%20renewed.) that allowed Iraq to continue to purchase electricity from Iran, with restrictions that require Iran to use the proceeds for humanitarian purposes, according to **Factcheck**.**org**. [Multiple news](https://www.reuters.com/world/us-renews-120-day-waiver-allowing-iraq-pay-iran-electricity-2023-11-14/#:~:text=They%20also%20sought%20to%20parry%20criticism%2C%20notably%20from%20Republicans%20in%20Congress%2C%20that%20giving%20Iran%20greater%20access%20to%20such%20funds%20%2D%20an%20estimated%20%2410%20billion%20in%20such%20payments%20have%20built%20up%20in%20Iraq%20%2D%20frees%20up%20money%20that%20Tehran%20can%20spend%20on%20militias%20that%20attack%20U.S.%20forces%2C%20or%20on%20its%20nuclear%20program.) [outlets reported](https://apnews.com/article/iran-iraq-sanctions-waiver-816c2ba3f8eae10553ed07304c02db0f) that an estimated $10 billion had built up from Iraqi payments for Iranian electricity.

In 2016, under then-President Barack Obama, the **U.S**. dropped sanctions on Iran as a result of a nuclear deal that led the **U.S**. and European countries to [unfreeze about $100 billion](https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/what-iran-nuclear-deal#:~:text=Most%20significantly%2C%20Ufrozen%20Iranian%20assets.) in Iranian assets. Harris wasn’t involved in that deal.

*-Chris Mueller*

*“Their (Donald Trump and JD Vance’****s****) Project 2025 is going to have a registry of pregnancies.”*

Project 2025 seeks to limit abortion access and calls for healthcare workers to report abortion pill complications using the FDA'**s** Adverse Events Reporting System, but it [doesn’t mention anything](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/10/walzs-false-project-2025-pregnancy-monitoring-claims/) about a federal pregnancy tracking agency.

When asked during an [April 12 Time magazine interview](https://time.com/6972043/donald-trump-interview-story-behind-2024/) whether states should monitor women’**s** pregnancies to determine if they are in compliance with abortion laws, former President Donald Trump said states “might do that” but that it was a decision the states would be allowed to make themselves.

USA TODAY has [previously debunked](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/10/trump-project-2025-heritage-foundation-fact-check/74340278007/) [several similar](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/05/03/trump-abortion-monitoring-time-fact-check/73544833007/)  [claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/05/03/trump-abortion-monitoring-time-fact-check/73544833007/), including the incorrect labeling of this as Trump'**s** plan.

Project 2025, a [900-page political playbook](https://static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf) for the next Republican president, was created by the Heritage Foundation in collaboration with [more than 100 conservative groups](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/what-is-project-2025-trump-conservative-blueprint-heritage-foundation/). Though the project involves numerous allies of former President Donald Trump and some of its proposals overlap with Trump’**s** policies, the project wasn’t created by Trump.

The former president previously attempted to distance himself from the project, saying in a [July 5 Truth Social post](https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/112734594514167050), “I know nothing about Project 2025. ... I disagree with some of the things they’re saying and some of the things they’re saying are absolutely ridiculous and abysmal.”

Here'**s** what Project 2025 says about gathering data on pregnancies:

HHS should use every available tool, including the cutting of funds, to ensure that every state reports exactly how many abortions take place within its borders, at what gestational age of the child, for what reason, the mother’**s** state of residence, and by what method. It should also ensure that statistics are separated by category: spontaneous miscarriage; treatments that incidentally result in the death of a child (such as chemotherapy); stillbirths; and induced abortion. In addition, CDC should require monitoring and reporting for complications due to abortion and every instance of children being born alive after an abortion.

*-Hannah Hudnall*

This is largely true, although natural gas production is projected to dip slightly in 2024, according to the Energy Information Administration,

The **U.S**. produced a [record 12.9 million barrels of oil per day](https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=61545) in 2023, reaching 13.4 million barrels daily in December 2023. The EIA [projects](https://www.spglobal.com/commodityinsights/en/market-insights/latest-news/oil/091024-us-eia-cuts-2024-crude-outlooks-by-more-than-1b-amid-slowing-economic-activity#:~:text=The%20EIA%20increased%20its%202024decrease%20from%20last%20months%20estimate.) 13.25 million barrels daily production this year.

The EIA also said 2023 was a [record year for natural gas](https://www.eia.gov/naturalgas/annual/#:~:text=Domestic%20dry%20natural%20gas%20productionlevel%20of%2099.3%20Bcf%2Fd.) production, with 37.8 trillion cubic feet of dry gas produced. However, its 2024 outlook [expects a dip](https://www.eia.gov/outlooks/steo/report/natgas.php) because of producers reducing activity in response to lower prices. The agency projects production to climb [back to record levels](https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/us-natgas-output-decline-2024-while-demand-rises-record-high-eia-says-2024-07-09/#:~:text=EIA%20projected%20dry%20gas%20productionwould%20rise%20to%20105.2%20bcfd.) in 2025.

*-Nate Trela*

*“Right now in this country … we have 320,000 children that the Department of Homeland Security has effectively lost.”*

This distorts a key finding in [an August 2024 report](https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2024-08/OIG-24-46-Aug24.pdf) from the Department of Homeland Security’**s** inspector general. It found Immigration and Customs Enforcement [has been unable to keep track of all unaccompanied minors](https://abcnews.go.com/US/dhs-watchdog-warns-urgent-issue-after-immigration-officials/story?id=112964072) released from government custody.

The claim combines two numbers in the report. More than [32,000 unaccompanied migrant children](https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2024-08/OIG-24-46-Aug24.pdf#page=4) failed to appear for their immigration court hearings between 2019-23 – a period spanning the presidencies of Donald Trump and Joe Biden, according to the report. It said, "ICE was not able to account for the location of all (unaccompanied migrant children) who were released by HHS and did not appear as scheduled in immigration court."

The report also found [more than 291,000 unaccompanied children](https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2024-08/OIG-24-46-Aug24.pdf#page=4) who as of May 2024 had not been served notices to appear in court by ICE or had court dates scheduled for them.

The report found the number of unaccompanied children who missed their court dates [may have been higher](https://www.oig.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/assets/2024-08/OIG-24-46-Aug24.pdf#page=4) than 32,000 had ICE issued notices or scheduled court dates for those children.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“We haven’t built a nuclear facility, I think one, in the past 40 years.”*

The Energy Information Administration says on its website that [the newest nuclear reactor](https://www.eia.gov/tools/faqs/faq.php?id=228&t=21) began commercial operation in Georgia on April 29. Other nuclear reactors came online in the years prior, including [another new reactor in Georgia](https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=57280#:~:text=Most%20U.S.%20nuclear%20reactors%20werereactor%20came%20online%20in%202016.) that began operating in July 2023 and a [reactor in Tennessee](https://www.tva.com/energy/our-power-system/nuclear/watts-bar-nuclear-plant#:~:text=In%20October%202016%2C%20Watts%20Bar,generation%20of%20the%2021st%20century.) that joined the grid in 2016.

Almost all of the **U.S**.’**s** nuclear reactors were [constructed between 1967 and 1990](https://world-nuclear.org/information-library/country-profiles/countries-t-z/usa-nuclear-power), according to the World Nuclear Association, but no new construction took place between 1977 and 2013 due to the increased popularity of gas generation and heightened safety concerns following Three Mile Island.

*-Hannah Hudnall*

*“When Iranian missiles did fall near* ***U.S****. troops, and they received traumatic brain injuries, Donald Trump wrote it off as ‘headaches.’”*

Walz is referring to an Iranian missile attack in January 2020 on a military base in Iraq where **U.S**. troops were located, following the killing of high-ranking Iranian general Qassem Soleimani in a **U.S**. drone strike, according to [the Associated Press](https://apnews.com/trump-minimizes-severity-of-head-injuries-in-iran-attacks-1a542a36d35c4491555e458c53bf7288).

American troops suffered head injuries in the attack, and then-President Donald Trump, at a press conference in Davos, Switzerland, said, “I heard they had headaches and a couple of other things ... and I can report it is not very serious,” according [to the AP](https://apnews.com/trump-minimizes-severity-of-head-injuries-in-iran-attacks-1a542a36d35c4491555e458c53bf7288).

In 2021, the Military Times, citing a Defense Department Inspector General report, [reported that traumatic brain injuries](https://www.militarytimes.com/news/pentagon-congress/2021/11/03/centcom-didnt-properly-document-brain-injuries-after-2020-iraq-barrage/) suffered by over 100 American troops in the missile attack weren’t properly reported and tracked by **U.S**. Central Command.

*-Andre Byik*

In addition to live events like tonight’**s** debate, the USA TODAY **Fact Check** Team publishes about 100 **checks** each month on the most viral and significant claims circulating online. Here’**s** how to find our work.

* Subscribe to our [**Checking** the **Facts** newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/?ipid=signuptop10) to have get the latest updates in your inbox each morning.

1. [Follow our Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck)to get our latest work in your feed.
2. [This landing page](https://www.usatoday.com/news/factcheck/)always has our most recently published work.

-*Eric Litke*

Ohio Sen. JD Vance was thrust into the national spotlight after being picked as [former President Donald Trump'**s** running mate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/15/jd-vance-donald-trump-vp-pick/74123080007/) in July. This increased attention came with a flurry of online speculation about [the Hillbilly Elegy author](https://www.usatoday.com/story/entertainment/books/2024/07/16/jd-vance-books-hillbilly-elegy/74416225007/).

From his [military background](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/10/01/jd-vance-military-history-experience/75410341007/) to his [marital history](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/10/01/usha-vance-jd-wife-trump-views/75352169007/), online users have spread an array of misinformation about the vice-presidential candidate.

Here are some of USA TODAY’**s** **fact-checks** about Vance:

* **Claim:**[JD Vance admitted he has a ‘rent-a-dog’ to make him seem like ‘a dog fan’](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/25/vance-rent-a-dog-fact-check/75374504007/) (False)

1. **Claim:**[Image shows C-SPAN caption of ‘single person clapping’ during JD Vance speech](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/06/single-person-clapping-c-span-caption-vance-fact-check/75077946007/) (Altered)
2. **Claim:**[Walz receive nine different military awards and Vance only had two](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/16/jd-vance-tim-walz-military-awards-fact-check/74827508007/) (Partly false)
3. **Claim:**[Video shows teenage JD Vance preaching on Oprah Winfrey’**s** show](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/08/jd-vance-oprah-winfrey-child-preacher-fact-check/74680070007/) (False)
4. **Claim:** [JD Vance has been divorced twice](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/19/jd-vance-divorced-fact-check/74474565007/) (False)

*- Hannah Hudnall*

**Debate background: Rounding up our recent claims on Tim Walz**

Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz has been on the national political stage for fewer than two months. Yet an array of false or misleading claims has circulated about the Democrats’ nominee for vice president.

[Many centered](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/14/walz-bill-pedophilia-sexual-orientation-definition-fact-check/74771953007/) on his [gubernatorial record](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/08/tim-walz-george-floyd-protests-minnesota-fact-check/74704048007/) and the various [policy proposals](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/haris-walz-quote-second-amendment-ar15-fact-check/74999330007/) he and Democratic presidential nominee Kamala Harris have promoted. Others reference his prior occupations. Before going into politics, Walz was a [teacher](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/29/mad-men-actor-tim-walz-blackface-fact-check/74993846007/), a [football coach](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/15/walz-coach-state-champ-high-school-fact-check/74810116007/) and a [soldier in the Army National Guard](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/12/tim-walz-afghanistan-stolen-valor-fact-check/75077281007/).

Among the false or misleading claims related to Walz that USA TODAY has debunked:

* **Fact check roundup:**[Walz VP selection spurs flurry of misinformation online](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/21/fact-checking-false-and-misleading-claims-about-tim-walz/74871910007/)

1. **Claim:**[Tim Walz has $138 million net worth, daughter with $82,000 in forgiven student loans](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/15/walz-net-worth-daughter-student-loans-fact-check/74796347007/) (False)
2. **Claim:**[Video shows Tim Walz dancing in a cowboy outfit](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/06/deepfake-video-tim-walz-cowboy-costume-fact-check/75102708007/) (Altered)
3. **Claim:**[Tim Walz misrepresented military record in remarks about Afghanistan](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/12/tim-walz-afghanistan-stolen-valor-fact-check/75077281007/) (False)
4. **Claim:**[Image shows Tim Walz post attacking Ann Coulter for calling his son ‘weird](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/26/tim-walz-post-ann-coulter-fact-check/74920072007/)’ (Altered)
5. **Claim:**[Tim Walz signed a bill redefining ‘sexual orientation’ to include pedophiles](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/14/walz-bill-pedophilia-sexual-orientation-definition-fact-check/74771953007/) (False)
6. **Claim:**[Tim Walz said ‘we can’t afford four more years’ of Kamala Harris](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/27/tim-walz-quote-four-years-kamala-harris-fact-check/75390667007/) (False)
7. **Claim:**[Tim Walz lied about coaching high school football team to state championship](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/15/walz-coach-state-champ-high-school-fact-check/74810116007/) (False)
8. **Claim:**[Peggy Flanagan replaced Tim Walz as Minnesota governor after VP selection](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/06/walz-remains-minnesota-governor-not-resigned-fact-check/74690249007/) (False)
9. **Claim:**[Harris said she will 'end the Second Amendment'; Walz backed AR-15 ban](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/haris-walz-quote-second-amendment-ar15-fact-check/74999330007/) (False)
10. **Claim:**[Tim Walz ordered police to shoot residents with paintball guns for breaking COVID-19 curfew](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/21/walz-paintball-george-floyd-curfew-video-fact-check/74817229007/) (False)
11. **Claim:**[Image shows Tim Walz in blackface](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/29/mad-men-actor-tim-walz-blackface-fact-check/74993846007/) (False)

*– Joedy McCreary*

We **fact-checked** key speakers throughout the Republican and Democratic conventions. Catch up here on what was false, what was true and what was in between from Kamala Harris, Donald Trump, JD Vance, Tim Walz and a host of others.

* **Trump/Harris presidential debate**: [Analyzing Trump, Harris on abortion, immigration, more](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/presidential-debate-fact-check-2024/75089233007/)

1. **Trump/Biden presidential debate**: [What the candidates got right (and wrong)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/06/27/biden-trump-presidential-debate-fact-check/74160563007/)
2. **DNC Day 4**: [Kamala Harris | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/22/dnc-fact-check-kamala-harris/74832489007/)
3. **DNC Day 3**: [Tim Walz | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/21/dnc-fact-check-tim-walz/74831613007/)
4. **DNC Day 1**: [Joe Biden | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/19/democratic-convention-dnc-fact-check-joe-biden/74834230007/)
5. **RNC Day 4**: [Donald Trump | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/18/trump-rnc-convention-fact-check/74444609007/)
6. **RNC Day 3**: [JD Vance | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/17/rnc-convention-fact-check/74438699007/)

**Video series: Find us on TikTok, Instagram**

Follow USA TODAY’**s** [social](https://x.com/usatoday) [media](https://www.tiktok.com/@usatoday) [profiles](https://www.instagram.com/usatoday/) during and after the debate as our team **fact-checks** vice presidential candidates JD Vance and Tim Walz, correcting falsehoods and adding context where it’**s** needed.

We’ll post a roundup of the most noteworthy moments of the night in a **fact-check** video, part of a series we launched this year.

Here are some of our recent video **fact-checks**:

* **Video:**[Debunking claims about the suspect in the second assassination attempt on Trump](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/factcheck/2024/09/19/debunking-false-claims-made-about-the-assassination-attempt-on-trump/75294636007/)

1. **Video:**[No, Kamala Harris did not wear 'audio earrings' during the debate](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/factcheck/2024/09/12/fact-check-harris-earrings-were-tiffany-co-not-audio-transmitters/75192118007/)
2. **Video:** [Images and videos show thousands attended Harris-Walz rally in Michigan](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/factcheck/2024/08/15/images-and-videos-show-thousands-attended-kamala-harris-michigan-rally/74815763007/)
3. **Video**: [**Fact-checking** Donald Trump’**s** speech on final night of RNC](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/factcheck/2024/07/19/trump-makes-a-number-of-false-claims-during-his-rnc-speech/74465871007/)
4. **Video**: [Here'**s** what claims Kamala Harris got right and wrong during her DNC speech](https://www.usatoday.com/videos/news/factcheck/2024/08/23/fact-checking-kamala-harris-on-abortion-trump-accomplishments/74915102007/)

-*Andre Byik*

**How we pick and research fact checks**

Ever wonder how **fact**-checkers do their work? We've got you covered.

[**Check** out our process explainer](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) to see how we pick claims, research them and edit them. This includes a rundown of how we cover live events like tonight’**s** debate.

And if you've ever wondered [who **fact-checks** the **fact**-checkers](https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2024/04/02/fact-check-verification-journalism-media-literacy/73027337007/), you might want to read this op-ed explaining our emphasis on transparency. Because the answer is you! We use the format and approach precisely so that everyone has the ability to **check** our work.

*-Eric Litke*

***This story was updated to add a video.***

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Vice presidential debate **fact check**: What Tim Walz, JD Vance got right (and wrong)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/10/01/vp-vice-presidential-debate-fact-check-2024/75383643007/)

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%); GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (51%)

**Organization:** BROOKINGS INSTITUTION (54%)

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**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); HEALTH INSURANCE (89%); HEALTH CARE REGULATION & POLICY (88%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); HEALTH CARE POLICY (78%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (73%); INSURANCE (73%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (73%); UNDERINSURED & UNINSURED PATIENTS (72%); ENERGY & UTILITIES (68%); OBAMA HEALTH CARE REFORM (67%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE (65%); GREEN FINANCE (63%)

**Person:** J D VANCE (93%); TIMOTHY J WALZ (90%); DONALD TRUMP (89%)

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**Load-Date:** October 2, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Campaign to combat fake news](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C9W-J7S1-JDJN-60R6-00000-00&context=1001073)

Gulf Times

June 19, 2024 Wednesday

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**Length:** 431 words

**Body**

Campus & Students Life in Qatar, described as 'the nation'**s** largest student community', has announced the launch of a campaign aimed at combating the spread of fake news.

"This initiative seeks to educate high school and university students on how to identify and debunk misinformation, promoting a culture of critical thinking and media literacy," a statement said Wednesday.

"Fake news can have significant consequences, from influencing public opinion to undermining trust in legitimate news sources," stated Vahid Suljic, founder of Campus & Students Life in Qatar.

"Fake news undermines the foundation of our society by spreading falsehoods and creating divisions. Through this campaign, we aim to empower students with the skills to critically analyse the information they encounter daily. I encourage all students to participate actively in our workshops and become ambassadors of truth in their communities.

"The campaign will focus on several key strategies for identifying fake news. Students will learn to **check** the source to verify the credibility of websites and publications, as reputable sources are typically well-known and have a history of reliable reporting.

"They will be encouraged to cross-reference information by looking for the same news story on multiple trustworthy sites; if a story only appears on one site, its credibility should be questioned. Analysing the author'**s** credentials and other articles they've written will also be emphasised, as a lack of verifiable information about the author is a red flag.

"Additionally, students will be taught to look for supporting evidence, as authentic news stories provide evidence and data, and to be wary of articles that make bold claims without supporting **facts**. Ensuring the news is current and relevant is crucial, as outdated articles can be misleading when recirculated.

"Furthermore, students will learn to assess the tone, as legitimate news stories maintain a neutral and factual tone, while sensationalist language can often be a sign of fake news. The campaign will introduce students to various online tools designed to help identify fake news. **Fact-checking** websites such as **Snopes**, **FactCheck**.**org**, and **PolitiFact** specialise in debunking misinformation.

"Browser extensions like NewsGuard and Fake News Detector provide credibility ratings for websites. Additionally, Campus & Students Life in Qatar will offer free educational workshops to educate students on these tools and methods. These workshops will be conducted by experienced professionals and volunteers from the community."

Gulf Times Newspaper 2022

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**End of Document**

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1. [False claim the Democratic Party named Michelle Obama the 2024 presidential nominee | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6888-WR51-JCMC-W240-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

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**Length:** 445 words

**Byline:** Hannah Hudnall, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: The Democratic Party chose Michelle Obama as its 2024 presidential nominee**

A [May 9 Instagram video](https://www.instagram.com/reel/CsC5eCZgpZp/) shows a woman speaking alongside a screenshot of [an article](https://archive.ph/66zi8) published by the conservative outlet the Western Journal.

"The Democratic Party Just Confirmed Michelle Obama Will Be Its Nominee and Nobody Noticed," reads the article'**s** headline.

"This is exactly what we were thinking was going to happen," says the woman in the video.

The post garnered more than 2,000 likes in a week. The claim has been published on [other websites](https://archive.ph/LPcAF) as well.

**Follow us on Facebook!** [Like our page to get updates throughout the day on our latest debunks](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

There is no evidence the Democratic National Convention has chosen former first lady Michelle Obama to be the 2024 Democratic nominee. The convention will select President Joe Biden to be the nominee, according to a spokesperson.

**Michelle Obama isn't running for president**

The contents of the Western Journal article, which is labeled, "commentary," contradict its headline, speculating that the party may choose the former first lady as its nominee without offering evidence to back this up.

Daniel Wessel, a spokesperson for [the Democratic National Committee](https://democrats.org/), told USA TODAY in an email that Biden will be the Democratic Party'**s** nominee.

The committee will [announce this nomination](https://www.usa.gov/national-conventions) at [the Democratic National Convention](https://democrats.org/news/dnc-announces-chicago-to-host-2024-democratic-national-convention/) in August 2024.

**Fact check:** [No, Barack Obama has not promised to vote for Donald Trump in the 2024 **election**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2022/10/21/fact-check-no-obama-has-not-promised-vote-trump-2024/10552189002/)

Obama isn't listed as a registered presidential candidate on [the Federal **Election** Commission website](https://www.fec.gov/search/?type=candidates&type=committees&type=site&query=michelle+obama), and there haven't been any legitimate reports that she intends to run.

In a [2022 BBC interview](https://www.bbc.com/news/av/entertainment-arts-63604563), Obama said she detests being asked if she'**s** going to run for president and said she will not be doing so.

USA TODAY reached out to Western Journal and the users who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

The claim has also been debunked by [Lead Stories](https://leadstories.com/hoax-alert/2023/05/fact-check-democratic-party-did-not-confirm-michelle-obama-as-2024-nominee.html), [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2023/may/09/viral-image/the-democratic-party-didnt-name-michelle-obama-its/) and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/05/michelle-obama-not-a-2024-presidential-candidate-contrary-to-online-posts/).

**Our fact-check sources:**

* Daniel Wessel, May 17, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. Democratic National Committee, April 11, [DNC Announces Chicago to Host 2024 Democratic National Convention](https://democrats.org/news/dnc-announces-chicago-to-host-2024-democratic-national-convention/)
2. Federal **Election** Commission, accessed May 17, [Search for "Michelle Obama"](https://www.fec.gov/search/?type=candidates&type=committees&type=site&query=michelle+obama)
3. USA.gov, April 6, [National Conventions](https://www.usa.gov/national-conventions)
4. BBC, Nov. 14, 2022, [Michelle Obama'**s** quick-fire questions round](https://www.bbc.com/news/av/entertainment-arts-63604563)

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*Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a grant from Facebook.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [False claim the Democratic Party named Michelle Obama the 2024 presidential nominee | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/05/18/no-michelle-obama-isnt-running-for-president-fact-check/70227530007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** POLITICAL PARTIES (94%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); POLITICAL PARTY CONVENTIONS (90%); US DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (89%); CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS (89%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (89%); INTERVIEWS (89%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (89%); US FEDERAL **ELECTIONS** (89%); GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES (78%); JOURNALISM (78%); NEWS BRIEFS (78%); POLITICS (78%); PRINT JOURNALISM (78%); **ELECTION** AUTHORITIES (77%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (57%)

**Organization:**  DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (55%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (57%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); INTERNET VIDEO (90%); PUBLISHING (90%); PRINT JOURNALISM (78%); ELECTRONIC MAIL (69%)

**Person:** MICHELLE OBAMA (94%); JOE BIDEN (92%); BARACK OBAMA (89%); DONALD TRUMP (89%)

**Geographic:** CHICAGO, IL, USA (58%); ILLINOIS, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (96%); Illinois; United States; Americas, Northern America

SUB: JOURNALISM

SUB: INTERVIEWS

SUB: PRINT JOURNALISM

IND: PRINT JOURNALISM

PEO: MICHELLE OBAMA

SUB: US DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTIONS

SUB: US FEDERAL **ELECTIONS**

SUB: CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS**

SUB: **ELECTIONS**

PEO: JOE BIDEN

SUB: GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES

SUB: HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS**

SUB: **ELECTION** AUTHORITIES

SUB: POLITICAL PARTIES

IND: INTERNET VIDEO

SUB: US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS**

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

SUB: CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS

GEO: UNITED STATES

SUB: US DEMOCRATIC PARTY

IND: PUBLISHING

SUB: GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PEO: BARACK OBAMA

SUB: POLITICAL CANDIDATES

SUB: **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

SUB: POLITICAL PARTY CONVENTIONS

IND: ELECTRONIC MAIL

SUB: INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING

IND: INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING

**Load-Date:** May 18, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Which Fact-Checker Won CNN Trump Town Hall Derby With Whopping 20 False Claims Debunked?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6875-X261-JCMN-Y4CP-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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May 13, 2023 Saturday 3:06 PM EST

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**Length:** 441 words

**Byline:** Tommy Christopher

**Body**

May 13th, 2023 ( [Mediaite](http://www.mediaite.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) — Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Mediaite&utm_id=110714&utm_content=ABMI-110714-168399036521325876100227) )

**Fact**-checkers had a field day with ex-President Donald Trump'**s** CNN town hall, but one stood out by ticking through a whopping 20 false or misleading claims.

CNN'**s**  Kaitlan Collins  moderated a  [CNN town hall](https://www.mediaite.com/tv/just-in-trump-to-return-to-cnn-for-a-town-hall-hosted-by-kaitlan-collins/)  at  [St. Anselm College](https://www.cnn.com/interactive/uploads/20230511-1414901_0897.jpg)  in New Hampshire Wednesday night that devolved into a chaotic spectacle of  [attacks](https://www.mediaite.com/news/trump-spews-attacks-on-e-jean-carroll-to-laughter-from-audience-at-cnn-town-hall-her-cat-was-named-vagina/) ,  [falsehoods](https://www.mediaite.com/news/frustrated-kaitlan-collins-tells-trump-you-cant-keep-saying-the-election-was-rigged-after-umpteenth-time-warning-him/) ,  [and abuse](https://www.mediaite.com/news/you-are-a-nasty-person-trump-loses-it-on-kaitlan-collins-when-she-checks-him-on-classified-docs/)  that  [sparked a barrage](https://www.mediaite.com/tv/joe-scarborough-rips-cnns-disgraceful-trump-town-hall-literally-compares-it-to-january-6th-riot/)  of  [criticism and recriminations](https://www.mediaite.com/tv/cnns-oliver-darcy-reports-ceo-chris-licht-and-network-are-facing-fury-of-criticism-within-company-after-trump-town-hall/)  at the network.

The pace and volume of Trump'**s** lies were such that post-show anchor Jake Tapper could not stop [commenting on it](https://www.mediaite.com/news/more-lies-than-i-can-count-shellshocked-jake-tapper-marvels-at-reporters-first-try-fact-check-of-trump-town-hall/) . Seconds after the town hall ended, Tapper immediately remarked on the **fact** that from the very first minute, Trump began spewing lies about [the 2020 **election**](https://www.mediaite.com/politics/watch-kaitlan-collins-opens-town-hall-by-repeatedly-challenging-trump-to-admit-he-lost-2020-election/) .

And a few minutes later, he punctuated correspondent  Sara Murray'**s** game first attempt at a **fact-check** by exclaiming there were 'more lies than I can count!'

Murray'**s** quick try took on three Trump claims.

The event touched off a veritable **Fact Check** Demolition Derby among outlets.

CNN'**s** morning-after [**fact check**](https://www.cnn.com/2023/05/10/politics/fact-check-donald-trump-town-hall/index.html) featured six claims from Trump. The New York Times [took a run](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/10/us/politics/trump-cnn-town-hall-fact-check.html) at ten Trump falsehoods, [as did](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/05/factchecking-trumps-cnn-town-hall/) **FactCheck**.**org**. **Politifact** hit their [top six](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/05/factchecking-trumps-cnn-town-hall/) .

But the champ for this event is The Washington Post, whose **fact**-checker Glenn Kessler [vetted](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/05/11/trump-cnn-town-hall-fact-check/) the aforementioned whopping twenty Trump claims. A sampling:

Claim: 'That was a rigged **election**, and it'**s** a shame that we had to go through it. If you look at True the Vote, they found millions of votes on camera, on government cameras, where they were stuffing ballot boxes. If you look at what happened in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, if you look at what happened in Detroit, Michigan, if you look at what happened in Atlanta, millions of votes, and all you have to do is take a look at government cameras.' Ruling: 'Repeatedly Debunked'

Claim: 'Even if you just look recently with the 51 intelligence agents, that made a 16-point difference.' Ruling: 'no evidence'

Claim: 'The Constitution says that we're supposed to have legal and well-maintained and well-looked-at **elections**.' Ruling: 'does not say what Trump claimed.'

Claim: 'January 6, it was the largest crowd I have ever spoken to. That was prior to the walk down to the Capitol building. I don't think — and I have spoken to hundreds of thousands of people. I have never spoken to a crowd as large as this.' Ruling: 'The final report of the Jan. 6 select congressional committee quoted one official as saying the crowd was 30,000 to 35,000.'

It goes on like that through 16 more claims.

Read the [full **fact-check** here](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2023/05/11/trump-cnn-town-hall-fact-check/) .

Have a tip we should know? [tips@mediaite.com](mailto:tips@mediaite.com)

[Link to the original story.](https://www.mediaite.com/news/which-fact-checker-won-cnn-trump-town-hall-derby-with-whopping-20-false-claims-debunked/)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 110714

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (92%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (90%); FALSE STATEMENTS (90%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); NEGATIVE PERSONAL NEWS (77%); **ELECTION** CRIME (73%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (73%); INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (50%); News (%); CNN Trump Town Hall (%); Donald Trump (%); **Fact-Check** (%); Glenn Kessler (%); Jack Smith (%); Jake Tapper (%); Kaitlan Collins (%); **Politifact** (%); Sara Murray (%); The Washington Post (%)

**Company:**  GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (54%)

**Ticker:** GHC (NYSE) (54%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (54%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** ATLANTA, GA, USA (79%); DETROIT, MI, USA (79%); PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA (53%); MICHIGAN, USA (79%); NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA (79%); PENNSYLVANIA, USA (79%)

**Load-Date:** May 29, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Dominion's voting systems will work in Florida, contrary to Internet claims](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D8T-PTD1-JCG7-8270-00000-00&context=1001073)

CE Noticias Financieras English

October 26, 2024 Saturday

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**Length:** 767 words

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/sistema-de-votacion-Dominion.jpg?fit=1024%2C576&ssl=1)

This is a translation from El Tiempo Latino. You can read the original article at **Factcheck**.**org**. Written by Eliza Keefe.

**Quick summary**

Dominion Voting Systems, which was the target of unfounded conspiracy theories after the 2020 **election**, will be used by 27 states in the 2024 **election**. But some social media posts falsely claim that Gov. Ron DeSantis said Dominion "WILL NOT OPERATE in the state of Florida." The Florida Department of State approved the use of Dominion'**s** equipment, which will be used in 18 counties.

**Full Story**

Dominion Voting Systems has been a target of **election**-related disinformation, as we have written previously.

In the aftermath of the 2020 **election**, former President Donald Trump promoted an unsubstantiated conspiracy theory that Dominion Voting Systems had shifted "thousands of votes" from Trump to President-**elect** Joe Biden and "removed" millions of Trump votes, citing a report by One America News. A group of federal, state and local officials who oversee the nation'**s** voting system refuted such claims just hours after Trump tweeted them.

"There is no evidence that any voting system eliminated or lost votes, changed votes, or was in any way compromised," the **Election** Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council and the **Election** Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Executive Committees said in a joint statement. The statement described the 2020 **election** as "the most secure in **U.S**. history."

On April 18, 2023, Dominion Voting Systems settled a defamation lawsuit against Fox News for $787.5 million after alleging that the news organization and some of its commentators spread lies about the company. Several months later, a Dominion executive settled a lawsuit against One American News, but the terms of the settlement were not disclosed.

Dominion Voting Systems currently provides **election** technology in 27 states and Puerto Rico and is "committed to ensuring **election** security," according to the company'**s** website. Dominion also maintains a **fact-checking** resource to address misinformation related to the 2024 **election**.

But recent social media posts falsely claim that Dominion Voting Systems will not operate in Florida this November and misrepresent Dominion'**s** ownership.

One Threads user falsely claimed, "BREAKING NEWS: Florida Governor Ron DeSantis says Dominion Voting Systems will NOT operate in the state of Florida."

A post on Instagram included this same accusation, plus additional misleading questions about Dominion'**s** ownership: who owns stock in Dominion Voting Systems? Members of Congress? Past and current presidents? Family members of government officials? Are **elections** rigged on both sides of the aisle?

Contrary to claims on social media, Dominion Voting Systems will operate in Florida in this **election**. And the company "has no ownership ties to ... **U.S**. political party leaders," the company'**s** website states. Dominion Voting Systems is a privately held company, meaning it is not listed on stock exchanges or legally required to report its financial status to the **U.S**. Securities and Exchange Commission.

As we have written, private equity firm Staple Street Capital owns approximately a 76% stake in Dominion Voting Systems. John Poulos, the CEO of Dominion Voting Systems, owns 12% of the company, with the remainder owned by other members of the company'**s** leadership.

In an email to **FactCheck**.**org**, a Dominion Voting Systems spokesperson said, "**Fact**: Dominion'**s** systems are being used by voters throughout the state of Florida for the November 2024 **election**."

"The company has thousands of customer jurisdictions spread across 27 states," the spokesperson said.

The Florida Division of **Elections** had certified two voting systems and vendors as of March 4: Dominion Voting Systems and **Election** Systems & Software. According to a map posted on the division'**s** website, 18 Florida counties will use Dominion Voting Systems and 49 counties will use **Election** Systems & Software.

Voting systems must be approved by the Florida Department of State prior to use. The department only approves voting systems that comply with state law. For example, the system must accurately count votes and provide records "from which the operation of the voting system can be audited."

Upon approval, the Florida Division of **Elections** explains on its website, "Voting system software is only issued to county Supervisors of **Elections** by the Florida Department of State through a 'confidence building' process - a secure and well-documented closed chain-of-custody process that is followed before, during and after the installation of new equipment or software."

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** CENFENG

**Subject:** **ELECTION** INFRASTRUCTURE (92%); **ELECTION** TECHNOLOGY (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); SUITS & CLAIMS (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); CONSPIRACY (89%); CONSPIRACY THEORY (89%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (89%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (89%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (89%); SETTLEMENT & COMPROMISE (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); LIBEL & SLANDER (78%); **ELECTION** SECURITY (77%); **ELECTIONS** (77%); GOVERNORS (77%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (77%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (77%); POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (77%); POLITICS (77%); US STATE GOVERNMENT (77%); DEFAMATION (76%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (76%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (72%); US POLITICAL PARTIES (72%); APPROVALS (71%); HISTORY (69%); LITIGATION (69%); PRIVATELY HELD COMPANIES (68%); STOCK EXCHANGES (66%); Política (%); Redacción17 (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (66%); NASH HOLDINGS LLC (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (66%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (66%); NAICS513110 NEWSPAPER PUBLISHERS (58%); SIC2711 NEWSPAPERS: PUBLISHING, OR PUBLISHING & PRINTING (58%); **ELECTION** TECHNOLOGY (90%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (77%); STOCK EXCHANGES (66%); WEBSITES (61%)

**Person:** RON DESANTIS (89%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** FLORIDA, USA (94%); UNITED STATES (92%); PUERTO RICO (79%)

**Load-Date:** October 27, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FACT CHECK: Will Nicole Shanahan Be The Youngest Vice President In US History If Elected?; John C. Breckenridge is the youngest vice president in U.S. history at age 36](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BPG-D131-JBFB-H00K-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

April 2, 2024 Tuesday 03:23 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 430 words

**Byline:** Christine Sellers, **Fact Check** Reporter, [christine@checkyourfact.com](mailto:christine@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/GettyImages-2107863574-scaled-e1711980007435.jpg)

During a Mar. 26 campaign event in which she was announced as Robert F. Kennedy Jr.'**s** 2024 running mate, tech entrepreneur and attorney Nicole Shanahan [claimed](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IigvGp_B79Q&t=8818s) she would be the youngest vice president in **U.S**. history if **elected**.

**Verdict: False**

John C. Breckenridge is the youngest vice president in **U.S**. history at 35 years old. Shanahan, who is currently 38 years old, would be the second youngest if **elected**. A spokesperson for Kennedy Jr.'**s** campaign said they were “mistaken” in making the claim.

**Fact Check:**

Shanahan said she is running alongside Kennedy Jr. in the 2024 presidential **election** because she wants to “look out for young people,” according to a Mar. 26 interview she gave to [Newsweek](https://www.newsweek.com/rfk-nicole-shanahan-interview-election-1883389).

“People talk about my age. It'**s** true. I will be the youngest vice president in American history,” Shanahan said during the Mar. 26 event where she was announced as Kennedy Jr.'**s** 2024 running mate.

The claim is false. The [University of Virginia'**s** Miller Center'**s** website](https://millercenter.org/president/buchanan/essays/breckinridge-1857-vicepresident) states Breckenridge “became the youngest vice president in United States history when he was **elected** with President James Buchanan in the 1856 **election**.”

The Miller Center notes Breckenridge was born in 1821. In addition, the [American Battlefield Trust](https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/john-c-breckinridge) cites his birth year as 1821 and the year he began his term as vice president as 1856.

“He holds the record as the youngest Vice President ever **elected** to office,” according to American Battlefield Trust. **Check** Your **Fact** double **checked** the math on Breckenridge'**s** age and subtracted 1856 from 1821, which totals 35 and makes Breckenridge the youngest vice president in **U.S**. history. [**(RELATED: Fact Checking AOC's Claim That RICO Is Not A Crime)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/03/28/fact-check-aocs-claim-rico-crime/)

Politico [reports](https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2024/03/26/nicole-shanahan-rfk-jr-2024-bio-00149015) that Shanahan is 38 years old. Shanahan'**s** [Wikipedia page](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nicole_Shanahan) also places her current age at 38 years old and lists her date of birth as Sept. 16, 1985, which means she will have turned 39 by the time of the 2024 presidential **election**, which will make her older than Breckenridge. Similarly, [ABC News](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/nicole-shanahan-rfk-jr-running-mate/story?id=108508835), [The Washington Post](https://archive.ph/CTlHG), [the New York Post](https://nypost.com/2024/03/26/us-news/who-is-nicole-shanahan-rfk-jr-s-vice-president-pick/), and [BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-68621617) have all reported that the tech entrepreneur and attorney is currently 38 years old.

A spokesperson for Kennedy Jr.'**s** 2024 presidential campaign said in an email to **Check** Your **Fact** that the campaign was “mistaken” when they made the claim.

“Sorry, yes we were mistaken. Nicole Shanahan will be the second youngest Vice President of all time. We stand corrected,” the spokesperson said.

The claim was previously debunked by [**Politifact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/mar/26/nicole-shanahan/no-nicole-shanahan-wouldnt-be-the-youngest-vice-pr/) and [**Fact Check**.org](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/03/factchecking-rfk-jr-s-v-p-announcement/), who both labeled it false, citing Breckenridge as the youngest vice president in **U.S**. history.

**Graphic**

OAKLAND, CA - MARCH 26: Independent vice presidential candidate Nicole Shanahan speaks during a campaign event to announce Independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. pick for a running mate on March 26, 2024 in Oakland, California. (Photo by Thos Robinson/Getty Images for The Democratic National Committee)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HISTORY (90%); US PRESIDENTS (90%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (89%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); POLITICS (79%); ENTREPRENEURSHIP (78%); INTERVIEWS (78%); LAWYERS (74%); nicole-shanahan (%); robert-f-kennedy-jr (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); checkyourfact-featured (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Company:**  GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (51%)

**Organization:**  DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (59%); UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA (55%)

**Ticker:** GHC (NYSE) (51%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (51%); LAWYERS (74%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (94%)

**Load-Date:** April 2, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact Check: Did Donald Trump Call Republicans 'Dumbest Voters' in U.S.?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:692W-1MV1-DY68-1001-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

September 1, 2023 Friday 1:55 PM EST

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**Length:** 458 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** Donald Trump was alleged to have called Republican voters the "dumbest" in a 1998 interview.

**Body**

Donald Trump'**s** hold on the GOP nomination for president in 2024 remains strong, despite some recent news that other candidates might finally be getting a look in.

While the former president has commanded the contest throughout the year, one poll this week put Florida Governor [Ron DeSantis](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/ron-desantis?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) ahead among a group of younger Republican voters.

Trump'**s** attitude toward his voter base was also questioned in one social media post that claimed he'd denigrated the intellect of GOP voters.

The Claim

A post on X, formerly [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), by user @DanielleCandela, posted on August 25, 2023, and viewed 63,200 times, included a quote attributed to [Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) from a 1998 edition of *People Magazine*, in which he allegedly said: "If I were to run, I'd run as a Republican. They're the dumbest group of voters in the country. They believe anything on [Fox News](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fox-news?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships). I could lie and they'd still eat it up. I bet my numbers would be terrific."

@DanielleCandela tweeted: "The billionaire flew to Georgia from his private golf resort, on his private imitation Air Force One, with a fake tan, filled out a booking sheet with fake information, had to get a bail-bondsman, then got back on his plane to grift his cult. He was right they're that stupid."

The **Facts**

The quote has an imperviousness similar to other Trump comments, such as when in 2016 he claimed he could "shoot somebody" on New York'**s** Fifth Avenue and still not lose voters.

However, there is no record that Trump ever said the quote shared on X denigrating the GOP voter base.

The false quote has been in circulation since 2015. *People Magazine*, alleged to have printed the quote, told **factcheck**.**org** that year it had no record of having ever done so. It found no archives of the quote and said there was no interview in 1998. Further searches for the quote by **factcheck**.**org** returned no archived results.

While Trump spoke about the notion of becoming president long before he began his campaign for the 2016 **election**, his political allegiances would often fluctuate, at least when asked about running for the White House.

A 2015 report by The Smoking Gun, based on voter records, found Trump had re-registered to differing political parties, including the [Democrats](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democrats?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), five times.

However, in spite of Trump'**s** floating political history and a similarity in tone to some of his other comments, the evidence shows he did not call [Republicans](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republicans?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) the "dumbest voters" in the **U.S**.

The Ruling

**False.**

Donald Trump never said that Republicans were the "dumbest voters" in the **U.S**.

The made-up quote has been circulating online since 2015. *People Magazine*, to which it'**s** attributed, has said archive searches found no repetitions or derivations of the claim. It has not been attributed elsewhere.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2277393/donald-trump-rally-2022.jpg)

**Graphic**

Donald Trump at rally in 2022

Spencer Platt/Getty Images

Former president Donald Trump speaks to supporters at a rally to support local candidates on September 03, 2022 in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. A quote shared on X alleges that Trump called Republicans the "dumbest" group of voters in the **U.S**.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** US REPUBLICAN PARTY (94%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); INTERVIEWS (89%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (79%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (78%); POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (78%); POLITICS (78%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (78%); US POLITICAL PARTIES (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (76%); SOCIAL MEDIA (76%); **Fact Check** (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (69%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (76%); SOCIAL MEDIA (76%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (93%); RON DESANTIS (79%)

**Geographic:** FLORIDA, USA (79%); NEW YORK, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** September 1, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact Check: Did Bill Barr Visit Jeffrey Epstein in Prison Before His Death?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B1R-BWC1-JBR6-94C8-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

January 5, 2024 Friday 12:47 PM EST

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**Length:** 542 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** The unsealed Epstein court documents have led to a bevy of conspiratorial claims online.

**Body**

Disputes about Jeffrey Epstein'**s** death have risen to the top of conspiratorial chatter this week after court documents unsealed revealed more than 80 people who had been associated with the late, disgraced New York financier.

The names were unsealed from a lawsuit filed by [Virginia Giuffre](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/virginia-giuffre?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), an alleged trafficking victim, against British socialite [Ghislaine Maxwell](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/ghislaine-maxwell?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), Epstein'**s** former girlfriend. [Maxwell is serving a 20-year prison sentence](https://www.newsweek.com/ghislaine-maxwell-primetime-interview-complain-prison-food-jeffrey-epstein-1775972?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) after she was convicted in December 2021 of helping Epstein recruit and sexually abuse underage girls.

Many of those whose names appear in the documents released Wednesday aren't accused of wrongdoing or have been mentioned previously in legal proceedings or news accounts. The documents released Wednesday are not an Epstein "client list."

Epstein was found dead in prison in 2019 while awaiting trial for sex trafficking crimes. The circumstances of his death remain an open question for some who believed he was killed; [others have wrongly suggested he is still alive.](https://www.newsweek.com/fact-check-jeffrey-epstein-still-dead-1858123?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) His death was ruled a suicide by the New York City medical examiner'**s** office.

Another story that made its way back into the conversation was that Epstein was visited in jail by former **U.S**. Attorney General Bill Barr.

The Claim

[A post](https://twitter.com/williamlegate/status/1742877630783709292)on X, formerly [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), by entrepreneur William LeGate, posted on January 4, 2024, said: "Why did Trump'**s** DOJ appointee Bill Barr 'visit' Epstein in prison less than 24 hours prior to being found dead?? "

The **Facts**

This visit did not happen.

The claim comes from a now partially retracted [2019 New York Post story](https://archive.fo/LoxIn) in which mob informant Lewis Kasman suggested that Barr had visited Epstein'**s** jail "about the time Epstein was found in his cell with bruises around his neck."

Kasman said: "'The attorney general never visits jails. Something'**s** not right there.'"

The story was repeated by other news sources with headlines more explicitly concluding [what the Post had reported.](https://archive.fo/dxGbz) However, as later noted by the *Post*, there was no evidence to support Kasman'**s** point. [The New York Post has since removed the reference](https://nypost.com/2019/08/11/former-gotti-confidant-says-jail-where-jeffrey-epstein-died-catered-toward-wealthy-inmates/)to Barr, adding in an update note that "the source of the information did not have direct knowledge that the visit took place."

In 2019, **fact-checking** website [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/epstein-barr-visit/) contacted the [Department of Justice](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/department-justice?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), of which the Office of Public Affairs replied that Barr had never visited the Metropolitan Correctional Center where Epstein was being held, and that the notion of him visiting without being noticed was suspect as "'the Attorney General has 24/7 [FBI](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fbi?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) protective detail.'"

[**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2019/08/baseless-claim-about-barr-visit-to-epstein-prison/)also contacted Kasman in 2019 who said: "'I would have no knowledge of the attorney general going there.'" There is no other evidence to suggest that Barr visited the correctional center before Epstein'**s** death.

Barr'**s** name is not on the [list revealed in court documents either.](https://www.newsweek.com/jeffrey-epstein-list-full-dozens-names-revealed-1857103?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

The Ruling

**False.**

Bill Barr did not visit [Jeffrey Epstein](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/jeffrey-epstein?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) in prison 24 hours before he died. The claim is based on comments made, without evidence, to the *New York Post* by a former mob informant . The *Post* has since removed the reference to Bill Barr. The informant later said he had no knowledge of Barr visiting Epstein'**s** cell. There is no other evidence to suggest such a visit happened.

**FACT CHECK BY *Newsweek's* Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2331963/william-barr-jeffrey-epstein.jpg)

**Graphic**

William Barr and Jeffrey Epstein

L-R: Win McNamee/Getty Images; Rick Friedman Photography/Corbis via Getty Images

Former **U.S**. Attorney General William Barr on September 20, 2022 in Washington, DC., and Jeffrey Epstein in Cambridge, MA, in August 2004. Unsealing of court documents this week, which has revealed former Epstein associates, has led to re-emergence of claim that Barr visited the financier in prison shortly before Epstein'**s** death. (Photo by (Photo by Rick Friedman/Rick Friedman Photography/Corbis via Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** DEATH & DYING (93%); NEGATIVE NEWS (91%); CHILD TRAFFICKING (90%); CORRECTIONS (90%); LITIGATION (90%); ATTORNEYS GENERAL (89%); EVIDENCE (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (89%); JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS (89%); PRISONS (89%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (88%); CORONERS COURTS & OFFICES (78%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (78%); CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); JAIL SENTENCING (78%); LAW & LEGAL SYSTEM (78%); SENTENCING (78%); APPOINTMENTS (77%); SEX OFFENSES (77%); SEX TRAFFICKING (77%); ABUSE & NEGLECT (73%); CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS (73%); SUITS & CLAIMS (73%); CONTUSIONS (72%); HUMAN TRAFFICKING (72%); SUICIDE (72%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (71%); CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (70%); **Fact Check** (%)

**Company:**  METROPOLITAN BANK HOLDING CORP (51%)

**Ticker:** MCB (NYSE) (51%)

**Industry:** NAICS522110 COMMERCIAL BANKING (51%); SIC6029 COMMERCIAL BANKS, NEC (51%); ATTORNEYS GENERAL (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); SEX TRAFFICKING (77%); SEX INDUSTRY (72%)

**Person:** WILLIAM BARR (93%); JEFFREY EPSTEIN (92%); GHISLAINE MAXWELL (79%)

**Geographic:** NEW YORK, NY, USA (79%); NEW YORK, USA (92%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** January 5, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [PolitiFact Founder Bill Adair Indulges His Own Bias on PBS: Republicans LOVE to Lie!](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D72-95N1-JCMN-Y2CR-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

October 19, 2024 Saturday 1:55 AM EST

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**Length:** 694 words

**Byline:** Clay Waters

**Body**

October 18th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-53015732273325205100138) )

Bill Adair, Duke University journalism professor and founder of the '**fact-checking**' site **PolitiFact**, indulged his warped scales with a sympathetic host on tax-funded PBS, [sending out a fair-and-balanced message: Republicans love to lie!](https://transcripts.cnn.com/show/ampr/date/2024-10-16/segment/01)

Guest host Bianna Golodryga encapsulated Adair'**s** ideological view in her introduction.

Bianna Golodryga: As Americans gear up for the **election**, our next guest warns of an epidemic of lying in **U.S**. politics, particularly within the Republican Party. Bill Adair joins Michel Martin to discuss his new book, "Beyond the Big Lie." As founder of **fact-checking** website **PolitiFact**, he is well placed to account for where disinformation comes from, how it spreads, and the danger that it poses to democracy.

The full title of Adair'**s** book laid out his prejudice: Beyond the Big Lie: The Epidemic of Political Lying, Why Republicans Do It More, and How It Could Burn Down Our Democracy. Does that sound like the stance of an objective truth-seeker trying to win you over by argument? Or more of a partisan Democratic hack?

Journalist Michel Martin prodded Adair to tell his heroic origin story, his founding of **PolitiFact** in 2007 while Washington bureau chief for what'**s** now the Tampa Bay Times.

Martin: The other thing you say in the book, and this is something that obviously we're seeing play out right now in the current **election** season, you say Republicans do it more. Why is that?

Adair: So, that has been apparent to me really since before I started **PolitiFact**. When I was covering Congress, I remember thinking, you know, there'**s** just a lot more, at the time, stretching the truth and lying coming from Republicans. I covered the Capitol, and whatever the issue was, I would just find that Republicans took more liberties. And then, when I became editor of **PolitiFact**, and we started **PolitiFact** in 2007, we really saw it firsthand. And if you think about the 2008 presidential campaign, that was Sarah Palin, it was Joe the Plumber, then came Obamacare and all the lies about Obamacare.I don't think there'**s** any question that pattern was true and is particularly true now [with Trump].

(Oddly, Adair skipped a rare moment of **PolitiFact** balance, when his organization crowned Barack Obama with the 2013 'Lie of the Year' for his false claim that 'If you like your health care plan, you can keep it' under his administration'**s** convoluted universal health insurance scheme known as Obamacare.)

Adair said the Republicans he talked to (both current and former) 'put the turning point in the early 1990s when Newt Gingrich took over the House Republicans.' In other words, when Republicans started fighting aggressively and took over the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years. And of course, Fox News and talk radio, 'that not only doesn't question the lies from Republicans, but echoes them and even profits from them.'

**PolitiFact** has had a long culture of unacknowledged Democratic partisanship since its inception, as [NewsBusters has long documented. Just one recent example of tilt, as noted by NewsBusters Tim Graham: "On September 4, Trump was rated as 'Pants on Fire' for calling Kamala Harris a 'communist.' ButDemocrats and leftists (even TV hosts) have called Trump a 'fascist.'Search **PolitiFact** for a harsh rating on that, and you won't find any **fact check**."](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/10/09/politifacts-truth-o-meter-has-dramatic-democratic-party-tilt)

Asked by Martin why don't Democrats lie more if it'**s** so effective, Adair responded in a way that would surely puff up a self-righteous liberal fit to burst.

Adair: The Democrats are stopped from lying by two things. One, I don't think they believe it'**s** as effective as the Republicans do. They also don't have the media ecosystem that would egg them on the way that the conservative ecosystem does. And they also feel shame in ways that I'm afraid too many politicians on the right do not.

Adair has even thought up capricious, whimsical ways to punish Republican politicians for disagreeing with people who think like Adair: 'how about charging more to politicians who have worse records for lying and charging lower rates for politicians that have better records.'

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/10/17/politifact-founder-bill-adair-indulges-his-own-bias-pbs-republicans)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** DEMOCRACIES (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); JOURNALISM (89%); TYPES OF GOVERNMENT (89%); OBAMA HEALTH CARE REFORM (86%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (78%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (78%); WRITERS (78%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (77%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (77%); PARTISANSHIP (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (77%); POLITICS (76%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (76%)

**Organization:** DUKE UNIVERSITY (84%)

**Industry:** PUBLIC BROADCASTING (90%); OBAMA HEALTH CARE REFORM (86%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS (78%); WRITERS (78%); HEALTH INSURANCE (60%)

**Person:** BARACK OBAMA (77%); NEWT GINGRICH (57%); SARAH PALIN (57%)

**Geographic:** TAMPA, FL, USA (72%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** October 18, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Reuters Ignores Biden, Fact Checks Babylon Bee](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BJW-FMK1-JCMN-Y39F-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

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**Length:** 896 words

**Byline:** Christian Toto

**Body**

March 16th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) — Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-171061054724925876100206) )

<?xml encoding="UTF-8"?????>

[The Babylon Bee](https://www.hollywoodintoto.com/babylon-bee-ny-times-retraction-request/)  lives rent-free in the minds of too many journalists.

How else do you describe constant **fact checks** on a site that churns out satirical news stories a la The Onion?

USA Today once [**fact-checked** a Bee piece](https://www.foxnews.com/media/usa-today-fact-checks-babylon-bee-biden-selling-alaska)  saying President Joe Biden sold Alaska to Russia.  [**PolitiFact** ran to the scene](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2017/sep/08/babylon-bee/no-isis-didnt-lay-down-its-arms-after-katy-perry-e/)  after a Bee article claimed, 'ISIS Lays Down Arms After Katy Perry'**s** Impassioned Plea To 'Like, Just Co-Exist''

Great work USA Today. Nothing like wasting your time. The Left has no sense of humor. But, they love anger.

Incredible:USA Today **fact checks** The Babylon Bee'**s** "claim" that Ruth Bader Ginsburg'**s** death was overturned by 9th circuit court <https://t.co/H48mZUjVSG> via [@Not\_the\_Bee](https://twitter.com/Not_the_Bee?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

— Kevin Sorbo (@ksorbs) [September 29, 2020](https://twitter.com/ksorbs/status/1310981475953766402?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Snopes** routinely holds the Bee  accountable  for creating Fake News stories meant to make us laugh and think.

Now, it'**s** Reuters' turn.

The once-neutral outlet reached out to the Bee'**s** Editor-in-Chief, Kyle Mann, to see if the site'**s** story about ballot boxes being placed along the **U.S**.-Mexico border was true.

Mann shared the back-and-forth exchange with his X followers.

Reuters sent us an email to find out if our [@TheBabylonBee](https://twitter.com/TheBabylonBee?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) story about ballot boxes being installed along the border wall was true.

I tried to help 'em out. [pic.twitter.com/lBsuoGMscG](https://t.co/lBsuoGMscG)

— Kyle Mann (@The\_Kyle\_Mann) [March 6, 2024](https://twitter.com/The_Kyle_Mann/status/1765461686910386649?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

His response?

We went down to the border and took that picture. So it'**s** true. Hope this helps.

Mann kept the running gag alive days later.

Next they'll be checkin in on this one [pic.twitter.com/LaCKAWNSKH](https://t.co/LaCKAWNSKH)

— Kyle Mann (@The\_Kyle\_Mann) [March 6, 2024](https://twitter.com/The_Kyle_Mann/status/1765462048476168422?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

And it'**s** not the first time Reuters **fact-checked** the Bee.

In 2021 it assured readers that a Bee story saying Rep. Nancy Pelosi ' [Thanks Millions of Babies](https://www.reuters.com/article/idUSL1N2MK1U2/)  For Sacrificing Their Lives For Women'**s** Rights' wasn't accurate.

This is why nobody takes the Media or '**fact** checkers' seriously

The Babylon Bee posted the satirical headline 'Child Grooming Content On X Reduced By 83% After Disney Pulls Ads'

A Reuters employee was paid to **fact check** this (they even reached to Disney for comment ) [pic.twitter.com/gPsJd2MdUY](https://t.co/gPsJd2MdUY)

— Ashley St. Clair (@stclairashley) [December 12, 2023](https://twitter.com/stclairashley/status/1734688212352954562?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Reuters also targets other right-leaning voices over satirical posts.

Does Reuters not have any editors?

They actually did a serious **fact check** over clear joke tweets from [@SirajAHashmi](https://twitter.com/SirajAHashmi?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) , [@redsteeze](https://twitter.com/redsteeze?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) etc. over whether Biden is actually POTUS. <https://t.co/zbuVTMGR6P>

— AG (@AGHamilton29) [November 20, 2021](https://twitter.com/AGHamilton29/status/1461911487765749764?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Does anyone remember a **fact-checking** organization treating The Onion the same way? It, too, serves up Fake News stories for satirical effect. (The **fact** that it'**s** no longer funny and can't speak truth to power when Democrats are in charge is a separate matter.)

If examples do exist, please share them in the comments section below.

Do **fact**-checkers ever keep Stephen Colbert honest? Jimmy Kimmel? 'Saturday Night Live?'

Actually, some **fact**-checkers  [did correct 'SNL' once.](https://www.hollywoodintoto.com/media-fact-check-trump-snl/)  The show dared to mock President Barack Obama, and  [journalists snapped into action](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/kathleen-mckinley/2009/10/06/cnn-fact-checks-last-saturdays-snl-obama-razzing-skit) .

There'**s** a method to the corrupt media'**s** war on The Babylon Bee and, to a lesser extent, conservative humor.

Facebook once  [flagged a Bee story](https://www.foxnews.com/media/babylon-bee-ceo-dillon-rips-online-censors)  saying CNN purchased an industrial-sized washing machine to spin the news as 'misinformation.'

Why does that matter?

Social media giants lean on so-called '**fact** checkers' to make sure they're sharing trustworthy information on their platforms. Share enough 'misinformation,' and a site like The Babylon Bee could get purged from social media giants.

That would directly impact the company'**s** bottom line. The Bee generates revenue via traffic streams, and Facebook users aggressively post and share their stories.

**Fact Checks** Won't Keep the 'Big Guy' Honest

There'**s** a much bigger problem afoot.

**Fact**-checkers too often ignore the current Commander-in-Chief, a leader whose trail of whoppers could circumvent the planet.

Ask why he'**s** able to keep doing it without a single question or correction or **fact check** about it. <https://t.co/lhxogGHMUY>

— Stephen L. Miller (@redsteeze) [October 12, 2022](https://twitter.com/redsteeze/status/1580334463485038593?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

So what DOES Reuters **fact check**?

Here'**s** a sample of recent [**fact-checks**](https://www.reuters.com/fact-check/)  from the news outlet taken from the last seven days.

Time Magazine'**s** 1938 'Man of the Year' choice not a Hitler endorsement

Posts don't show evidence of 'fraudulent' Maricopa County mail-in ballots

Fabricated Rep. Greene post about shutting down government is parody

N.Y. Governor did not threaten to seize trucker bank accounts, homes

Report on Disney'**s** Cinderella Castle burning down stems from satire

Posts on Keanu Reeves refusal to present award to Whoopi Goldberg stem from satire

Note : This reporter typed in, 'Biden Reuters **Fact Check**' into Google. The first page of results all showed **checks** that  defended  Biden. None of the first-page results featured stories **fact-checking** his statements.

Why burn so many calories with **fact checks** tackling conservative comedy? It'**s** simple.

Comedy matters.

It'**s** why late-night programs avoid mocking Democrats and skewer Republicans. The right sketch, joke or punch line can leave viewers feeling differently about a candidate or political position.

It also explains why liberal **fact** checkers select certain targets over others. For them, holding the Bee accountable sometimes matters more than keeping the leader of the free world honest.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/christian-toto/2024/03/16/reuters-ignores-biden-fact-checks-babylon-bee)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); FAKE NEWS (90%); JOURNALISM (90%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); WRITERS (78%); FEMINISM & WOMEN'**S** RIGHTS (73%); VICTIM GROOMING (50%)

**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); WRITERS (78%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (79%); RUTH BADER GINSBURG (53%); NANCY PELOSI (50%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (93%); MEXICO (79%); NORTH AMERICA (79%)

**Load-Date:** March 16, 2024

**End of Document**

LexisNexis®

1. [How social media has changed elections](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BSF-93B1-DY7P-T02S-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Rocket: Slippery Rock University

April 11, 2024 Thursday

University Wire

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**Section:** OPINION; Pg. 1

**Length:** 992 words

**Byline:** Madeline Bundy

**Body**

Social media is a dominant feature in our lives. As **election** season heats up, it is time to take a look at how the fight for political influence extends past the traditional avenues. Candidates are able to leverage digital platforms, disseminate their message faster and sway public opinion in no time at all. While the landscape continues to get saturated with tweets, posts, videos and questions, it is important that voters can hear past all the noise and make an informed decision that they truly believe is the right one.

**Fact-checking** and verifying information

The main thing you have to do is to **fact-check** and verify the information that you read. This is because with social media at our fingertips, there is a lot of misinformation and disinformation being sent out, especially during **election** season. State actors and malicious individuals exploit social media platforms to spread disinformation and sow discord during **elections**. A significant concern globally is that fabricated news stories, doctored images and deceptive advertising happen a lot during **election** seasons. Social media platforms lack stringent editorial oversight, unlike traditional media outlets. This allows misinformation to go unchecked and taken by the public as something true just because it is on the internet.

Utilizing **fact-checking** websites and staying informed about current events and critical issues can further support the process of verifying information and making informed decisions. Some of these sites and organizations that can be used are **PolitiFact**, **FactCheck**.**org**, AFP **Fact Check**, The Associated Press and BBC News. These are not the only ones that can be used but these are a good variety to get you started.

Echo chambers and filter bubbles

The phenomenon of echo chambers and filter bubbles has significant implications for political discourse and voter behavior. Echo chambers are where individuals are exposed to content that reinforces their existing beliefs and biases. Filter bubbles occur when social media platforms tailor content to users' preferences, creating a personalized online experience that often excludes diverse viewpoints.

During an **election** cycle, these can exacerbate political polarization by reinforcing ideological divisions and limiting exposure to alternative perspectives. This causes people to be entrenched in their views and less likely to hear outside information that goes against what they already believe. This leads to increased polarization and a lack of constructive dialogue between opposing political factions.

Social media algorithms also play a significant role in shaping users' online experiences by prioritizing content that is likely to generate engagement. While this can enhance user satisfaction and retention, it also reinforces echo chambers and filter bubbles.

To address this issue, individuals have to actively seek out diverse sources of information, engage with perspectives that challenge their own beliefs and critically evaluate the content they encounter online. By fostering a more inclusive and diverse online environment, we can mitigate the negative effects of echo chambers and filter bubbles on political discourse and promote a healthier **elected** society.

The power of social media mobilization

Social media platforms have become pivotal tools for political mobilization, empowering candidates to connect with supporters and coordinate events on an unprecedented scale. Platforms like Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), Instagram and TikTok offer candidates an expansive audience for disseminating their campaign messages quickly and efficiently. Through likes, comments and direct messaging, candidates engage directly fostering a sense of community and encouraging active participation in the campaign.

Social media'**s** sophisticated targeting capabilities enable candidates to tailor their messages to specific demographic groups which ensures maximum resonance and engagement. Real-time updates on campaign events, policy announcements and breaking news enable candidates to maintain momentum and respond swiftly to emerging issues, further enhancing their ability to mobilize supporters effectively.

Social media regulation and electoral integrity

Ongoing debates surrounding the regulation of social media platforms to safeguard electoral integrity and prevent the spread of false information underscore the complex challenges posed by the digital age to **elected** processes. With the proliferation of misinformation and foreign interference on social media platforms during **election** campaigns, there is growing recognition of the need for effective regulation to uphold the integrity of electoral processes and protect **elected** norms.

Solutions could be to implement transparency requirements for political ads on social media and to have stricter enforcement of community standards on social media platforms. Regulatory measures could also be implemented to enhance platform accountability and oversight. This might include establishing independent oversight bodies or regulatory agencies tasked with monitoring social media platforms' compliance with relevant laws and regulations.

However, it is essential to balance regulatory interventions with the protection of freedom of expression and political discourse. Overly restrictive regulations could stifle legitimate political speech and innovation on social media platforms.

Conclusion

Social media'**s** influence on modern electoral politics is undeniable. As we engage online during **elections**, we have to remain discerning and informed. While social media offers opportunities for political mobilization, it also raises multiple concerns. So, we need to have a better balance of freedom of expression with electoral integrity as it is essential. By embracing social media'**s** potential while addressing its pitfalls, we can work towards a more transparent and involved democracy. Let us harness its power for positive change and **elected** renewal.

**Classification**

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**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (92%); SOCIAL MEDIA (92%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); REPORTS, REVIEWS & SECTIONS (89%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (79%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (78%); POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (78%); FAKE NEWS (75%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (64%); DIVERSITY & INCLUSION (62%); CUSTOMER SATISFACTION (61%); EDITORIALS & OPINIONS (59%)

**Company:**  ASSOCIATED PRESS (54%)

**Industry:** SIC7383 NEWS SYNDICATES (54%); SOCIAL MEDIA (92%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (79%); INTERNET & WWW (77%); MAINSTREAM MEDIA (77%); CUSTOMER SATISFACTION (61%)

**Geographic:** Great Barrington; MA

**Load-Date:** April 11, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [PolitiFact's 'Truth-O-Meter' Has a Dramatic Democratic Party TILT](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D50-RCH1-F03R-N43V-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

October 9, 2024 Wednesday 3:00 PM EST

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**Length:** 791 words

**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

October 9th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52934042294225201100087) )

They call themselves 'independent **fact**-checkers,' but in their 'independent' opinion, Republicans have a 'culture of lying.' So said **PolitiFact** founder Bill Adair in promoting his new book, provocatively titled Beyond the Big Lie: The Epidemic of Political Lying, Why Republicans Do It More, and How It Could Burn Down Our Democracy.

According to Adair'**s** book, 'the problem began before Donald Trump and will continue after he'**s** gone." Adair argued it went back to Newt Gingrich, who spurred a Republican House majority in 1994. That sends a signal that the "**fact** checkers" are in **fact** Democrats. Gingrich rhetorically broke away from the notion that Democrats were a loyal opposition. He had a more smash-mouth approach that the Democrats weren't good people, but people who wanted to undermine America. They think that'**s** a lie.

That deep-seated belief that Republicans lie incessantly matches the current '**fact checking**' output of **PolitiFact**. In a NewsBusters analysis of six months of **PolitiFact** articles (April to September) that evaluated a named politician or public official with a 'Truth-O-Meter' ruling reveals that **PolitiFact** is profoundly tilted against the GOP:

REPUBLICANS (107 **fact checks**)

True/Mostly True: 11 (10.3 percent)

Half True: 8 (7.5 percent)

Mostly False/False/ Pants On Fire: 88 (82.2 percent)

So Republicans are tagged as factually wrong more than four out of five times. It intensified in August and September, when the False-to-True ratio was 51 to 5, more than ten to one.

Now compare it to the Other Party:

DEMOCRATS (75 **fact checks**)

True/Mostly True: 27 (36 percent)

Half True: 17 (22.7 percent)

Mostly False/False/Pants on Fire 31 (41.3 percent)

Often Democrats are found equally True and False, with a healthy dash of Half Trues. This finding is actually tougher on the Democrats than it was in the first quarter, when the False-to-True ratio was 10 to 22. In September, **PolitiFact** found the Democrats on the True side three times and on the False side ten times (and six Half Trues). But as a percentage, Democrats were half as False as Republicans -- and in raw numbers, the Republicans were almost three times more likely to get flagged as False.

So adding those numbers to our earlier study of January to March, the difference is clear:

Republicans 19-16-135 (79.4 percent Mostly False or worse)

Democrats 49-24-41 (36.0 percent Mostly False or worse, but True more than False)

The difference is starker with the presidential nominees. Donald Trump was **fact-checked** 42 times from April to September, and none were on the True side, two were Half True, and 40 were Mostly False or worse. Forty to zero. Does that look nonpartisan to anyone? Add in the first quarter, and it'**s** 57 to 0. Fully 15 of the 40 new False verdicts were the worst designation of "Pants On Fire," falling just short of the 17 False rulings.

From April to September, President Biden was **checked** 19 times, and he was on the True side as often as the False side, seven and seven (with five Half Trues). For the year, it'**s** nine on the True side and 11 on the False side (10 Half Trues).

In that time frame, Kamala Harris was **checked** 17 times, and she was rated as True or Mostly True on six occasions, and as Mostly False or worse on eight occasions (six Mostly False, two False). She had three Half Trues. For the year, it'**s** eight on the True side and nine on the False side (three Half Trues).

Biden drew zero 'Pants on Fire' warnings this year, and has only [sevenof those in theentire historyof **PolitiFact** going back to 2007 (just one during his presidency). Kamala Harris has](https://www.politifact.com/personalities/joe-biden/) [zero overall, and she was first **elected** statewide in California in 2010. Trump currently has](https://www.politifact.com/personalities/kamala-harris/) [201.This is where you can see **PolitiFact**'**s** editorial aggression, since Newt Gingrich has](https://www.politifact.com/personalities/donald-trump/) [only twelve. Bernie Sanders has a perfect zero like Kamala.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/09/18/column-politifact-throws-its-200th-pants-fire-tag-donald-trump)

In the April to September time frame, Republicans were whacked as "Pants on Fire" 19 times, and the Democrats only once. Illinois Gov. [J.B. Pritzker drew one -- for saying on ABC'**s** This Week that J.D. Vance is "getting known for his obsession with couches."](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/jul/31/jb-pritzker/pritzker-repeats-a-baseless-claim-about-jd-vance-a/)

On September 4, Trump was rated as 'Pants on Fire' for calling Kamala Harris a 'communist.' ButDemocrats and leftists (even TV hosts) have called Trump a 'fascist.' Search **PolitiFact** for a harsh rating on that, and you won't find any **fact check**.

So when you point out this dramatic and partisan disparity, that'**s** painted as just trying to intimidate the People of **Fact**, according to Bill Adair. His book promo explains "Adair examines how Republicans have tried to change the landscape to allow their lying by intimidating the news media, people in academia and government, and tech companies.'

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/10/09/politifacts-truth-o-meter-has-dramatic-democratic-party-tilt)

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**Classification**

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**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); NEWT GINGRICH (72%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** October 9, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Video shows Nancy Pelosi talking about Republican Party's 'smear' tactic | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68DY-XGF1-JCMC-W075-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

June 9, 2023

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**Section:** US POLITICS NEWS

**Length:** 451 words

**Byline:** Hannah Hudnall, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: Video shows Nancy Pelosi describing how the Democratic Party spreads lies**

A [May 30 Instagram video](https://www.instagram.com/p/Cs4iZ2VvUwz/) shows former Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi speaking at a podium.

"It'**s** called the wrap-up smear," Pelosi says in the video. "You smear somebody with falsehoods and all the rest and then you merchandise it. And then you write it and if they see it'**s** reported in the press that this, this, this and this."

Following the Pelosi clip, a woman comes on screen and claims Pelosi was describing a tactic used by the Democratic Party.

"Openly admitting they lie to American citizens," reads on-screen text included in the video.

The post garnered more than 14,000 likes in nine days.

**Follow us on Facebook!**[Like our page to get updates throughout the day on our latest debunks](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

The clip was taken out of context. Pelosi was describing a diversion tactic she claims the Republican Party uses.

**Pelosi was referring to Republicans, not Democrats**

The clip was taken from a [2017 press briefing](https://www.c-span.org/video/?430348-1/house-minority-leader-weekly-briefing), during which a reporter asked Pelosi if she thought it would be worthwhile to "rehab" her image in Republican districts ahead of the 2018 **election**.

In response, Pelosi said that instead of spending money she raises on self-promotion she wants to use it to highlight what congressional Democrats have done to help their districts.

She continued by accusing the Republican Party of using smear tactics, in particular the "wrap-up smear," against Democrats instead of focusing on their own accomplishments.

**Fact check:** [Video shows Pelosi security detail escorting her to her car, not arresting her](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2022/11/10/fact-check-video-shows-nancy-pelosi-security-detail-not-her-arrest/8294310001/)

Aaron Bennett, a spokesperson for Pelosi, told USA TODAY the claim in the video is false.

"The deliberate misrepresentation of Speaker Pelosi’**s** words in this video only further proves the point she’**s** making in the real, full, unedited clip," Bennett said in an email.

Pelosi previously accused former President Donald Trump of regularly utilizing the same tactic in a [2017 CNN interview](https://www.cnn.com/2017/03/05/politics/nancy-pelosi-trump-authoritarian/index.html).

USA TODAY reached out to the user who shared the post for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

The claim has also been debunked by the [Associated Press](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-nancy-pelosi-democrats-republicans-smear-257692857731), [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/feb/25/youtube-videos/misleading-video-takes-pelosi-out-context-smear-ta/), [Reuters](https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-factcheck-pelosi-2017-video-misleadin/fact-check-2017-video-shows-nancy-pelosi-talking-about-republicans-using-wrap-up-smear-tactic-idUSKBN2A52UB) and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2018/10/taking-pelosi-out-of-context/).

**Our fact-check sources:**

* Aaron Bennett, June 8, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. C-SPAN, June 22, 2017, [House Minority Leader Weekly Briefing](https://www.c-span.org/video/?430348-1/house-minority-leader-weekly-briefing)
2. CNN, March 6, 2017, [Pelosi: Trump’**s** Obama claim an ‘authoritarian’ tactic](https://www.cnn.com/2017/03/05/politics/nancy-pelosi-trump-authoritarian/index.html)

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*Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a grant from Facebook.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Video shows Nancy Pelosi talking about Republican Party'**s** 'smear' tactic | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/06/09/video-misrepresents-nancy-pelosi-quote-on-wrap-up-smear-fact-check/70302288007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

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**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** POLITICAL PARTIES (95%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); INTERVIEWS (89%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (78%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); JOURNALISM (78%); POLITICS (78%); PRINT JOURNALISM (78%); ARRESTS (77%); PRESS CONFERENCES (73%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%); ASSOCIATED PRESS (51%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (56%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); SIC7383 NEWS SYNDICATES (51%); INTERNET VIDEO (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); PRINT JOURNALISM (78%); ELECTRONIC MAIL (76%)

**Person:** NANCY PELOSI (94%); DONALD TRUMP (89%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (95%)

SUB: JOURNALISM

SUB: INTERVIEWS

SUB: US REPUBLICAN PARTY

SUB: PRINT JOURNALISM

IND: PRINT JOURNALISM

SUB: PRESS CONFERENCES

IND: INTERNET VIDEO

SUB: POLITICAL PARTIES

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

PEO: NANCY PELOSI

SUB: ARRESTS

GEO: UNITED STATES

SUB: DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION

SUB: US DEMOCRATIC PARTY

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

SUB: INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING

IND: INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING

IND: ELECTRONIC MAIL

**Load-Date:** June 9, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Is Meta Turning Its Back on Promise to Curb Censorship?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CXR-48C1-F03R-N38R-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

September 9, 2024 Monday 11:15 PM EST

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**Length:** 516 words

**Byline:** Catherine Salgado

**Body**

September 9th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52677812536125216400013) )

It seems Meta'**s** CEO Mark Zuckerberg'**s** promises to reform his anti-free speech attitude were short-lived. The company announced its newest partnership to censor supposed 'misinformation.'

Zuckerberg recently [admittedguilt and regret for his company'**s** **election** interference and unjustified censorship, particularly at the government'**s** behest in 2020. Yet Meta (owner of Facebook, Instagram, Threads and WhatsApp) has now](https://x.com/ryanafournier/status/1828212021260616089?s=46&t=wDD9h6AWvM1P0tiUGr3o-w) [announcedits partnership with Japanese **fact** checker Litmus, a member of the Poynter Institute'**s** International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN). IFCN'**s** parent has received funding from radical leftist billionaire George Soros in the past, a **fact** that has never held Meta back from using IFCN as an accreditor for its allegedly third-party independent **fact-checking** partners.](https://about.fb.com/ja/news/2024/09/third_party_fact-checking_program_in_japan/)

In a Sept. 2 [blog post, Meta proudly revealed its new partnership with Litmus. A Google Translate translation of the Japanese language blog declared it was launching 'a third-party **fact-checking** program in Japan as part of further efforts to prevent the spread of misinformation on Facebook, Instagram, and Threads.'](https://about.fb.com/ja/news/2024/09/third_party_fact-checking_program_in_japan/)

Litmus is the 'first **fact-checking** media' in Japan and will supposedly assess the 'accuracy of information' on Meta'**s** platforms, according to the Meta blog post.

Nicole Han, Meta'**s** Strategic Partner Development Manager, celebrated the company'**s** continued censorship efforts in the blog. 'Meta is always committed to preventing the spread of misinformation on the platform, and we understand the value of partnering with local experts to do so,' Han stated. This appears in direct contradiction to Zuckerberg'**s** [seemingly insincereletter in August.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/08/29/hedging-his-bets-kara-frederick-calls-out)

Meta bragged that its **fact-checking** program has expanded since 2016 to around a hundred organizations for over 60 languages globally.

The platform added that, 'This time, we will partner with Litmus for the first time and develop this program. Litmus is recognized as a member of the International **Fact Check** Network (IFCN), a neutral coalition of **fact-check** media around the world,' though Litmus [has not yet renewedits membership for this new fiscal year. Meta added, 'All of Meta'**s** **fact-checking** partners are accredited by the International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN) or the European **Fact-Checking** Standards Network (EFCSN).' But IFCN is anything but neutral.](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/litmus)

Soros'**s** Open Society Foundations (OSF) [gaveIFCN'**s** parent Poynter Institute $492,000 in grants between 2016 and 2019. Shockingly, IFCN specifically](https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/past?filter_keyword=Poynter) [prioritized'**facts**' over free speech in April, and IFCN'**s** **PolitiFact** was exposed by MRC that same month for](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/04/05/soros-funded-fact-checkers-who-cares-about-free) [going all inon protecting President Joe Biden, then the Democrat presidential candidate. Meta apparently avoided any mention of Poynter in its blog post.](https://newsbusters.org/node/283752/print)

Conservatives are under attack. Contact [Meta hereand demand that it be held to account to mirror the First Amendment and provide an equal platform for conservatives. If you have been censored,](https://www.meta.com/help/portal/) [contact ususing MRC Free Speech America'**s** contact form, and help us hold Big Tech accountable.](https://censortrack.org/about#Contact)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/09/09/meta-turning-its-back-promise-curb-censorship)

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (57%); GOOGLE LLC (56%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (57%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (56%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); ONLINE CENSORSHIP (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA MISINFORMATION (78%)

**Person:** MARK ZUCKERBERG (89%); JOE BIDEN (79%); GEORGE SOROS (53%)

**Geographic:** JAPAN (91%)

**Load-Date:** September 9, 2024

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1. [Fact Check: Did Joe Biden Increase the Deficit by $800 Billion?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:67H5-10P1-DY68-142Y-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

February 8, 2023 Wednesday 12:36 PM EST

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**Length:** 741 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** Following the State of the Union address, House Speaker Kevin McCarthy contradicted White House data.

**Body**

House Speaker Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) accused President Joe Biden of adding hundreds of billions of dollars to the deficit, despite White House claims that it has overseen the [largest reduction in American history.](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2023/02/07/remarks-of-president-joe-biden-state-of-the-union-address-as-prepared-for-delivery/)

Biden lauded his White House achievements during the State of the Union address and attacked Donald Trump'**s** fiscal record, saying "no president added more to the national debt in any four years than my predecessor."

In response, McCarthy took to [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) after the address, directly contradicting Biden'**s** claims on deficit figures.

The Claim

A [tweet](https://twitter.com/SpeakerMcCarthy/status/1623150100343099392) posted by [Kevin McCarthy](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kevin-mccarthy?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), on February 8, 2023, which received more than 99,000 engagements, stated: "**Fact Check**: Biden has INCREASED the deficit by $800 billion."

The **Facts**

Under Treasury data for "**U.S**. Deficit by Year", the Biden administration has reduced the national deficit from [$3.13 trillion in 2020 to $1.38 trillion](https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/americas-finance-guide/national-deficit/#:~:text=U.S.%20Deficit%20by%20Year).

"Under President Biden, the deficit has fallen by $1.7 trillion, and [Biden'**s**] reforms to take on Big Pharma, lower prescription drug costs, and make the wealthy and large corporations pay their fair share will reduce the deficit by hundreds of billions," a recent White House statement said.

Others have questioned how far Biden should take credit for this; as noted by **PolitiFact**, while the deficit has decreased under Biden, most of that was because of [expiring emergency pandemic spending.](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2022/jul/28/janet-yellen/white-houses-big-deficit-cut-and-why-it-merits-ast/)

Whether Biden can fairly take credit for the decrease, why did McCarthy and others suggest the deficit had increased when the figures showed otherwise?

While *Newsweek* has contacted McCarthy to ask for his sources, it appears he may have based his claim on some recent analyses.

[National Review](https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/biden-claims-he-worked-hard-to-lower-the-deficit-but-he-actually-added-800-billion/) and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/02/factchecking-the-state-of-the-union-4/), which both recently assessed deficit figures, found that the actual Biden combined fiscal year (FY) deficit for 2021 and 2022 was between $800 to $840 billion higher than Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projections, respectively.

The sources are slightly different (National Review used CBO reports, **FactCheck**.**org** used CBO and Treasury data, with differing dates and methods of calculating) but that figure of around $800 billion is roughly the amount that the White House missed compared to CBO projections.

The CBO projected in February 2021 that the combined deficits for FY 2021 and FY 2022 [would total $3.31 trillion.](https://www.cbo.gov/publication/56991)

However, as noted by **PolitiFact**, the combined spending total came to [$4.15 trillion](https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/americas-finance-guide/national-deficit/), "about $840 billion more than expected".

It'**s** true that the combined recorded deficit for those years was higher than the CBO'**s** projection, but that'**s** not what McCarthy said.

The headline of the National Review article said that "Biden...Actually Added $800 Billion" to the deficit, later clarifying that "the Biden deficits are running about $800 billion above expectations."

While that may be considered misleading, McCarthy makes no distinction or clarification, only stating that the deficit had increased by $800 billion.

This could lead one to believe that the deficit was now $3.93 trillion (over 2020 figures) or $3.57 trillion (over 2021 figures), both of which are incorrect.

Whether you believe that spending over a CBO projection amounts to an increase, McCarthy'**s** tweet does not offer this as an argument and as a standalone claim with no other context, it is simply false.

McCarthy has made federal debt a focal point since he became House Speaker.

At an address earlier this week, he called the issue "the greatest threat to our future" and accused Congressional [Democrats](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democrats?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) of spending ["hard-earned tax dollars like the dollars were imaginary."](https://www.newsweek.com/gops-desired-spending-cuts-remain-mystery-after-mccarthys-address-1779358?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

The **U.S**. reached its debt ceiling of $31.4 trillion in January, pressing [Congress](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/congress?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) to raise the limit before the nation is forced to [default on its debt.](https://www.newsweek.com/what-happens-when-us-reaches-debt-limit-ceiling-inches-closer-janet-yellen-kevin-mccarthy-letter-1773749?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) But McCarthy has previously said that House Republicans—who control the chamber—will not vote to raise [Biden](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-biden?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'**s** limit without major spending cuts.

The Ruling

**False.**

The deficit has decreased from around $3.1 trillion to just below $1.4 trillion since FY 2020, according to Treasury data.

Kevin McCarthy'**s** claim appears to be based on an analysis that determined the Biden administration'**s** total deficit from FY 2021 and FY 2022 was around $800 billion higher than past projections by the Congressional Budget Office.

Regardless of whether you believe that missing a projection amounts to an increase in the deficit, McCarthy did not provide that context to his claim, which makes what he said incorrect.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2192532/kevin-mccarthy-reflects-joe-biden.jpg)

**Graphic**

Kevin McCarthy Reflects on Joe Biden

Getty

US Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy (R-CA) looks on as US President Joe Biden delivers the State of the Union address in the House Chamber of the US Capitol in Washington, DC, on February 7, 2023 and Biden pictured leaving shortly after his State of the Union address

**Classification**

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**Industry:** BUDGET DEFICITS (90%); BUDGETS (78%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (78%); PHARMACEUTICALS & BIOTECHNOLOGY (72%); PRESCRIPTION DRUGS (67%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (94%); KEVIN MCCARTHY (93%); DONALD TRUMP (58%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** February 8, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Election year puts misinformation fight in high gear](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6B77-TFT1-JBT2-3000-00000-00&context=1001073)

UPI

January 31, 2024 Wednesday 7:59 AM EST

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**Length:** 1380 words

**Byline:** JOE FISHER

**Dateline:** Jan. 31

**Body**







As this presidential **election** year ramps up, so do misinformation and disinformation efforts aimed at influencing votes that can also divide America, undermine democratic institutions and even jeopardize people'**s** health.

The assaults come from Russia, China and [North Korea](http://www.upi.com/topic/North_Korea/), but also from American extremists, special interests, faux experts and groups seeking to sow chaos and confusion among the public.

Then there'**s** the everyday political messaging heard on the campaign trail, which can include misleading information or lack important context.

Peter Adams, senior vice president of research and design for the News Literacy Project, told UPI that he and other disinformation researchers are bracing for the harm that could be done in the coming months.

"Most disinformation researchers and experts agree that misinformation and disinformation pose a real threat in 2024 to the public'**s** confidence in the integrity of our **elections** and the peaceful transfer of power, hallmarks of our democracy," Adams said.

Their message for voters: Be careful about where you get information. Be aware of propaganda coming from both political parties. And be open to information that challenges your beliefs.

Misinformation in politics

Disinformation is false information that is deliberately meant to influence or mislead. Misinformation is also false information but it is not necessarily delivered with the intent to mislead.

It is difficult to prove that someone is sharing false information intentionally.

**U.S**. intelligence agencies confirmed in the fall that Russia is attempting to step up its **election** interference and disinformation campaigns in the United States and 16 more countries. Russian ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov denied the allegations.

Dozens of organizations focus on **fact checking** and championing media literacy to combat the spread and harm of disinformation. The News Literacy Project, **FactCheck**.**org**, **Politifact**, Centers for Media Literacy and Media Bias **Fact Check** are among some of the most prominent organizations in the field.

The mission of such organizations is not to play "gotcha," Eugene Kiely, director of **FactCheck**.**org**, told UPI. Instead they seek to ensure the public receives not only correct information but important context. Kiely said his staff will follow what political candidates are saying from speech to speech and note if they shared false information as a one-off, or if they continue to share the same false information repeatedly.

"If they got it right previously then they slip up and get it wrong -- we're not going to do anything about that," he said. "If it'**s** repeated, that'**s** something we will write about. It'**s** not a slip-up."

**FactCheck**.**org** publishes an annual roundup of "Whoppers," reviewing some of the biggest unproven or false claims shared by political figures. In 2023, "Whoppers" included independent presidential candidate [Robert F. Kennedy](http://www.upi.com/topic/Robert_F._Kennedy/)'**s** claim that vaccines are not tested for safety in clinical trials. Also making the list was former President [Donald Trump](http://www.upi.com/topic/Donald_Trump/)'**s** statements that countries are sending inmates and people with mental illnesses to the United States illegally, a claim he has repeated without evidence since his 2016 campaign.

President [Joe Biden](http://www.upi.com/topic/Joe_Biden/) has continually touted reducing the federal deficit, leaving out important context, Kiely said.

"The **fact** is one of the reasons the deficit went down is because COVID relief funds made available through various legislation started to expire," he said. "It'**s** still at a very high level of over $1 trillion a year in deficit spending.

"Is he repeating that for disinformation purposes or because it'**s** a good talking point and it'**s** factually correct? The deficit has gone down," Kiely said.

Biden'**s** claims about cutting deficit spending continued from 2022 into 2023, making it no longer factually true. The annual deficit increased from about $1.38 trillion in 2022 to $1.7 trillion in 2023, according to the **U.S**. Treasury Department.

False information, real harm

The harm of false information goes beyond just believing it. Several prominent examples show how false information can have dangerous consequences, Kiely said.

In the weeks after the coronavirus spread to the United States in 2020, an Arizona couple ingested the drug chloroquine phosphate in an attempt to protect themselves from the virus. The husband died and the wife was hospitalized.

The wife said they took the drug because Trump touted it as a potential therapeutic for [COVID-19](http://www.upi.com/topic/COVID-19/) during a March 2020 press briefing and on social media.

The COVID-19 pandemic was central to many cases of disinformation and correlated with some loss of public confidence in institutions like the government, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other healthcare and research organizations.

Some were willing to take drugs like hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin based on false claims by Trump, social media personalities and pseudo-scientists. Meanwhile, a hesitancy to take federally approved COVID-19 vaccines persists more than two years later.

Some measure of this hesitancy is tied to misinformation and conspiracy theories that claim the vaccines are part of some larger government scheme. Public figures have lent credence to distrusting the CDC, as well, with Twitter owner [Elon Musk](http://www.upi.com/topic/Elon_Musk/), Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and NFL player [Aaron Rodgers](http://www.upi.com/topic/Aaron_Rodgers/) among the notable critics.

"It'**s** very dangerous from a personal health standpoint when people make decisions about themselves and family on whether they get vaccinated based on misinformation," Kiely said.

In some cases, disinformation can lead to threats to public safety.

The 2016 "Pizzagate" conspiracy theory spread across social media, presented as a news story. In December 2016, Edgar Maddison Welch went to the Comet Ping Pong pizzeria in Washington -- where the disinformation campaign purported an underground sex-trafficking ring was centered -- armed with an AR-15, handgun and knife.

Welch was arrested and nobody was harmed. He was sentenced in 2017 to four years in federal prison and released in 2021.

Kiely called the Jan. 6 attack on the **U.S**. Capitol "the most visible display of misguided people taking action" based on misinformation about the 2020 presidential **election**.

"Whether you believe these things or not, to show up to a pizzeria with a gun or to break the windows of the Capitol building, that'**s** not what a civilized democracy does," he said.

Combating misinformation

Combating the spread in misinformation is approached in many ways, including **fact checking** and supporting media literacy. However, there are inherent challenges, one being consumers' resistance to information that challenges their beliefs.

"It'**s** really the same challenges we've always faced," Kiely said. "Certainly there'**s** a more vocal group of people who seem to be immune to or unwilling to keep an open mind, which is all we ask."

In October Gallup reported that only 32% of Americans say they trust the mass media either "a great deal" or "a fair amount." This represents the lowest response in support of trusting the media since 2016, which was historically the worst reading recorded by the research organization.

"The trust issue is one we talk about a lot as a staff," Adams said. "We talk about how to help people think through that and acknowledge a slice of trust issues is earned probably across the industry. But there is a lot of the trust problem with institutions that is unearned. And that is the result of political, ideological rhetoric and bad actors trying to sow distrust and build support for themselves."

Kiely added that he knows his organization'**s** services will not reach everyone, especially because it is something consumers must actively seek. There are several ways to do so, including following **FactCheck**.**org**'**s** social media channels, visiting its website and signing up for its newsletter.

The distrust that a large number of people have in various key institutions, including media organizations, also creates a hurdle. There are some who simply will not trust that what they are reading or hearing through certain channels is true, regardless of evidence and appropriate sourcing.

"All we're doing is presenting information," Kiely said. "If somebody doesn't like what we're saying, what they're really taking issue with are the **facts**."

**Classification**

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**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (94%); RUSSIA (88%); CHINA (79%); NORTH KOREA (79%)

**Load-Date:** January 31, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Presidential debate fact check: Analyzing Trump, Harris on abortion, immigration, more](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CXY-2J81-JCMC-W445-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

September 10, 2024 10:44 PM EST

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**Length:** 4663 words

**Body**

Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump took the stage tonight in Philadelphia for [their first presidential debate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/19/when-first-presidential-debate-donald-trump-kamala-harris/74827548007/) of the Nov. 5 **election** season.

The USA TODAY **Fact Check** Team investigated claims from the nominees and added context where it was missing on issues including abortion, immigration, guns and inflation.

Read on for our analysis of statements that exaggerated, mislead, misrepresented or otherwise strayed from reality. Our team uses primary documents, trustworthy nonpartisan sources, data and other research tools to assess the accuracy of claims.

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/?ipid=signuptop10) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

*“They said we didn't have standing. That'****s*** *the other thing. They said we didn't have standing. A technicality.”*

Trump [has repeatedly and falsely claimed](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2022/01/06/fact-check-donald-trump-2020-election-results/9115875002/) his 2020 **election** defeat to Joe Biden was “rigged.” He [continued down this line during Tuesday’**s** debate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/donald-trump-2020-election-claims-fact-check/75168089007/), claiming his **election** lawsuits challenging the results failed on “a technicality” of not having “standing,” a legal term for the right to bring a lawsuit based on one'**s** connection to the issue at hand.

But that’**s** not true. Dozens of cases brought by Trump and his allies appeared before judges in hearings, including 30 that were heard on the merits, [USA TODAY reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/donald-trump-2020-election-claims-fact-check/75168089007/). Every case but one failed.

**More**: [Donald Trump falsely claims his **election** lawsuits failed in 2020 only on 'a technicality'](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/donald-trump-2020-election-claims-fact-check/75168089007/)

Eight conservative legal experts [published a report in 2022](https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/25116913-lost-not-stolen-the-conservative-case-that-trump-lost-and-biden-won-the-2020-presidential-election-july-2022) that reviewed evidence in 64 cases in six swing states, finding that Trump and his supporters didn’t provide evidence of widespread **election** fraud.

“These cases provided the forums in which Trump and his supporters could and should have proven their claims," the report concluded. "This report shows that those efforts failed because of a lack of evidence and not because of erroneous rulings or unfair judges."

Of the 64 cases brought by Trump and his supporters, 20 were dismissed before a hearing on the merits, 14 were voluntarily dismissed by Trump and his supporters before a hearing on the merits, and 30 cases included a hearing on the merits, according to the report.

*-Andre Byik*, *Erin Mansfield*

*“We have created over 800,000 new manufacturing jobs.”*

This claim – which echoes one [President Joe Biden made in 2023](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2023/06/22/fact-sheethistoric-biden-%E2%81%A0harris-administration-investments-in-water-infrastructure-and-lead-pipe-replacement-are-creating-new-domestic-manufacturing-job/#:~:text=Under%20President%20Biden%E2%80%99s%20manufacturing%20boom%2C%20nearly%20800%2C000%20new%20manufacturing%20jobs%20have%20been%20created) – is not quite right anymore. Since Biden took office in January 2021, the **U.S**. added about 739,000 seasonally adjusted manufacturing jobs, [according to Bureau of Labor Statistics data](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES3000000001).

Previous estimates did put the job growth well over 800,000, but the Labor Department lowered it during its annual preliminary revision of its data. The department estimated that [115,000 fewer manufacturing jobs were created](https://www.bls.gov/ces/notices/2024/2024-preliminary-benchmark-revision.htm) during the 12-month period that began in March 2024. Its final revision is expected in February 2025.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“The United States Supreme Court recently ruled that the former president would essentially be immune from any misconduct if he were to enter the White House again.”*

This overstates the content of the ruling.

Harris is referring to a Supreme Court ruling from July that concluded in a [6-3 decision](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-939_e2pg.pdf) that presidents, including Trump, are [at least partially immune](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/01/supreme-court-decision-donald-trump-immunity-updates/73702989007/) from prosecution for crimes committed while in office. But the court’**s** decision isn’t as clear cut as Harris’ remarks make it seem. It [declares that “official” acts by presidents](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/01/presumptive-immunity-supreme-court-ruling-impact-trump/74272174007/#:~:text=As%20Trump%20is%20the%20first%20president%20%E2%80%93%20former%20or%20current%20%E2%80%93%20to%20be%20charged%20with%20a%20crime%2C%20the%20Supreme%20Court%E2%80%99s%20ruling%20veered%20into%20uncharted%20territory%20in%20declaring%20that%C2%A0%E2%80%9Cofficial%E2%80%9D%20acts%20taken%20by%20a%20president%20are%20protected%2C%20while%20steps%20he%20took%20as%20a%20candidate%20are%20not.%C2%A0) are protected, but steps taken as a candidate are not.

The ruling also leaves room for presidents to be prosecuted under a narrow set of circumstances, related to responsibilities “within the outer perimeter” of presidential duties, or to unofficial acts, as [USA TODAY previously reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/01/presumptive-immunity-supreme-court-ruling-impact-trump/74272174007/#:~:text=While%20the%20Supremeto%20unofficial%20acts.). The ruling did not grant Trump blanket immunity.

**Fact check:** [No, Donald Trump was not criminally prosecuted for taking out, repaying loan](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/03/29/trump-civil-fraud-lawsuit-new-york/73135797007/)

**Fact check:** [No evidence that hush-money trial jurors were 'Biden voters'](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/06/28/trump-jury-party-biden-voters-claim-fact-check/74209442007/)

“The President enjoys no immunity for his unofficial acts, and not everything the president does is official. The president is not above the law,” Chief Justice John Roberts wrote for the conservative majority in the ruling.

Trump is the [first president](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/01/supreme-court-decision-donald-trump-immunity-updates/73702989007/#:~:text=Trump%2C%20the%20first%20president%20%E2%80%93%20former%20or%20current%20%E2%80%93%20to%20be%20criminally%20charged) – former or current – to be criminally charged.

-*Brad Sylvester, Chris Mueller*

*“In Springfield, (migrants are) eating the dogs. The people that came in, they’re eating the cats. They’re eating... they’re eating the pets of the people that live there.”*

This claim echoes allegations made by Trump’**s** running mate, J.D. Vance, [who has accused Haitian immigrants](https://www.npr.org/2024/09/10/nx-s1-5107320/jd-vance-springfield-ohio-haitians-pets) of stealing and eating cats in his home state of Ohio.

But Springfield city officials, [including the city manager](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/trump-eating-dogs-springfield-ohio-false-claim/75167810007/#:~:text=Springfield%20City%20Manager%20Bryan%20Heck%20said%20there%E2%80%99s%20no%20evidence), say there is no evidence of any cats or other pets being harmed or eaten by Haitian immigrants, [USA TODAY reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/trump-eating-dogs-springfield-ohio-false-claim/75167810007/).

**More**: [‘They’re eating the dogs’: Trump echoes false anti-immigrant rumor during debate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/10/trump-eating-dogs-springfield-ohio-false-claim/75167810007/)

There was an incident in Canton, Ohio, about 170 miles northeast of Springfield, involving a 27-year-old woman who was arrested in August on suspicion of killing and eating a cat, but the woman was not a Haitian immigrant, according to the [Cincinnati Enquirer](https://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/crime/2024/08/17/canton-woman-in-stark-county-jail-for-allegedly-killing-eating-cat/74841992007/).

*-Andre Byik*

*“Between (Joe Biden) and his son, they get all this money from Ukraine, they get all of this money from all of these different countries, and then you wonder why is he so loyal to this one, that one, Ukraine, China, why is he - why did he get $3.5 million from the mayor of Moscow’****s*** *wife? Why did she pay him $3.5 million?”*

Trump has made similar claims before, including during his [first debate](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/09/30/fact-checking-first-trump-biden-presidential-debate/#:~:text=%E2%80%9CThe%20mayor%20of%20Moscow%2C%20his%20wife%2C%20gave%20your%20son%20three%20and%20a%20half%2Dmillion%20dollars.%E2%80%9D) with Joe Biden in 2020. It’**s** a reference to [a report](https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/HSGAC_Finance_Report_FINAL.pdf) released that year by the Republican-controlled Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

In a section called [“key findings,”](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/10/01/fact-check-unproven-claims-hunter-biden-got-3-5-m-russia/3586861001/#:~:text=In%20an%20early%20section%20called%20%22key%20findings%2C%22%20the%20report%20says%3A%20%22Hunter%20Biden%20received%20a%20%243.5%20million%20wire%20transfer%20from%20Elena%20Baturina%2C%20the%20wife%20of%20the%C2%A0former%20mayor%20of%20Moscow.%22) the reports claims, “Hunter Biden received a $3.5 million wire transfer from Elena Baturina, the wife of the former mayor of Moscow," as USA TODAY previously reported. A later section instead attributes this transfer to a company: "Rosemont Seneca Thornton, an investment firm co-founded by Hunter Biden, received $3.5 million in a wire transfer” from Baturina. The report’**s** source for the claim is a [confidential document](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/10/01/fact-check-unproven-claims-hunter-biden-got-3-5-m-russia/3586861001/#:~:text=According%20to%20a%20footnote%20in%20the%20Senate%20report%2C%C2%A0the%20source%20of%20the%20allegation%20of%20the%20Moscow%20transaction%20is%C2%A0%22Confidential%C2%A0Document%206%2C%22%20which%20it%20says%20is%20on%20file%20with%20the%20committees.%20It%20does%20not%20elaborate.) it says is on file with the committees, but it does not elaborate.

**Fact check:** [Federal employees, not agencies, donated to Harris campaign](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/09/04/federal-agencies-donate-harris-fact-check/75059513007/)

Hunter Biden'**s** lawyer, George Mesires, [told CNN at the time](https://www.cnn.com/factsfirst/politics?id=factcheck_e879bcfe-4b2a-4b4a-a823-8c6d512c4e5e) that his client was not an owner of Rosemont Seneca Thornton.

“Hunter Biden had no interest in and was not a ‘co-founder’ of Rosemont Seneca Thornton, so the claim that he was paid $3.5 million is false,” Mesires said.

Trump has tried before to [link the claim to Joe Biden](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/08/republicans-oversell-archers-testimony-about-hunter-and-joe-biden/#:~:text=%E2%80%9CJoe%20got%20%243.5and%20a%20half.%E2%80%9D), who is Hunter Biden’**s** father.

-*Chris Mueller*

**Catch up on our convention, debate fact-checks**

We **fact-checked** key speakers throughout the Republican and Democratic conventions. Catch up here on what was false, what was true and what was in between from Kamala Harris, Donald Trump, JD Vance, Tim Walz and a host of others.

* **DNC Day 4:** [Kamala Harris | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/22/dnc-fact-check-kamala-harris/74832489007/)

1. **DNC Day 3:**[Tim Walz | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/21/dnc-fact-check-tim-walz/74831613007/)
2. **DNC Day 1:** [Joe Biden | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/19/democratic-convention-dnc-fact-check-joe-biden/74834230007/)
3. **RNC Day 4:**[Donald Trump | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/18/trump-rnc-convention-fact-check/74444609007/)
4. **RNC Day 3**: [JD Vance | **Fact check** live blog](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/17/rnc-convention-fact-check/74438699007/)
5. **Trump/Biden presidential debate**: [What the candidates got right (and wrong)](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/06/27/biden-trump-presidential-debate-fact-check/74160563007/)

*-Eric Litke*

*“For 18 months, we had nobody killed (in Afghanistan).”*

Trump made this claim during an exchange about his negotiations with the Taliban that preceded the chaotic withdrawal of **U.S**. troops from Afghanistan in August 2021.

Trump didn’t specify the 18-month period he was referring to, but there is no such period in his presidency during which no **U.S**. troops were killed in Afghanistan, according to the Defense Department’**s** [Defense Casualty Analysis System](https://dcas.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/app/conflictCasualties/ofs/byMonth).

**Fact check:** [Fox News poll showed Harris' support in Sun Belt, not with veterans](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/fox-news-poll-about-harris-trump-fabricated-fact-check/75014490007/)

In 2017, 14 total deaths – including “hostile” and “non-hostile” ones – were recorded, according to the data. In 2018, there were 15. In 2019, there were 23. And in 2020, there were 11.

**PolitiFact** reported there was an 18-month stretch between February 2020 and August 2021 when [no **U.S**. service member died “in combat,”](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/jul/05/brigitte-gabriel/18-month-stretch-of-no-us-military-deaths-in-afgha/) but the period overlaps with President Joe Biden’**s** term in office.

This claim has also been [debunked](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/jul/05/brigitte-gabriel/18-month-stretch-of-no-us-military-deaths-in-afgha/) [by](https://www.reuters.com/article/fact-check/us-forces-did-not-experience-18-months-without-casualties-in-afghanistan-durin-idUSL2N2X92S8/) [multiple](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-trump-afghanistan-troops-killed-659053265479) independent **fact**-checkers.

*-Andre Byik*

*“And when she ran, she was the first one to leave because she failed.”*

This is wrong.

While Harris did run unsuccessfully for president in 2020, she was not the first Democratic candidate to drop out of the race. More than a dozen Democrats vied for the party nomination, which ultimately went to President Joe Biden.

Harris [ended her campaign](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/12/03/california-senator-kamala-harris-drops-out-presidential-race/2599225001/) on Dec. 3, 2019, citing a lack of financial resources. Other Democratic hopefuls who [called it quits before her](https://www.cbsnews.com/media/2020-democratic-presidential-candidates/) included California Rep. Eric Swalwell, then-Colorado Gov. John Hickenlooper, Washington Gov. Jay Inslee, Massachusetts Rep. Seth Moulton, New York Sen. Kristen Gillibrand, then-New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, then-Ohio Rep. Tim Ryan, former Texas Rep. Beto O’Rourke, former Pennsylvania Rep. Joe Sestak and then-Montana Gov. Steve Bullock.

-*Brad Sylvester*

*“And (Trump) at the time invited the Taliban to Camp David, a place of storied significance for us as Americans.”*

Harris is right, but it’**s** worth noting that such a meeting never actually took place.

In September 2019, [Trump revealed](https://x.com/realDonaldTrump/status/1170469618177236992) he had [planned to meet with Taliban leaders](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/09/07/donald-trump-suspends-afghan-peace-talks-camp-david-taliban/2224106001/) and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani at Camp David to continue peace negotiations. But it didn’t happen – Trump suspended peace talks after the Taliban claimed responsibility for a car bomb that killed 12 people, including an American.

At the time, Democratic and Republican leaders [criticized Trump](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2019/09/08/president-trump-criticized-taliban-camp-david/2255653001/) for planning to bring Taliban members to the **U.S**., and specifically to [Camp David](https://www.whitehouse.gov/about-the-white-house/the-grounds/camp-david/), which has long been used as a presidential retreat. He was also rebuked for the timing of the meeting, which was set to happen days before the 18th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks.

-*Chris Mueller*

*“She has a plan to confiscate everybody’****s*** *gun.”*

This is false, and it echoes a claim we previously debunked that [Harris would “end the Second Amendment](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/haris-walz-quote-second-amendment-ar15-fact-check/74999330007/)."

While Harris has been a proponent of stricter gun control measures, there is no credible evidence of any plan to confiscate firearms from all gun owners.

Her campaign’**s** [policy platform outlines gun control proposals](https://kamalaharris.com/issues/#:~:text=She%E2%80%99ll%20ban%20assault%20weapons%20and%20high-capacity%20magazines%20require%20universal%20background%20checks%20and%20support%20red%20flag%20laws) that include bans on assault weapons and high-capacity magazines, universal background **checks** and red-flag laws. But it makes no mention of confiscating guns from all Americans.

The campaign website credits the Biden-Harris administration for enacting “the first meaningful gun safety reform in decades,” referring to [a bipartisan bill](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/senate-bill/2938/text) President Joe Biden signed into law in June 2022, a month after the [elementary school shooting in Uvalde, Texas](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2024/01/18/uvalde-school-shooting-report-released-justice-department/72267666007/). That [law enhances background **checks** on gun buyers](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2022/06/25/biden-signs-gun-bill/7733361001/) who are 18–21 years old, encourages states to develop better "red flag" laws and adds dating partners to the list of domestic abusers who are prohibited from buying firearms.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“She is Biden – (responsible for) the worst inflation we’ve ever had.”*

The highest year-to-year inflation rate since the consumer price index was introduced was in 1917, when it hit 17.8%, [according to the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis](https://www.minneapolisfed.org/about-us/monetary-policy/inflation-calculator/consumer-price-index-1913-).

While the inflation rate has been consistently higher under Biden’**s** administration than it was under Trump, it still remains far below that number.

The highest monthly rate during Biden’**s** presidency was 9.1% in June 2022, compared to a peak of 2.9% under Trump in June and July 2022, [according to consumer price index data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/18/trump-rnc-convention-fact-check/74444609007/#:~:text=Donald%20Trump%20claim%3A%20Inflation%20under%20Biden%20was%20worst%20in%20U.S.%20history).

The [average annual inflation rate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/18/trump-rnc-convention-fact-check/74444609007/) is about 5.7% under Biden, according to an Investopedia analysis that found the [average rate under Trump was 1.9%](https://www.investopedia.com/us-inflation-rate-by-president-8546447#toc-joe-biden-2021).

*-BrieAnna Frank*

*“She wouldn’t even meet with Netanyahu when he went to Congress to make a very important speech. She refused to be there because she was at a sorority party of hers.”*

This is misleading. It’**s** true that Harris, in her capacity as vice president, didn’t preside over Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu’**s** July 24 address to Congress in order to attend a previously scheduled campaign event, [USA TODAY reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/07/24/dozens-democrats-skip-netanyahu-speech-congress/74511667007/).

That event was the Zeta Phi Beta sorority’**s** national convention in Indianapolis, the [Indianapolis Star reported](https://www.indystar.com/story/news/2024/07/26/beyond-historic-zeta-phi-beta-sorority-president-on-getting-vp-kamala-harris-to-indianapolis/74556102007/). The sorority is among the country’**s** oldest historically Black Greek-lettered organizations.

Harris did, however, meet with Netanyahu at the White House the following day, [as numerous](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/25/israel-netanyahu-biden-white-house-meeting/74433274007/) [news outlets](https://apnews.com/article/harris-netanyahu-biden-hostage-deal-gaza-41c4e0685e88fd75e9aa8e0d0d859b07) [reported](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/07/25/netanyahu-biden-harris-hostages/). The vice president “reiterated her longstanding and unwavering commitment to the security of the State of Israel and the people of Israel” during the meeting, [according to a White House news release](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2024/07/25/readout-of-vice-president-harriss-meeting-with-prime-minister-netanyahu-of-israel/).

*-BrieAnna Frank*

*"Donald Trump the candidate has said in this* ***election*** *there will be a bloodbath if the outcome of this* ***election*** *is not to his liking"*

Harris is misrepresenting what Trump said, as Trump himself pointed out moments later. Harris is referring to a [comment Trump made](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/03/17/donald-trump-joe-biden-ohio/73008166007/) at a rally he held in [Vandalia, Ohio, in March](https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/16/politics/trump-bloodbath-auto-industry-election/index.html).

While speaking at the event about the auto industry, Trump said it would be a “bloodbath” for the industry if he were to lose the **election**.

**“**We’re going to put a 100% tariff on every single car that comes across the line, and you’re not going to be able to sell those guys if I get **elected**,” [Trump said](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c5110660/user-clip-trump-bloodbath-comments) during the speech. “Now, if I don’t get **elected**, it’**s** going to be a bloodbath for the whole – that’**s** gonna be the least of it. It’**s** going to be a bloodbath for the country. That’ll be the least of it.”

The full context of the comment shows he was warning about a metaphorical bloodbath for the auto industry, not promising violence if he doesn’t win the **election**.

“If you actually watch and listen to the section, he was talking about the auto industry and tariffs,” Steven Cheung, a spokesman for Trump’**s** campaign, told the [Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/03/16/trump-immigrants-not-people/). “Biden’**s** policies will create an economic bloodbath for the auto industry and autoworkers.”

-*Brad Sylvester*

*“It is well known that he said of Putin, that he can do whatever the hell he wants and go into Ukraine.”*

This is technically accurate but an oversimplification by Harris, who made a [similar claim](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/22/dnc-fact-check-kamala-harris/74832489007/#:~:text=Kamala%20Harris%20claim%3A%20Trump%20encouraged%20Russia%20to%20invade%20allies%C2%A0) during her speech last month at the Democratic National Convention.

It’**s** a reference to a remark Trump made during a Feb. 10 campaign rally in South Carolina, where he suggested he might not aid NATO members attacked by Russia if they weren’t contributing enough money to the alliance, as [USA TODAY](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/02/11/donald-trump-threatens-nato-russia/72556515007/) previously reported.

“One of the presidents of a big country stood up and said, ‘Well sir, if we don’t pay and we’re attacked by Russia, will you protect us?’" [Trump said](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/02/11/donald-trump-threatens-nato-russia/72556515007/#:~:text=%E2%80%9COne%20of%20the%20presidents%20of%20a%20big%20country%20stood%20up%20and%20said%2C%20%E2%80%98Well%20sir%2C%20if%20we%20don%E2%80%99t%20pay%20and%20we%E2%80%99re%20attacked%20by%20Russia%2C%20will%20you%20protect%20us%3F%E2%80%99%20I%20said%2C%20%E2%80%98You%20didn%E2%80%99t%20pay%3F%20You%E2%80%99re%20delinquent%3F%E2%80%99%20He%20said%2C%20%E2%80%98Yes%2C%20let%E2%80%99s%20say%20that%20happened.%E2%80%99%20No%2C%20I%20would%20not%20protect%20you.%22). “I said, ‘You didn’t pay? You’re delinquent?’ He said, ‘Yes, let’**s** say that happened.’ No, I would not protect you.”

He added, “In **fact** I would encourage them to do whatever the hell they want.”

At the time, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said Trump'**s** comments could [endanger lives and undermine the security](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/02/11/donald-trump-threatens-nato-russia/72556515007/#:~:text=NATO%20Secretary%20Generalcommitted%20NATO%20ally.%E2%80%9D) of NATO members, including the **U.S**.

*-Chris Mueller*

*“Every one of those cases was started by them against their political opponent.”*

Trump [has long sought to paint President Joe Biden](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/06/07/biden-trump-case-connections-no-evidence/73983572007/) and his administration as orchestrating his prosecutions.

But under the Constitution, the administration did not have authority over the [state of New York’**s** prosecution of Trump](https://www.manhattanda.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/Donald-J.-Trump-Indictment.pdf), who was convicted on 34 felony charges of falsifying business records related to a hush money payment to an adult film actress ahead of the 2016 **election**.

Nor does it have that power in the [former president’**s** case in Georgia](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2023/09/01/trump-georgia-racketeering-trial-televised-livestream-ruling/70737567007/), where he and others have pleaded not guilty [to charges of trying to steal the 2020 **election**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2023/08/24/trump-surrender-arrested-georgia-election-live-updates/70662098007/). That case is on hold while an appeals court reviews a ruling that allows Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis to remain on it.

“When you’re dealing with state prosecutions, it’**s** district attorneys **elected** by the voters of their jurisdiction,” said [Allan Lichtman](https://www.american.edu/cas/faculty/lichtman.cfm), a professor of history at American University. “That has nothing to do with the federal government.”

Additionally, when the Justice Department had the authority to pursue a case against Trump over the hush money circumstances, it [chose not to do so](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/31/nyregion/justice-dept-trump-indictment-charges.html).

The federal classified documents case against Trump [was dismissed in July](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/15/donald-trump-documents-case-dismissed/74407644007/) with **U.S**. District Judge Aileen Cannon saying Justice Department special prosecutor Jack Smith – [appointed in November 2022](https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/appointment-special-counsel-0) in part to add a layer of separation between the investigation and the administration – was improperly appointed. Smith in August [filed a new indictment](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/08/27/donald-trump-election-interference-indictment/74972156007/) in Trump’**s** federal **election** interference case to address the Supreme Court’**s** July decision that [Trump had broad immunity from charges](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/07/01/supreme-court-decision-donald-trump-immunity-updates/73702989007/) related to official acts as president.

Trump is [due to be sentenced](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/09/06/trump-new-york-hush-money-sentencing-date/74867559007/) in New York on Nov. 26 – three weeks after the **election**.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“Crime here is up and through the roof.”*

Trump’**s** claim conflicts with the latest available data.

Earlier this year, the [FBI released preliminary data](https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-releases-2024-quarterly-crime-report-and-use-of-force-data-update) that showed [sharp declines in violent crime](https://apnews.com/article/fbi-violent-crime-data-statistics-biden-f72de783988994cf8157957f439c1e2f) in the first three months of 2024 compared to a year earlier, continuing a trend ongoing since a [pandemic surge](https://apnews.com/article/coronavirus-pandemic-health-crime-homicide-violent-crime-132443b2bc09707394698e6a90d3f388). Murder and rape were both down 26%, robbery was down 18% and aggravated assault fell by 13%, the [Associated Press reported](https://apnews.com/article/fbi-violent-crime-data-statistics-biden-f72de783988994cf8157957f439c1e2f). But some experts have cautioned that the data is still preliminary and likely overstates the drop.

Many cities in the **U.S**. have reported [declines in homicides](https://www.axios.com/2024/04/16/homicide-rate-us-voters-trump) from 2023 to 2024, Axios reported in April. Similarly, the number of murders in the first three months of 2024 [fell by nearly 20% in 204 cities](https://www.ahdatalytics.com/dashboards/ytd-murder-comparison/) analyzed by AH Datalytics, a criminal justice consulting firm.

The most recent FBI data, which dates to 2022, shows the country’**s** violent crime rate at 370 per 100,000 people, the third-lowest rate in the last 50 years, behind only 2014 and 2019, according to [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/may/28/joe-biden/joe-biden-is-correct-that-violent-crime-is-near-a/). The FBI hasn’t released the final 2023 violent crime figures, which come out each October.

*-Chris Mueller*

*“In his Project 2025 there would be a national abortion monitor that would be monitoring your pregnancies, your miscarriages.”*

This significantly overstates the nature of the monitoring called for in Project 2025.

[The playbook](https://static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf) does support anti-abortion policies, and it laments the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention abortion surveillance and reporting systems, calling them “woefully inadequate.”

**Fact check:** [Project 2025 is an effort by the Heritage Foundation, not Donald Trump](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/10/trump-project-2025-heritage-foundation-fact-check/74340278007/)

**Fact check:** [False claim Trump said he'd force government monitoring on pregnant women](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/05/03/trump-abortion-monitoring-time-fact-check/73544833007/)

It calls for the Department of Health and Human Services to use every available tool “to ensure that every state reports exactly how many abortions take place within its borders, at what gestational age of the child, for what reason, the mother’**s** state of residence, and by what method.” But that'**s** not the same as "monitoring your pregnancies." It appears to be calling for states to regularly report cumulative totals, not specific instances.

It says reliable statistical data about abortion, abortion survivors and abortion-related maternal deaths “are essential to timely, reliable public health and policy analysis.”

Harris also repeats a [common overreach](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/21/dnc-fact-check-tim-walz/74831613007/#:~:text=Lisa%20Blunt%20Rochester%20claim%3A%20Trump%20created%20Project%202025) by calling Project 2025 Trump'**s** plan. Trump allies worked on the plan, but Trump has repeatedly said he does not support all elements of the plan and wasn't directly involved in creating it.

*-Andre Byik*

* ***Corrections & Clarifications****: This item was updatedSept. 11 to clarify the timeline and nature of Walz’****s*** *actions on abortion as Minnesota governor, which included signing a bill that removed any restrictions based on gestational duration.*

*“Her vice-presidential pick says abortion in the ninth month is absolutely fine.”*

There is no evidence Walz said this, though he signed a bill that removed limits to abortion based on gestational duration.

Walz [said in 2022](https://minnesotareformer.com/briefs/gov-tim-walz-does-not-support-abortion-up-to-the-moment-of-birth-contrary-to-jensen-claim/) that he supported “maintaining the timelines outlined by current law,” which at the time allowed abortions until the time of viability, around 24 weeks, for **elective** abortions, according to the [Guttmacher Institute](https://web.archive.org/web/20220714145438/https://states.guttmacher.org/policies/minnesota/abortion-policies). That viability standard was then [removed from state law in 2023](https://sahanjournal.com/health/third-trimester-abortion-minnesota-law-erin-maye-quade/) through a law Walz signed.

Walz has taken other steps to protect abortion rights in the state. He [signed a bill enshrining the right to abortion](https://apnews.com/article/abortion-politics-minnesota-state-government-timothy-walz-11c3b1d5269c929e442b979ff1bac73b) and other reproductive healthcare into Minnesota state statutes in January 2023, seven months after the [Supreme Court overturned Roe v. Wade](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2022/06/24/supreme-court-abortion-mississippi-roe-wade-decision/9357361002/). Months later, [Walz signed a bill](https://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/press-releases/?id=1055-575115) that protected people traveling to Minnesota for abortion care, as well as the professionals providing that care, from legal repercussions from other states.

However, USA TODAY found no record of Walz quotes expressing support for abortion in the ninth month of pregnancy.

There is no current restriction or ban on abortion based on gestational duration in the state, according to [the Guttmacher Institute](https://states.guttmacher.org/policies/minnesota/abortion-policies) and [Kaiser Family Foundation](https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/state-indicator/gestational-limit-abortions/?activeTab=map&currentTimeframe=0&selectedDistributions=statutory-limit-on-abortions&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D).

Nationally, only 1% of all abortions occur at or after 21 weeks of pregnancy, [according to the Kaiser Family Foundation](https://www.kff.org/womens-health-policy/issue-brief/abortions-later-in-pregnancy-in-a-post-dobbs-era/).

*-BrieAnna Frank*

*“We handed them a stock market and economy that was higher than it was before the pandemic.”*

Trump is right about the stock market, but the economy as a whole was worse off when he left office than it was before the pandemic.

The [Dow Jones Industrial Average](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/DJIA) (a popular stock market index) was up by about 8% (about 2,300 points) from February 2020 (the month before the [COVID-19 pandemic](https://www.cdc.gov/museum/timeline/covid19.html#:~:text=March%2011%2C%202020declares%20COVID%2D19%20a%20pandemic.) was declared) to January 2021, when Trump left office.

But the overall economy was still reeling from the impact of the pandemic. [**U.S**. GDP](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/GDPC1) was down from where it was prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, and the unemployment rate had spiked as [millions of Americans](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2021/04/15/fewer-jobs-have-been-lost-in-the-eu-than-in-the-u-s-during-the-covid-19-downturn/) had lost their jobs. The unemployment rate was at 3.5% in February 2020 compared to 6.4% when Trump left office in January 2021, according to [Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LNS14000000) data.

-*Brad Sylvester*

*“The Trump administration resulted in a trade deficit, one of the highest we’ve ever seen in the history of America.”*

This is accurate.

The country’**s** trade deficit reached its highest level since 2008 under Trump, who had [promised to reduce it](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/09/bidens-false-statement-about-the-trade-deficit/#:~:text=As%20a%20candidate%2C%20Trump%20vowed%20to%20bring%20down%20the%20trade%20deficit%2C%20the%20difference%20between%20imports%20and%20exports%20of%20goods%20and%20services.) during his 2016 campaign. In 2020, the combined **U.S**. goods and services trade deficit increased to $679 billion, up from $481 billion in 2016, before Trump took office, [Politico](https://www.politico.com/news/2021/02/05/2020-trade-figures-trump-failure-deficit-466116) reported. A [trade deficit](https://www.cfr.org/backgrounder/us-trade-deficit-how-much-does-it-matter) happens when a country imports more than it exports.

However, the **U.S**. trade deficit has been higher before, including in 2006, when it reached $764 billion under former President George W. Bush. In 2007, it dropped to $711 billion, remained about the same in 2008, then fell sharply to $395 billion in 2009 as a result of the recession, according to [**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/09/bidens-false-statement-about-the-trade-deficit/#:~:text=But%20trade%20deficitsbillion%20in%202009.), which cited data from the [**U.S**. Census Bureau](https://www.census.gov/foreign-trade/statistics/historical/gands.pdf).

-*Chris Mueller*

*“Economists have said that that Trump sales tax would actually result, for middle-class families, in about $4,000 more a year.”*

Harris also brought up this number [during her speech at the Democratic National Convention](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/22/dnc-fact-check-kamala-harris/74832489007/#:~:text=Kamala%20Harris%20claim:%20Trump%20tariffs%20would%20cost%20households%20$4000%20per%20year%C2%A0) in reference to [Trump’**s** proposed tariff of between 10%](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-tariffs-proposal-10-percent-1700-cost-per-us-household/) [and 20% on imported goods](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/08/15/donald-trump-twenty-percent-tariff-economic-policy/74809155007/). Her estimate is at the high end of the economic estimates.

While Trump has described it as [a way to raise revenue](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/03/04/trump-tariff-haley-ad-fact-check/72805198007/), economists say [it would mostly be passed along to consumers](https://www.taxpolicycenter.org/taxvox/tpc-trump-tariffs-would-raise-household-taxes-and-slow-imports#:~:text=Trump%E2%80%99s%20tariffs%20would%20significantly%20raise%20prices%20of%20imported%20goods%20since%20they%E2%80%99d%20mostly%20be%20passed%20on%20to%20consumers.%20That%20would%20shrink%20both%20inflation-adjusted%20domestic%20incomes%20and%20income%20tax%20revenues.%20%C2%A0), effectively making it a tax. But they disagree on the additional cost families would face.

A [study by the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center](https://www.taxpolicycenter.org/model-estimates/biden-and-trump-tariffs-august-2024/t24-0050-enact-60-percent-tariff-imports-china) found that tariff, and one of 60% on Chinese goods that Trump has also proposed, would [lower the average post-tax incomes of American households](https://www.taxpolicycenter.org/taxvox/tpc-trump-tariffs-would-raise-household-taxes-and-slow-imports) by about $1,800. Another think tank, The Peterson Institute for International Economics, says the [larger tariff would cost households](https://www.piie.com/publications/policy-briefs/2024/why-trumps-tariff-proposals-would-harm-working-americans#:~:text=cost%20a%20typical%20household%20in%20the%20middle%20of%20the%20income%20distribution%20about%20$1700%20in%20increased%20taxes%20each%20year) more than $2,600 per year.

But a projection from the conservative [American Action Forum](https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/trumps-10-percent-tariffs-projected-impacts-on-u-s-households-and-allies/) falls closer to the figure Harris cited, saying the 20% tariff and 60% tariff on Chinese goods [would amount to a tax increase of $3,900](https://www.americanactionforum.org/research/trumps-10-percent-tariffs-projected-impacts-on-u-s-households-and-allies/#:~:text=If%20a%20specialized%2060%20percent%20tariff%20were%20levied%20against%20China%20costs%20would%20likely%20increase%20by%20$3900) for a middle-class family.

*– Joedy McCreary*

*“(Immigrants in the country illegally are) destroying our country. They’re dangerous. They’re at the highest level of criminality, and we have to get them out.”*

Immigrants are 60% less likely to be incarcerated than the broader **U.S**.-born population in recent years, according to a [2023 National Bureau of Economic Research](https://www.nber.org/system/files/working_papers/w31440/w31440.pdf) paper.

The paper, co-authored by Stanford University researcher [Ran Abramitzky](https://siepr.stanford.edu/people/ran-abramitzky), used **U.S**. Census data and focused on immigrants present in the Census regardless of their legal status and on men between the ages of 18 and 40, according to a [news release about the study](https://siepr.stanford.edu/news/mythical-tie-between-immigration-and-crime).

**Fact check:** [Migrants approached school buses, did not try to 'hijack' them](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/false-claim-migrants-hijack-school-buses-fact-check/75020207007/)

**Fact check:**[No, 51M 'illegals' have not entered US under Biden, Harris](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/12/51-million-border-illegally-biden-fact-check/74595944007/)

[Alex Nowrasteh](https://www.cato.org/people/alex-nowrasteh), vice president for economic and social policy studies at the Cato Institute, in [a Feb. 24 report](https://www.cato.org/blog/illegal-immigrants-have-low-homicide-conviction-rate-setting-record-straight-illegal-immigrant), examined homicide conviction rates between those who entered the country illegally and native-born Americans in Texas. Nowrasteh found that those entering illegally had a lower homicide conviction rate (2.4 per 100,000) than native-born Americans (2.8 per 100,000) in 2015.

*-Andre Byik*

*“We have inflation like very few people have ever seen, probably the worst in our nation’****s*** *history. We were at 21%.”*

This is wrong, according to [consumer price index data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics](https://www.bls.gov/charts/consumer-price-index/consumer-price-index-by-category-line-chart.htm).

The highest year-over-year inflation rate during Biden’**s** presidency was 9.1% in June 2022. The rate as of July 2024 was 2.9%.

By contrast, the highest rate during Trump’**s** presidency was 2.9%, which happened in both June and July 2018. The lowest rate was 0.1% in May 2020, amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

*-BrieAnna Frank*

Ever wonder how **fact**-checkers do their work? We've got you covered.

[**Check** out our process explainer](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) to see how we pick claims, research them and edit them. This includes a rundown of how we cover live events like tonight’**s** debate.

And if you've ever wondered [who **fact-checks** the **fact**-checkers](https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2024/04/02/fact-check-verification-journalism-media-literacy/73027337007/), you might want to read this op-ed explaining our emphasis on transparency. Because the answer is you! We use the format and approach precisely so that everyone has the ability to **check** our work.

*-Eric Litke*

Former President Donald Trump has long been at the center of online misinformation.

That was especially true in the summer of 2024, when rumors swirled about Trump’**s** ties to Project 2025, the assassination attempt against him in July and the former president’**s** unprecedented conviction on 34 counts in his New York criminal hush money trial.

Here are some of USA TODAY’**s** latest **fact-checks** on claims related to Trump:

* **Claim:** [Trump posted about military relationship, interaction with ‘Civil War soldier’](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/trump-impersonator-civil-war-vet-fact-check/75013095007/) (False)

1. **Claim:**[Image shows Secret Service agents weren’t wearing earpieces during Trump assassination attempt](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/28/photo-agents-earpieces-trump-shooting-fact-check/74965247007/) (Altered)
2. **Claim:**[Trump warned mpox will be used as an excuse for electoral fraud and lockdowns](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/23/trump-lockdown-claims-covid-19-not-mpox-fact-check/74906489007/) (False)
3. **Claim:**[Trump mistakenly addressed North Carolina at Pennsylvania rally](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/23/trump-north-carolina-pennyslvania-fact-check/74905986007/) (False)
4. **Claim:**[Trump said cereal costs $100 a pound at press conference](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/20/cereal-quote-trump-fact-check/74860738007/) (False)
5. **Claim:**[Image shows Trump falling asleep at the 2017 NATO summit](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/20/image-trump-asleep-nato-2017-fact-check/74862486007/) (False)
6. **Claim:**[Image shows ‘Trump train’ truck crashed into bridge](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/15/trump-train-truck-photo-fact-check/74800813007/) (Altered)
7. **Claim:**[Trump couldn’t land in Bozeman, Montana, because he owed the airport $12,000](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/14/bozeman-montana-trump-plane-diversion-fact-check/74785458007/) (False)

*-BrieAnna Frank*

In addition to live events like tonight’**s** debate, the USA TODAY **Fact Check** Team publishes about 100 **checks** each month on the most viral and significant claims circulating online. Here’**s** how to find our work.

* Subscribe to our [**Checking** the **Facts** newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/?ipid=signuptop10) to have get the latest updates in your inbox each morning.

1. [Follow our Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck)to get our latest work in your feed.
2. [This landing page](https://www.usatoday.com/news/factcheck/)always has our most recently published work.

-*Eric Litke*

In the weeks since the Democrats selected Vice President Kamala Harris to replace President Joe Biden at the top of their ticket, an array of false or misleading claims about her circulated.

Many centered on her background, her record as vice president or her campaign platform. Some have been around for years, dating to Biden’**s** pick of Harris as his running mate in 2020. Newer ones center around her role in [addressing immigration](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/07/23/kamala-harris-not-border-czar-of-biden-administration-fact-check/74498717007/) and where she and her running mate, Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz, stand on [gun control](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/haris-walz-quote-second-amendment-ar15-fact-check/74999330007/) and [taxation](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/08/30/unrealized-capital-gains-tax-harris-fact-check/74983552007/).

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**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%); JOE BIDEN (89%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%)

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1. [Judge didn't deny Trump request to skip hush money trial for son's graduation | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BTP-YKV1-JCMC-W3V8-00000-00&context=1001073)

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**Byline:** Joedy McCreary, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: Judge in hush-money trial told Trump he can’t attend son’s graduation**

An April 16 Facebook post ([direct link](https://www.facebook.com/TuckerCarlsonFanClub/posts/pfbid02BMZMmEXTdw8LA99q5W646Hw4gtmf7P2DZZUXss9wCTvZ5ARTzoM5VugMcxHnqhNel), [archive link](https://archive.is/q7hDf)) shows side-by-side photos of former President Donald Trump and Judge Juan Merchan, who is overseeing Trump’**s** hush-money trial in New York.

“BREAKING: Donald Trump speaks out after Judge Merchan informed him that he could not attend his son Barron’**s** high school graduation or he will be jailed,” reads the post’**s** caption.

It was shared more than 100 times in a day. Similar versions were [shared widely on Facebook](https://archive.is/YsGwl) and by Trump'**s** son, Eric, on [X, formerly Twitter](https://ghostarchive.org/archive/8OqlP).

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

Merchan didn’t say that in his April 15 ruling. He did not rule that day on Trump'**s** request to attend the graduation, delaying the decision instead. He said if the trial is on schedule he would be willing to adjourn for the day.

**No ruling from judge on Trump’s graduation request**

Trump, the [first former **U.S**. president to stand trial](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/14/trump-criminal-trials-campaign-trail-ny-case/73121816007/) in a criminal case, is accused of [falsifying business records](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/08/trump-hush-money-gag-order-appeal-rejected-ny/73246981007/) to disguise a $130,000 hush-money payment to a porn star and [illegally influence the 2016 presidential **election**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/15/donald-trump-trial-new-york-live-updates/73308381007/). His trial in New York started April 15, roughly a month before [his youngest son, Barron, will graduate](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2024/04/15/trump-complains-he-may-miss-barrons-graduation-because-of-new-york-case/73333963007/#:~:text=He%20is%20expected%20to%20graduate%20this%20May) from a high school near Mar-a-Lago.

**Fact check**: [Marines in viral photo were at veteran suicide fundraiser, not Trump event](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/16/marines-trump-mar-a-lago-fundraiser/73329889007/)

But Merchan did not say Trump couldn't attend the commencement ceremony and would risk being jailed if he did. Rather, the judge delayed the decision and did not issue a ruling of any kind on that request, [according to multiple](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-barron-graduation-trial-hush-money-b2529533.html) [published reports](https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/4595849-ny-judge-trump-supreme-court-presidential-immunity/).

Before jury selection began, attorney Todd Blanche asked Merchan to adjourn court for the day May 17 so Trump could attend the graduation, [The Independent reported](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-barron-graduation-trial-hush-money-b2529533.html#:~:text=Mr%20Trump%E2%80%99s%20lawyer,%20Todd%20Blanche,%20asked%20Judge%20Juan%20Merchan%20if%20the%20court%20could%20adjourn%20on%2017%20May). Merchan did not specifically deny that request, instead saying he would not rule “at this time" and could not accommodate the request if the trial were to fall behind schedule, according to the newspaper.

The Associated Press reported that both Trump and one of his lawyers have children graduating soon and that while Merchan said he would not rule on the requests immediately, [he would be willing to adjourn](https://apnews.com/live/trump-trial-hush-money-updates-april-15#0000018e-e21d-d37c-a59e-ee3dd2830000) for one or both days.

“It really depends on how we’re doing on time and where we are in the trial,” [the AP quoted Merchan as saying](https://apnews.com/live/trump-trial-hush-money-updates-april-15#0000018e-e21d-d37c-a59e-ee3dd2830000).

However, Merchan ruled against Trump on a separate request, declining to excuse the presumptive Republican presidential nominee from the trial to attend Supreme Court arguments on presidential immunity on April 25 in Washington, [The Hill reported](https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/4595849-ny-judge-trump-supreme-court-presidential-immunity/).

“Arguing before the Supreme Court is a big deal, and I can certainly appreciate why your client would want to be there, but a trial in New York Supreme Court … is also a big deal,” Merchan told Blanche, [according to The Hill](https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/4595849-ny-judge-trump-supreme-court-presidential-immunity/#:~:text=%E2%80%9CArguing%20before%20the,the%20judge%20added.). “I will see him here next week.”

[New York state law requires](https://casetext.com/statute/consolidated-laws-of-new-york/chapter-criminal-procedure/part-2-the-principal-proceedings/title-k-prosecution-of-informations-in-local-criminal-courts-plea-to-sentence/article-340-pre-trial-proceedings/section-34050-defendants-presence-at-trial#:~:text=Section%20340.50%20-%20Defendant) criminal defendants to attend their full trials unless they receive permission from the judge.

Trump [faces 34 felony counts](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/15/donald-trump-trial-new-york-live-updates/73308381007/) that each carry a maximum sentence of four years, although New York law caps such sentences at 20 years. Legal experts say if Trump is convicted, a realistic sentence ranges from probation to four years in prison, although Trump would likely remain free on appeal during the duration of the presidential **election**, [USA TODAY reported](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/11/donald-trump-new-york-hush-money-trial/72943245007/).

Trump’**s** legal issues have spawned a significant amount of misinformation on social media. Among fabricated claims debunked by USA TODAY are assertions that [Trump was prosecuted for repaying a loan](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/03/29/trump-civil-fraud-lawsuit-new-york/73135797007/), that [he offered a Supreme Court nomination](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/12/fabricated-trump-post-about-judge-aileen-cannon/73295962007/) to the judge overseeing his classified documents case and that his lawyer [offered a $10 million bribe](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/03/22/alina-habba-judge-arthur-engoron-trump-bribe/73058335007/) to the New York judge who presided over his real estate fraud lawsuit.

USA TODAY reached out to the Facebook user who shared the post but did not immediately receive a response.

[The Associated Press](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-trump-trial-judge-graduation-barron-393373584079) and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/04/judge-hasnt-ruled-on-trumps-graduation-request/) also debunked the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* Independent, April 16, [Trump is seething about missing Barron’**s** graduation. Here’**s** what the judge actually said](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/trump-barron-graduation-trial-hush-money-b2529533.html)

1. The Hill, April 16, [Trump allies seize on judge’**s** delayed decision on Barron’**s** graduation](https://thehill.com/regulation/court-battles/4597431-trump-allies-seize-on-judges-delayed-decision-on-barrons-graduation/)
2. The Associated Press, April 15, [Trump requests a day off to attend his son’**s** high school graduation](https://apnews.com/live/trump-trial-hush-money-updates-april-15#0000018e-e21d-d37c-a59e-ee3dd2830000)
3. Casetext, accessed April 16, [N.Y. Crim. Proc. Law § 340.50](https://casetext.com/statute/consolidated-laws-of-new-york/chapter-criminal-procedure/part-2-the-principal-proceedings/title-k-prosecution-of-informations-in-local-criminal-courts-plea-to-sentence/article-340-pre-trial-proceedings/section-34050-defendants-presence-at-trial#:~:text=Section%20340.50%20-%20Defendant)

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*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Judge didn't deny Trump request to skip hush money trial for son'**s** graduation | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/17/trump-trial-graduation-request-fact-check/73346365007/)

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (90%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (90%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (90%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (78%); HIGH SCHOOLS (78%); LAWYERS (78%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (78%); SECONDARY SCHOOLS (78%); PRESS AGENCY RELEASES (62%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (93%)

**Geographic:** NEW YORK, USA (93%); UNITED STATES (96%); Americas, Northern America

SUB: GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES

SUB: JURY TRIALS

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

SUB: JUDGES

SUB: JURY SELECTION

SUB: HIGH SCHOOLS

IND: HIGH SCHOOLS

SUB: DECISIONS & RULINGS

SUB: US PRESIDENTS

SUB: **ELECTIONS**

SUB: CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS**

SUB: HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS**

SUB: SUPREME COURTS

SUB: CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS

SUB: EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION GRADUATION

SUB: CRIMINAL JUSTICE

SUB: SECONDARY SCHOOLS

IND: SECONDARY SCHOOLS

GEO: UNITED STATES; NEW YORK, USA

SUB: JURY DUTY

SUB: PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING

IND: PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING

GEO: UNITED STATES

SUB: FUNDRAISING

SUB: LAWYERS

IND: LAWYERS

IND: ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

SUB: LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS

SUB: DELAYS & POSTPONEMENTS

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

**Load-Date:** April 17, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Trump falsely presents Stormy Daniels letter as new in Truth Social post | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BV7-9MS1-JCMC-W0N0-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

April 19, 2024

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**Length:** 674 words

**Byline:** Hannah Hudnall, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: Stormy Daniels letter denying affair with Trump was 'just found'**

An April 10 Truth Social post ([direct link](https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/112247471112784333), [archive link](https://archive.is/pZjPp)) from former President Donald Trump shows an official statement signed by porn star Stormy Daniels.

Trump'**s** caption says, "Look what was just found! Will the fake news report it?"

In the statement, dated Jan. 30, 2018, Daniels denies having an affair with Trump.

Trump'**s** post garnered more than 20,000 likes in nine days. Other versions of the claim were shared on [Facebook](https://archive.is/qesRM), such as claims that Daniels exonerated Trump.

**More from the Fact-Check Team:**[How we pick and research claims](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/02/12/fact-check-guidelines-usa-today/4735217002/) | [Email newsletter](https://profile.usatoday.com/newsletters/checking-the-facts/) | [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

The letter is not new. It was signed and published in January 2018 and has been covered widely by various media outlets in the years since. Describing this letter as "exonerating" significantly overreaches since Daniels later said the denial was a "lie" and was signed out of fear of legal repercussions.

**Signed statement released in 2018**

Trump is [the first former](https://www.usatoday.com/picture-gallery/news/politics/2024/04/15/photos-show-former-president-trump-in-historic-hush-money-trial/73329175007/)  [president](https://www.usatoday.com/picture-gallery/news/politics/2024/04/15/photos-show-former-president-trump-in-historic-hush-money-trial/73329175007/) to stand trial in a criminal case, as he'**s** accused of falsifying business records [to hide a $130,000 hush money payment](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/elections/2024/04/17/trump-hush-money-trial-setbacks/73355556007/) to Daniels ahead of the 2016 **election**. [Jury selection for the trial](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/04/18/donald-trump-hush-money-trial-jury-selection-news/73362115007/) was completed April 19.

The letter shown in the Truth Social post is not a piece of new evidence, as the former president claims. USA TODAY [previously debunked](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/03/27/fact-check-statement-stormy-daniels-denying-affair-2018/11538431002/) a similar claim that the letter was new in March 2023.

The letter reads in part, "Over the past few weeks I have been asked countless times to comment on reports of an alleged sexual relationship I had with Donald Trump many, many, many years ago. ... I am not denying this affair because I was paid 'hush money' as has been reported in overseas owned tabloids. I am denying this affair because it never happened."

The statement was signed on Jan. 30, 2018, as can be seen in Trump'**s** post, [and it was widely](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/02/01/porn-star-stormy-daniels-has-reinvented-non-denial-denial-alleged-trump-affair/1087095001/) [reported on](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/stormy-daniels-appears-deny-denial-trump-affair-n843131) [at the time](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/porn-star-stormy-daniels-says-affair-with-trump-never-happened/2018/01/30/d8d5fcea-0633-11e8-b48c-b07fea957bd5_story.html).

In an interview on [Jimmy Kimmel Live!](https://youtu.be/Ntl5Da1vblI?si=PpSwCZXhGvA1qil2&t=106) the following day, Daniels said she didn't know where the letter had come from and suggested the signature didn't resemble her own. But hours after the interview, Daniels' spokeswoman Gina Rodriguez [told The Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2018/01/31/how-stormy-daniels-might-be-outsmarting-trump-by-denying-an-affair/) that she and an attorney had witnessed Daniels signing the letter days before.

In a [March 2018 interview with Anderson Cooper](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/stormy-daniels-describes-her-alleged-affair-with-donald-trump-60-minutes-interview/), Daniels said the denial was a "lie" and explained that she had felt pressured to sign the statement out of fear of legal percussions caused by the non-disclosure agreement she'd signed.

**Fact check**: [Judge didn't deny Trump request to skip hush money trial for son'**s** graduation](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/17/trump-trial-graduation-request-fact-check/73346365007/)

Daniels has not denied the hush money payment in the years since and [is expected to testify](https://apnews.com/article/stormy-daniels-donald-trump-d3dce88566bafb714dbb5c1acd3e4a83) at Trump'**s** trial.

USA TODAY reached out to Trump'**s** team for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

[**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/apr/17/facebook-posts/no-stormy-daniels-didnt-exonerate-donald-trump/), [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/news/2024/04/15/stormy-daniels-trump-letter/) and [The Associated Press](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-stormy-daniels-2018-statement-denial-trump-affair-066388509688) debunked similar claims.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* USA TODAY, Feb. 1, 2018, [Porn star Stormy Daniels has reinvented the non-denial denial in alleged Trump affair](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/2018/02/01/porn-star-stormy-daniels-has-reinvented-non-denial-denial-alleged-trump-affair/1087095001/)

1. USA TODAY, April 19, [Trump trial day 3 recap: All 12 jurors selected in hush money case, opening arguments Monday](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/2024/04/18/donald-trump-hush-money-trial-jury-selection-news/73362115007/)
2. The Washington Post, Jan. 31, 2018, [Statement from porn star Stormy Daniels says affair with Trump ‘never happened’](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/porn-star-stormy-daniels-says-affair-with-trump-never-happened/2018/01/30/d8d5fcea-0633-11e8-b48c-b07fea957bd5_story.html)
3. The Washington Post, Jan. 31, 2018, [How Stormy Daniels might be outsmarting Trump by denying an affair](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/the-fix/wp/2018/01/31/how-stormy-daniels-might-be-outsmarting-trump-by-denying-an-affair/)
4. NBC News, Jan. 30, 2018, [Stormy Daniels appears to deny denial of Trump affair](https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/stormy-daniels-appears-deny-denial-trump-affair-n843131)
5. Jimmy Kimmel Live (YouTube), Jan. 31, 2018, [Jimmy Kimmel’**s** FULL INTERVIEW with Stormy Daniels](https://youtu.be/Ntl5Da1vblI?si=ogetmOfEwYVlhLNv&t=106)
6. CBS News, Aug. 22, 2018, [Stormy Daniels describes her alleged affair with Donald Trump](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/stormy-daniels-describes-her-alleged-affair-with-donald-trump-60-minutes-interview/)

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*USA TODAY is a* [verified signatory](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/usa-today) *of the International* ***Fact-Checking*** *Network, which requires a demonstrated commitment to nonpartisanship, fairness and transparency. Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a* [grant from Meta](https://www.facebook.com/formedia/mjp/programs/third-party-fact-checking)*.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Trump falsely presents Stormy Daniels letter as new in Truth Social post | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2024/04/19/donald-trump-stormy-daniels-letter-fact-check/73382760007/)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 666052891

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); INTERVIEWS (89%); AGREEMENTS (78%); CORPORATE WRONGDOING (78%); EVIDENCE (78%); FAKE NEWS (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); JUDGES (78%); JURY SELECTION (78%); JURY TRIALS (78%); ADULT FILMS (73%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (73%); JURY DUTY (73%); PORNOGRAPHY (73%); SEX WORKERS (73%); CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS (72%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (57%); GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (51%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (57%); GHC (NYSE) (51%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); SEX INDUSTRY (78%); ADULT FILMS (73%); PORNOGRAPHY (73%); SEX WORKERS (73%)

**Person:** STORMY DANIELS (94%); DONALD TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** Americas, Northern America

SUB: JUDGES

IND: SEX INDUSTRY

SUB: INTERVIEWS

SUB: JURY SELECTION

SUB: PORNOGRAPHY

IND: PORNOGRAPHY

SUB: JURY DUTY

IND: ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

SUB: SEX WORKERS

IND: SEX WORKERS

SUB: JURY TRIALS

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

PEO: STORMY DANIELS

SUB: ADULT FILMS

IND: ADULT FILMS

SUB: CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS

SUB: CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS

SUB: AGREEMENTS

SUB: NEGATIVE NEWS

SUB: EVIDENCE

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

SUB: FAKE NEWS

**Load-Date:** April 26, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FALSE ELECTION INFORMATION FROM AI CHATBOTS EXPERT EXPLAINS WHAT TO GUARD AGAINST AND AVOID](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CX6-49B1-DYTH-G0F4-00000-00&context=1001073)

States News Service

September 6, 2024 Friday

Copyright 2024 States News Service

**Length:** 405 words

**Byline:** States News Service

**Dateline:** BLACKSBURG, VA

**Body**

The following information was released by the Virginia Tech:

Anyone who uses artificial intelligence (AI)-driven chatbots or voice assistants for **election** information should know these tools might provide misleading or false information. During tests conducted earlier this year, Amazon'**s** Alexa struggled to correctly identify the winner of the 2020 **U.S**. presidential **election**, while Google'**s** AI overview wrongly described Barack Obama as the first Muslim president.

"Although we call them intelligent, AI tools don't actually know the answers to our questions," said Virginia Tech digital literacy expert Julia Feerrar. "Chatbots like ChatGPT or Gemini generate predictive text in response to our prompts, and their ability to do that is built on training data that includes a lot of biased, misleading, or even incorrect information. We need to be mindful about what we ask of these tools and what we do with the information they share."

Feerrar made recommendations for sorting AI-generated fiction from **fact**. "First and foremost, I want people to know if and when the information they're looking at is coming from a generative AI tool. Just being aware that you may see an AI overview at the top of Google search results is a useful starting point. If you do see an AI overview, and it cites a particular source, I'd recommend going to that source directly to get more context," she said.

"Especially with high-stakes decisions like voting, it'**s** important to seek out trustworthy information sources. Look directly to professional news organizations that go through thorough **fact-checking** processes and local government websites, for example," Feerrar said.

"When vetting any kind of information, voters can ask themselves: Who created this information? What stake do those creators have in getting it right? Where did it come from originally?" Feerrar said. "**Fact-checking** websites like **Snopes** or **Politifact** can also be useful tools when you're trying to assess the accuracy of a claim you saw online."

The challenges with sifting AI-produced content won't go anyway anytime soon, she said. "Unfortunately, I think we can expect to see even more questionable online content as we approach the **election**, whether that content is AI-generated or not. One of the most powerful things we can all do as digital citizens is to notice any time something online sparks a big reaction, pause, and look for more information before taking action."

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newswire

**Subject:** CHATBOTS (93%); GENERATIVE AI (93%); CONVERSATIONAL AI (91%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); **ELECTIONS** (79%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (78%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (78%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (78%); VOICE COMMAND DEVICES (78%); FALSE STATEMENTS (77%); VOTERS & VOTING (76%); REGIONAL & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS (74%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (73%); INTELLIGENT PERSONAL ASSISTANTS (73%)

**Company:**  GOOGLE LLC (84%)

**Industry:** NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (84%); CHATBOTS (93%); GENERATIVE AI (93%); CONVERSATIONAL AI (91%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (90%); VOICE COMMAND DEVICES (78%); INTELLIGENT PERSONAL ASSISTANTS (73%)

**Person:** BARACK OBAMA (57%)

**Geographic:** VIRGINIA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** September 7, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [PBS News and PolitiFact Announce Partnership Through 2024 Election Cycle](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CG6-SRS1-JC11-125C-00000-00&context=1001073)

Targeted News Service

July 13, 2024 Saturday 7:20 AM EST

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**Length:** 703 words

**Byline:** Targeted News Service

**Dateline:** ST. PETERSBURG, Florida

**Body**

The Poynter Institute issued the following news release:

\* \* \*

Poynter'**s** **PolitiFact** will share its **fact-checking** reporting with PBS on television, digital platforms during **election** season, including conventions

\* \* \*

Arlington, Virginia (July 12, 2024) -- PBS News and **PolitiFact**, the political **fact-checking** website operated by the nonprofit Poynter Institute, today announced a partnership that will run through the 2024 **election** cycle, beginning with next week'**s** Republican National Convention in Milwaukee.

As the rise of misinformation and disinformation continues, **fact**-based and impartial journalism is more important than ever during this historic **election**. Together, PBS News and **PolitiFact** share a mission of equipping their audiences with the information they need to discern **fact** from fiction and hold **elected** officials accountable.

Through this partnership, **PolitiFact** will share content and resources with PBS News, including **PolitiFact**'**s** award-winning Truth-O-Meter, which rates the accuracy of individual statements made by **elected** officials and others. **PolitiFact**'**s** **fact-checking** reporting and research will appear across PBS News programming and digital platforms during major political events such as the Republican National Convention, the Democratic National Convention and all upcoming presidential and vice presidential debates. The news organizations will also explore opportunities to co-produce content.

"We're excited to have PBS News as a national television and online partner. Their engaged audience is a natural fit for **PolitiFact**'**s** thoroughly researched reports and **fact-checking**," said Katie Sanders, editor-in-chief of **PolitiFact**. "Working with a trusted brand like PBS News will expand the reach of our work at a time when voters are seeking out factual information to help them make decisions."

"Trust and accuracy are the coin of the realm in journalism. Efforts to erode that trust and cast doubt on media accuracy does profound damage to our democracy and we in the media are duty bound to protect and build that trust up," said Sara Just, senior executive producer of PBS NewsHour Productions and WETA senior vice president. "By working with **PolitiFact**, PBS News broadcasts and our online journalism will provide transparency to the audience to appreciate how **facts** are assessed and evaluated by journalists, especially during our heated **election** season. I'm delighted that our partners at **PolitiFact** will help PBS News platforms reinforce the reasons to have faith in the news we provide in the public interest."

\* \* \*

About **PolitiFact**

**PolitiFact**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning website, started in 2007 as an **election**-year project of the Tampa Bay Times (then the St. Petersburg Times). Since 2018, **PolitiFact** has been part of the Poynter Institute, a global leader in journalism that is also home to the International **Fact-Checking** Network, the Craig Newmark Center for Ethics and Leadership and the MediaWise digital media literacy project. Learn more at **politifact**.com.

\* \* \*

About PBS News

PBS News is the consolidator news brand within NewsHour Productions LLC, a wholly-owned non-profit subsidiary of WETA Washington, D.C. Major corporate funding is provided by BDO, BNSF, Consumer Cellular, and Raymond James, with additional support from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, the Ford Foundation, the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the John **S**. and James L. Knight Foundation, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the National Science Foundation, David and Lucile Packard Foundation, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Walton Family Foundation, Friends of the News Hour and others. More information on PBS News is available at [www.pbs.org/newshour](http://www.pbs.org/newshour). You can watch and find PBS News programming on YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. News Hour Productions produces PBS News Hour, PBS News Weekend and Washington Week with The Atlantic.

\* \* \*

Original text here: [https://www.poynter.org/**fact-checking**/2024/pbs-news-and-**politifact**-announce-partnership-through-2024-**election**-cycle/](https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/2024/pbs-news-and-politifact-announce-partnership-through-2024-election-cycle/)

[Category: Media]

Contact: Ella Richardson, [erichardson@newshour.org](mailto:erichardson@newshour.org)

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**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newswire

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (92%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); NEWS REPORTING (90%); POLITICAL PARTY CONVENTIONS (90%); PRESS RELEASES (90%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (90%); TRENDS & EVENTS (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); COMPANY PRESS RELEASES (89%); JOURNALISM (89%); DEMOCRACIES (78%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (78%); ETHICS (78%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (78%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (77%); INTERNET JOURNALISM (77%); POLITICS (77%); TYPES OF GOVERNMENT (77%); US REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (77%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (75%); WRITERS (75%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (73%); POLITICAL DEBATES (72%); US DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (72%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (71%); EXECUTIVES (64%)

**Industry:** NEWS REPORTING (90%); PUBLIC TELEVISION (90%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (89%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (78%); MEDIA CONTENT (78%); TELEVISION NEWS SHOWS (78%); TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (78%); INTERNET JOURNALISM (77%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (75%); WRITERS (75%)

**Geographic:** MILWAUKEE, WI, USA (79%); TAMPA, FL, USA (79%); FLORIDA, USA (79%); VIRGINIA, USA (79%); WISCONSIN, USA (79%)

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2024

**End of Document**

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[FACT CHECK: Is Donald Trump Offering $50 Gas To Floridians Trying To Escape Hurricane Milton?; 'The claim is satirical and originally stems from an article published by WhoWhatWhy.org'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D5D-TCG1-DXXD-70KV-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

October 11, 2024 Friday 12:52 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 415 words

**Byline:** Christine Sellers, **Fact Check** Reporter, [christine@checkyourfact.com](mailto:christine@checkyourfact.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/GettyImages-2169610495-scaled-e1728567247121.jpg)

A post [shared on X](https://x.com/l_savid/status/1844067860349583704) claims that 2024 Republican nominee and former President Donald Trump is purportedly offering $50 gas to Floridians who are trying to escape Hurricane Milton.

What a f\_\_\_ing rip off. Talk about price gouging, that is more then likely a 1,000% inflation rate, and he wants to Make America Great Again.

Read “Trump Offers 'Trump Gas' to Floridians Trying to Escape Hurricane Milton” on SmartNews: <https://t.co/r6apEnMq3B> [#SmartNews](https://twitter.com/hashtag/SmartNews?src=hash&ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

- David L Slisher (@l\_savid) [October 9, 2024](https://twitter.com/l_savid/status/1844067860349583704?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Verdict: False**

The claim is satirical and originally stems from an article published by WhoWhatWhy.org.

**Fact Check:**

More than 3 million Florida homes and businesses are without power following Hurricane Milton, according to [Forbes](https://www.forbes.com/sites/maryroeloffs/2024/10/10/hurricane-milton-live-updates-more-than-3-million-without-power-but-desantis-says-storm-not-the-worst-case-scenario/). The hurricane made landfall Wednesday night near Siesta Key with 120 mph winds, the outlet reported.

The X post, viewed over 100 times as of writing, claims Trump is purportedly offering $50 gas to Floridians who are trying to escape Hurricane Milton.

“What a f\_\_\_ing rip off. Talk about price gouging, that is more then likely a 1,000% inflation rate, and he wants to Make America Great Again,” the post reads. The post also includes a link to an article about the claim via Smart News.

The claim is false. The [full article,](https://whowhatwhy.org/opinion/trump-offers-trump-gas-to-floridians-trying-to-escape-hurricane-milton/) published by WhoWhatWhy.org, includes verbiage indicating its contents are satirical.

“We are four weeks away from wrapping up one of the craziest **election** cycles in recent memory... well, at least the pre-litigation portion of it. In large part, this is owed to the **fact** that Donald Trump is a patently ridiculous figure and has turned the GOP into a weird cult, which he has sought to capitalize on in ludicrous ways. Therefore, we sometimes use satire to illustrate the absurdity of it all. This is one of those times,” the article reads.

The article claims Trump made a TRUTH Social post offering $50 gas to Floridians trying to escape Hurricane Milton “because gas stations in the Tampa area are running out of fuel.” [**(RELATED: Are The $750 In FEMA Grants For Hurricane Victims Actually A Loan?)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/10/10/fact-check-are-the-750-in-fema-grants-for-hurricane-victims-actually-a-loan/)

Likewise, **Check** Your **Fact** did not find the claim referenced on [Trump'**s** official website](https://www.donaldjtrump.com/news), [his TRUTH Social account](https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/with_replies), or his [verified](https://www.facebook.com/profile/100044274887410/search?q=Trump%20is%20offering%20%2450%20gas%20to%20Floridians%20who%20are%20trying%20to%20escape%20Hurricane%20Milton&filters=eyJycF9jcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lOjAiOiJ7XCJuYW1lXCI6XCJjcmVhdGlvbl90aW1lXCIsXCJhcmdzXCI6XCJ7XFxcInN0YXJ0X3llYXJcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0XFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfeWVhclxcXCI6XFxcIjIwMjRcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfbW9udGhcXFwiOlxcXCIyMDI0LTEyXFxcIixcXFwic3RhcnRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xLTFcXFwiLFxcXCJlbmRfZGF5XFxcIjpcXFwiMjAyNC0xMi0zMVxcXCJ9XCJ9IiwicnBfY2hyb25vX3NvcnQ6MCI6IntcIm5hbWVcIjpcImNocm9ub3NvcnRcIixcImFyZ3NcIjpcIlwifSJ9) [social](https://x.com/search?lang=en&q=%22Trump%20is%20offering%20%2450%20gas%20to%20Floridians%20who%20are%20trying%20to%20escape%20Hurricane%20Milton%22%20(from%3ArealDonaldTrump)%20lang%3Aen&src=typed_query) [media](https://www.instagram.com/realdonaldtrump/) [accounts](https://www.tiktok.com/@realdonaldtrump). Additionally, **Check** Your **Fact** did not find [any credible news reports](https://www.google.com/search?sca_esv=fef8a0a8565c2553&q=Trump+is+offering+%2450+gas+to+Floridians+who+are+trying+to+escape+Hurricane+Milton&tbm=nws&source=lnms&fbs=AEQNm0Aa4sjWe7Rqy32pFwRj0UkWtG_mNb-HwafvV8cKK_h1a5eSkyfXNgRC6a9SKsMT7FKel2oEVH7CAeL9GJLZ9zSE1b0VTwOacLkI4XgtHWeWNoh5zOuUDAXdYlDCgudMwVm8Q_C3PSXnqvYaHPM-f2C27OJHIBf2F026DrNVVK7DrYYq11uFIXF7ScJ7Y69on5hm6hl6qngG8jwgq0xGMIetYDw-cw&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwittPbX-oOJAxW6mokEHR06NqgQ0pQJegQIEBAB&biw=1611&bih=867&dpr=2) to support the claim. In **fact**, the opposite is true. On Oct. 9, [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/trump-gas-milton/) reported the claim was false and traced its origins to the same satire article.

**Check** Your **Fact** has contacted a Trump spokesperson for comment.

**Graphic**

TOPSHOT - Former US President and Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump takes part in a town hall moderated by Fox News broadcaster Sean Hannity at the New Holland Arena in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on September 4, 2024. (Photo by MANDEL NGAN/AFP via Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HURRICANES (90%); MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN MOVEMENT (90%); BUSINESS TORTS (89%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (79%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); NATURAL DISASTERS (79%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (79%); POLITICS (79%); TROPICAL STORMS (79%); INFLATION (77%); DISASTER & EMERGENCY AGENCIES (74%); SEVERE WIND (74%); LITIGATION (50%); hurricane-milton (%); president-donald-trump (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Industry:** GAS STATIONS (78%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** TAMPA, FL, USA (78%); FLORIDA, USA (94%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** October 11, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Soros-Funded Fact-Checkers: Who Cares About Free Speech, Our 'Facts' Are What Matter](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BR5-9Y31-F03R-N1TX-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

April 5, 2024 Friday 10:01 PM EST

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**Length:** 589 words

**Byline:** Catherine Salgado

**Body**

April 5th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-171235447456125876100062) )

<?xml encoding="UTF-8"?????>

A **fact-checking** network funded by leftist billionaire George Soros is trying to shift emphasis from free speech to pre-approved '**facts**.'

Leftist Poynter Institute and its International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN) only mentioned free speech once in its 2023-2024 [Impact Report](https://www.poynter.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Impact_Final.pdf)  - and such a mention was only to highlight an individual'**s** award. Rather, Poynter emphasized '**Facts** on the global stage,' setting itself up as an arbiter of truth online. Poynter openly boasted about its work to suppress speech on social media platforms. Significantly, this report comes after Poynter Institute [received](https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/past?filter_keyword=Poynter) $492,000 in grants from Soros'**s** Open Society Foundations (OSF) between 2016 and 2019.

Poynter only mentioned 'freedom of expression' when it highlighted the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Filipina journalist Maria Ressa for defending free speech. Tellingly, Ressa now trains **fact**-checkers, which is the work Poynter aimed to highlight. Ressa'**s** news organization Rappler was a beneficiary of Poynter funds, as was USA Today, among others. 'In 2023, Poynter'**s** IFCN awarded $1.875 million in grants to 55 different news organizations through IFCN'**s** GlobalFact **Check** Fund,' the group announced. 'Poynter will award up to $4 million in additional grants in 2024.'

In the report, Poynter highlighted its **fact-checking** work for Big Tech companies on its **PolitiFact** website. '**PolitiFact** **checks** claims on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok,' Poynter announced. 'In 2023, we initiated **fact-checking** for native Spanish speakers and will launch a Spanish-language website in 2024.'

Poynter then bragged about its partners Stanford University (a **U.S**. [government](https://www.eipartnership.net/) [censorship proxy](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/04/03/taibbis-warning-nbc-heres-evidence-uncovering) ) Meta and Google-owned YouTube 'to level a playing field full of misinformation.' As widely reported by MRC, misinformation is a common leftist catchphrase to justify censorship of free speech.

In the same report, IFCN Director Angie Drobnic Holan raised the alarm that '[m]isinformation is on the march' and that '**fact**-checkers and other journalists face attack and harassment simply for doing their jobs.' Ignoring the **fact** that anti-free speech actions are a major factor in reducing trust in media, Holan then claimed, 'We are on the side of truth. We are on the side of information integrity.'

An example undermining Holan'**s** claims of objectivity is [a 2020 article](https://www.politifact.com/article/2020/sep/25/what-we-know-about-2020-election-interference-its-/) and Facebook **fact-check** still available on the Poynter-owned **PolitiFact** website. The article pushed the claim that 'Russian operatives used a series of 'active measures' to hack campaigns, spread disinformation and sow discord in an effort to sway the **election** in favor of President Donald Trump.' **PolitiFact** cited and [linked](https://www.politifact.com/article/2019/apr/18/read-redacted-mueller-report/) to the since-discredited Mueller Report, which actually found no evidence of 'Russia collusion' with Trump.

As former reporter and ex-Lake Elsinore Mayor Thomas Buckley noted in an April 5 [Brownstone Institute](https://brownstone.org/articles/poynters-creepy-fact-based-expression/) piece, Poynter is anti-free speech and is not objective. 'To the contrary, '**fact**-based expression' demands both self and external censorship, a political, social, and cultural censorship that will drown out and drone on,' he wrote.

Conservatives are under attack. Contact your representatives and demand that Big Tech be held to account to mirror the First Amendment while providing transparency and an equal footing for conservatives. If you have been censored, contact us at the Media Research Center [contact form](https://www.mrc.org/contact-us) , and help us hold Big Tech accountable.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/04/05/soros-funded-fact-checkers-who-cares-about-free)

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (94%); FREEDOM OF SPEECH (91%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (90%); GRANTS & GIFTS (90%); LIBERALISM (90%); CENSORSHIP (89%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); JOURNALISM (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION (78%); WEALTHY PEOPLE (78%); LANGUAGE & LANGUAGES (77%); AWARDS & PRIZES (76%); NEWS REPORTING (76%); FREEDOM OF PRESS (74%); NOBEL PRIZES (71%); TECHNOLOGY (70%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (54%); GOOGLE LLC (53%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (54%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (54%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (54%); NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (53%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (89%); BIG TECH (78%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); NEWS REPORTING (76%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (78%); GEORGE SOROS (78%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** April 5, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [The 2024 Presidential Debate: Student Reactions](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DDC-7391-JBSN-34Y0-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Cento: Centre College

October 17, 2024 Thursday

University Wire

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 1

**Length:** 1236 words

**Byline:** Kali Hernandez Fraire and Kayla Rogers

**Body**

by Kali Hernandez Fraire and Kayla Rogers

If the second presidential debate of 2024 proved anything, it is that the most effective governing body of the United States is firmly in the column of the left wing. And no, I do not mean the executive branch embodied by Vice President Harris. The governing body I am referring to is the media- that which information flows through to reach the people. The media governs by deciding what information is okay for the public to be exposed to and what information is dangerous.

Several claims given by President Trump- such as the cases of Haitian immigrants eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, the feeling of economic dread currently shared by the majority of Americans, and the **fact** that crime has substantially risen under the current administration, to name a few- are dangerous to the powers that be. Meanwhile, several of the Vice President'**s** claims- such as there being no US servicemen currently in warzones, the threats of a national ban on abortion under Trump, and an intertwining of the Trump campaign and the Heritage Foundation'**s** Project 2025- were not **fact-checked** by the moderators despite being wildly untrue.

Here'**s** what some students have to say about the debate.

Anonymous

If you watched the reality TV show - I mean, the Presidential Debate featuring Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump two weeks ago, boy were you in for a treat. We witnessed a lot of banter between the two candidates, blame-shifting, and policies discussion when we were lucky.

Kamala Harris came out swinging, telling Trump he had been fired by 81 million people amid his false claims of a stolen 2020 **election** (one of her many slams). Still, she stumbled when asked about her true intentions to maintain fracking efforts. Trump, on the other hand, worked the defense, falling back hard on his claims of rampant illegal immigrant border crossings. At one point, he made the outwardly false claim that (legal Haitian) migrants were eating American pets in Springfield, Ohio, saying this was the fault of Harris as the "failed border czar."

We saw a grand display of theatrical claims tossed across the stage between the two of them. I am not a theater girl, but I did enjoy this entertaining display of overly theatrical performative politics - as I am sure many others did, too.

This one-and-done debate is impossible to encapsulate in one column, so I encourage you to watch the debate yourself and read the proposed plans for each of the candidates' presidencies. It is all our responsibility to educate ourselves, register to vote, and decide on more than the two hours we witnessed on September 10, 2024, how to cast our vote!

Lilia Saxon, Class of 2027

As someone who is ineligible to vote in the United States, yet whose life is quite literally dependent on it, **elections** are always a hard time. To be fair, this debate did give me and some of my peers a sense of hope above all. It helped me grasp the possibilities and options available to **U.S**. citizens. However, after watching the debate I was also left with frustration. Astonishingly, some people are still about their vote, while others are even questioning whether they should vote at all. If one thing is clear, it'**s** that despite being a democracy, the **U.S**. is systematically built for a two-party system. This alienates a third party from the two dominating parties and eliminates the third party'**s** chance of winning **elections**. Thus, voting for a third party would only increase the chances of Trump winning, and so would boycotting voting at all.

As I continued to have conversations with my non-citizens and citizen friends, it became apparent that, realistically, we are faced with two possibilities. Another xenophobic, misogynistic, racist, white extremist Trump presidency; or, on the other hand, Vice President Harris, who offers a chance to steer the country away from that path. While her presidency may not bring the sweeping change that some hope for, it at least represents resistance against the dangerous ideologies that Trump continues to promote and has promised to enact.

Voting is both a privilege and a responsibility. Even when the choices aren't perfect, it is a privilege that not everyone can exercise. In these **elections**, please consider the weight of the decisions you make at the ballot box, as they directly affect the lives of people who cannot vote. Your vote is a voice for yourself and for those who are voiceless in this political system. Your vote has the power to shape the future for not only yourself but for countless others whose lives and opportunities depend on the outcomes of these **elections**. Your vote determines the direction you want to take.

Anonymous

The Presidential Debate filled me with many emotions: frustration, rage, confusion, fear, and pure energy. The main feeling I walked away with was that neither side valued my voice. Like most of the country, I do not consider myself a Democrat or Republican. I typically vote blue because Trump and his agenda are-in my opinion (and most political scientists')-the worst possible option. However, Democrats simply do not represent me. I refuse to reconcile the genocide in Gaza, and judging from the mood shift during the watch party when Harris supported "Israel'**s** right to defend itself," it is evident that many people on campus share my disdain.

I will likely vote for Harris in this upcoming **election** because the alternative is so grave-but I feel that I am desperately clinging to a vision of a future that no politician will move toward. Our representatives across the aisle profit from polarization, and the Earth is dying at their hands and the corporations that pay them. The United States perpetuates an unequal world that permits the killing of people across the globe for profit and a false sense of security. If we don't change soon, we won't have another chance. I will continue to advocate for my values in November and refuse to be complacent in an unjust political system. I encourage you to do the same if you feel as I do. And if you don't, let'**s** do better than our politicians and talk about it.

Kayla Rogers, Class of 2025

Here'**s** the **fact checks** on some claims in the debate.

**Fact Check**:

Eating Pets-According to NPR, local police in Springfield, Ohio says this claim is completely baseless. Haitian immigrants in the area have received increasing levels of racial harassment since Vance and Trump made this claim.

Crime Rate-According to the FBI'**s** 2024 Crime Report, crime has been steadily decreasing since it peaked in 2021. Some reports from different sources argue to what extent this decrease is, but there is not a **fact**-based claim that crime is increasing.

US servicemen in warzones- According to The Wall Street Journal, although the United States is not at war with any country, many US service members are deployed and some have died in international conflicts since Biden has been in office. The United States is a major player in wars across the globe even if not explicitly at war, therefore troops are based in warzones.

Project 2025- Trump did not write Project 2025. However, according to NPR and **FactCheck**.**Org** by the Annenberg Public Policy Center, 140 of his former officials, aids, and cabinet had a hand in its creation. Some have speculated that these are individuals that Trump would need if he returned to office, which muddies the water of his connection to the project.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Subject:** POLITICAL DEBATES (92%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); IMMIGRATION (89%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (79%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); STUDENTS & STUDENT LIFE (78%); VOTERS & VOTING (78%); POLITICS (77%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (75%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (75%); PROJECT 2025 (75%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (75%); NEGATIVE NEWS (74%); BORDER CONTROL (72%); ABORTION REGULATION & POLICY (67%); THEATER (64%); VOTER REGISTRATION (62%); ABORTION (52%)

**Organization:** THE HERITAGE FOUNDATION (55%)

**Industry:** ABORTION REGULATION & POLICY (67%); REALITY TELEVISION (65%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (92%); DONALD TRUMP (89%)

**Geographic:** OHIO, USA (92%); UNITED STATES (94%); Danville; KY

**Load-Date:** November 12, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Democrat Secretary Of State Asks Michiganders To Report Their Neighbors For Election 'Misinformation'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CMP-H861-F03R-N4DN-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

The Geller Report

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**Length:** 903 words

**Byline:** Pamela Geller

**Body**

August 3rd, 2024 ( [The Geller Report](https://gellerreport.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=The+Geller+Report&utm_id=100277&utm_content=ATLS-100277-52354472536075617200094) )

How is this any different than Maduro'**s** Venezuela or the Gestapo, the KGB et al?

The Democrats are laying the groundwork for the next Presidential steal.

Story continues below advertisement

Secretary Of State Asks Michiganders To Report Their Neighbors For **Election** 'Misinformation'

By: [Logan Washburn, The Federalist, August 02, 2024](https://thefederalist.com/2024/08/02/secretary-of-state-asks-michiganders-to-report-their-neighbors-for-election-misinformation/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=secretary-of-state-asks-michiganders-to-report-their-neighbors-for-election-misinformation&utm_term=2024-08-03)

3 min read

Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson is encouraging residents to report so-called 'misinformation' from their neighbors ahead of November'**s** **election**.

'Misinformation about the **election** process, voter rights, or even an issue on the ballot is a serious threat to **election** security,' reads an online document from Benson'**s** office. 'If you see misleading or inaccurate information regarding voting or **elections** in Michigan, please report it.'

The document requests residents email reports of **election** 'misinformation' - with 'an image if possible' - to [[emailprotected]. Benson'**s** office solicits residents to report misinformation on its 'voter education resources' page.](https://gellerreport.com/cdn-cgi/l/email-protection)

The Federalist asked Benson'**s** office who this email reaches and how the state responds to alleged 'misinformation,' but her office did not comment in time for publication.

Benson'**s** office published another document discussing this so-called **election** 'misinformation,' calling it 'the most potentially damaging threat to our democracy.' It blamed 'partisans, grifters, and other opportunists here at home' for 'hacking the minds of American citizens,' and called on residents to enforce the official narrative.

'Citizens can and should join this effort,' the document reads, 'calling out misinformation when they see it and insisting that we hold people accountable for spreading lies about **elections**.'

For 'trusted' information, Benson'**s** office refers residents to its own '**fact check**' page, **FactCheck**.**org**, **PolitiFact**, and **Snopes**. The latter three have shown their colors as leftist information gatekeepers.

Benson, a Democrat, [launched a 'Democracy Ambassador' program for residents last week, according to a press release. The state sends supposedly 'nonpartisan **facts** and resources' to residents who join, and it encourages them to share these approved messages 'within their communities' where they will 'combat any **election**-related misinformation.'](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/resources/news/2024/07/23/secretary-benson-become-a-democracy-ambassador-for-2024-elections)

Participants will 'squash misinformation before it spreads,' Benson [said in the press release.](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/resources/news/2024/07/23/secretary-benson-become-a-democracy-ambassador-for-2024-elections)

The state'**s** 'Democracy Ambassador' [webpage says the program consists of three steps: sign up to receive approved information, share that information, and sign up to be a poll worker.](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/elections/voter-education-resources/democracy-ambassador#Resources)

[Continue reading..](https://thefederalist.com/2024/08/02/secretary-of-state-asks-michiganders-to-report-their-neighbors-for-election-misinformation/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=secretary-of-state-asks-michiganders-to-report-their-neighbors-for-election-misinformation&utm_term=2024-08-03)

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If you are having problems leaving a comment, it'**s** likely because you are using an ad blocker, something that break ads, of course, but also breaks the comments section of our site. If you are using an ad blocker, and would like to share your thoughts, please disable your ad blocker. We look forward to seeing your comments below.

[Link to the original story.](https://gellerreport.com/2024/08/democrat-secretary-of-state-asks-michiganders-to-report-their-neighbors-for-election-misinformation.html/)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 100277

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (90%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (90%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (90%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); DEMOCRACIES (89%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); TYPES OF GOVERNMENT (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); JOURNALISM (78%); LIBERALISM (78%); ONLINE MARKETING & ADVERTISING (78%); BIPARTISANSHIP (77%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (77%); **ELECTION** SECURITY (77%); **ELECTION** WORKERS (77%); PARTISANSHIP (77%); RIGHT TO VOTE (77%); VOTERS & VOTING (77%); BALLOTS (72%); **ELECTION** INFRASTRUCTURE (72%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING REVENUE (72%); PRESS RELEASES (71%); 2024 (%); Enemedia (%); Enemies of Freedom (%)

**Company:**  GOOGLE LLC (50%)

**Industry:** NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (50%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); ONLINE MARKETING & ADVERTISING (78%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING (77%); ONLINE ADVERTISING (77%); ELECTRONIC MAIL (74%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING REVENUE (72%)

**Geographic:** MICHIGAN, USA (93%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** August 3, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact Check: Are Taylor Swift & Beyonce planning a concert to support Kamala Harris?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CJR-Y5T1-F12F-F052-00000-00&context=1001073)

Hindustan Times

July 25, 2024 Thursday

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**Length:** 384 words

**Dateline:** India

**Body**

India, July 25 -- Jennifer Aniston blasts JD Vance for his 'childless cat ladies' comment: 'I pray that your daughter.'

After theories spread across the Internet of a possible Taylor-Beyonce concert to support Kamala Harris, a **fact-checking** website called **Snopes** verified the story and declared that the rumours about the concert were just that-rumours. According to the reports by **Snopes**, the news cannot be tracked back to any reputable sources nor was any official statement released by either Taylor or Carter'**s** camps.

The rumours started when the **UK** Discoverer published a story with the headline, "Breaking News: Beyonce and Taylor Swift to host monumental fundraising concert in support of Kamala Harris," as reported by The Mirror. The publication got fans' hopes up with their story in which they also mentioned that the two singers had also released a joint statement for the concert where they said, "We believe in the power of music to bring people together and drive change. This concert is our way of using our platforms to support a leader who is dedicated to making a positive impact on our country. We are thrilled to bring our fans together for a night of incredible music and unity in support of Kamala Harris."

As of now both, Taylor and Beyonce, have been quiet about who they are planning to support ahead of the US **elections** in November, this year. However, it is speculated that the chosen candidate would be the 59-year-old politician. The speculation is rooted in the **fact** that the Single Ladies singer'**s** team gave last-minute approval to Harris to use her song Freedom throughout the presidential campaign.

In 2020, Taylor had voiced support for Harris on X, when the latter accepted the nomination for vice president. The Lover singer replied, "YES" to Harris'**s** tweet where the latter wrote, "@JoeBiden can unify the American people because he'**s** spent his life fighting for us. And as president, he'll build an America that lives up to our ideals.

"I'm honored to join him as our party'**s** nominee for Vice President, and do what it takes to make him our Commander-in-Chief."

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**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newswire

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); GOSSIP & RUMORS (90%); MUSIC (90%); SINGERS & MUSICIANS (89%); FUNDRAISING (72%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (71%); **ELECTIONS** (69%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (69%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (69%)

**Industry:** INTERNET & WWW (89%); SINGERS & MUSICIANS (89%); MEDIA CONTENT (78%); PUBLISHING (78%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (94%); BEYONCE KNOWLES (89%); JOE BIDEN (79%); J D VANCE (78%); JENNIFER ANISTON (58%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (93%); INDIA (91%); UNITED KINGDOM (72%)

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FACT CHECK: Donald Trump's 'Bloodbath' Comment Taken Out Of Context; 'While Trump did make those comments, it appears he was mainly talking about the auto industry and not a literal bloodbath. The Trump campaign has issued other statements stating it was about the auto industry'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BKY-2R01-DXXD-70DX-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

March 19, 2024 Tuesday 06:32 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 791 words

**Byline:** Elias Atienza, Senior Reporter, [elias@dailycaller.com](mailto:elias@dailycaller.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/GettyImages-2089685223-scaled-e1710768774558.jpg)

Media outlets are [claiming](https://www.npr.org/2024/03/17/1239019225/trump-says-some-migrants-are-not-people-and-warns-of-bloodbath-if-he-loses) [that](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/16/us/politics/trump-speech-ohio.html) former President Donald Trump said there would be a “bloodbath” for the country if he was not **elected** president.

Trump: If I don't get **elected**, it'**s** gonna be a bloodbath. It'**s** gonna be a bloodbath for the country [pic.twitter.com/BWpWORo9Hs](https://t.co/BWpWORo9Hs)

- Biden-Harris HQ (@BidenHQ) [March 16, 2024](https://twitter.com/BidenHQ/status/1769117209811362137?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Verdict: Misleading**

While Trump did make those comments, it appears he was mainly talking about the auto industry and not a literal bloodbath. The Trump campaign has issued other statements stating it was about the auto industry.

**Fact Check:**

Trump appeared with Bernie Moreno, a Republican candidate for Senate in Ohio, in Dayton, Ohio on March 16, where he criticized President Joe Biden on the southern border, according to [Fox News](https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-reveals-very-first-actions-hell-take-president-during-ohio-rally-hammers-bidens-border-policies).

Media outlets, such as [The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/16/us/politics/trump-speech-ohio.html) (NYT) and [NPR](https://www.npr.org/2024/03/17/1239078695/trump-says-some-migrants-are-not-people-and-warns-of-a-bloodbath-if-he-loses), reported that Trump predicted a “bloodbath” if he was not **elected** in Nov. 2024. NYT'**s** headline reads, “Trump Says Some Migrants Are 'Not People' and Predicts a 'Blood Bath' if He Loses.”

Trump'**s** remarks appear to be taken out of context. Trump said:

China now is building a couple of massive plants where they're going to build the cars in Mexico and think, they think, that they're going to sell those cars into the United States with no tax at the border.

Let me tell you something, to China, if you're listening, President Xi - and you and I are friends, but he understands the way I deal - those big, monster car-manufacturing plants that you're building in Mexico right now, and you think you're going to get that, you're going to not hire Americans, and you're going to sell the cars to us?

**No, we're going to put a 100% tariff on every single car that comes across the line, and you're not going to be able to sell those cars if I get elected.** **Now, if I don't get elected, it's going to be a bloodbath for the whole - that's going to be the least of it, it's going to be a bloodbath for the country, that'll be the least of it.** But they're not going to sell those cars, they're building massive factories. (Emphasis added by **Check** Your **Fact**).

While Trump did say that there would be a “bloodbath for the country” if he is not **elected**, it was immediately preceded by stating that he would place tariffs on cars from China and Mexico if he is **elected** in Nov. 2024, making it appear that he'**s** talking about a bloodbath primarily for the auto industry.

**Snopes** [reported](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/trump-bloodbath-for-country/) that while the remarks were correctly attributed to Trump, “[t]he context of the remark suggests Trump was predicting an 'economic bloodbath' for the country, not a literal one, if he loses the 2024 presidential **election**.”

The [Daily Beast](https://www.thedailybeast.com/trump-declares-it-will-be-a-bloodbath-for-america-if-hes-not-elected) and [CNN](https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/16/politics/trump-bloodbath-auto-industry-election/index.html) both reported that Trump'**s** comments were about the auto industry, though CNN also said that the remarks were about the country as well. [**(RELATED: Post Claims All Georgia Charges Against Donald Trump Were Dismissed)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/03/15/fact-check-post-georgia-charges-trump-dismissed/)

The Trump campaign said that the presumptive Republican nominee was talking about an “economic bloodbath.” Trump campaign spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt said that “Biden'**s** policies will create an economic bloodbath for the auto industry and autoworkers,” according to [CNN](https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/16/politics/trump-bloodbath-auto-industry-election/index.html).

“Crooked Joe Biden and his campaign are engaging in deceptively, out-of-context editing that puts Roman Polanski to shame,” Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung told CNN.

Cheung also told the [Washington Post](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2024/03/16/trump-immigrants-not-people/) that “[i]f you actually watch and listen to the section, he was talking about the auto industry and tariffs” and that “Biden'**s** policies will create an economic bloodbath for the auto industry and autoworkers.”

**Factcheck**.**org** [reported](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/03/trumps-bloodbath-comment/) Cheung'**s** “explanation seems the most plausible, given the context of Trump'**s** comments.”

Trump addressed the claim in a March 18 Truth Social [post](https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/112116580305482725), saying that he was “simply referring to imports allowed by” President Joe Biden and claimed they are “killing the automobile industry.”

“The United Auto Workers, but not their leadership, fully understand what I mean. With the Electric Car Mandate being pushed by Biden, there soon won't be any cars made in the USA - UNLESS I'M **ELECTED** PRESIDENT, IN WHICH CASE AUTO MANUFACTURING WILL THRIVE LIKE NEVER BEFORE!!! MAGA2024,” Trump'**s** post partially reads.

The Wall Street Journal editorial board wrote in a March 17 [opinion piece](https://archive.is/2B2Ae) that “The press and Democrats jumped on the remarks as if Mr. Trump was inciting violence if he loses.”

“No doubt his words were over the top, as they often are. But his 'bloodbath' context was clearly the **U.S**. car industry, and suggesting more than that plays into Mr. Trump'**s** hands by giving voters one more reason not to trust media reporting about him,” the editorial board wrote.

**Check** Your **Fact** reached out to the Trump campaign for comment. [**(RELATED: Fact Checking Biden's Recent Claims About Wage Growth, Inflation)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2024/02/23/fact-check-biden-wage-growth-inflation/)

**Graphic**

VANDALIA, OHIO - MARCH 16: Republican presidential candidate former President Donald Trump speaks to supporters during a rally at the Dayton International Airport on March 16, 2024 in Vandalia, Ohio. The rally was hosted by the Buckeye Values PAC. (Photo by Scott Olson/Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); MANUFACTURING FACILITIES (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (79%); POLITICS (79%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (78%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (74%); TAXES & TAXATION (72%); automotive-industry (%); corporate-media (%); donald-trump (%); **elections**-2024 (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); checkyourfact-featured (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (69%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); AUTOMOTIVE (90%); AUTOMOTIVE MFG (90%); MANUFACTURING FACILITIES (89%); MANUFACTURING (78%); AUTOMOBILE MFG (70%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%); JOE BIDEN (92%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); XI JINPING (79%)

**Geographic:** DAYTON, OH, USA (56%); OHIO, USA (92%); CHINA (93%); UNITED STATES (92%)

**Load-Date:** March 21, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Soros-Funded Censorship Plot Targets Black Voters](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CTM-5X81-F03R-N0MW-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

August 26, 2024 Monday 3:45 PM EST

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**Length:** 391 words

**Byline:** Catherine Salgado

**Body**

August 26th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52554152248925202900054) )

In an apparent pre-**election** bid to push leftist narratives, the George Soros-funded Poynter Institute is looking to censor information shared among black Americans.

Full of condescension and patronizing elitism, International **Fact-Checking** Network'**s** (IFCN) Poynter [announcedin a Tuesday press release that its **PolitiFact** and news organization Capital B 'will collaborate this **election** season on **fact-checks** and analyses of issues that are important to Black Americans.' But Soros has poured money into groups suppressing **election**-related free speech, as MRC Free Speech America](https://www.poynter.org/from-the-institute/2024/politifact-capital-b-partnership-misinformation-politics-black-audiences/) [research showed, and Poynter is one such group.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/joseph-vazquez/2024/05/15/george-soros-fueled-80m-groups-calling-big-tech-censorship)

Poynter explained that **PolitiFact** will share **fact-checking** content with Capital B to spread the content across its platforms. Capital B will 'serve as a thought partner on **election** issues,' Poynter claimed, noting the two organizations might also co-produce content.

Poynter bragged that this 'collaboration combines the **PolitiFact** newsroom'**s** prowess for **fact-checking** politicians and countering online mis- and disinformation with Capital B'**s** dynamic storytelling on issues affecting Black communities.' This seems to be blatant **election** interference, manipulating what information voters are able to access.

Significantly, Soros has provided $80 million for groups pushing online censorship ahead of the 2024 **election**, MRC [revealedin May. Poynter specifically](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/joseph-vazquez/2024/05/15/george-soros-fueled-80m-groups-calling-big-tech-censorship) [receivedgrants that amounted to nearly $500,000 total from Soros'**s** Open Society Foundations between 2016 and 2019.](https://www.opensocietyfoundations.org/grants/past?filter_keyword=Poynter)

Akoto Ofori-Atta, the co-founder and chief audience officer at Capital B, lectured, 'We're quickly approaching a presidential **election** that will decide the trajectory of the country, and we're continuing to see Black communities regularly targeted and fed political disinformation.' This statement did not acknowledge the damage to free speech during a crucial **election** year, when the information voters can access influences the candidate they vote for.

Conservatives are under attack. Contact your representatives and demand that Big Tech be held to account to mirror the First Amendment and provide an equal platform for conservatives. If you have been censored, [contact ususing MRC Free Speech America'**s** contact form, and help us hold Big Tech accountable.](https://censortrack.org/about#Contact)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/catherine-salgado/2024/08/26/soros-funded-censorship-plot-targets-black-voters)

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** CENSORSHIP (92%); **FACT CHECKING** (91%); AFRICAN AMERICANS (90%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); FREEDOM OF SPEECH (90%); PRESS RELEASES (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); LIBERALISM (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); CONSERVATISM (78%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); ONLINE CENSORSHIP (78%); PLATFORMS & ISSUES (78%); POLITICS (78%); **ELECTION** CRIME (73%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (73%); ONLINE MARKETING & ADVERTISING (73%)

**Industry:** BIG TECH (78%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); ONLINE CENSORSHIP (78%); ONLINE MARKETING & ADVERTISING (73%)

**Person:** GEORGE SOROS (79%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (94%)

**Load-Date:** August 26, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [HERE WE GO: Michigan Launches Snitch Line to Stop 'Election Misinformation'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CNB-SP71-JCMN-Y0VC-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

The Geller Report

August 6, 2024 Tuesday 3:00 PM EST

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**Length:** 291 words

**Byline:** Pamela Geller

**Body**

August 6th, 2024 ( [The Geller Report](https://gellerreport.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=The+Geller+Report&utm_id=100277&utm_content=ATLS-100277-52381112585325822400058) )

Right out of Nazi Germany. Protecting the steal.

Nolte: Michigan Launches Snitch Line to Stop '**Election** Misinformation'

By: John Nolte, Breitbart,T 6, 2024;

Like something right out of Nazi Germany, the Michigan Bureau of **Elections** is demanding that citizens 'Do your part!' about **election** misinformation.

'Just as **election** officials have a duty to detect **election** misinformation and quickly provide correct information based on the law,' the posting [reads, 'voters have a responsibility to proactively seek out reliable sources of information and encourage productive and honest dialogue.'](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/-/media/Project/Websites/sos/Elections/Clerk-toolkit/Educational/MDOS_ElectionMisinformation.pdf?rev=078a8ecdc8cc4d67acb0c774e4e3e82f&hash=E1078EC3435D64D3CF1F9EB0C9F3474C)

Did you know that? Did you know you have that 'responsibility?'

Well, in the fascist state of Michigan, you do. So 'If you see misleading or inaccurate information regarding voting or **elections** in Michigan, please report it - and include an image if possible - to [Misinformation@Michigan.gov](mailto:Misinformation@Michigan.gov)'

Now, we come to my favorite part

Because they pose 'an increasing threat,' responsible citizens are urged to police their friends and neighbors about their use 'of artificial intelligence technology to create realistic deepfake images, audio, videos and fake comments[.]'

Yes, fake comments, citizens. If someone posts a fake comment, you must snitch! Snitch! Snitch!

Now, if you are unsure if you are dealing with **election** misinformation, the government encourages you to consult - shocker! - several far-left sources: the far-left **Snopes**.com, the far-left **FactCheck**.**org**, and the far-left and long-disgraced **PolitiFact**.

This unsettling document comes from Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson, a Democrat (but you already knew that).

The question then becomes,What happens next?

[Link to the original story.](https://gellerreport.com/2024/08/here-we-go-michigan-launches-snitch-line-to-stop-election-misinformation.html/)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 100277

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (95%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); FAR LEFT POLITICS (89%); LIBERALISM (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); FASCISM (78%); **ELECTION** INFRASTRUCTURE (77%); **ELECTION** WORKERS (77%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (77%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (76%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (76%); **FACT CHECKING** (72%); DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY (71%); GENERATIVE AI (71%); INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (70%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (65%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (52%); 2024 (%)

**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY (71%); GENERATIVE AI (71%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (52%)

**Geographic:** MICHIGAN, USA (96%); GERMANY (91%)

**Load-Date:** August 6, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Opinion: Black Americans aren’t buying election-year falsehoods. Here’s why.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CJS-MJN1-JCMC-W0X7-00000-00&context=1001073)

TheHill.com

July 25, 2024 Thursday

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**Section:** BLACK INTEREST NEWS & US NEWS

**Length:** 1079 words

**Byline:** Ray Block Jr., opinion contributor

**Body**

For centuries, Black Americans have been battling racism and disenfranchisement — and batting down endless so-called truths. In the process, we’ve developed a powerful sixth sense for separating **fact** from fiction.

Black people have been forced to see the country for what it is, and we have learned to watch our collective backs in the face of persistent attempts to confuse and deceive us by the purposeful spreading of falsehoods.

Such spreading of disinformation — specifically the sort [that targets a specific race](https://blog.ucsusa.org/guest-commentary/disinformation-a-racist-tactic-from-slave-revolts-to-elections/) — has a centuries-long history in America. Slave owners regularly spread lies to control perceptions of enslaved Black people and to suppress slave revolts. Since at least the mid-20th century, such tactics have often involved propaganda campaigns designed to discredit Black leaders and undermine the efforts of Black activist organizations.

But nowhere is the purposeful distortion of the truth more evident than in the modern political arena, especially during **election** years.

President Biden had barely bowed out of the presidential race Sunday when the Trump campaign began [running attack ads](https://thehill.com/homenews/campaign/4784658-trump-campaign-attacks-harris/) against Vice President Kamala Harris, who could become the first Black woman and first person of South Asian descent to head a major party’**s** presidential ticket.

When disinformation efforts succeed, the results can [disproportionately harm](https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2024-03-22/artificial-intelligence-disinformation-election-voting) racial and ethnic minority groups; Black people in particular. That’**s** why it is so meaningful that Black Americans are resilient in the face of fiction masquerading as truth: The potential damage is so high.

Despite relentless attempts to bombard us with fake news, in 2020 far fewer Black Americans believed the false claims of widespread **election** fraud than their white counterparts did, according to a [2021 Ipsos poll](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fsecure-web.cisco.com%2F13mgbNDM4WFovrgp4OZ_cFHimDN2fE3_9hJkuu5LbfXOWJfTkJmOvBfbcI8MXv3j0JdZt3akBwgMDoC1afBhceZRvkV76eoi-4z7zvKQ9INYxxXN7YXxxR8U79C5TOIsWxL44Qr_6-ud5Di7kyibMuFgevzrLidi-S7s1tZOvhW9xuXZrJ4ibAmQF-zAYFoVztbt00sdA3o2Hl8_Vt9mDj6qkkCPqP4Uw_mDYQwz558tW-L5ijjpmc5TAVrW4-FqjABBIOnkzDbpWlGcW_ND0SsHPy5WFRzIl76Ex4jLybgfACJJK_awd3TiX1bNtF3YljMd6kixPA3EornQ_bMXwyXyPE8B8qPLPrYq-N7aF4QB4KNBwlCu8y6ZGrQpVDzBz3ZeHKcUGYl6ySCGuHc6KLfxaDNWBXWf32BmGtt0B8VM%2Fhttps%253A%252F%252Fropercenter.cornell.edu%252Fipoll%252Fstudy%253Fdoi%253D10.25940%252FROPER-31119144&data=05%7C02%7CDTodd%40thehill.com%7C4108cacf0f574a79f90508dcaabc26be%7C9e5488e2e83844f6886cc7608242767e%7C1%7C0%7C638572973997526527%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C80000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=SCs611C%2Fq%2F1Xu3wnAYFoYvPqbua%2FoFUhCzXFHiW8Lhg%3D&reserved=0). My independent analysis of the same polling data shows that roughly 13 percent of Black respondents said that they thought the claim of **election** fraud was true, compared to 35 percent of white poll-takers.

In addition, nearly 60 percent of white Americans believe voter fraud took place during the 2020 presidential **election**, while only 30 percent of Black Americans did, according to a [multi-racial post-**election** survey](https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/web/ICPSR/studies/39096) conducted by scholars from more than 100 colleges across the **U.S**.

Deliberate efforts to spread falsehoods are part of what we at the nonpartisan RAND Corporation call [Truth Decay](https://www.rand.org/research/projects/truth-decay/about-truth-decay.html), defined as the diminishing role of **facts** and analysis in American public life.

We are studying ways to counter it. Our research shows it has led to political paralysis and the erosion of civil discourse, weaker educational outcomes, increased health disparities and widespread uncertainty.

During the run-up to the 2016 **U.S**. presidential **election**, Russia conducted a [campaign of deceit](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/17/us/politics/russia-2016-influence-campaign.html) aimed at Black Americans, creating counterfeit social media accounts and websites to push made-up stories meant to discourage voting. Four years later, [Black and Latino voters](https://www.npr.org/2020/10/30/929248146/black-and-latino-voters-flooded-with-disinformation-in-elections-final-days) were again flooded with bogus information in the final days of the presidential campaign.

This year, the pace is [only expected to continue to quicken](https://capitalbnews.org/disinformation-black-voters-explainer/). Advances in artificial intelligence and technology are making it even easier to deceive voters who are seen as vulnerable. For example, earlier this year the [BBC documented](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-68440150) dozens of fake images generated with AI that were used on social media to imply Black voter support for former President Donald Trump.

In an ideal world, our nation’**s** leaders would implement comprehensive federal regulations to counter disinformation and empower communities to fight back at the local level. But we are not even close to that, partly because of how difficult it is to regulate digital deception.

The rise of artificial intelligence has made it easier to create false news stories. Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) has called AI’**s** “potential to turbocharge the spread of disinformation” a [“hair-in-the-fire” moment](https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/senators-advance-three-election-related-8607199/).

The **U.S**. government’**s** response to the spread of disinformation by foreign actors has often been ad hoc and uncoordinated, [RAND research shows](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR4373z1.html). This approach — or lack thereof — is mainly due to the absence of a central government authority and coherent strategy for dealing with falsehoods.

[A related RAND study](https://www.rand.org/pubs/perspectives/PEA112-2.html) from last year found that marginalized racial or ethnic groups are more vulnerable to Truth Decay. One big reason for this is since they have historically been underrepresented in mainstream media, these groups may be more likely to get their news from less reliable sources.

For now, the responsibility of ferreting out the truth rests primarily on our shoulders as citizens. But valuable lessons can be learned from Black Americans’ approach to Truth Decay.

* **Conduct a reality check**. If something sounds dubious, question it. Black Americans are known to possess a strong sense of [shared fate](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2019/07/11/linked-fate-connectedness-americans/), which is the notion that what happens to people who share an ethnic identity directly affects each individual in the group. For us, skepticism is a constant. Because we are often [portrayed negatively in the media](https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2023/09/26/black-americans-experiences-with-news/),we are less likely than our white colleagues to believe fakery masquerading as news.

1. **Use tools to verify what’s true.**[National Black Cultural Information Trust](https://nbcit.org/) and the [Black Information Network](https://www.binnews.com/) have created digital tools to dispense accurate voting information and counter the outright lies that crop up. These web-based resources fill a critical role by providing trusted spaces for Black people and others to connect and share ideas about how to verify what is true.
2. **Be active and empowered consumers.** When you think “This doesn’t sound right,” scrutinize and cross-**check** every so-called **fact**. Access tools that can detect bot accounts on social media ([Botometer](https://botometer.osome.iu.edu/), [BotSentinel](https://botsentinel.com/)) or track the spread of deliberate falsehoods ([Hoaxy](https://hoaxy.osome.iu.edu/), [Graphika](https://graphika.com/), [CrowdTangle](https://www.crowdtangle.com/)). **Fact-check** statements via such sites as [**Snopes**](https://www.snopes.com/), [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/) or [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/).
3. **Community matters.** Most importantly, don’t isolate yourself. Talk to friends and family about what you see online or hear on the news. Even better, try to challenge your perspective by having these conversations with people beyond your peer networks and outside your comfort zone.

The truth is still out there. You’re just going to have to work harder to find it.

*Ray Block Jr. holds the inaugural Truth Decay chair at RAND, a nonprofit, nonpartisan research institution. He is also a professor of political science and African American studies at Penn State.*

[For the latest news, weather, sports, and streaming video, head to The Hill.](https://thehill.com)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 670361828

**Subject:** EDITORIALS & OPINIONS (99%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (92%); AFRICAN AMERICANS (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); NEGATIVE SOCIETAL NEWS (90%); RACE & ETHNICITY (90%); RACISM & XENOPHOBIA (90%); SLAVERY (90%); **ELECTION** CRIME (89%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (89%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); POLITICAL CORRUPTION (89%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (89%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (89%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (89%); VOTERS & VOTING (89%); MINORITY GROUPS (79%); BIPARTISANSHIP (78%); CAUCASIAN AMERICANS (78%); ETHNIC GROUPS (78%); FAKE NEWS (78%); NEGATIVE NEWS (78%); POLITICAL ADVERTISING (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2016 (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2020 (78%); US PRESIDENTS (78%); ACTIVISM (77%); FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISING (77%); RESEARCH INSTITUTES (77%); HISPANIC AMERICANS (73%); SOCIAL MEDIA (72%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (71%); HEALTH EQUITY (71%)

**Company:**  RAND CORP (62%)

**Industry:** SIC8732 COMMERCIAL ECONOMIC, SOCIOLOGICAL, & EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH (62%); POLITICAL ADVERTISING (78%); FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISING (77%); MARKET RESEARCH FIRMS (77%); SOCIAL MEDIA (72%); HEALTH EQUITY (71%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (92%); JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA (79%); UNITED STATES (98%); AUSTRALIA (93%); EUROPE (92%); ASIA (90%); AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND (79%); NEW ZEALAND (79%); OCEANIA (79%); EASTERN EUROPE (59%); State of New South Wales; Russia & Australia; Europe, Eastern Europe; Oceania, Australia and New Zealand; Americas, Northern America

SUB: US PRESIDENTS

SUB: **ELECTIONS**

SUB: HISPANIC AMERICANS

SUB: SOCIAL MEDIA

IND: SOCIAL MEDIA

SUB: RESEARCH INSTITUTES

SUB: CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS**

SUB: FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISING

IND: FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISING

SUB: ACTIVISM

SUB: HEALTH EQUITY

IND: HEALTH EQUITY

SUB: **ELECTION** CRIME

SUB: MINORITY GROUPS

SUB: US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS**

SUB: SLAVERY

IND: MARKET RESEARCH FIRMS

SUB: POLITICAL CORRUPTION

SUB: HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS**

SUB: CAUCASIAN AMERICANS

SUB: AFRICAN AMERICANS

SUB: DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION

GEO: UNITED STATES

PEO: KAMALA HARRIS

SUB: POLLS & SURVEYS

SUB: **ELECTION** FRAUD

SUB: POLITICAL ADVERTISING

IND: POLITICAL ADVERTISING

SUB: NEGATIVE NEWS

SUB: EDITORIALS & OPINIONS

SUB: NEGATIVE SOCIETAL NEWS

SUB: RACISM & XENOPHOBIA

GEO: ASIA

SUB: ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

SUB: BIPARTISANSHIP

SUB: FAKE NEWS

SUB: ETHNIC GROUPS

SUB: RACE & ETHNICITY

**Load-Date:** July 25, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [4 ways to spot election misinformation and stop its spread](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D1T-17N1-F03R-N30B-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Axios

September 24, 2024 Tuesday 1:19 PM EST

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**Length:** 347 words

**Byline:** Melissa Santos

**Body**

September 24th, 2024 ( [Axios](http://axios.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Axios&utm_id=10009544&utm_content=AXIO-10009544-52803842650025203500110) )

While politicians slinging misleading claims may be [somewhat routine, false claims about when or where to vote can disenfranchise voters, and lies about](https://www.axios.com/local/seattle/2024/09/25/politicians-lying-legal-cases-2024-election) [**election** fraud can diminish trust in results, say](https://www.axios.com/2022/09/19/election-misinformation-social-media-big-lie-report) [University of Washington researchers.](https://www.cip.uw.edu/2024/09/09/2024-what-to-expect-misleading-election-rumors/)

With that in mind, we've compiled some expert tips on how to spot (and guard against) false or [misleading **election** claims, so you don't get sucked in by the memes.](https://www.axios.com/2024/04/23/election-disinformation-social-media-2024)

1. Reverse image search that photo. Claims of voter fraud or **election** malfeasance are often accompanied by alleged photo evidence.

But if you run an image through Google'**s** "search by image" function and see it used repeatedly in different contexts, that'**s** a sign to dig deeper, [Rachel Moran-Prestridge, a senior research scientist at UW'**s**](https://www.cip.uw.edu/2024/01/31/rachel-moran-prestridge-cip-senior-research-scientist/) [Center for an Informed Public, tells Axios.](https://www.cip.uw.edu/)

At a minimum, it should "tell your brain that whatever you saw that image attached to is probably not the right context," she says.

2. Don't take the ragebait. Beware posts that elicit strong emotions, positive or negative.

"Anything that is trying to make it sound scandalous or exciting is probably not going to be true," Moran-Prestridge says.

3. **Check** other sources. State and county **election** officials' websites and social media accounts "are going to have accurate, trusted information," [says Elizabeth Howard of the](https://www.youtube.com/live/_pqqItXe6v8) [Brennan Center for Justice.](https://www.brennancenter.org/experts/elizabeth-howard)

You can also turn to [verified **fact-checking** sites such as](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/signatories) [**PolitiFact** and](https://www.politifact.com/) [AP **Factcheck** to help debunk **election** rumors, while the](https://apnews.com/ap-fact-check) [Artificial Intelligence Incident Database can help verify whether content is genuine or AI-generated,](https://www.vice.com/en/article/m7agjq/this-database-is-finally-holding-ai-accountable) [per the Brennan Center.](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/how-detect-and-guard-against-deceptive-ai-generated-election-information)

4. Be patient. Especially in vote-by-mail **elections**, like in Washington state, ballots take several days to be counted, and that alone doesn't mean anything nefarious.

When something does go amiss, it often is remedied or sorted out fairly quickly - or, a solution may already be in place that wasn't shared in the TikTok video you saw, Moran-Prestridge says.

Go deeper: [Why lying by politicians is generally legal](https://www.axios.com/local/seattle/2024/09/25/politicians-lying-legal-cases-2024-election)

[Link to the original story.](https://www.axios.com/local/seattle/2024/09/24/election-misinformation-2024-spotting-tips)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 10009544

**Subject:** **ELECTION** CRIME (91%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); FALSE STATEMENTS (90%); FRAUD & FINANCIAL CRIME (90%); POLITICAL CORRUPTION (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); **ELECTIONS** (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (78%); COUNTY GOVERNMENT (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); MISCONDUCT (78%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); NEGATIVE NEWS (77%); COUNTIES (73%); **ELECTION** WORKERS (73%); GOSSIP & RUMORS (73%); MAIL-IN VOTING (73%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (73%); EMOTIONS (72%); EXPERIMENTATION & RESEARCH (72%); CONTESTED **ELECTIONS** (70%); GENERATIVE AI (68%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (63%)

**Company:**  GOOGLE LLC (83%)

**Organization:** UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (83%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); PHOTO & VIDEO SHARING (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); INTERNET VIDEO (73%); GENERATIVE AI (68%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (63%)

**Geographic:** WASHINGTON, USA (79%)

**Load-Date:** September 24, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Did Kamala Harris Pay Celebrities to Endorse Her? Oprah Winfrey Speaks Out](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DD7-KS81-JBR6-94K4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

November 12, 2024 Tuesday 8:18 AM EST

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**Length:** 472 words

**Byline:** Alia Shoaib

**Highlight:** It had been claimed online that Beyoncé was paid $10 million to endorse Kamala Harris in her 2024 campaign for presidency.

**Body**

Kamala Harris'**s** campaign has been accused of spending millions of dollars on paying celebrities to endorse her.

An account on X, formerly [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), known for sharing political news with a right-wing tilt, claimed that the Harris campaign spent $20 million on celebrity endorsements, including to Megan Thee Stallion, Lizzo, Eminem and [Oprah Winfrey](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/oprah-winfrey?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

Similar claims have been circulating online in the days since [Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) won a decisive victory over the Democratic nominee in last Tuesday'**s** **election**.

Winfrey, who appeared at the vice president'**s** final[campaign rally in Philadelphia](https://www.newsweek.com/kamala-harris-donald-trump-final-rallies-size-1980237?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), has denied claims that she was paid $1 million for her endorsement.

"Not true. I was paid nothing, ever," she said on Monday, per [TMZ](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/tmz?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

The claim had been widely reported, including by media outlets such as the Washington Examiner and [Fox News](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fox-news?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

It has also been claimed online that Beyoncé, who performed at one of Harris' campaign rallies in Houston, had been paid $10 million to endorse the vice president.

Nonprofit **fact-checking** website **FactCheck**.**org** said that a Harris campaign official told them the claim "is not true." **PolitiFact** also said that it had found "no evidence" for the claim and that Beyoncé'**s** publicist told them it was "beyond ridiculous."

*Newsweek* reached out to the Harris campaign for comment via email outside of regular working hours. *Newsweek* also reached out to representatives for other celebrities who endorsed Harris and have been accused of being paid for it, including Beyoncé, Megan Thee Stallion, Lizzo, and Eminem, via email.

Some social media users pointed out that two payments to Winfrey'**s** production company, Harpo Productions Inc, can be found under the Harris campaign'**s** disbursements on the Federal **Election** Committee website. The payments, of $500,000 each, were made on October 15 and are marked as "event production."

It is not clear what these payments were for, but celebrity appearances at political rallies frequently involve costs for things like travel, security, and event production, without necessarily being a direct payment to the celebrity.

The scrutiny over celebrity endorsements comes as Harris' campaign faces criticism for [spending around $1 billion](https://www.newsweek.com/kamala-harris-campaign-financial-mismanagement-1983889?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)during the **election**. There have also been claims that her campaign ended the **election** cycle [with $20 million in debt.](https://www.newsweek.com/kamala-harris-campaign-20m-debt-what-we-know-1981936?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

The Harris campaign won the [support of many celebrities](https://www.newsweek.com/celebrities-endorsing-kamala-harris-president-1928276?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), with several high-profile names appearing at her rallies.

Questions have been raised about whether the involvement of celebrities helped or hindered her campaign.

Some analysts and Trump supporters including [Joe Rogan](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-rogan?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) and [Elon Musk](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/elon-musk?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), have suggested that the association with celebrities might have made the Democratic nominee appear to be out of touch.

Harris' star-studded rallies came during an **election** cycle in which voters [cited the economy](https://www.newsweek.com/economy-immigration-donald-trump-wins-election-ap-votecast-1981414?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)as a primary issue.

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2518577/oprah-kamala-harris.jpg)

**Graphic**

Oprah and Kamala Harris

ANGELA WEISS/AFP via Getty Images

Oprah Winfrey (L) holds up US Vice President and Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris' hand as she arrive onstage during a campaign rally on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on November 4, 2024.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); CELEBRITIES (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (89%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (79%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); US FEDERAL **ELECTIONS** (75%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (72%); Politics (%)

**Company:**  HARPO ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (84%); FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (69%)

**Industry:** NAICS512110 MOTION PICTURE & VIDEO PRODUCTION (84%); SIC7922 THEATRICAL PRODUCERS (EXCEPT MOTION PICTURE) & MISCELLANEOUS THEATRICAL SERVICES (84%); SIC7812 MOTION PICTURE & VIDEO TAPE PRODUCTION (84%); NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (69%); CELEBRITIES (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); PRODUCT ENDORSEMENTS (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); TRAVELER SAFETY & SECURITY (50%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (93%); BEYONCE KNOWLES (89%); OPRAH WINFREY (89%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); ELON MUSK (78%); MEGAN THEE STALLION (73%)

**Geographic:** PENNSYLVANIA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** November 12, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Kamala Harris Finance Mismanagement Claims. What We Know, What We Don't](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DD2-4KB1-DY68-100N-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

November 11, 2024 Monday 11:40 AM EST

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**Length:** 473 words

**Byline:** Alia Shoaib

**Highlight:** Claims have circulated about Kamala Harris'**s** campaign mismanaging the $1 billion in funds it raised.

**Body**

As [Democrats](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democrats?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) conduct a postmortem on [Kamala Harris](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kamala-harris?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)' campaign following [Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'**s** decisive second-term presidential victory, claims have circulated about her campaign mismanaging the substantial funds it raised. Here'**s** what we know.

**Did Democrats Spend $1 Billion During Election?**

Harris' campaign raised a little over $1 billion and had spent over $900 million as of October 16, according to the Federal **Election** Commission.

The campaign has faced criticism from within the [Democratic Party](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democratic-party?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) for its lack of success, despite its formidable war chest.

Lindy Li, an official on the [Democratic National Committee](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/democratic-national-committee?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) ([DNC](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/dnc?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)) finance committee, has branded the campaign a "$1 billion disaster."

**Is Kamala Harris Campaign $20m in Debt?**

A claim has circulated that Harris' campaign ended the **election** cycle [with $20 million in debt.](https://www.newsweek.com/kamala-harris-campaign-20m-debt-what-we-know-1981936?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

*Newsweek* could not independently verify the debt figure claims, but this has been reported by multiple sources, including Politico'**s** California bureau chief Christopher Cadelago, who cited two sources familiar with the matter.

This was also echoed by the DNC'**s** Li, who said that Harris' campaign was "$20 million or $18 million in debt."

**Are Kamala Harris Staff Not Being Paid?**

It was claimed online that the Harris campaign had not paid staffers their last paycheck. There is no evidence to support the claims.

One self-described Harris-Walz staffer, Marcus Vusovich, took to X, formerly [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), to debunk the allegation.

"Harris/Walz staffer here. We are still on staff, we get paid on the 15th and we have 2 weeks of severance. STOP SPREADING MISINFORMATION," he [wrote](https://x.com/therealpviddy/status/1855792066778792360?s=43&t=lg9d8xZ7zY2T_KW3OKj7dw) on Monday the 11th.

*Newsweek* reached out to the Harris campaign via email for clarification.

**Was Beyoncé Paid $10 Million to Endorse Kamala Harris?**

Harris' campaign had the support of multiple high-profile celebrities, with many endorsing her and appearing at her star-studded rallies.

One claim circulated online that Beyoncé, who performed at one of Harris' recent rallies in Houston, had been paid $10 million to endorse the vice president.

Nonprofit **fact-checking** website [**FactCheck**.**org**](http://factcheck.org) said that a Harris campaign official told them the claim "is not true." [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/oct/28/instagram-posts/heres-no-evidence-beyonce-was-paid-to-endorse-harr/) also said that it had found "no evidence" for the claim.

**Did Kamala Harris Spend $450,000 a Day on Las Vegas Sphere Ad?**

The Harris campaign spent large amounts of their funding on ads, including one eye-catching projection on the huge Las Vegas Sphere in the final week of the campaign.

The cost of this ad has not yet been filed by Harris'**s** campaign with the FEC, but it is widely reported that it costs $450,000 for one day of advertising on the LED screens covering the arena.

All in all, Harris' campaign, associated fundraising committee and the DNC, spent more than $650 million on ads between when she became the nominee until **Election** Day, per the Wall Street Journal.

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2518023/kamala-harris-las-vegas-sphere.jpg)

**Graphic**

Kamala Harris Las Vegas Sphere

Ronda Churchill/AFP via Getty Images

The Sphere in Las Vegas, Nevada displays a portrait of Vice President and Democratic Presidential candidate Kamala Harrison November 4, 2024.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** POLITICAL PARTIES (91%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); NEGATIVE BUSINESS NEWS (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (79%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (79%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); FUNDRAISING (78%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (78%); US FEDERAL **ELECTIONS** (78%); **ELECTION** AUTHORITIES (77%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE (77%); GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS & AUTHORITIES (76%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (75%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (71%); WAGES & SALARIES (71%); CELEBRITIES (67%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (64%); Politics (%)

**Company:**  DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (57%)

**Organization:** FEDERAL **ELECTION** COMMISSION (57%); DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL COMMITTEE (57%)

**Industry:** NAICS813940 POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (57%); SIC8651 POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS (57%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING (78%); MARKETING & ADVERTISING EXPENDITURE (77%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (71%); CELEBRITIES (67%); MONITORS & DISPLAYS (60%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (96%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); BEYONCE KNOWLES (50%)

**Geographic:** CALIFORNIA, USA (79%)

**Load-Date:** November 11, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Assange did not say WikiLeaks had evidence of Obama paedophile ring](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CD5-0G91-JD6R-T02H-00000-00&context=1001073)

Crikey

June 24, 2024 Monday 09:46:30 GMT

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**Length:** 452 words

**Byline:** Crikey

**Body**

**ABSTRACT**

'The alleged quote from Julian Assange is a fabrication,' WikiLeaks ambassador Joseph Farrell said.

**FULL TEXT**

What was claimed Julian Assange said WikiLeaks has evidence that Barack Obama operated a child sex abuse ring at the White House. Our verdict**False**. Assange said no such thing. WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange supposedly says he has evidence that former US president Barack Obama led a child sexual abuse ring from the White House, according to social media posts. This is false. WikiLeaks told AAP **FactCheck** that Assange has not said that, and it has not published any such evidence on its website. The claim appears in [an article published](https://perma.cc/Y3MT-F6DK) by news aggregator Opera News, a link to which has been [shared on Facebook](https://www-media.aap.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/14125739/assange-obama-false.png). The article headline reads: "Julian Assange Drops Bombshell: WikiLeaks Reveals Alleged Proof of Obama White House Pedophile [sic] Ring". The article links to [an X post](http://archive.today/2024.06.10-013105/https://x.com/JDunlap1974/status/1797021640791908522?t=oR5Po1EKeydzPshX6aWaMw&s=19) showing screenshots of [another article](https://web.archive.org/web/20170225174004/http://undergroundnewsreport.com/the-truth/wikileaks-obama-ran-pedophile-ring-out-of-whitehouse/) published by **The Underground Report** in 2017. "Julian Assange unveiled another bombshell Sunday evening, alleging that wikileaks now has hard proof that former President, Barack Hussein Obama, operated and participated in a pedophile [sic] ring based in the white house," the report says. "A leaked email released today read, 'A young boy the age of 5. He will make the perfect catamite for the president. He will arrive from Romania on Tuesday. I'm sure the president will be pleased'." The article provides quotes purportedly from the Australian-born WikiLeaks founder, who'**s** [fighting extradition in the **UK** High Court](https://www.aap.com.au/news/biden-comment-on-assange-charges-encouraging-pm/#:~:text=US%20prosecutors%20want,the%20death%20penalty.) to avoid facing espionage charges in the US. "The leak is bound to start a massive investigation," the article claims Assange said. "That is if we can get the word out before the news is swallowed up by the Obama shadow government". WikiLeaks ambassador Joseph Farrell says the article is completely fake.  "The alleged quote from Julian Assange is a fabrication," Farrell told AAP **FactCheck**. "The claimed document was not published by WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks documents are searchable on the WikiLeaks website." Assange'**s** father John Shipton told AAP **FactCheck** that the claim in the article is "fake". The 2017 article has been [debunked by **Politifact**](https://www.politifact.com/article/2017/mar/09/fake-news-website-starts-joke-gains-1-million-view/). The verdict The claim that Julian Assange said WikiLeaks has evidence that Obama was involved in a child sexual abuse ring at the White House is false.  WikiLeaks told AAP **FactCheck** that Assange never made those statements, and the organisation has not published such evidence on its website. **False**— The claim is inaccurate. **AAP FactCheck is an accredited member of the**[**International Fact-Checking Network**](https://www.poynter.org/ifcn/)**. To keep up with our latest fact checks, follow us on**[**Facebook**](https://www.facebook.com/AAPFactCheck)**,**[**Twitter**](https://twitter.com/AapFactcheck)**and**[**Instagram**](https://www.instagram.com/aapfactcheck/)**.**

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE (92%); ABUSE & NEGLECT (90%); CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT (90%); CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION LEAKS (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); SEX OFFENSES (90%); SEXUAL ASSAULT (90%); US PRESIDENTS (90%); WIKILEAKS CONTROVERSIES (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); INVESTIGATIONS (78%); NEGATIVE TECHNOLOGY NEWS (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); ESPIONAGE (74%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (73%); EXTRADITION (71%); ACCREDITATION (60%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (60%); OPERA (55%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (57%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (57%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (57%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (57%); CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION LEAKS (90%); WIKILEAKS CONTROVERSIES (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (89%); PUBLISHING (89%); SOCIAL MEDIA (78%); CONTENT AGGREGATORS (73%)

**Person:** JULIAN ASSANGE (92%); BARACK OBAMA (90%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (92%); UNITED KINGDOM (69%)

**Load-Date:** July 3, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. ['Can You Acknowledge That?': CNN Host Ignores Byron Donalds' Examples Of Harris' 'Lies,' Immediately Pivots To Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D09-GWR1-DXXD-70M4-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

September 17, 2024 Tuesday 03:39 PM EST

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**Section:** DAILY-CALLER-NEWS-FOUNDATION; **elections**; **elections**

**Length:** 673 words

**Byline:** Jason Cohen, Contributor, [jasoncohen@dcnf.org](mailto:jasoncohen@dcnf.org)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Screenshot-2024-09-17-10.47.43-AM-e1726584560277.png)

CNN anchor Kate Bolduan on Tuesday avoided addressing Republican Florida Rep. Byron Donalds' claims of Vice President Kamala Harris' falsehoods, instead shifting focus to former President Donald Trump'**s** alleged misstatements.

Harris, during the Sept. 10 presidential [debate](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VgsC_aBquUE), accused Trump of saying “there will be a bloodbath” if he loses and falsely claimed Trump called white supremacists “fine people” after the 2017 Charlottesville riot. Bolduan, on “CNN News Central,” did not comment on the veracity of Harris' statements that Donalds mentioned during their conversation discussing potentially dangerous rhetoric, opting instead to highlight Trump'**s** claims about Haitian immigrants eating pets in Springfield, Ohio. [**(RELATED: 'Criminally Liable': Springfield Residents Know Exactly Who To Blame For Migrant Crisis Hitting Their Town)**](https://dailycaller.com/2024/09/14/springfield-residents-blame-biden-harris/)

**WATCH:**

“She lied about Donald Trump'**s** bloodbath comments. Why does she say that?” Donalds said. “Because she wants to invoke a negative energy around the campaign of Donald Trump, frankly, to affect these undecided voters.”

“Congressman, you and I have gone back and forth a lot about like **fact-checking** that can happen,” Bolduan said.

Trump [asserted](https://dailycaller.com/2024/03/18/trump-rips-media-coverage-bloodbath-remarks-pretended-shocked/) at a March rally that there would be a “bloodbath” for auto industry jobs in the **U.S**. if he is not reelected while railing against companies shifting jobs to other countries during President Joe Biden'**s** tenure. [Numerous](https://www.cnn.com/2024/03/16/politics/trump-bloodbath-auto-industry-election/index.html) media outlets and [personalities](https://dailycaller.com/2024/03/17/joe-scarborough-deletes-trump-bloodbath-post-reply-elon-musk/) appeared to [interpret](https://www.politico.com/news/2024/03/17/trump-bloodbath-turner-cassidy-rounds-00147465) Trump'**s** comments to have a [sinister](https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/trump-predicts-bloodbath-loses-2024-election-ramps-anti/story?id=108190653) meaning that the former president has [denied](https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/112116580305482725).

“Kate, can you acknowledge that Kamala Harris lied about the Charlottesville comments again, something that even **Snopes** has debunked and said is fake news, that it is wrong, that his statements were taken out of context? Those are the direct lies coming from Kamala Harris,” Donalds said. “So if you're going to talk about the invective put into this campaign, that Kamala Harris and her campaign has done, trying to invoke a negative response from voters in our country versus Donald Trump talking about issues, whether it be in a city or quite frankly, you could bring up Aurora, Colorado, or you could bring up Denver, Colorado, that have been overwhelmed by illegal immigrants in our country. You can't compare the two.”

**Fact-checking** website **Snopes** in June published a [correction](https://dailycaller.com/2024/06/23/snopes-correction-charlottesville-virginia-very-fine-people-both-sides-donald-trump-seven-years/) for Trump'**s** “very fine people” line used seven years following violent protests in [Charlottesville](https://dailycaller.com/2024/04/19/karine-jean-pierre-charlottesville-peter-doocy-hamas-protesters-press-briefing/), Virginia, about taking down a Confederate General Robert E. Lee statue. [Democrats](https://x.com/SenSchumer/status/1770216208974881232?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1770216208974881232%7Ctwgr%5E3aa5fe35c4477443f5ac488079519c9470e18164%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.snopes.com%2Ffact-check%2Ftrump-very-fine-people%2F) alleged Trump called neo-Nazis and white supremacists “very fine people” by taking his statements out of context.

Harris repeated the accusation about Trump'**s** statements regarding Charlottesville during the debate, but the ABC News moderators did not correct the vice president despite [repeatedly](https://dailycaller.com/2024/09/11/abc-news-roasted-fact-checking-trump-kamala-debate/) **fact-checking** Trump.

“Congressman, there are lots of things that can be brought up, which is also if you're talking about lies and you're talking about comparisons, you can talk about a long list of lies we could walk through it,” Bolduan said. “I don't think it is to the benefit of voters right now for me to walk through to remind them of the lies that Donald Trump has told in the past. Case in point, eating dogs ... and pets, or lots of other things. I want to move on.”

Trump [raised concerns](https://dailycaller.com/2024/09/13/msnbc-analyst-migrants-pets-ohioopen-carry/) regarding [unproven allegations](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/cats-ducks-haitians-springfield/) of Haitian immigrants eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, during the recent debate, with residents [informing](https://dailycaller.com/2024/09/14/springfield-residents-blame-biden-harris/) the Daily Caller News Foundation that they have not witnessed such incidents, but that migrants had substantially stressed the town'**s** resources under the Biden administration.

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**Graphic**

'Can You Acknowledge That?': CNN Host Ignores Byron Donalds' Examples Of Harris' 'Lies,' Immediately Pivots To Trump

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); RACISM & XENOPHOBIA (89%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (89%); WHITE NATIONALISTS (89%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (78%); FAKE NEWS (78%); FASCISM (78%); NEGATIVE BUSINESS NEWS (78%); POLITICAL PARTIES (78%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (78%); NEGATIVE MISC NEWS (77%); VOTERS & VOTING (77%); PROTESTS & DEMONSTRATIONS (76%); IMMIGRATION (74%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (74%); MIGRATION ISSUES (74%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (74%); RIOTS (71%); TRENDS & EVENTS (71%); ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS (69%); byron-donalds (%); cnn (%); donald-trump (%); kamala-harris (%); kate-bolduan (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (94%); BYRON DONALDS (93%); DONALD TRUMP (93%); JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** DENVER, CO, USA (71%); COLORADO, USA (92%); OHIO, USA (79%); VIRGINIA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** September 17, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Worried For Democracy, PBS And PolitiFact Unveil 2024 Election Partnership](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CG7-Y9T1-F03R-N2SK-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

July 13, 2024 Saturday 6:20 PM EST

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**Length:** 507 words

**Byline:** Alex Christy

**Body**

July 13th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52174924026125817300192) )

**PolitiFact**, one of the **fact-checking** outlets with the ability to censor your Facebook posts, and PBS, the news channel subsidized by your tax dollars, announced in a [joint statement on Friday on their](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/press-releases/pbs-news-and-politifact-announce-partnership-through-2024-election-cycle) [respective websites that they are teaming up for the remainder of the 2024 **election** cycle,](https://www.politifact.com/article/2024/jul/12/pbs-news-and-politifact-announce-partnership-throu/) [formalizing their June 27 Debate segment..](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/06/30/torrent-lies-politifacts-100-percent-anti-trump-tilt-underlined-pbs)

The statement involved plenty of mutual back-patting, 'As the rise of misinformation and disinformation continues, **fact**-based and impartial journalism is more important than ever during this historic **election**. Together, PBS News and **PolitiFact** share a mission of equipping their audiences with the information they need to discern **fact** from fiction and hold **elected** officials accountable.'

It further reports '**PolitiFact**'**s** **fact-checking** reporting and research will appear across PBS News programming and digital platforms during major political events such as the Republican National Convention, the Democratic National Convention and all upcoming presidential and vice presidential debates. The news organizations will also explore opportunities to co-produce content.'

**PolitiFact** editor-in-chief Katie Sanders gushed, 'We're excited to have PBS News as a national television and online partner. Their engaged audience is a natural fit for **PolitiFact**'**s** thoroughly researched reports and **fact-checking**. Working with a trusted brand like PBS News will expand the reach of our work at a time when voters are seeking out factual information to help them make decisions.'

Meanwhile, senior executive producer of NewsHour Productions and WETA senior vice president Sara Just played the democracy card, 'Trust and accuracy are the coin of the realm in journalism. Efforts to erode that trust and cast doubt on media accuracy does profound damage to our democracy and we in the media are duty bound to protect and build that trust up.'

She added, 'By working with **PolitiFact**, PBS News broadcasts and our online journalism will provide transparency to the audience to appreciate how **facts** are assessed and evaluated by journalists, especially during our heated **election** season. I'm delighted that our partners at **PolitiFact** will help PBS News platforms reinforce the reasons to have faith in the news we provide in the public interest.'

While Just tries to claim that doubting media accuracy is dangerous to democracy, the truth is just the opposite.

In the 2024 **election** cycle alone, **PolitiFact** has given [Nikki Haley a 'half-true' rating for a completely true statement about China, picked a fight with](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2023/12/05/politifact-refuses-give-haley-true-rating-true-claim-about-china) [Ron DeSantis for admiring Calvin Coolidge, shown](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2023/12/07/politifact-picks-fight-desantis-admiring-calvin-coolidge) [double standards in how it labels nuanced topics, slapped 'false' labels on](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/03/22/dems-job-creation-talking-point-reveals-politifacts-double) [Babylon Bee jokes about Pete Buttigieg, shown a](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/03/30/politifact-slaps-false-rating-babylon-bee-joke-about-pete) [heavy anti-GOP](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/04/09/politifacts-truth-o-meter-has-dramatic-democratic-party-tilt) [selection bias, taken left-wing positions on](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/06/28/politifact-usa-today-rate-trump-biden-100-and-44-percent-false) [culture war issues, and routinely defends Democrats'](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/03/23/politifact-warns-properly-defining-gender-may-lead-discrimination) [abortion radicalism with non-sequiturs about how rare late-term abortions are.](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/07/12/column-extremist-democrats-count-fact-checkers-abortion)

Perhaps Sanders was right. [PBS and PoltiFact are a 'natural fit.'](https://www.newsbusters.org/media-and-places/pbs)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/07/13/worried-democracy-pbs-and-politifact-unveil-2024-election)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** **FACT CHECKING** (91%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); DEMOCRACIES (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); TYPES OF GOVERNMENT (90%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (89%); CENSORSHIP (89%); JOURNALISM (89%); POLITICAL PARTY CONVENTIONS (89%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (78%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (78%); INTERNET JOURNALISM (78%); LIBERALISM (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP (78%); POLITICAL DEBATES (77%); POLITICAL PARTIES (77%); POLITICS (77%); CONFERENCES & CONVENTIONS (76%); NEWS REPORTING (75%); WRITERS (75%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (74%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (73%); US DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (72%); TRENDS & EVENTS (68%); US REPUBLICAN NATIONAL CONVENTIONS (68%); EXECUTIVES (66%); ABORTION (60%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (58%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (58%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (58%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); PUBLIC TELEVISION (90%); TELEVISION NEWS SHOWS (90%); INTERNET JOURNALISM (78%); SOCIAL MEDIA CENSORSHIP (78%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (78%); TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (78%); ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING (77%); MEDIA CONTENT (75%); NEWS REPORTING (75%); WRITERS (75%)

**Person:** NIKKI HALEY (52%)

**Load-Date:** July 13, 2024

**End of Document**

LexisNexis®

1. [BEYOND TRUTH VS. FICTION IN THE MEDIA](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CX3-NJ21-DYTH-G4KM-00000-00&context=1001073)

States News Service

September 6, 2024 Friday

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**Length:** 1207 words

**Byline:** States News Service

**Dateline:** EVANSTON, IL

**Body**

The following information was released by Rotary International:

Media literacy is crucial for healthy societies. Rotary members are teaching people to think critically about what they see and read

By Etelka Lehoczky

The first day at a new school can be disorienting for any teenager. But your first day at Virginia Hall High School is even stranger than most. Your grandfather claims he used to be a spy, your sister accuses some students of locking her in a closet, and everyone says a monster is stalking the hallways.

What is happening? Is any of this true? Instead of rushing off to fight the monster, you read about the weird recent events in the school newspaper. You ask yourself: Do these sources provide multiple pieces of evidence for their claims? Could they possibly be earning money because of what they're saying? Do their stories cast a negative light on people who disagree with them?

You ask all these questions because you're actually playing a video game designed to increase your media literacy. Co-created by Anahita Dalmia, a member of the Rotary Club of Newport Beach, California, USA, the game Agents of Influence is being developed to help 11- to 13-year-olds think critically about what they see on social media and in the news.

"We're teaching kids to understand media bias, logical fallacies, and confirmation bias. We teach things like reading closely tools you can use to determine what to trust online," says Dalmia, the founder and CEO of game developer Alterea Inc.

Experts interviewed for this story recommended several nonpartisan **fact-checking** sites. Here are a few:

**PolitiFact**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning site run by the Poynter Institute, a nonprofit school for journalists

Full **Fact**, a London, England-based **factchecking** site

**Snopes**, a source of information on urban legends and online rumors since 1994

**FactCheck**.**org**, a nonprofit project of the Annenberg Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania, USA

Dalmia, a third-generation Rotarian, says the game'**s** approach was inspired partly by Rotary'**s** Four-Way Test.

"The first question is, 'Is it the truth?' And there'**s** a reason that'**s** the first question," Dalmia says. "If it'**s** not the truth, you cannot make a strong judgment call based on any of the other questions, because you're starting on an unstable foundation."

"An unstable foundation" is one way to describe the current state of the media landscape. Experts say we're exposed to far more media than ever before. That includes both misinformation (unintentional untruths) and disinformation (deliberate falsehoods meant to mislead people). Although many outlets are responsible and credible, figuring out what to believe can take time and effort.

"Before the internet, if I went to get a newspaper, it was run by journalists for whom truth was an important standard. Of course newspapers were biased. But today, people who want to believe things just post stuff," says Alan Dennis, a professor of internet systems at Indiana University.

"There are active disinformation campaigns by foreign governments designed to influence voters in democratic countries. The actors have become much more sophisticated, and they have learned quite a bit about what messaging works."

People are aware of this problem, and they say they want to become savvier about the media they consume. A study released this year found that about seven in 10 Americans were interested in learning how to better distinguish between true and false information online. But media literacy is more than just separating **fact** from fiction.

"We need to be able to judge things like, 'What'**s** the bias behind it? Who created it? Who'**s** benefiting from it?' So there'**s** not a simple fix here," says Jeff Share, a lecturer at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a co-author of "The Critical Media Literacy Guide." "We need to slow down and investigate. It might mean it'**s** going to take me a couple more minutes, but I can go to some different sources. I can also recognize that some are more legitimate than others."

Training storytellers

Many people believe that ideological biases and financial interests guide major news outlets' coverage, says global grant scholar Alex Freeman, who is pursuing a master'**s** degree in global media and communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science.

"It'**s** one of the big reasons that people have turned against media, but I think it'**s** an overcorrection," Freeman says. "A lot of people have turned to independent journalists who are more willing to incorporate their own personal experience into their reporting. But without a traditional media apparatus without standard practices for ensuring accuracy it'**s** hard to know who'**s** trustworthy."

Still, independent voices can be crucial in places where media organizations lack funding or are restricted by repressive governments. When Rotary Peace Fellow Thomas Sithole realized his hometown in Zimbabwe was ignored by major media outlets, he launched a community radio station. Then he founded the Zimbabwe Centre for Media and Information Literacy to teach people to think more critically and tell their own stories effectively. He believes the two skills are intertwined.

"We tell citizens how to arm themselves against disinformation and misinformation," he says. The Centre also trains citizen journalists and other content creators, teaching skills like **fact-checking** and ensuring balance in a story.

"We're trying to build a movement across the region, because we see that there is no appetite from our governments to push for policies that support media and information literacy among citizens," Sithole says.

The threat of artificial intelligence

Even as he trains an army of storytellers, Sithole worries that the arrival of artificial intelligence will make it easier to create and spread disinformation.

"For unsuspecting citizens, it'**s** creating a lot of challenges," he says. "It becomes very difficult now to tell whether a piece of content is true or false, especially if it'**s** in the form of videos or images. It'**s** something that is really a challenge even to the professional journalist."

Some believe the key is educating younger media consumers. Erin McNeill meets many students through her job as CEO of the **U.S**.-based nonprofit Media Literacy Now, and she'**s** heartened by what she finds. "AI is definitely making it harder to identify good and credible sources," McNeill says. But she says people can use the same skills to analyze human-generated and AI-generated content.

"Young people are so creative and smart. We're educating them so they can rise to the challenge," she says. "They're going to find solutions as long as they're given the skills and the education they need."

The same belief animates Dalmia as she continues to develop and promote Agents of Influence. She has presented the game to numerous Rotary clubs and hopes Rotarians will encourage their local schools to use it. "This started as a passion project, but there was a huge demand from parents who were concerned about how social media was shaping their kids' perspectives and interactions with the outside world," Dalmia says. "The resounding feedback we've gotten is, 'Can I have this for my kid who thinks TikTok is a reliable source of information?'"

**Classification**

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**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); NEWS REPORTING (89%); NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS (89%); SOCIETY, SOCIAL ASSISTANCE & LIFESTYLE (89%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (78%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (78%); STUDENTS & STUDENT LIFE (78%); WRITERS (78%); HIGH SCHOOLS (77%); INTERVIEWS (74%); GOSSIP & RUMORS (73%); COMPUTER GAMES (67%); SOCIAL MEDIA (65%); EXECUTIVES (50%)

**Organization:** ROTARY INTERNATIONAL (84%)

**Industry:** NEWS REPORTING (89%); ENTERTAINMENT & ARTS AWARDS (78%); MEDIA BIAS (78%); WRITERS (78%); HIGH SCHOOLS (77%); INTERNET & WWW (69%); COMPUTER GAMES (67%); SOCIAL MEDIA (65%)

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1. [POLICING 'TRUTH': The Billionaires' 'Fact'-Checking Gang to Keep 'News'-Media 'Honest'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CXT-KWT1-JCMN-Y4J6-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

The Duran

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**Byline:** Eric Zuesse

**Body**

September 10th, 2024 ( [The Duran](http://theduran.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=The+Duran&utm_id=10009379&utm_content=DRNM-10009379-52683272297325214500105) )

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[Eric Zuesse (blogs at](https://www.google.com/search?client=opera&hs=NJ5&sca_esv=571655468&q=Eric+Zuesse&si=ALGXSlYe0wodhk75fJ_OwGOEhq6V_mILgJnpGvyEu2YbkEAXv6laNC0q_ObqMjFSUM1eXh1N1vyHTN8d5cE4LE-k7KVIlvG0UM3oIsHB8U61iUyoxY2C3vQGy_hDBXJXpcW_R7J1WYGuUFtMZbwkc4wSfeFyyW6FnNyu3dCvLwjQvBY3_dHndYk=&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjQieme0uWBAxWDMVkFHX-HB9QQ6RN6BAgmEAE&biw=1231&bih=944&dpr=2#ip=1) [https://theduran.com/author/eric-zuesse/)](https://theduran.com/author/eric-zuesse/)

Let'**s** take as an example, Politi-**Fact**, in the United States itself:

On 4 July 2024, I headlined ['WHY IS JOE BIDEN NOT BEING TRIED FOR BRIBERY & CONSPIRACY? And why are America'**s** 'news'-media covering this up?' I noted there that Politi-**Fact** has been protecting Biden by misrepresenting the evidence, and that it'**s** 'owned by the Poynter Institute, funded by](https://archive.is/2GPtn) [11 Democratic billionaires and one Republican one'. Those were 11 'non'-profits, but they also are funded by **U.S**.-and-allied Governments; and, in **fact**, at least one of the 11, the Institute for War and Peace Reporting (IWPR) seems to be almost entirely so, though it might additionally have more direct but secret funding from or on behalf of **U.S**. billionaires. And, if we look at the IWPR'**s** top 11 listed donors or](https://archive.is/2TdDq) ['Supporters', 3 of the 11 are the **U.S**. State Department; 3 more are its equivalents for Norway, Netherlands and **UK**; and the others are the European Commission, the Dutch Postcode Lottery Fund, the **UK** Conflict Stability and Security Fund, the **U.S**. National Endowment for Democracy, and the **U**.N.'**s** Entity for Gender Equality. So, all 11 of the IWPR'**s** top 'Supporters' are wholly or largely controlled by the **U.S**. Government. That list is introduced by the IWPR by saying: 'This broad support enables us to maintain intensive programs while avoiding over-dependence on any single source. We are especially grateful to those donors who support us through multi-year assistance to strengthen existing activities and those who provide precious institutional assistance.' In addition, the IWPR lists 25 'Partners,' such as Reporters Without Borders, and the International Republican Institute. The IWPR'**s** International Board is co-headed by a member of the **UK** Governance Committee, and a member of the '**U.S**. & NL Governance Committees.' The IWPR was founded in 1991 so as to assist reporters to have a](https://archive.is/If61M) ['balanced perspective' on the breaking-up of Yugoslavia (which](https://archive.is/OhIKB#selection-1593.8-1593.16) [the CIA was secretly already stoking).](https://archive.is/TZ6u0)

Another good example (besides the 'news'-coverage - or absence of same - regarding [the extraordinarily strong bribery & conspiracy case that is not being pursued against the **U.S**. President) concerns the Philippines, whose Government has, for some reason, been allowing the **U.S**. Government militarily to increasingly re-occupy that 'former' **U.S**. colony and to place soldiers and weapons there to facilitate an invasion of China. A superb investigative reporter who has been covering this is the independent Brian Berletic, who on 2 November 2023 headlined](https://archive.is/2GPtn) ['US Shapes Philippines into Southeast Asia'**s** 'Ukraine'' (land from which to invade China, instead of land from which to invade Russia), and he quoted from sources such as: 'Reuters in its article, 'Exclusive: **U.S**. military in talks to develop port in Philippines facing Taiwan,' would report: '**U.S**. military involvement in the proposed port in the Batanes islands, less than 200 km (125 miles) from Taiwan, could stoke tensions at a time of growing friction with China and a drive by Washington to intensify its longstanding defence treaty engagement with the Philippines.'' Berletic went on to quote an official **U.S**. Government historian describing the brutal 1899-1902 Teddy-Roosevelt-led war that conquered the Philippines and made them a **U.S**. colony. He noted the **U.S**. Government'**s** carefully designed program to reward, with Fulbright scholarships and other inducements, the Philippines' upper crust. And he said that, 'In reality, all the US is building in the Philippines are military bases meant to drag both it and the region into greater instability, economic stagnation, and possibly even war.' His focus was on the constant **U.S**. propaganda-machine to fool Filippino voters to **elect** pro-**U.S**.-anti-China politicians, such as its current President, Bongbong Marcos, the only son of the extremely corrupt **U.S**.-imposed dictator Ferdinand Marcos. Berletic didn't, however, mention such highly relevant](https://archive.is/6KK6P) [**facts** as that 'The Philippines ranked](https://archive.is/gb0Du#selection-3407.0-3411.131) [77th out of 81 countries globallyin the student assessment conducted by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) for 15-year-old learners.' (Incidentally, China was excluded from that year'**s** PISA study](https://archive.is/o/gb0Du/https://web.archive.org/web/20240714060934/https://www.oecd.org/pisa/OECD_2022_PISA_Results_Comparing%20countries%E2%80%99%20and%20economies%E2%80%99%20performance%20in%20mathematics.pdf) [because in the prior, 2018, one, China topped the list and the **U.S**. regime was outraged.) Keeping the voters ignorant is important to do if the imperial regime, the **U.S**. regime, is to be able to exploit its victim - the colony - 'democratically' by means of **elections**. And this is also the reason why four of the five countries (out of the 81) that scored even worse than the Philippines in this PISA were **U.S**.-controlled banana republics. All of these countries have long been under the thumb of American billionaires. Furthermore: in terms of life-expectancy, the Philippines scores significantly lower even than the **U.S**. itself does, and almost all of the countries which score even worse than the Philippines are 'former' colonies of France, Netherlands, Belgium **UK**, and other European regimes. So, the historical record is clear that](https://archive.is/6tVIa) [colonialism (imperialism) destroys countries.](https://archive.is/o49uK)

But, anyway, Berletic'**s** article was still too true to satisfy the **U.S**. regime; and, so, the Philippine branch of a **U.S**. '**fact-checking**' 'charity', the Poynter Institute (which owns in the **U.S**. **PolitiFact** - which [helped America'**s** 'news'-media to hide from Americans Joe](https://archive.is/kmzi8) [Biden'**s** intense corruption) simply lied, and published on 23 November 2023,](https://archive.is/2GPtn) ['**FACT-CHECK**: US not building new military bases in the Philippines'. Their 'argument' was that](https://archive.is/XzRsL)

'The [EDCA, which was signed in 2014, grants US troops access to designated Philippine military facilities, the right to build facilities, and preposition equipment, aircraft, and vessels. It does not allow US military permanent positioning or basing in any Philippine military facility or base.'](https://archive.is/o/XzRsL/https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/downloads/2014/04apr/20140428-EDCA.pdf)

That was implying Berletic had alleged the bases that the **U.S**. regime is building in the Philippines are to be 'permanent,' or sovereign **U.S**. territory within the Philippines, but Berletic had actually neither said nor implied any such thing. Poynter'**s** Philippine branch simply lied. They gave Berletic'**s** article the ['Rating:FALSE' because the treaty didn't use the word (nor any equivalent) 'permanent,' though nowhere did Berletic'**s** article say or imply that it did. In other words: the Poynter Institute presumes that the Filippino people aren't merely uneducated but stupid, and it also presumes that this gives the Poynter Institute the right to deceive them. It'**s** the same attitude, the same haughty contempt, that slave-holders generally have toward their slaves.](https://archive.is/XzRsL#selection-597.0-605.5)

As usual, censorship - which is what '**fact-checking**' 'services' actually do - is a tool of dictatorship, but it NEVER is a tool of democracy, because democracy cannot function unless only each individual on one'**s** own makes the determination BY AND FOR ONESELF, what is true and what is false. Dictatorship thrives with censorship, and democracy dies with censorship. There is no actual authority except one'**s** own scientific analysis of a situation. If the analysis is not scientific, then one will come to false conclusions; but, NO analysis that comes from anyone else will be trusted by a scientist - that analysis will instead be investigated by the scientist; and, then, if believed to be true, will be believed by that person to BE scientific. Expertise exists, and will be respected by a scientist, but authority DOES NOT, and CAN NOT. Only a fool will contract-out to some 'authority' his/her own judgment, because to do that is to enslave oneself.

Existing '**fact-checking**' 'services' represent not science, but the agenda of their funders. And ALL censorship is toxic to democracies.

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Investigative historian Eric Zuesse'**s** latest book, [AMERICA'**S** EMPIRE OF EVIL: Hitler'**s** Posthumous Victory, and Why the Social Sciences Need to Change, is about how America took over the world after World War II in order to enslave it to **U.S**.-and-allied billionaires. Their cartels extract the world'**s** wealth by control of not only their 'news' media but the social 'sciences' - duping the public.](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1880026082)

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[Link to the original story.](https://theduran.com/policing-truth-the-billionaires-fact-checking-gang-to-keep-news-media-honest/)

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**Organization:** EUROPEAN COMMISSION (54%); US DEPARTMENT OF STATE (54%)

**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (90%); WRITERS (89%); HEALTH EQUITY (77%); LOTTERIES (50%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (96%); UNITED KINGDOM (93%); PHILIPPINES (92%); EUROPE (79%); NETHERLANDS (79%); NORWAY (79%); EUROPEAN UNION MEMBER STATES (74%)

**Load-Date:** September 10, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [MRC UnCensored: How PolitiFact Coddles 'Fibber-in-Chief-Biden'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BT8-PRJ1-JCMN-Y0KY-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Tom Olohan

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April 15th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-171320974194825876100113) )

<?xml encoding="UTF-8"?????>

NewsBusters Executive Editor Tim Graham exposed the insane leftist bias of the leftist Facebook **fact**-checker **PolitiFact** in a new study released April 9.

During the April 12  [episode](https://twitter.com/FreeSpeechAmer/status/1778860642570846465)  of MRC'**s**  UnCensored, Graham told MRC Free Speech America Vice President Dan Schneider that this '**fact**-checker' applies wildly different standards to Democrats and Republicans, but especially to former President Donald Trump and President Joe Biden. Schneider and Graham made clear that **PolitiFact** goes all out to protect Biden, whom Schneider called the 'Fibber-in-Chief,' from the fallout of his 'notorious lies.'  **PolitiFact** is housed within the George Soros-tied Poynter Institute for Media Studies, which the leftist billionaire gave at least $492,000  [toward](https://cdn.mrc.org/static/pdfuploads/PropagandaPowerhouse_FullReport_FINAL_LINKED.pdf-1674854430630.pdf)  its dystopian International **Fact-Checking** Network (IFCN).

On April 9, Marshall  [published](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/04/09/politifacts-truth-o-meter-has-dramatic-democratic-party-tilt)  his findings on **PolitiFact**'**s** rampant bias, showing that a whopping 75% of Republican statements **fact-checked** by **PolitiFact** received a rating of 'mostly false,' 'false,' or 'pants-on-fire,' between the beginning of this year and March 31. Marshall'**s** research showed that only 26% of statements by Democrats were labeled this way by **PolitiFact** during the same period.

Graham pointed to a recent Biden lie to illustrate the utter extent of **PolitiFact**'**s** leftist bent. 'When Joe Biden says, 'This bridge that collapsed in Baltimore, I've gone over many times, in a car and on a train' and there are no train tracks on this bridge, now couldn't we say that'**s** a pants-on-fire lie,' Graham asked. As  [noted](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/03/29/biden-commits-train-brain-fart-politifact-sprays-spin-against-plain)  by Graham,  [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/article/2024/mar/27/joe-biden-said-he-commuted-by-train-and-car-as-a-s/?utm_medium=Social&utm_source=Twitter#Echobox=1711629201-1)  did not provide a rating of any kind to their story on Biden'**s** impossible train ride.

He analyzed that **PolitiFact** consistently treated Biden as a charming old storyteller who embellishes a bit, while Trump was treated as a threat who lies for evil reasons. Graham added,  'Now on some level, I think what they're trying to do here is assign a prize for evil intent. So if Biden says something silly which might suggest infirmity, well that can't be pants-on-fire, he didn't lie on purpose, he'**s** just Grandpa Joe, he says these things that are amusing.'

MRC Uncensored: How **Fact**-Checkers Influence **Elections** With Newsbuster'**s** [@TimJGraham](https://twitter.com/TimJGraham?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Leftist **Fact**-Checkers like **Politifact** are actively engaged in **election** influencing with a heavy skew against conservatives. [pic.twitter.com/bElq0FpG18](https://t.co/bElq0FpG18)

- Free Speech America (@FreeSpeechAmer) [April 12, 2024](https://twitter.com/FreeSpeechAmer/status/1778860642570846465?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

Schneider also panned **PolitiFact**'**s** behavior: '**PolitiFact** is using its tools to cover up the Biden indiscretion.'

But there'**s** more. Graham provided striking context on how **PolitiFact** systemically protects Biden and other Democrats like its a chronic obsession.

Graham pointed out that although 'Joe Biden has been a politician for the entire timespan of **PolitiFact**,' the number of Biden **PolitiFact** entries is still in the '300'**s**.' Biden was first **elected** to the Senate in 1972 and made headlines for falsehoods  [told](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p94O1wp19g)  during one of his presidential campaigns. By contrast, Trump, who had not held political office before his presidential run, was 'the most **fact-checked** individual' on **PolitiFact** and had over a thousand entries.

Graham then compared **PolitiFact**'**s** 'pants-on-fire' entries for Biden and Trump. **PolitiFact** had labeled Trump'**s** statements this way 187 times according to Graham, while only giving a paltry seven Biden statements the same label. Graham further elaborated that **PolitiFact** had only dinged Biden with a 'pants-on-fire' label - count it - once since he became president.

Conservatives are under attack!  Conservatives are under attack! Contact your representatives and demand Big Tech be held to account to mirror the First Amendment while providing transparency on WEF partnerships, clarity on so-called hate speech and equal footing for conservatives. If you have been censored, contact us at the Media Research Center  [contact form](https://www.mrc.org/contact-us) , and help us hold Big Tech accountable.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/tom-olohan/2024/04/15/mrc-uncensored-how-politifact-coddles-fibber-chief-biden)

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (58%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (58%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (58%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); TRAINS (63%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (89%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); GEORGE SOROS (53%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (92%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [Fact check: How Elon Musk is spreading US election lies](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DB9-TRG1-JDKC-R3KP-00000-00&context=1001073)

Malay Mail

November 3, 2024 Sunday

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**Body**

NEW YORK, Nov. 3 -- Billionaire X owner Elon Musk is amplifying false claims about the US **election** and shaping public opinion. DW **fact-checks** three of his narratives.

The way the world'**s** richest man, Elon Musk, is getting involved in US politics shows how billionaires with control over social media can influence public opinion and potentially sway **elections**.

"Since Elon Musk took over X, the platform has devolved into a hellscape of hate and disinformation - much of which comes from Mr. Musk himself," Imran Ahmed, head of the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), told DW.

Unlike most tech billionaires and political donors, Musk'**s** political involvement is highly visible and intensified ahead of the US presidential **election** on November 5. A recent CCDH report found that Musk'**s** false or misleading claims about the US **election** got 1.2 billion views between January and July 2024 on the social media platform X (formerly Twitter), which he owns.

Musk'**s** role as a source of mis- and disinformation extends beyond his own posts. He frequently retweets or engages with false and misleading claims and conspiracy theories, and his engagement gives these posts an immense reach.

Here are three examples of how Musk is spreading false claims ahead of the US **election**.

1: False narratives about migrants voting

Claim: In July, US Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson suggested Democrats "want to turn illegal aliens into voters." Musk retweeted this claim, adding that "the goal all along has been to import as many illegal voters as possible," implying that immigrants are being brought into the country to support Democrats. The post has received more than 45million views.

DW **fact check**: False

Only US citizens can vote in US federal **elections**. "Noncitizens, including permanent legal residents, cannot vote in federal, state and most local **elections**," a statement on USA.gov, an official US government website, explains. Federal law strictly prohibits noncitizens from voting in US presidential **elections**.

Musk has also stated it takes, "less than five minutes and zero documentation" with the help of an app to be approved as an illegal immigrant and flown to the US at American taxpayers' expense. Musk reposted a video that alleged that by using the CBP One app, an unlimited number of foreigners could enter the US. The app was developedby US Customs and Border Protection agency and is used to schedule appointments for asylum processing. However, simply registering in the app does not guarantee entry into the US.

Still, Musk'**s** post was viewed nearly 20 million times and was shared tens of thousands of times.

Under US immigration law, eligible individuals must apply for asylum while physically present in the US, and the decision process typically takes years.

2: Posting fake pictures of Kamala Harris

Claim: In early September, Musk posted an image showing Democratic candidate Kamala Harris dressed in a red Communist outfit with a hammer and sickle on her hat, with the caption: "Kamala vows to be a communist dictator on day one. Can you believe she wears that outfit!?" This post quickly went viral, reaching more than 80 million views.

DW **fact check**: Fake.

This is not a real image of Harris. The photo was generated by artificial intelligence, as revealed by the sharpness of Harris' image against a blurred background and the unusually bright colors. An advanced AI image detector tool like truemedia.org finds "substantial evidence of manipulation."

Sander van der Linden, a professor at the University of Cambridge in the **UK** and author of "Foolproof: Why Misinformation Infects Our Minds and How to Build Immunity" told DW that misinformation erodes the quality of democratic discourse, lowers trust in the electoral process and outcome "and for some people can even change the way they vote."

With a net worth over $263 billion (&#8364;242 billion) as of November, according to Forbes, Musk is the world'**s** wealthiest person, making him a unique influencer. He has a major social media presence with more than 200 million followers. For comparison, Taylor Swift has over 500 million followers.

Since acquiring Twitter two years ago and rebranding it as X, Musk has done things like reinstate the account of former President Donald Trump, which was suspended following Trump'**s** controversial posts after the last presidential **election** in 2020, which he lost. Trump has more than 92 million followers on X, and less than 8 million on his own social media platform Truth Social.

3: Questioning the electoral process

Musk has amplified claims that there is something wrong with voter rolls in Michigan, an important swing state. The original claim - that Michigan has more voters than residents eligible to vote - has been debunked by Michigan'**s** **Election** **Fact** Center.

Claim: Musk doubled down in mid-October and accused Michigan Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson of dishonesty, writing, "you only plan to remove the ineligible voters AFTER the **election**. That necessarily means that there are far more people registered to vote than there are eligible voters."

DW **fact check**: Misleading.

Under state and federal law in the US, voters are only removed from voter rolls after they have been sent a notice that their registration is subject to cancellation and two subsequent federal **election** cycles have passed without any response or voting activity.

"Michigan has done more in last five years to improve the accuracy of our voter rolls than in the previous two decades," the state says on its **election** information website. "Since 2019, **election** officials have cancelled more than 800,000 voter registrations and identified more than 600,000 slated for cancellation in 2025 and 2027 once the legally required two-federal **election** cycle period has passed."

What motivates Musk?

Musk and Trump have a complex relationship. During Trump'**s** 2016 campaign, Musk publicly questioned Trump'**s** fitness for office. Trump then later appointed Musk to his advisory council, a role Musk eventually left due to policy disagreements.

Van der Linden, at the University of Cambridge, thinks Musk believes a Trump victory would be in the best interests of his business. It might include "potentially more contracts from NASA for SpaceX, more federal contracts for Starlink, and free range to run X however he wants without government oversight of social media companies," he said. - DW

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1. [Biden administration officials took oaths of office, despite post's claim | Fact check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68HR-PJ81-JCMC-W2VG-00000-00&context=1001073)

USA Today Online

June 22, 2023

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**Length:** 1207 words

**Byline:** Sudiksha Kochi, USA TODAY

**Body**

**The claim: Many federal officials are working 'without swearing an allegiance to the Constitution'**

A May 14 Instagram video ([direct l](https://www.instagram.com/p/CsO5sVMAvuI/) [i](https://www.instagram.com/p/CsO5sVMAvuI/) [nk](https://www.instagram.com/p/CsO5sVMAvuI/), [archive link](https://archive.org/details/screenshot-2023-06-07-062834)) shows various images of President Joe Biden and his inauguration ceremony, former President Donald Trump'**s** inaugural address and internet searches of military cannons.

"Do we have public servants in office who are acting as **elected** officials without swearing an allegiance to the Constitution?" the narrator says. "A writ of quo warranto has been filed in the **U.S**. attorney'**s** office in Washington, D.C., stating that numerous oaths of office cannot be found on file for many of our federal public officials, including Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin."

The video received over 8,000 likes in less than two weeks. A tweet with a [similar claim](https://twitter.com/annvandersteel/status/1646654916532789248) was liked 900 times in less than two months.

**Follow us on Facebook!**[Like our page to get updates throughout the day on our latest debunks](https://www.facebook.com/usatodayfactcheck/)

**Our rating: False**

The officials listed in the video, most of whom were appointed by Biden, took oaths of office and swore allegiance to the Constitution, according to video clips and agency statements. Legal experts said a court document cited in the post is not evidence otherwise.

**Biden administration officials took oaths of office**

Of the 10 officials mentioned in the video, only Harris was **elected** by voters in the 2020 **elections**.

The other nine officials were chosen by Biden. They are:

* Austin

1. CDC Director Rochelle Walensky
2. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen
3. Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm
4. FDA Principal Deputy Commissioner Janet Woodcock
5. Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier Becerra
6. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg
7. Secretary of State Antony Blinken
8. Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas

Contrary to the post’**s** claim, all the listed officials took oaths of office, as required by federal statute [5 **U.S**. Code, Section 3331](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/5/3331) during their official swearing-in ceremony. The oath includes a statement that the official "will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

Harris took the oath when she was sworn in Jan. 20, 2021, by Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, as shown in a [C-SPAN clip](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4939577/kamala-harris-sworn-vice-president). Likewise, video clips show [Yellen](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jw1_00uI02U), [Granholm](https://www.c-span.org/video/?509344-1/energy-secretary-jennifer-granholm-swearing-ceremony), [Becerra](https://www.c-span.org/video/?510308-1/health-human-services-secretary-swearing-ceremony), [Buttigeg,](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508603-1/transportation-secretary-buttigieg-swearing-ceremony) [Blinken](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508379-1/swearing-ceremony-secretary-state-blinken) and [Mayorkas](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508574-1/homeland-security-secretary-mayorkas-swearing-ceremony) also took oaths of office when they were sworn in by Harris.

**Fact check:**[Video shows Rep. Greene at hearing, no mention of Garland impeachment](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/06/20/no-mention-of-garland-impeachment-in-video-fact-check/70336055007/)

Austin was [sworn in administratively](https://www.pacom.mil/Media/News/News-Article-View/Article/2481925/new-defense-secretary-arrives-at-pentagon-convenes-covid-meeting/) at the Pentagon on Jan. 22, 2021, and [ceremonially sworn](https://www.airandspaceforces.com/austin-ceremonially-sworn-in-at-the-white-house/) in at the White House on Jan. 25, 2021. The Defense Department, which declined to provide a name for attribution, told USA TODAY Austin took the oath of office.

Likewise, all Health and Human Service Department employees, including [Walensky](https://apnews.com/article/rochelle-walensky-cdc-director-2cc9b9774f071299025209143fccc28a) and [Woodcock](https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-organization/fda-leadership-profiles), took the oath of office, according to the department, which also declined to provide a name for attribution.

**Experts say federal statute cited in petition is not evidence of claim**

As evidence for the claim, the post references a court document labeled [“petition for writ of quo warranto”](https://perma.cc/U6RL-L5LP) filed with the **U.S**. Attorney'**s** Office in Washington D.C. by a person named Lisa McGee.

The petition cites [5 **U.S**. Code, Section 3332](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/5/3332), which says officials shall file – along with their oath of office – an affidavit within 30 days of their effective date of appointment that says “neither he nor anyone acting in his behalf has given, transferred, promised, or paid any consideration for or in the expectation or hope of receiving assistance in securing the appointment.”

The petition claims requests for such affidavits made to several Biden officials have either not received a timely response or received a defective response, and it asks to have those officials removed from office.

But legal experts say the federal statute in question plays no role in an official'**s** appointment or **election** to office.

"By its terms, it does not create a condition for taking or continuing to hold office," [Evan Bernick](https://www.niu.edu/law/about/directory/bernick.shtml), a constitutional law expert at Northern Illinois University, told USA TODAY in an email. "The appointment is 'effective' regardless of whether they file the affidavit. The form of the oath is specified by [5 **U.S**. Code § 3331](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/5/3331)."

**Fact check:**[No, Trump was not charged with espionage in classified documents probe](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/06/14/trump-charged-with-violating-espionage-act-indictment-says-fact-check/70313167007/)

[Vincent Bonventre](https://www.albanylaw.edu/faculty/faculty-directory/vin-bonventre), a law professor at Albany Law School, agreed and noted that nothing in the Constitution or the statute suggests these officials did not swear allegiance to the Constitution simply because this group can't access the oath affidavits.

“Typically, all government employees complete and sign a written affidavit containing the oath, which is then placed in the personnel file,” Bonventre said. “However, nothing in the Constitution − except for Article II dealing with the president − indicates any particular procedure or format or requirement other than that some unspecified oath upholding the Constitution be taken.”

The claim that the remedy for violating the statute is removal from office has been considered and rejected before during the Whitewater investigation, which was about a [failed real estate deal](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/04/21/fact-check-no-link-between-whitewater-scandal-and-oklahoma-bombing-hillary-clinton/11700046002/) involving Hillary Clinton and former President Bill Clinton, according to Bernick.

In that case, the [court considered](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/fmQNCn5mErS6ZYpqzc9eQdQ?domain=cite.case.law/) and rejected an argument that Kenneth Star, the independent counsel leading the investigation, lacked the authority to prosecute because he hadn't complied with Section 3332, Bernick said.

USA TODAY reached out to the lawyers representing McGee and the social media users who shared the claim for comment but did not immediately receive a response.

**Factcheck**.**org** [also debunked](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/06/biden-officials-have-taken-oaths-of-office-contrary-to-social-media-claim/) the claim.

**Our fact-check sources:**

* [Evan Bernick](https://www.niu.edu/law/about/directory/bernick.shtml), June 6, Email exchange with USA TODAY

1. [Vincent Bonventre](https://www.albanylaw.edu/faculty/faculty-directory/vin-bonventre), June 6, Email exchange with USA TODAY
2. Department of Defense, June 20, Email exchange with USA TODAY
3. Department of Health and Human Services, June 7-20, Email exchange with USA TODAY
4. Cornell Legal Information Institute, accessed June 20, [5 **U.S**. Code § 3331 - Oath of office](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/5/3331)
5. Cornell Legal Information Institute, accessed June 20, [5 **U.S**. Code § 3332 - Officer affidavit; no consideration paid for appointment](https://www.law.cornell.edu/uscode/text/5/3332)
6. C-SPAN, Jan. 20, 2021, [Kamala Harris Sworn In As Vice President](https://www.c-span.org/video/?c4939577/kamala-harris-sworn-vice-president)
7. C-SPAN, Feb. 25, 2021, [Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm Swearing-In Ceremony](https://www.c-span.org/video/?509344-1/energy-secretary-jennifer-granholm-swearing-ceremony)
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9. C-SPAN, Feb. 3, 2021, [Transportation Secretary Buttigieg Swearing-in Ceremony](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508603-1/transportation-secretary-buttigieg-swearing-ceremony)
10. C-SPAN, Jan. 27, 2021, [Swearing-In Ceremony for Secretary of State Blinken](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508379-1/swearing-ceremony-secretary-state-blinken)
11. C-SPAN, Feb. 2, 2021, [Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas Swearing-in Ceremony](https://www.c-span.org/video/?508574-1/homeland-security-secretary-mayorkas-swearing-ceremony)
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13. Caselaw Access Project, accessed June 21, [In re Grand Jury Subpoenas Duces Tecum, 78 F.3d 1307 (1996)](https://cite.case.law/f3d/78/1307/)
14. The White House (YouTube), Jan. 26, 2021, [Vice President Harris Ceremonially Swears In Dr. Janet Yellen as Secretary of the Treasury](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jw1_00uI02U)

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*Our* ***fact-check*** *work is supported in part by a grant from Facebook.*

*This article originally appeared on USA TODAY:* [Biden administration officials took oaths of office, despite post'**s** claim | **Fact check**](https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2023/06/22/biden-officials-did-take-oaths-of-office-despite-claim-fact-check/70311745007/)

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**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (56%)

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**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (56%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (56%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); INTERNET VIDEO (90%); DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS (89%); HEALTH DEPARTMENTS (78%); INTERNET & WWW (78%); TREASURY DEPARTMENTS (73%); TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENTS (72%); ARTILLERY & ORDNANCE (71%); ENERGY DEPARTMENTS (71%); PUBLIC FINANCE AGENCIES & TREASURIES (71%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (93%); ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS (92%); ANTONY BLINKEN (92%); JANET YELLEN (92%); KAMALA HARRIS (92%); PETE BUTTIGIEG (92%); DONALD TRUMP (91%); JENNIFER GRANHOLM (89%); SONIA SOTOMAYOR (89%); XAVIER BECERRA (89%); ROCHELLE WALENSKY (79%)

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SUB: SOTOMAYOR HEARINGS

SUB: JUDGES

IND: INTERNET VIDEO

PEO: ALEJANDRO MAYORKAS

SUB: TRUMP'**S** FIRST 100 DAYS

SUB: HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

IND: HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

PEO: PETE BUTTIGIEG

PEO: JENNIFER GRANHOLM

PEO: JOE BIDEN

SUB: ENERGY DEPARTMENTS

IND: ENERGY DEPARTMENTS

SUB: **FACT CHECKING**

SUB: GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS

SUB: **ELECTIONS**

PEO: ANTONY BLINKEN

SUB: SUPREME COURTS

SUB: DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS

IND: DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS

SUB: BIDEN'**S** FIRST 100 DAYS

SUB: PUBLIC OFFICIALS

SUB: 2021 US PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

PEO: XAVIER BECERRA

PEO: JANET YELLEN

SUB: TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENTS

IND: TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENTS

GEO: UNITED STATES; WASHINGTON DC, USA

SUB: APPOINTMENTS

GEO: UNITED STATES

PEO: KAMALA HARRIS

SUB: NATIONAL SECURITY

SUB: LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS

PEO: DONALD TRUMP

SUB: ARTILLERY & ORDNANCE

IND: ARTILLERY & ORDNANCE

SUB: **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS

PEO: SONIA SOTOMAYOR

SUB: LAW & LEGAL SYSTEM

**Load-Date:** June 22, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Column: PolitiFact Throws Its 200TH 'Pants On Fire' Tag at Donald Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D0G-PJR1-F03R-N4CD-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Tim Graham

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Kamala Harris consented to a puffball panel discussion with the National Association of Black Journalists on September 17, and it was announced that **PolitiFact** would engage in live '**fact checking**.' Their Twitter feed then displayed 14 **checks** on Kamala'**s** answers. The first one was labeled 'False,' and all of the rest of them were 'True,' 'Accurate,' or basically okey-dokey.

On September 11, **PolitiFact** hit a new milestone in leftist aggression. Donald Trump was thumped with a 'Pants on Fire' tag for the 200thtime with 'they're eating the pets' in Springfield, Ohio. He'**s** been tagged with flaming pants 12 times since June 1.

Kamala Harris, by contrast, has zero. She was first **elected** statewide in California in 2010. Your two candidates this year, not exactly 'neck and neck' at 200 to nothing.

Now compare this to national politicians since **PolitiFact** came on the scene in 2007. Joe Biden has seven 'Pants On Fire' ratings, and only one as president. Barack Obama has nine, Hillary Clinton has nine, Bill Clinton has three, and Bernie Sanders has a perfect zero like Kamala.

Even Republicans don't have anything like Trump'**s** 200. George W. Bush has zero, John McCain had eight, Ted Cruz has 11, Newt Gingrich has 12, and surprisingly, Mitt Romney has 19 - and 18 of those came in 2011 and 2012, when he challenged Obama for the White House. Their weirdest Romney 'Pants on Fire' came when he said "We're only inches away from no longer being a free economy." You can argue we didn't have a free market back under Obama in 2012.

[Bryan White at PolitiFactBias.com says this harsh flaming rating 'counts as substantially if not wholly subjective.' That'**s** not to say that some lies aren't whoppers. It'**s** when they emotionally hate something that'**s** not as bad as they claim it is.](https://www.politifactbias.com/2024/04/and-farcical-pants-on-fire-for-donald-j.html)

In April, White singled out a 'Pants on Fire' for Trump claiming he 'did much better' in the Wisconsin **election** in 2020 than 2016, and 'after the wrongdoing was found, people said, 'Well, he actually did win.'' The second half is false: he narrowly lost Wisconsin.

But the first half is mathematically true: Trump'**s** vote count in 2020 was 1,610,184 in Wisconsin, and it was 1,405,284 votes in the state in 2016. So he had more votes. He 'did better.' Except that he won the state in 2016, and lost it in 2020. This sounds like a 'Half True,' not a 'Pants On Fire.'

On September 4, Trump was rated as 'Pants on Fire' for calling Kamala Harris a 'communist.' It'**s** like CNN host Kasie Hunt noting during the Democrat convention, 'she doesn't identify as a communist.'

Now flip that to the other party. Many Democrats and leftists have called Trump a 'fascist.' Search **PolitiFact** for a harsh rating on that, and you won't find it. What you will find is a 'Half True' rating on former Secretary of State Madeline Albright comparing Trump'**s** 'drain the swamp' rhetoric to fascist Benito Mussolini.

When President Biden compared Republicans to Jim Crow segregationists over their voting-integrity legislation, **PolitiFact** argued the subject was too complicated for a rating. They claimed: 'Some historians say Biden'**s** rhetorical point was justified as a way of highlighting the dangers of backsliding from hard-won voting rights.'

These dramatic double standards on '**facts**' underlines why so many voters don't trust '**fact** checkers.' Trump has 1,051 **fact checks**, and 805 of them are 'Mostly False' or worse - 76.6 percent wrong. Bernie Sanders has 176 **fact checks**, and 44 were on the false side - 25 percent. Bernie can call Trump a 'fascist' and he'**s** all good.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/09/18/column-politifact-throws-its-200th-pants-fire-tag-donald-trump)

**Notes**

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**End of Document**

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1. [PolitiFact, USA Today Rate Trump, Biden 100 And 44 Percent False Respectively](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CC2-CN61-F03R-N50H-00000-00&context=1001073)

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June 28th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52045243203325817000191) )

After Thursday'**s** debate between Presidents Donald Trump and Joe Biden, the **fact**-checkers at **PolitiFact** and USA Today gave their recaps of both men'**s** most controversial claims. On the statements the two Facebook partners examined, Trump was rated false 100 percent of the time, while Biden was rated false only 44 percent of the time.

**PolitiFact** **fact-checked** Trump 16 total times, giving him a 'mostly false' rating three times, a 'false' rating on 12 occasions, and one additional 'pants on fire' rating.

Some of **PolitiFact**'**s** evidence was quite puzzling. For instance, in the portion dealing with Trump attacking Democrats' radical abortion stance, Trump mentioned Democrats support abortion 'in the eighth month, in the ninth month,' which **PolitiFact** responded to by claiming, 'Many of these Democrats have also said they support abortions past this point [24 weeks] if the treating physician deems it necessary.'

**PolitiFact** didn't mention it, but [some states (Alaska, Oregon, New Mexico, Colorado, Minnesota, Michigan, Maryland, New Jersey, Vermont, plus D.C.) also have no limits on abortion, and yet Trump was still slapped with a 'false' rating.](https://abcnews.go.com/US/state-state-breakdown-abortion-laws-2-years-after/story?id=111312220)

As for Biden, **PolitiFact** gave him five 'mostly true," three 'half true,' one 'mostly false,' and two 'false' claims.

**PolitiFact** punted on Biden bringing up the Charlottesville 'fine people' controversy, despite [**Snopes** labeling it false. **PolitiFact** also declined to issue rulings on 'suckers and losers' and Trump'**s** claim that Biden is capable of hitting a golf ball 50 yards.](https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/trump-very-fine-people/)

Over at USA Today, not all of the ratings got a neat 'true' or 'false' label, but a close reading of the list reveals that Trump was given nine false ratings while Biden was given one true, three false, and one mostly false.

Trump'**s** nine falsehoods do not include him mistakenly referring to his corporate tax cut as a cut from 39 to 21 percent when it was from 35 to 21. USA Today punted on whether Biden'**s** executive orders have caused a 40 percent decrease in illegal border crossings, whether Trump has ever praised Hitler or had sex with a porn star.

All told, **PolitiFact** and USA Today rated Trump false 25 times, while rating Biden false only seven. They gave Trump no true ratings, while giving Biden six. There were also three middle ground 'half trues' for Biden and none for Trump. And it is not as if Trump did not have true statements. Trump argued NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg praising him, which he did, on [CNN no less. He also correctly recalled how former intelligence officials incorrectly claimed Hunter Biden'**s** laptop was Russian disinformation, but the **fact**-checkers couldn't be bothered to include those claims.](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/01/31/cnn-tries-get-nato-chief-denounce-trump-he-praises-him-instead)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/alex-christy/2024/06/28/politifact-usa-today-rate-trump-biden-100-and-44-percent-false)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** ABORTION (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (89%); EXECUTIVE ORDERS (78%); ABORTION REGULATION & POLICY (74%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (64%); ADULT FILMS (60%); INTELLIGENCE SERVICES (60%); PORNOGRAPHY (60%); SEX WORKERS (60%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (58%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (58%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (58%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (58%); ABORTION REGULATION & POLICY (74%); ADULT FILMS (60%); PORNOGRAPHY (60%); SEX WORKERS (60%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (90%); DONALD TRUMP (79%); HUNTER BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** COLORADO, USA (79%); MICHIGAN, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%)

**Load-Date:** June 28, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Factchecking of Sunak's misleading tax claim shows broadcasters taking a new approach to impartiality](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C6K-6W81-DXP7-10MG-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Conversation - United Kingdom

June 7, 2024 Friday 1:54 PM EST

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**Length:** 1008 words

**Byline:** Stephen Cushion, Chair Professor, Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Culture, Cardiff University

**Highlight:** Broadcasters can struggle to report impartially when they have to single out one party for making dubious claims.

**Body**

In the first televised general **election** debate, Rishi Sunak claimed more than [ten times](https://theconversation.com/how-sunak-came-up-with-disputed-labour-tax-figures-and-whats-wrong-with-them-231839) that a future Labour government would cost households £2,000 more in tax. It took some time for Keir Starmer to rebut the attack, allowing the idea to fester for almost an hour among [5 million](https://www.itv.com/news/2024-06-04/sunak-v-starmer-the-key-takeaways-from-itvs-head-to-head-debate) prime time television viewers.

Senior Conservative politicians [repeated](https://x.com/BBCBreakfast/status/1798248157769564178) the claim and said these figures were generated independently by the civil service. But Treasury officials [wrote in a letter](https://x.com/hzeffman/status/1798252445321343456) to Labour that the figures had not been calculated independently, and that it had warned the government about making this misleading claim.

Three days after the debate, the claim had unravelled further. The **UK**'**s** statistics watchdog [warned the Conservatives](https://www.theguardian.com/politics/article/2024/jun/06/uk-watchdog-warns-tories-over-pms-2000-tax-rise-claim) that they had not made it clear the £2,000 claim related to a four-year period. But Sunak [defended](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/articles/cyrredd71z0o) the claim and pushed back against Starmer'**s** accusations that he had deliberately lied.

Campaigns are a constant stream of claims, counterclaims, accusations and mudslinging, which do not always turn out to be true. To make sense of what parties claim, [most people](https://www.wiley.com/en-gb/Reporting+Elections%3A+Rethinking+the+Logic+of+Campaign+Coverage-p-9781509517503) turn to the media - and particularly to broadcasters, who are legally required in the **UK** to be impartial in their coverage.

**Read more: How Sunak came up with disputed Labour tax figures - and what's wrong with them**

But broadcasters can find it difficult to report impartially when they have to single out one party for making dubious claims during an intense **election** campaign.

The BBC is long renowned for being a politically cautious broadcaster. But its political editor, Chris Mason, adopted an assertive [approach to impartiality](https://x.com/BBCSounds/status/1798607214925815945) when reporting the £2,000 tax claim. In the BBC'**s** [Electioncast](https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/play/p0j2fjc4) podcast, he acknowledged it was difficult to balance being impartial while questioning the claim'**s** credibility.

Mason also cast considerable doubt on the claim during the BBC News at Ten, explaining to viewers that he saw it as "misleading" and "dubious". Not only that, the News at Ten drew on the **factchecking** service BBC Verify to break down the figures. In a two-minute studio piece, it identified where Conservative political advisors had influenced the calculations of the figures.

While this may appear standard journalistic practice, it is something of a watershed moment in how the BBC has interpreted impartiality over recent decades. My [research](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1461670X.2023.2169190) with colleagues at the Cardiff School of Journalism, Media and Culture has historically shown that the BBC'**s** **factchecking** service has not prominently featured in broadcast programming.

**Read more: Rishi Sunak and Keir Starmer's first election debate: the facts behind the claims**

We have been monitoring BBC News at Ten since the start of 2024. While Verify is occasionally drawn on to **factcheck** international stories (notably in the Middle East), before the **election** campaign it had only been used [once](https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-68370060) in domestic political coverage - after the **UK** government announced its budget in March.

Other broadcasters have **factchecked** the £2,000 tax claim too. A reporter in an ITV News bulletin [labelled](https://x.com/itvnews/status/1798453612521062509) it "just not true", while forensically going through the figures. Typically one of the most tenacious broadcasters, Channel Four'**s** coverage was more circumspect, questioning the claim with evidence but without explicitly labelling it false.

**Are audiences convinced?**

Despite the robust way some broadcasters dealt with the disputed calculations about Labour'**s** plans, the misleading £2,000 number has stuck with some viewers.

A [poll](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/general-election-sunak-labour-tax-rise-starmer-2000-b2558065.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter) two days after the debate found that a majority either thought the claim was accurate, or did not know if it was true or false. This suggests broadcasters could be even more explicit in telling any confused voters that the figures were misleading and not independently produced.

Our [research](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/17512786.2022.2097118) with news audiences has shown they would welcome journalists calling out false and misleading political claims.

But calling out one party'**s** claim and not another can be challenging for impartial broadcasters. Ahead of the EU referendum in 2016, many broadcasters [did not](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0267323117695736) regularly challenge the leave campaign'**s** bogus claim that the **UK** spent £350 million per week on EU membership. This is despite the **fact** that independent bodies, including the statistics watchdog, considered it [highly misleading](https://fullfact.org/europe/350-million-week-boris-johnson-statistics-authority-misuse/).

Since broadcasters did not repeatedly challenge this figure, it perhaps explains why a [poll](https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/migrations/en-uk/files/Assets/Docs/Polls/pm-16-june-2016-charts.pdf) found almost half the population believed it just days before they cast their EU referendum vote.

**Want more election coverage from The Conversation's academic experts? Over the coming weeks, we'll bring you informed analysis of developments in the campaign and we'll fact check the claims being made.**

**Sign up for our new, weekly election newsletter, delivered every Friday throughout the campaign and beyond.**

Our [research](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/0267323117695736) of the **UK**'**s** flagship evening TV news bulletins during the ten-week EU referendum campaign revealed they balanced the competing leave and remain perspectives, but did not regularly challenge claims and counter-claims. Impartiality was constructed as balancing perspectives, rather than independently assessing campaign claims on both sides of the political debate.

During past **election** campaigns, we have also found that broadcasters have adopted a "he said, she said" style of reporting. This might lead to political balance, but not robust scrutiny.

We have [examined](https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1461670X.2023.2173956) almost a thousand journalistic interactions with claims made by the four main party leaders during the 2019 **UK** and 2020 US **elections**. While BBC reporters often challenged the claims of US politicians, they typically reported the competing positions of **UK** politicians without evaluating or calling out any dubious political perspectives.

The events of the last few days suggest that broadcasters may finally be ready to rigorously contest questionable party claims. But as more misleading or dubious figures are bandied about ahead of **election** day, they will need to continue **factchecking** parties to ensure voters are properly informed.

**Stephen Cushion has received funding from the BBC Trust, Ofcom, AHRC, BA and ESRC.**

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); NEGATIVE PERSONAL NEWS (90%); POLITICAL DEBATES (90%); CONSERVATISM (89%); JOURNALISM (89%); **UK** GENERAL **ELECTIONS** (89%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (78%); NEWS REPORTING (78%); POLITICS (78%); TREASURY DEPARTMENTS (78%); GOVERNMENT ADVISORS & MINISTERS (73%)

**Industry:** BROADCASTING INDUSTRY (89%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (79%); TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (79%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (78%); NEWS REPORTING (78%); TREASURY DEPARTMENTS (78%); BUDGETS (77%); MEDIA & TELECOMMUNICATIONS (74%); MEDIA CONTENT (74%); PRIMETIME TELEVISION (73%); PODCASTING (50%)

**Person:** RISHI SUNAK (92%)

**Geographic:** CARDIFF, WALES (79%); UNITED KINGDOM (94%); MIDDLE EAST (79%)

**Load-Date:** June 7, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Trump repeatedly lied at his CNN town hall. His biggest claims, factchecked](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:686P-02J1-DY4H-K3J7-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Guardian (London)

May 11, 2023 Thursday 1:29 AM GMT

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**Section:** US NEWS; Version:5

**Length:** 871 words

**Byline:** Sam Levin and staff

**Highlight:** The ex-president made false claims about the 2020 **election**, January 6, his sexual abuse trial and more

**Body**

Donald Trump consistently spread falsehoods, lies and misinformation throughout his town hall hosted by CNN on Wednesday night in front of a crowd of mostly Republican voters in New Hampshire. The former president made false and misleading claims about the 2020 **election**, the January 6 insurrection, immigration, his border wall, abortion, his sexual abuse trial, the investigation into his handling of classified documents and other subjects.

The host, Kaitlan Collins, attempted to interject and **fact-check** his claims in real time, though many falsehoods went unchecked as Trump followed his long history of touting baseless conspiracy theories amid his mounting legal troubles.

Here are the Guardian’**s** **fact-checks** of some of Trump’**s** statements.

Claim: Trump started off the night falsely claiming that “millions” of votes were stolen in the 2020 race, and that the **election** was rigged.

**Fact** **check**: There’**s** no evidence of widespread fraud, and **election** officials across the US, including Republican leaders, have repeatedly reaffirmed this over the last two years.

The Trump campaign’**s** own efforts to show that thousands of ballots cast under the names of deceased people in Georgia came up empty, with findings that contradicted the former president’**s** claims, a [recent report revealed](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/mar/17/trump-research-voter-fraud-claims-debunked). There is [no evidence](https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/10/us/politics/voting-fraud.html) in any state of fraud or irregularities that affected any **election** outcomes.

Claim: Trump asserted without evidence that other countries are sending migrants from “mental institutions” into the US.

**Fact** **check**: The former president has repeatedly made this claim, but there is no evidence to support it. Trump’**s** campaign has been unable to produce evidence of this, CNN recently [reported](https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/29/politics/fact-check-trump-mental-institutions-migrants-doctor/index.html). Anti-immigration groups have also said they are unaware of what Trump may be referencing with these remarks. CNN did a “broad search” for any evidence of this story and came up empty.

Trump also said the US was suffering from “open borders” in his initial remarks on immigration. On the contrary, Joe Biden has [maintained many of the policies of the Trump administration](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/05/08/us/politics/biden-trump-immigration-title-42.html) , angering [immigrant rights groups](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/commentisfree/2023/feb/23/joe-biden-immigration-policy-trump). The Biden administration also recently announced it was [sending](https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2023/may/02/biden-sends-troops-to-mexico-border-title-42) 1,500 active-duty troops to the US-Mexico border.

Claim: Trump misleadingly suggested that the judge in the sexual abuse and defamation trial brought by writer E Jean Carroll had prevented him from producing evidence.

**Factcheck**: Trump has repeatedly made false claims that he was “not allowed to speak or defend” himself. But Trump did not call any witnesses, nor did he make an appearance during the two-week trial, except when excerpts of a video deposition from last year were played in the courtroom.

The judge, Lewis A Kaplan, whom the former president has repeatedly attacked, told Trump’**s** legal team that he could [file a request to testify](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/trump-lawsuit-e-jean-carroll-trump-will-not-testify-rape-defemation/) , but he chose not to. The jury found that the former president sexually abused Carroll, meaning he subjected her to sexual contact with the use of force and without her consent, and ordered him to pay $5m in damages.

Claim: Donald Trump falsely claimed that pro-choice Democrats want to “kill the baby” after they are born, an assertion that went unchecked in the CNN town hall. The former president also suggested abortion rights groups want doctors to be able to “execute” babies.

**Factcheck**: This false and inflammatory claim was a [common refrain](https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/28/us/politics/trump-abortion-fact-check.html) of the former president during the last **election** and has no basis in **fact**.

Claim: Donald Trump, who as president faced widespread outrage for separating families at the US southern border, defended the policy, saying it ha d a deterrent effect: “People don’t come.”

**Factcheck**: There is no clear evidence suggesting that harsh policies such as family separation deter asylum seekers from coming to the US. A 2017 pilot program of family separation was [followed by an increase](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/05/31/does-separating-families-at-the-border-discourage-immigration-heres-what-the-research-says/) of families entering the US at the border. A 2018 [analysis found](https://www.americanprogress.org/article/family-separation-detention-deter-immigration/) that the policy was not having the intended effect.

Immigrant rights groups note that policies like detaining children or separating them from their families do not discourage people from coming, and can instead lead to more dangerous journeys.

Claim: Questioned about the continuing criminal investigation into **election** interference in Georgia, Donald Trump misrepresented a phone call with the state’**s** top **election** official, falsely claiming, “I didn’t ask him to find anything.”

**Factcheck**: A recording of the phone call to Georgia’**s** secretary of state, Brad Raffensperger, revealed that Trump had said: “I just want to find 11,780 votes.” The former president said in the town hall that he called to “question” the **election**. But the recording suggested that he clearly pressured the official to overturn the **election** results in his favor.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** WEBGNS

**Subject:** DISINFORMATION & MISINFORMATION (92%); **FACT CHECKING** (92%); FALSE STATEMENTS (91%); ABUSE & NEGLECT (90%); FRAUD & FINANCIAL CRIME (90%); INVESTIGATIONS (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); IMMIGRATION (89%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (89%); JUDGES (89%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (89%); SEX OFFENSES (89%); 2021 US CAPITOL RIOTS (78%); BORDER CONTROL (78%); CONSPIRACY (78%); DAMAGES (78%); DEPOSITIONS (78%); **ELECTION** CRIME (78%); **ELECTION** FRAUD (78%); **ELECTIONS** (78%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); JURY TRIALS (78%); LAW & LEGAL SYSTEM (78%); LIBEL & SLANDER (78%); PUBLIC OFFICIALS (78%); VERDICTS (78%); WITNESSES (78%); TERRITORIAL & NATIONAL BORDERS (77%); CONSPIRACY THEORY (73%); DEFAMATION (73%); **ELECTION** WORKERS (73%); LAW COURTS & TRIBUNALS (65%); WRITERS (62%)

**Industry:** WRITERS (62%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (89%); JOE BIDEN (89%)

**Geographic:** NEW HAMPSHIRE, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (94%); MEXICO (79%)

**Load-Date:** May 11, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Records: Joe's war story is a tall tale](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BV3-3M81-JC3R-B007-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Philadelphia Daily News

April 19, 2024 Friday

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**Section:** MAIN NEWS; Pg. X4

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Alfred Lubrano (Staff Writer)

**Body**

In remarks Wednesday in Scranton and Pittsburgh, President Joe Biden said his uncle was shot down during WWII over a region of New Guinea where cannibals had lived, an account not borne out by military records.

At the time, Biden had been honoring his uncle'**s** memory while upbraiding former President Donald Trump for calling fallen veterans "suckers and losers."

Biden said Second Lt. Ambrose J. Finnegan Jr., known as "Uncle Bosie," flew single-engine planes in reconnaissance flights over New Guinea for the Army Air Corps, established before the Air Force.

"He got shot down in an area where there were a lot of cannibals in New Guinea at the time," Biden said. "They never recovered his body."

According to a personnel profile report from the Pentagon'**s** Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, the plane had not been shot down and cannibals were not mentioned.

What the report said was that on May 14, 1944, Ambrose was a passenger on an A-20 Havoc plane with a crew of three making a courier flight to an airfield in New Guinea.

Both of the plane'**s** engines failed at low altitude,"and the aircraft'**s** nose hit the water hard," according to the report. Two crew members as well as Finnegan were lost in the crash, while one crew member survived. There was no trace of the missing aircraft or the lost crew members.

"President Biden is proud of his uncle'**s** service in uniform," White House spokesperson Andrew Bates said Thursday. "The president highlighted his uncle'**s** story as he made the case for honoring our 'sacred commitment ... to equip those we send to war and take care of them and their families when they come home.'"

Chris Nicholas, a Republican political consultant based in Harrisburg, said he found it "hard to understand why Team Biden would want him talking about that specific incident in his long-dead relative'**s** past. He must know he'**s** under constant watch because of his age. He has so many other stories to tell."

Biden has misspoken before about an uncle in the military.

During a town hall event in New Castle, Del., in December 2022, Biden recounted a story about trying to award his uncle, Frank Biden, a Purple Heart for service in WWII, according to **PolitiFact**, a **fact-checking** website.

Biden said that he attempted to give his uncle, now dead, the honor in 2008, while he was vice president, but that his uncle refused the medal out of respect for comrades who had died. Biden was **elected** vice president in 2008, but didn't take office until 2009. And **FactCheck**.**org** reports that Frank Biden died in 1999.

Upon investigation, **PolitiFact** reported, "It'**s** possible that such an event occurred under different circumstances while Biden was serving in the **U.S**. Senate, but **PolitiFact** found no evidence to corroborate the claim as described by Biden. We rate Biden'**s** claim False."

Biden has spoken in the past about his family'**s** military service, including that of his elder son, Beau, who died in 2015 of brain cancer, which Biden has said was linked to exposure to burn pits during his son'**s** Iraq deployment.

During his remarks Wednesday, Biden referred to Trump and said, "That man doesn't deserve to have been the commander in chief for my son, my uncle."

Biden'**s** reference to Trump'**s** use of pejoratives to describe war dead relates to a 2020 Atlantic article in which the former president was quoted as having called American war dead in a French cemetery "losers." He also referred to 1,800 Marines as "suckers" for getting killed in battle.

This article contains material from the Associated Press.

Staff writer Julia Terruso contributed to this article.

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AlfredLubrano

215-854-4969

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** PHDN

**Subject:** AIR FORCES (90%); ARMED FORCES (90%); WORLD WAR II (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (89%); SHOOTINGS (89%); ARMIES (78%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); MILITARY AWARDS & DECORATIONS (78%); POWS & MIAS (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (78%); INVESTIGATIONS (73%); DEATH & DYING (68%)

**Organization:**  US AIR FORCE (57%)

**Industry:** AIR FORCES (90%); AIRCRAFT (90%); ARMED FORCES (90%); ARMIES (78%); MILITARY AWARDS & DECORATIONS (78%); AIRPORTS (75%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (89%); DONALD TRUMP (78%)

**Geographic:** PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA (73%); DELAWARE, USA (73%)

**Load-Date:** April 19, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact Check: Trump Claims Patients From 'Insane Asylums' Emptied Into U.S.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68H8-V6J1-DY68-10CG-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

June 20, 2023 Tuesday 11:14 AM EST

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**Length:** 724 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** Former President Donald Trump used his interview with Fox News' Bret Baier to make the astonishing migrant claim.

**Body**

Donald Trump on Monday fielded questions from [Fox News](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fox-news?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)' Bret Baier, who confronted the former president on the classified document scandals, falsehoods about winning the 2020 **election**, and relationships with former staff.

Trump, who is seeking another White House term in 2024, joined Baier for a one-on-one interview during which he was grilled about the [Department of Justice](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/department-justice?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) (DOJ) investigation into whether he mishandled classified documents after leaving office in 2021.

In an opening salvo, as he set ahead his policy agenda on immigration, Trump made a claim about the population heading across the southern border, saying that among them were patients from "insane asylums."

The Claim

In his interview with Bret Baier on Fox News, broadcast on Monday, July 19, 2023, [Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) said: "I'd close up the border because we can't have prisoners and people from mental institutions coming into our country.

"They're emptying out from all over the world, not just from the three or four countries we talk about, the neighboring countries, all over the world, they're coming into our country at levels we've never seen before, Bret, and we have to stop it.

"And they are emptying out their prisons, and they're emptying out their mental institutions and insane asylums into the **U.S**., and we're not a dumping ground."

The **Facts**

Donald Trump is well-known for sweeping generalizations of migrants, having previously claimed that ["criminals," including "rapists and murderers and drug dealers,"](https://www.newsweek.com/trump-says-rapists-murderers-crossing-border-calls-biden-not-visiting-disgraceful-1598228?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) were taking advantage of the "totally open" border.

It appears he returned to characterizations with his "insane asylum" claim, which has repeatedly been debunked.

[CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2023/04/29/politics/fact-check-trump-mental-institutions-migrants-doctor/index.html)and [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/03/factchecking-trumps-rally-fox-interview/) both recently published **fact checks** about claims that unnamed countries were emptying "insane asylums" and "mental institutions." Both were unable to find any evidence to support Trump'**s** claim.

CNN said that Trump'**s** campaign was unable to provide any evidence showing that South American mental facilities had been emptied or featured any first-hand testimony from mental health facility staff. Requests it made to the Center for Immigration Studies and the Federation for American Immigration Reform did not mention these, either.

While a Trump spokesperson mentioned a report about the 1980 Mariel boatlift, in which a small percentage of people involved included mental health patients, it does not fit Trump'**s** description of "emptying...insane asylum" nor is it in recent terms as he described it.

Trump does not mention any specific country but talks about "emptying...insane asylums" in support of tightening controls on the border.

*Newsweek* was unable to find reports of in-patient mental health facilities that had been "emptied" in South American nations recently, nor any evidence that tracked migration journeys of former mental health institution patients into the **U.S**.

A lack of thorough data on the mental health of migrants entering the **U.S**. does not help to support Trump'**s** argument. Although mental health can influence a decision to deny entry, this is not what Trump spoke about.

Trump'**s** interview quickly became a trending topic on social media, [where numerous legal scholars criticized him over the interview](https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-bret-baier-interview-legal-experts-react-1807744?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), including his response to an [audio recording](https://www.newsweek.com/donald-trump-audio-tape-classified-documents-litman-1803851?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) in which he allegedly admitted to having a classified document prepared by the [**U.S**. military](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/u.s.-military?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships).

"Mr. Trump'**s** lawyers had to be cringing during that interview, and DOJ lawyers were no doubt taking notes," Bradley Moss, a national security attorney, told *Newsweek*. "Mr. Trump confessed to personally going through the boxes and had no explanation for why classified records from those boxes wound up in his personal desk. He placed himself at the scene of the retention and obstruction. This is the stuff of nightmares for a defense attorney."

*Newsweek* has reached out to a Trump representative via email for comment.

The Ruling

**False.**

The claim that people from "insane asylums" are being emptied from facilities and are migrating to the **U.S**. was presented without evidence.

Multiple investigations into Trump'**s** claim did not find any supporting data or testimony to back his claim. *Newsweek* was also unable to find any recent stories about the emptying of in-patient mental health institutions that would support even the baseline premise of Trump'**s** argument.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2248570/donald-trump.jpg)

**Graphic**

Donald Trump

ED JONES/AFP via Getty Images

Former US President Donald Trump arrives to deliver remarks at Trump National Golf Club Bedminster in Bedminster, New Jersey, on June 13, 2023. In an interview on Fox News this week, Trump claimed that other countries were "emptying" its "insane asylums" into the **U.S**.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** INTERVIEWS (91%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); INVESTIGATIONS (90%); JUSTICE DEPARTMENTS (90%); POLITICAL ASYLUM (90%); IMMIGRATION (89%); LAW ENFORCEMENT (89%); NEGATIVE MISC NEWS (89%); NEGATIVE NEWS (89%); MENTAL HEALTH (88%); IMMIGRATION REGULATION & POLICY (78%); MENTAL ILLNESS (77%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (77%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (76%); IMMIGRATION REFORM (73%); PRISONERS (73%); CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES CRIME (71%); BORDER CONTROL (70%); IMMIGRATION LAW (70%); **Fact Check** (%)

**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (93%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (93%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (93%); PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS (90%); RESIDENTIAL CARE (90%); TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (89%); TELEVISION NEWS SHOWS (78%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (92%); SOUTH AMERICA (91%)

**Load-Date:** June 20, 2023

**End of Document**

LexisNexis®

1. [Fact Check: Did Joe Biden Bring Down National Debt by $1.7 Trillion?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:686J-BRJ1-JBR6-926R-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

May 10, 2023 Wednesday 1:55 PM EST

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**Length:** 701 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** President Joe Biden'**s** clash with House Republicans over the debt ceiling could lead to a default.

**Body**

A tense standoff between the White House and House Republicans on increasing the debt ceiling persists, with fears the **U.S**. may default on its debt in only a few weeks' time unless an agreement is reached.

With the debt totaling over $31.5 trillion, many members of the GOP-dominated House of Representatives argue that raising the debt ceiling without budget cuts [would be irresponsible.](https://www.newsweek.com/debt-ceiling-how-bad-might-things-get-will-congress-raise-it-1779556?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

Amid this, claims have appeared on social media suggesting that President [Joe Biden](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-biden?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) laid claim to reducing the national debt.

The Claim

[A tweet](https://twitter.com/RNCResearch/status/1656067362423029763?s=20) by RNC Research, posted on May 9, 2023 and viewed 300,000 times, stated that President Joe Biden had lied about reducing the national debt by $1.7 trillion.

The tweet stated: "BIDEN: 'In my first two years, I reduced the debt by $1.7 trillion.'

"That'**s** a complete lie. Biden has not decreased the $31+ trillion national debt."

A video of Biden was attached to the tweet, in which he said: "I might note parenthetically: In my first two years, I reduced the debt by $1.7 trillion. No President has ever done that."

The **Facts**

The bill House [Republicans](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republicans?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) passed last month on a party-line vote would raise the debt ceiling but also slash federal spending, including cuts to some of Biden'**s** health and climate programs.

Amid the partisan standoff, a growing number of senators from both parties have also been discussing the possibility of Biden invoking a clause in the 14th Amendment that some legal scholars say allows the president to [raise the debt ceiling without congressional approval.](https://www.newsweek.com/calls-grow-joe-biden-invoke-constitution-raise-debt-ceiling-1798199?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

The national debt has increased by around $3.5 trillion under the Biden administration, as [data from Statista shows](https://www.statista.com/statistics/273294/public-debt-of-the-united-states-by-month/), currently standing at $31.46 trillion. Year-on-year the debt has never decreased since 1957, according to [Treasury data.](https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/datasets/historical-debt-outstanding/historical-debt-outstanding)

The $1.7 trillion figure, in **fact**, refers to a reduction in the national deficit between fiscal years 2020 to 2022.

Some have questioned how far Biden should take credit for this; as noted by **PolitiFact**, while the deficit has decreased under Biden, most of that was because of [expiring emergency pandemic spending.](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2022/jul/28/janet-yellen/white-houses-big-deficit-cut-and-why-it-merits-ast/)

The $1.7 trillion debt claim has been previously debunked by a number of media outlets including [CNN](https://edition.cnn.com/2023/02/17/politics/biden-economy-facts-first/index.html)and [**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/02/factchecking-the-state-of-the-union-4/).

That alone would make the president'**s** claim false. However, RNC Research (managed by the Republican National Committee) only highlights one part of the clip from the White House press conference.

Shortly after, Biden went on to attribute the $1.7 trillion figure to the deficit, [a figure corroborated by Treasury reporting.](https://fiscaldata.treasury.gov/americas-finance-guide/national-deficit/#:~:text=A%20deficit%20occurs%20when%20the,resulting%20in%20a%20national%20deficit.)

"As I said, I've already cut the deficit by $1.7 trillion in my first two years in office," he said.

Although not strictly a correction of what he said before (more of an alteration), and certainly confusing, RNC Research did not include this part of the speech.

A spokesman for RNC Research said: "Those are Biden'**s** words not ours," pointing to other [instances](https://twitter.com/RNCResearch/status/1630667081359171602)where the president [conflated debt and deficit](https://twitter.com/RNCResearch/status/1625946850996981773), and also questioning how far Biden should be credited with his $1.7 trillion deficit claim.

The spokesman added: "If Biden doesn't want to be called a liar, perhaps he should start telling the truth."

In this context, it doesn't appear that the president is knowingly pursuing a falsehood, more that he misquotes and then corrects himself at a later point. Without this context, however, it makes it appear that he is repeating a mistruth.

Clearly, with national debt the center of **U.S**. public conversation, it would have been at the very least unwise for him to make such an easily refutable claim, let alone one which he has incorrectly made before.

*Newsweek* has contacted the White House for comment.

The Ruling

**Misleading material.**

The Biden administration has not reduced the national debt by $1.7 trillion. It has increased by about $3.5 trillion during Biden'**s** term in office. The national debt has not decreased year-on-year since the late 1950s.

The $1.7 trillion figure refers to a reduction in the deficit realized between fiscal year 2020 and 2022.

However, the clip shared on Twitter which highlighted this claim omitted a correction of sorts shortly after, where Biden said the $1.7 trillion reduction was from the deficit, not the debt.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2233058/joe-biden-debt-ceiling.jpg)

**Graphic**

Joe Biden debt ceiling

Anna Moneymaker/Getty Images

President Joe Biden delivers remarks on the debt ceiling at the White House on May 09, 2023 in Washington, DC. A clip circulated on Twitter appeared to show Biden say he had reduced the debt by $1.7 trillion.

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Subject:** DEBT CEILING (93%); NATIONAL DEBT (91%); **FACT CHECKING** (90%); POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); PUBLIC DEBT (90%); US CONGRESS (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (90%); AGREEMENTS (89%); LEGISLATIVE BODIES (89%); TREASURY DEPARTMENTS (86%); GOVERNMENT & PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION (79%); PARTISANSHIP (79%); US FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (78%); US POLITICAL PARTIES (78%); PUBLIC FINANCE (77%); APPROVALS (76%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (76%); POLITICS (74%); PRESS CONFERENCES (71%); SOCIAL MEDIA (71%); **Fact Check** (%)

**Company:**  NATIONAL LATEX PRODUCTS CO (90%); NATIONAL SUPER SERVICE CO (90%)

**Industry:** SIC3069 FABRICATED RUBBER PRODUCTS, NEC (90%); NAICS333310 COMMERCIAL AND SERVICE INDUSTRY MACHINERY MANUFACTURING (90%); SIC3589 SERVICE INDUSTRY MACHINERY, NEC (90%); TREASURY DEPARTMENTS (86%); BUDGET DEFICITS (78%); BUDGETS (78%); GOVERNMENT BUDGETS (76%); BUDGET CUTS (71%); SOCIAL MEDIA (71%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (93%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** May 10, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [EDITORIAL: Dig into discovering the truth this election cycle](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BJ5-V6X1-JBTP-M0Y5-00000-00&context=1001073)

Austin Daily Herald, Minn.

March 12, 2024 Tuesday

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Distributed by Tribune Content Agency

**Section:** COMMENTARY

**Length:** 567 words

**Byline:** Austin Daily Herald, Minn.

**Body**

Mar. 12—For better or worse, we are now into another campaign season.

The political landscape has not been dulled since the last presidential **election** between President Joe Biden and Donald Trump and it'**s** not likely to get any better as voters should be prepared for even more inflamed rhetoric that will inevitably be fanned further as we get closer to November.

While the divides of this country are deeply creviced into the ideological landscape, they will be strained more by truth that society seems more than comfortable with bending in order to support their side, whichever that might be.

While truth has been a stretchable entity throughout the history of American politics, in the last 10 years it has been tested like never before and voters need to be prepared for this.

Through social media and some fringe news outlets, the truth will be subject to a battery of falsehoods and fake news and that landscape is being further marred by the use of AI in creating false images and false narratives.

Part of being a voter isn't just the right or privilege in being a voice for the direction of the country. It comes with responsibility and that responsibility involves being able to take it upon yourself to question what is truth and what is false.

That also requires the need to go outside the convenient and familiar sounding boxes of our own ideas. The hurdle isn't the ideas themselves, because people will always have ideas on how they want to see the direction of their country'**s** progress. That'**s** healthy and that'**s** needed.

The public needs this voice, however, the hurdle is identifying the truths in determining these visions.

We have no problems in saying that X (formerly known as Twitter), Facebook and other social media outlets are not the answers. There are answers to be sure, but they are far from credible answers because they are sounding boards and they are platforms that make it easy for people to find the exact opinions that back up their own ideas. At the same time, it'**s** far too easy to ignore those ideas you don't like. This is how a one-way mode of thinking is formed.

Truth is necessary, truth is desirable and so we urge you this **election** season to do your own research through credible sources and become that responsible, informed voter we all need to be.

There will be untruths among the Democrats, there will be untruths among Republicans and there will be everything else in between. If you have questions about something, dig into it, find the roots and examine the information from within. To help with this, we have included some sites for you to go to in order to double **check** what you are hearing. These are established sites, though not the only ones, that have reputations for providing background information to what we are hearing.

—Polifact: [www.**politifact**.com](http://www.politifact.com)/

—**FactCheck**.**org**: [www.**factcheck**.**org**](http://www.factcheck.org)/

—**Snopes**: [www.**snopes**.com](http://www.snopes.com)/

Also, we invite you to visit: <https://library.csi.cuny.edu/misinformation>. It has a comprehensive breakdown on helping to determine what is real or fake across the internet.

**Elections** aren't only about the candidates, they are as much about you as well. Take the time to truly understand what'**s** happening in the world around you and society will be all the better for it.

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**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** 1AU

**Acc-No:** 20240312-1AU-EDITORIAL-Dig-into-discovering-truth-this-electio-0312

**Subject:** EDITORIALS & OPINIONS (99%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** (90%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (90%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (90%); VOTERS & VOTING (90%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (88%); REPORTS, REVIEWS & SECTIONS (79%); POLITICS (78%); FAKE NEWS (77%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (77%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (74%); SOCIAL MEDIA (73%); FRINGE MEDIA (68%)

**Company:**  META PLATFORMS INC (53%)

**Ticker:** META (NASDAQ) (53%)

**Industry:** NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (53%); SIC7374 COMPUTER PROCESSING & DATA PREPARATION & PROCESSING SERVICES (53%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (88%); SOCIAL MEDIA (73%); FRINGE MEDIA (68%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (91%); DONALD TRUMP (79%)

**Geographic:** MINNESOTA, USA (93%); UNITED STATES (79%)

**Load-Date:** March 13, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Records show Biden wrong on uncle shot down in WWII](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BV3-3M81-JC3R-B014-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Philadelphia Inquirer

April 19, 2024 Friday

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**Section:** MAIN NEWS; Pg. A11

**Length:** 608 words

**Byline:** Alfred Lubrano (Staff Writer)

**Body**

In remarks Wednesday in Scranton and Pittsburgh, President Joe Biden said his uncle was shot down during WWII over a region of New Guinea where cannibals had lived, an account not borne out by military records.

At the time, Biden had been honoring his uncle'**s** memory while upbraiding former President Donald Trump for calling fallen veterans "suckers and losers."

Biden said Second Lt. Ambrose J. Finnegan Jr., known as "Uncle Bosie," flew single-engine planes in reconnaissance flights over New Guinea for the Army Air Corps, established before the Air Force.

"He got shot down in an area where there were a lot of cannibals in New Guinea at the time," Biden said. "They never recovered his body."

According to a personnel profile report from the Pentagon'**s** Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, the plane had not been shot down and cannibals were not mentioned.

What the report said was that on May 14, 1944, Ambrose was a passenger on an A-20 Havoc plane with a crew of three making a courier flight to an airfield in New Guinea.

Both of the plane'**s** engines failed at low altitude,"and the aircraft'**s** nose hit the water hard," according to the report. Two crew members as well as Finnegan were lost in the crash, while one crew member survived. There was no trace of the missing aircraft or the lost crew members.

"President Biden is proud of his uncle'**s** service in uniform," White House spokesperson Andrew Bates said Thursday. "The president highlighted his uncle'**s** story as he made the case for honoring our 'sacred commitment ... to equip those we send to war and take care of them and their families when they come home.'"

Chris Nicholas, a Republican political consultant based in Harrisburg, said he found it "hard to understand why Team Biden would want him talking about that specific incident in his long-dead relative'**s** past. He must know he'**s** under constant watch because of his age. He has so many other stories to tell."

Biden has misspoken before about an uncle in the military.

During a town hall event in New Castle, Del., in December 2022, Biden recounted a story about trying to award his uncle, Frank Biden, a Purple Heart for service in WWII, according to **PolitiFact**, a **fact-checking** website.

Biden said that he attempted to give his uncle, now dead, the honor in 2008, while he was vice president, but that his uncle refused the medal out of respect for comrades who had died. Biden was **elected** vice president in 2008, but didn't take office until 2009. And **FactCheck**.**org** reports that Frank Biden died in 1999.

Upon investigation, **PolitiFact** reported, "It'**s** possible that such an event occurred under different circumstances while Biden was serving in the **U.S**. Senate, but **PolitiFact** found no evidence to corroborate the claim as described by Biden. We rate Biden'**s** claim False."

Biden has spoken in the past about his family'**s** military service, including that of his elder son, Beau, who died in 2015 of brain cancer, which Biden has said was linked to exposure to burn pits during his son'**s** Iraq deployment.

During his remarks Wednesday, Biden referred to Trump and said, "That man doesn't deserve to have been the commander in chief for my son, my uncle."

Biden'**s** reference to Trump'**s** use of pejoratives to describe war dead relates to a 2020 Atlantic article in which the former president was quoted as having called American war dead in a French cemetery "losers." He also referred to 1,800 Marines as "suckers" for getting killed in battle.

This article contains material from the Associated Press.

Staff writer Julia Terruso contributed to this article.

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AlfredLubrano

215-854-4969

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

**Publication-Type:** Newspaper

**Journal Code:** PHQP

**Subject:** AIR FORCES (90%); ARMED FORCES (90%); WORLD WAR II (90%); **FACT CHECKING** (89%); NATIONAL SECURITY & FOREIGN RELATIONS (89%); SHOOTINGS (89%); ARMIES (78%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (78%); MILITARY AWARDS & DECORATIONS (78%); POWS & MIAS (78%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (78%); INVESTIGATIONS (73%); DEATH & DYING (68%)

**Organization:**  US AIR FORCE (57%)

**Industry:** AIR FORCES (90%); AIRCRAFT (90%); ARMED FORCES (90%); ARMIES (78%); MILITARY AWARDS & DECORATIONS (78%); AIRPORTS (75%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (89%); DONALD TRUMP (78%)

**Geographic:** PHILADELPHIA, PA, USA (73%); DELAWARE, USA (73%)

**Load-Date:** April 19, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [BUSTED: Guess How Deep in Search Google Buried US-Based 'Lean Right' News on 2024 Election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D39-M701-JCMN-Y1S1-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

October 1, 2024 Tuesday 6:30 PM EST

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**Length:** 818 words

**Byline:** Tom Olohan

**Body**

October 1st, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52866182306825201500225) )

Google is at it again, forcing users to dig through 13 pages of search results before finally finding a story by Fox News in one search, and 14 pages before finding a story by theNew York Postin another. These two results were the first **U.S**.-based right-of-center publications in two separate searches using the leftist search platform. Is Google living up to former President Donald Trump'**s** accusations of **election** interference?

Using the media list provided by [AllSidesthat classifies publications based on their 'right' to 'left' bias, MRC researchers found that tech giant Google blanketed search results for 'kamala harris presidential race 2024' and 'donald trump presidential race 2024' with leftist, legacy media sources like CNN,The New York Times, NBC News andPolitico. On Oct. 1, MRC researchers did not find any **U.S**.-based 'lean-right' media outlets until Fox News appeared as the fifth result on the13th pageof Google search results for the aforementioned Harris search prompt. Likewise, Google buried the first **U.S**.-based 'lean right' result for the aforementioned Trump prompt as the third result on the 14th page, as Google featured an article by theNew York Post.](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart)

This overt leftist bias is especially concerning considering that according to a November 2023 Pew Research [survey, a rising number of American adults receive their news from search. The study found that 15 percent of **U.S**. adults prefer to get their news from search engines which is up from 13 percent in 2022 and 11 percent in 2021.](https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/fact-sheet/news-platform-fact-sheet/)

Equally concerning, the Google search results are not only filled with radical leftist websites such asVoxandAl Jazeera, but also include publications owned and supported by wealthy Democrats. Billionaire and Amazon owner Jeff Bezos also ownsThe Washington Post. SalesForce CEO and [longtime Harris donorMarc Benioff ownsTimemagazine. **FactCheck**.**org**-a](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/tom-olohan/2024/09/16/harris-donors-time-magazine-hides-inconvenient-fact-after) [memberof the](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/factcheckorg) [George Soros-fundedPoynter Institute'**s** International **Fact-Checking** Network-appeared before any **U.S**.-based sources on the right, as determined by AllSides.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/business/tom-olohan/2023/04/21/dan-bongino-excoriates-fact-checkers-connection-leftist)

Google did display a **U**.K.-based 'lean right' website earlier in its results. However, the search giant even buried the **U**.K.-based outlet The Telegraph on the 10th page of the Harris prompt search results and on the seventh page of the Trump prompt search results.

An earlier MRC study showed extraordinary bias in Google search results, revealing that the search engine had forced users trying to find the Trump campaign'**s** website to wade through a [gauntletof leftist articles before reaching it. Following the MRC study, Trump](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/gabriela-pariseau/2024/09/25/google-same-tricks-search-giant-pushes-wildly-biased) [condemnedGoogle'**s** behavior in a post on Truth Social, vowing legal action in a potential second administration. Google, on the other hand, absurdly tried to](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/tom-olohan/2024/09/27/cnbc-misses-mark-trump-blasts-google-bias-exposed-media) [dismissthe study.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/luis-cornelio/2024/09/30/hey-google-19-mrc-studies-show-googles-recent-bias-wasnt)

Now MRC has caught them again, but Google has a long record of bias and **election** interference dating back to 2008.

Before Google began making users run the gauntlet of negative coverage to see the Trump campaign'**s** website, the search engine frequently buried the former president so far down that it did not appear on the first page of results. Google did this [duringthe Republican National Convention and ahead of the July](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/gabriela-pariseau/2024/07/17/google-buries-trump-campaign-website-even-thick) [presidential debatebetween Trump and Biden. Google also did this while Trump was in the news due to a guilty verdict following Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg'**s**](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/michael-morris-gabriela-pariseau/2024/06/26/google-it-again-platform-still) [politicized prosecutionof him.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/gabriela-pariseau/2024/06/04/google-buries-trump-campaign-website-after-bombshell)

This is just one of a myriad of ways that Google has interfered in American **elections** on behalf of its favored candidates. In **fact**, Google [meddledin American **elections** no fewer than 41 times from 2008 to 2024, including by burying 83 percent of the Republican campaign websites for the most competitive](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/gabriela-pariseau-dan-schneider/2024/03/18/41-times-google-has-interfered-us) [Senate racesof 2022.](https://mrcfreespeechamerica.org/blogs/free-speech/gabriela-pariseau/2022/10/25/google-caught-manipulating-search-buries-gop)

Methodology

For this report, MRC Free Speech America analyzed the Oct. 1 Google search results of the innocuous words 'donald trump presidential race 2024' and 'kamala harris presidential race 2024.' MRC Free Speech America utilized a VPN and private window utilizing the Brave privacy browser to analyze Google search results to limit the influence of prior search history and tracking cookies. MRC Free Speech America also utilized the AllSides [media bias chartas a gauge to determine which outlets are 'right' and 'lean right.' AllSides](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart) [notesit has a 'patent on rating bias and use[**s**]](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart) [multiple methodologies,' not a homogenous group or an algorithm. '](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-rating-methods) [Our methods are:](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/bias-verification) [Blind Bias Surveysof Americans,](https://www.allsides.com/blind-bias-survey) [Editorial Reviewsby a multipartisan team of panelists who look for common](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-rating-methods/editorial-reviews) [types of media bias, independent reviews, and third party data.'](https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/how-to-spot-types-of-media-bias)

Readers should be aware that this report only uses the AllSides list to analyze ratings of outlets considered by AllSides to be 'right' and 'lean right' and does not necessarily reflect MRC'**s** characterizations of these outlets.

Editor'**s** Note:Assistant Editor Gabriela Pariseau contributed to this report.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/free-speech/tom-olohan/2024/10/01/busted-guess-how-deep-search-google-buried-us-based-lean)

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**Company:**  FOX ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC (94%); GOOGLE LLC (92%); NBC UNIVERSAL INC (83%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (94%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (94%); NAICS519290 WEB SEARCH PORTALS AND ALL OTHER INFORMATION SERVICES (92%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (89%); SEARCH ENGINES (89%); BIG TECH (78%); WEBSITES (78%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (73%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (90%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); JEFFREY P BEZOS (55%); GEORGE SOROS (50%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%); UNITED KINGDOM (66%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [PBS News Relished Debate's Dubious Fact Checks on 'Defensive' Trump](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CYD-VD31-F03R-N1RX-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Clay Waters

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September 13th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52707782265025210700230) )

The PBS News Hour relished the presidential debate between Vice-President Kamala Harris and former president Donald Trump, who they believe was **fact-checked** into oblivion and who succumbed to Harris'**s** baiting tactics.Co-anchor Geoff Bennett loved that 'the former president was repeatedly **fact-checked** for inaccuracies' by ABC News'**s** hopelessly hostile moderators, before throwing the story to PBS'**s** Harris campaign reporter/cheerleader Laura Barron-Lopez. After relaying the Trump-Harris debate'**s** back and forth over the economy and Harris'**s** closeness to Biden, PBS ran clips of Harris having successfully 'baited Trump' over what the reporter called Trump'**s** 'fondness of dictators' and crowd size at his rallies.Barron-Lopez: For much of the night, Trump was on defense, not answering whether he'd sign or veto a national abortion ban.That'**s** not true. Harris claimed Trump would sign a national ban, and Trump said: "Well, there she goes again. It'**s** a lie. I'm not signing a ban.

And there'**s** no reason to sign a ban."She portrayed Trump as on defense two more times in similar fashion, with the help of ABC moderators Linsey and Muir, regarding Ukraine and January 6. Meanwhile, Harris was merely expanding her appeal to 'undecided voters.'When PBS did eventually address the obvious bias of ABC'**s** moderator duo of David Muir and Linsey Davis, it was to make Republicans' justified complaints look desperate.Barron-Lopez: Trump and Republicans were quick to attack the moderators for **fact-checking** him in real time, including on abortion.Trump: Her vice-presidential pick says abortion in the ninth month is absolutely fine. He also says execution after birth. It'**s** execution, no longer abortion, because the baby is born.Moderator Linsey Davis: There is no state in this country where it is legal to kill a baby after it'**s** born.Gov. Tim Walz'**s** state of Minnesota is extreme, allowing abortions at any stage of pregnancy.Barron-Lopez: And on a debunked conspiracy theory about Haitian immigrants in an Ohio town eating pets, one that'**s** been peddled by far-right activist and 9/11 truther Laura Loomer, who traveled with Trump to the debate.No one likes a 9/11 Truther, and neither should Trump. Loomer is being called one based on an old Twitter post in which she forwarded another user'**s** gross video about 9-11 being an 'inside job.'But a Nexis search suggests PBS never mentioned Democratic Rep. Jamaal Bowman touting his very own 9-11 conspiracies (and a truly ghastly poem meditating upon them) on his personal blog, which he maintained up to 2014. If being a Truther is bad for a Republican gadfly, surely it'**s** bad for an actual **elected** Democrat.Barron-Lopez: Katie Sanders of **PolitiFact** defended the moderators.(PBS News Hour has partnered with Sanders and her left-leaning **PolitiFact** for the 2024 campaign, with predictable results.)Katie Sanders, Editor in Chief, **PolitiFact**: When a candidate is lobbying conspiracy theories, that'**s** kind of a softball for a moderator, and it'**s** particularly glaring if you don't address that.Barron-Lopez: She said Harris was not immune from critique for leaving out finer details, but it was Trump who required more immediate **fact-checking**.Sanders: I think one candidate, former President Trump, was repeating conspiracy theories that are pretty well-known to be false at this point and so it'**s** almost easier to call those out in real time.Anchor Geoff Bennett seemed pleased with how the campaign was going for Harris, post-debate.Bennett: So, Laura, the Harris campaign feels good about how last night went both in terms of Harris' performance and the degree to which Donald Trump lost his composure multiple times last night. How does the debate in their view help her position in this campaign moving forward?Barron-Lopez: Well, the campaign feels as though it helps her immensely, that essentially the momentum she has had since she jumped into the race, they feel as though it'**s** only going to be furthered by the debate. And that'**s** what a lot of Democrats that I spoke to said. They feel as though it'**s** totally different than how they felt after that June debate between President Biden and Donald Trump..In another segment Wednesday about accusations that recent Haitian immigrants are eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, PBS reporter William Brangham tracked down show favorite and hard-left academic extremist-hunter Cynthia Miller-Idriss, who understood the assignment:Cynthia Miller-Idriss, American University: There'**s** always been this idea of a threat from the other, from immigrants, from people of color to the nation, to white families, to civilization itself, right? This idea that there'**s** some terrible threat coming that has to be defended against, and then, as evidence of that.It demonizes and it dehumanizes.Miller-Idriss once linkedgoing to the gym with far-right extremism, which sounds extreme in itself.This segment was brought to you in part by Consumer Cellular.A transcript is available, click "Expand."PBS News Hour9/11/247:03:03 p.m. (ET)Amna Nawaz: Tens of millions of Americans tuned into last night'**s** consequential presidential debate between Vice President Kamala Harris and former President Donald Trump.Geoff Bennett: The contentious debate may be the only face off of the campaign season. Vice President Harris tried to walk a fine line between being both an incumbent and a change candidate all while fending off attacks from Donald Trump. And the former president was repeatedly **fact-checked** for inaccuracies. Laura Barron-Lopez reports.Kamala Harris, Vice President of the United States (D) and **U.S**. Presidential Candidate: Kamala Harris.Donald Trump, Former President of the United States (R) and Current **U.S**. Presidential Candidate: Nice to see you. Have fun.Laura Barron-Lopez: The night began cordially before the gloves came off.Kamala Harris: World leaders are laughing at Donald Trump. I have talked with military leaders, some of whom worked with you, and they say you're a disgrace.Donald Trump: She got zero votes, and when she ran, she was the first one to leave because she failed.Laura Barron-Lopez: It was their first face-to-face meeting, and their first head-to-head clash on the issues, like on the economy.Kamala Harris: I have a plan, $6,000 for young families for the first year of your child'**s** life to help you in that most critical stage of your child'**s** development. I have a plan.Donald Trump: She copied Biden'**s** plan, and it'**s** like four sentences, like run, Spot, run. Four sentences that are just, oh, we will try and lower taxes.Laura Barron-Lopez: The former president tried to link Harris to President Biden.Donald Trump: She is Biden. She'**s** trying to get away from Biden. I don't know the gentleman she says. She is Biden.Kamala Harris: Clearly, I am not Joe Biden, and I am certainly not Donald Trump.Laura Barron-Lopez: And Harris, a former prosecutor, repeatedly baited Trump.Kamala Harris: They're so clear they can manipulate you with flattery and favors.Laura Barron-Lopez: From highlighting his fondness of dictators to needling Trump about the crowd size at his rallies.Kamala Harris: I'm going to invite you to attend one of Donald Trump'**s** rallies, because it'**s** a really interesting thing to watch. You will see during the course of his rallies, he talks about fictional characters like Hannibal Lecter. He will talk about windmills cause cancer.And what you will also notice is that people start leaving his rallies early out of exhaustion and boredom.Donald Trump: People don't leave my rallies. We have the biggest rallies, the most incredible rallies in the history of politics. That'**s** because people want to take their country back.Laura Barron-Lopez: For much of the night, Trump was on defense, not answering whether he'd sign or veto a national abortion ban.Linsey Davis, ABC News Live "Prime" Anchor: If I could just get a yes or no, because you're running mate, J.D. Vance, has said that you would veto if you did come to your desk.Donald Trump: Well, I didn't discuss it with J.D., in all fairness. Look, we don't have to discuss it.Laura Barron-Lopez: Refusing to say if he thought defending Ukraine against Russia was in America'**s** national security interests.David Muir, "World News Tonight" Anchor and Managing Editor: I want to ask you a very simple question tonight. Do you want Ukraine to win this war?Donald Trump Former President of the United States and Presidential Nominee: I want the war to stop. I want to save lives that are being uselessly - people being killed by the millions. It'**s** the millions.David Muir: Just to clarify in the question, do you believe it'**s** in the **U.S**. best interests for Ukraine to win this war, yes or no?Donald Trump: I think it'**s** the **U.S**. best interests to get this war finished and just get it done.Laura Barron-Lopez: And taking no responsibility for his role in the January 6 attack on the Capitol.David Muir: Is there anything you regret about what you did on that day, yes or no?Donald Trump: I had nothing to do with that, other than they asked me to make a speech.Laura Barron-Lopez: Vice President Harris used that moment to appeal to undecided voters.Kamala Harris: It'**s** time to turn the page. And if that was a bridge too far for you, well, there is a place in our campaign for you to stand for country, to stand for our democracy, to stand for rule of law, and to end the chaos.Laura Barron-Lopez: Moments after the debate ended, Harris picked up a superstar endorsement, Taylor Swift. And in a rare move for a presidential candidate, Trump went to the spin room afterward.Over the last 24 hours, in multiple FOX News interviews, Trump questioned whether he'd do another debate, and said ABC should lose its license.Donald Trump: It was three to one. It was a rigged deal, as I assumed it would be. I think ABC took a big hit last night. I mean, to be honest, they're a news organization. They have to be licensed to do it. They ought to take away their license for the way they did that.Laura Barron-Lopez: Trump and Republicans were quick to attack the moderators for **fact-checking** him in real time, including on abortion.Donald Trump: Her vice presidential pick says abortion in the ninth month is absolutely fine. He also says execution after birth. It'**s** execution, no longer abortion, because the baby is born.Linsey Davis: There is no state in this country where it is legal to kill a baby after it'**s** born.Laura Barron-Lopez: And on a debunked conspiracy theory about Haitian immigrants in an Ohio town eating pets, one that'**s** been peddled by far right activist and 9/11 truther Laura Loomer, who traveled with Trump to the debate.Donald Trump: In Springfield, they're eating the dogs, the people that came in. They're eating the cats. They're eating - they're eating the pets of the people that live there.David Muir: ABC News did reach out to the city manager there. He told us there had been no credible reports of specific claims of pets being harmed, injured or abused by individuals within the immigrant community.Donald Trump: Well, I have seen people on television.David Muir: Let me just sayLaura Barron-Lopez: Katie Sanders of **PolitiFact** defended the moderators.Katie Sanders, Editor in Chief, **PolitiFact**: When a candidate is lobbying conspiracy theories, that'**s** kind of a softball for a moderator, and it'**s** particularly glaring if you don't address that.Laura Barron-Lopez: She said Harris was not immune from critique for leaving out finer details, but it was Trump who required more immediate **fact-checking**.Katie Sanders: I think one candidate, former President Trump, was repeating conspiracy theories that are pretty well-known to be false at this point and so it'**s** almost easier to call those out in real time.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/09/13/pbs-news-relished-debates-dubious-fact-checks-defensive-trump)

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**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (78%); ABORTION REGULATION & POLICY (72%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%); TIMOTHY J WALZ (78%); JAMAAL BOWMAN (71%)

**Geographic:** MINNESOTA, USA (79%); UKRAINE (73%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [Buckle Up! Soros Makes 'Scary' Purchase Ahead of 2024 Election](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BBP-77D1-F03R-N3F3-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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<?xml encoding="UTF-8"?????>

Leftist billionaire George Soros has reportedly acquired a massive stake in America'**s** second-largest radio company, igniting concerns about potential influence ahead of the 2024 **election**.

Soros Fund Management purchased $400 million of bankrupt radio company Audacy'**s** debt or about a 40% stake in the company, the New York Post reporters Josh Kosman and Ariel Zilber [unveiled](https://nypost.com/2024/02/14/business/george-soros-poised-to-control-audacy/) on Wednesday. According to the Post, citing bankruptcy filings, Audacy is 'the No. 2 US radio broadcaster behind iHeartMedia with stations including New York'**s** WFAN and 1010 WINS, as well as Los Angeles-based KROQ.' Notably, Audacy features or streams at least 16 powerful 50,000-watt radio stations, which means that their coverage is especially widespread.

The Soros purchase may implicate the following 50,000-watt [radio stations](https://www.audacy.com/live-radio) , as described by RadioStation.info: [WVEE Atlanta](https://radiostation.info/fm/georgia/WVEE/) , [WZRH New Orleans](https://radiostation.info/fm/louisiana/WZRH/) , [WFUN St. Louis](https://radiostation.info/fm/missouri/WFUN-FM/) , [1010 WINS New York](https://radiostation.info/am/new-york/WINS/) , [1020 KDKA Pittsburgh](https://radiostation.info/am/pennsylvania/KDKA/) , [830 WCCO Minneapolis](https://radiostation.info/am/minnesota/WCCO/) , [KCBS 740 San Francisco](https://radiostation.info/am/california/KCBS/) , [WWL New Orleans](https://radiostation.info/fm/louisiana/WWL-FM/) , [KYW Philadelphia](https://radiostation.info/am/pennsylvania/KYW/) , [1120 KMOX St. Louis](https://radiostation.info/am/missouri/KMOX/) , [KNX News Los Angeles](https://radiostation.info/am/california/KNX/) , [WCBS New York](https://radiostation.info/am/new-york/WCBS/) , [Talk Radio 1210 WPHT Philadelphia](https://radiostation.info/am/pennsylvania/WPHT/) , [92-9 The Game Atlanta](https://radiostation.info/fm/georgia/WZGC/) , [105.3 The Fan Dallas](https://radiostation.info/fm/texas/KRLD-FM/) and [670 The Score Chicago](https://radiostation.info/am/illinois/WSCR/) . Additionally, Audacy has a [deal](https://radioink.com/2024/01/05/cbs-news-radio-and-audacy-to-extend-relationship/#:~:text=CBS%20News%20Radio%20and%20Audacy%20have%20reached%20a%20new%2C%20multi,and%20San%20Francisco's%20KCBS%2DAM.) with CBS News Radio that greatly expands Audacy'**s** reach.

A source described the Soros purchase as 'scary' in statements to the Post. 'One insider close to the situation, noting that he was a Republican, said he believed it was possible Soros was buying the stake to exert influence on public opinion in the months leading up to the 2024 presidential **election**,' the Post reported.

Soros'**s** reported purchase is only the leftist billionaire'**s** latest media venture. As previously reported by [MRC Business](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/business/joseph-vazquez/2023/01/31/george-soros-propaganda-powerhouse) , Soros 'gave $131,111,250 to journalism and media organizations around the globe' to push leftist positions on a range of issues between 2016 and 2020 alone.

Soros has also donated massive amounts of money to the International **Fact-Checking** Network, which coordinates with a vast network of **fact**-checkers, including [The Associated Press](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/ap-fact-check) , [**FactCheck**.**org**](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/factcheckorg) , [The Dispatch](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/the-dispatch) , [The Washington Post](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/the-washington-post-fact-checker) and [**PolitiFact**](https://ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/profile/politifact) . Specifically, Soros gave [$492,000](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/business/tom-olohan/2023/04/21/dan-bongino-excoriates-fact-checkers-connection-leftist) to the IFCN between 2017 and 2019.

Beyond this, Soros has ties to 34 legacy and leftist media personalities, detailed extensively in a Media Research Center [report](https://cdn.mrc.org/static/pdfuploads/PropagandaPowerhouse_FullReport_FINAL_LINKED.pdf-1674854430630.pdf) 'George Soros: Propaganda Powerhouse.'

Conservatives are under attack! Contact ABC News (818) 460-7477, CBS News (212) 975-3247 and NBC News (212) 664-6192 and demand they report on Soros' ties to American and global media.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/business/tom-olohan/2024/02/16/buckle-soros-makes-scary-purchase-ahead-2024-election)

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**Company:**  NBC UNIVERSAL INC (82%); ASSOCIATED PRESS (52%); GRAHAM HOLDINGS CO (51%)

**Ticker:** GHC (NYSE) (51%)

**Industry:** NAICS516120 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (82%); SIC4833 TELEVISION BROADCASTING STATIONS (82%); SIC7383 NEWS SYNDICATES (52%); NAICS516210 MEDIA STREAMING DIST SVCS, SOCIAL NETWORKS, AND OTHER MEDIA NETWORKS AND CONTENT PROVIDERS (51%); RADIO BROADCAST INDUSTRY (93%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); LIBERAL MEDIA (78%); BROADCASTING INDUSTRY (77%); MEDIA & TELECOMMUNICATIONS (77%); PRESS AGENCY RELEASES (73%); RADIO FORMATS (66%)

**Person:** GEORGE SOROS (89%)

**Geographic:** LOS ANGELES, CA, USA (88%); NEW YORK, USA (93%); CALIFORNIA, USA (79%); UNITED STATES (92%)

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1. ['YIKES on Every Level': PolitiFact Founder Urges More Social-Media Suppression for 2024](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:69XB-FF91-JCMN-Y27D-00000-00&context=1001073)

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**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

December 20th, 2023 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) — Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=lexisnexis&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-170310697842725876100158) )

Bill Adair, a founder of **PolitiFact**, has a new piece at [Nieman Lab](https://www.niemanlab.org/2023/12/fact-checking-needs-a-reboot/)  on predictions for 2024. He complained that "**fact-checking** is failing," that the old standard of posting your **fact checks** on a website isn't working. The old standard of "informing democracy" isn't working, and he'**s** upset that "it'**s** pretty clear from the research that Republicans  [distrust political **fact-checking**](https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2019/06/27/republicans-far-more-likely-than-democrats-to-say-fact-checkers-tend-to-favor-one-side/) ."

But the problem isn't correcting their obvious tilt, it'**s** that their suppression isn't energetic enough. The conservatives are not converted! Former New York Times political analyst Nate Silver threw a "Yikes on every level" at this article!

**Fact**-checkers ought to "think more like marketers", abandon the goal of merely "informing democracy" and work with social media companies to "suppress misinformation"? Yikes on every level. This doesn't sound like journalism. <https://t.co/K7EHP2uNxt> [pic.twitter.com/qYjb3tyZBN](https://t.co/qYjb3tyZBN)

— Nate Silver (@NateSilver538) [December 19, 2023](https://twitter.com/NateSilver538/status/1737114119642517719?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

In response to a reply asking how there could be more marketing for **fact**-checkers, Silver also tweeted "IDK how they go from acknowledging that people trust **fact checking** less and less to being like 'yes we need to triple down on everything we've been doing for the past 8 years'."

Adair wrote:

In the coming year, I predict (okay, I  hope) that **fact**-checkers will reassess their goals and reimagine how they publish their work. It'**s** time to get rid of our old approach and 2024, an **election** year, is an ideal time.

After I founded **PolitiFact** in 2007, I often said that our goal wasn't to change people'**s** minds or get politicians to stop lying — it was simply to inform democracy. In the last few years, I've changed my mind. 'Informing democracy' is not enough in an age of rampant lies about **elections** and public health and climate. **Fact**-checkers need to be more assertive in getting truthful information to the audience that needs it.

In 2024, they will dream up new ways of getting the **facts** to the people who need them. **Fact**-checkers will be bold and think more like marketers trying to push content rather than publishers waiting for the audience to come to a website. They will experiment with new forms that target the people who are misinformed and push the content directly to them.

Another way they will innovate: They'll get tech companies and social media platforms to expand the use of **fact-checking** data to suppress misinformation.

Adair boasted his team at Duke "helped develop [ClaimReview,](https://www.claimreviewproject.com/) a tagging system used by most of the world'**s** **fact**-checkers. Tech companies such as Google use it to identify **fact-checks** and highlight them in search results and news summaries." He also touted  [MediaReview](https://www.claimreviewproject.com/mediareview/home) as "a sibling tagging system for **fact-checks** of videos and images, can be used more widely to suppress inaccurate content."

As usual, it can be constructive to call attention to manipulated video or flatly misleading content. But the "checkers" have a nasty ideological tendency to find "misinformation" in any argument they don't like, or on issues that might be damaging to Democrats.

It'**s** perfectly clear that Adair deeply believes they need to "change people'**s** minds" to accept the liberal media narrative. Only then will "misinformation" be defeated.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2023/12/20/yikes-every-level-politifact-founder-urges-more-social-media)

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1. [Fact Check: Does CCTV Show 2020 Ballot Stuffing in Georgia?](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:69J9-69N1-JBR6-902X-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newsweek.com

November 3, 2023 Friday 2:09 PM EST

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**Length:** 1185 words

**Byline:** Tom Norton

**Highlight:** A Connecticut judge'**s** decision to re-run an **election** in Bridgeport has led to refueling of Trump'**s** 2020 claims.

**Body**

A Connecticut judge'**s** decision to redo a local primary **election** contest, citing videos showing possible ballot stuffing, has renewed claims about the 2020 presidential **election**.

Connecticut Superior Court Judge William Clark rejected results from a Democratic mayoral primary in Bridgeport, the state'**s** largest city, saying he had seen evidence to order a rerun, even though the general **election** is in four days, the Associated Press reported.

In the wake of the decision, conservative commentators began responding with what they said was evidence of ballot stuffing in the 2020 White House race.

Former President [Donald Trump](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) is facing 13 charges in Georgia for his alleged efforts to overturn his **election** loss in the state to [Joe Biden](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-biden?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships). He and his co-defendants face racketeering charges. Trump, who has claimed that Fulton County District Attorney [Fani Willis](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/fani-willis?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)' case is politically motivated, maintains his innocence.

The Claim

A post by conservative commentator End Wokeness on X, formerly [Twitter](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), posted on November 2, 2023, viewed 8.1 million times, said that at an **election** night count in Georgia in 2020, "suitcases of ballots" were pulled out from under a table and run through "machines for hours unsupervised."

"A judge in Connecticut just overturned an **election** over a video showing 2 people stuffing ballot boxes," the post read.

"Trump was arrested in Georgia for trying to make this happen in 2020.

"This is a video from Georgia in 2020 after poll watchers were forced out over a mysterious 'water pipe burst.'

"They literally pulled suitcases of ballots from under the table and ran them through the machines for hours unsupervised."

The **Facts**

The Bridgeport **election** story has attracted conservative theorizing across social media, with X owner and [Tesla](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/tesla?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) CEO [Elon Musk](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/elon-musk?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) joining the discussion.

On Thursday, Musk reposted a story about Bridgeport, adding: "That this happened here is beyond reasonable doubt. The only question is how common it is."

However, the post by End Wokeness about stuffing ballots in Georgia is based on falsehoods that Trump has shared before, linking events that happened hours apart.

On November 5, 2020, Trump alleged that a count at Georgia'**s** State Farm Arena stopped "for four hours" after a "pipe burst," alleging "a lot of things happened" during that time.

During a leaked call to Georgia Secretary of State [Brad Raffensperger](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/brad-raffensperger?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), Trump added it was a "major water main break" and that no poll watchers came back afterward.

Georgia Secretary of State'**s** Office Voting Systems Manager Gabriel Sterling, a Republican, has repeatedly addressed the claims about a leak, saying at a press conference on January 4, 2021, that it was discovered at about 5.23 a.m. November 3, 2020, at State Farm Arena.

It briefly delayed the processing of Fulton County absentee ballots but was resolved within two hours. While it was initially described as a pipe burst, it was later found to be a urinal leak.

Frances Watson, chief investigator for the Georgia Secretary of State, said in an affidavit that the counting of votes was not affected.

The affidavit said: "The Secretary of State'**s** Office opened an investigation into the incident at State Farm Arena. Our investigation revealed that the incident initially reported as a water leak late in the evening of November 3rd was actually a urinal that had overflowed early in the morning of November 3rd, and did not affect the counting of votes by Fulton County later that evening."

The footage posted by End Wokeness was recorded nearly 14 hours after the leak, many hours after it was resolved.

As for the suitcases, multiple **fact-checking** debunks, including from [**FactCheck**.**org**,](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/12/video-doesnt-show-suitcases-of-illegal-ballots-in-georgia/) [AP](https://apnews.com/article/fact-check-trump-indictment-fulton-suitcases-pipe-654281257169) and [**PolitiFact**](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2021/jan/04/donald-trump/trump-rehashes-debunked-claim-about-suitcases-ball/), found that these were ballot containers on wheels. This was also stated by Gabriel Sterling during his press conference on January 4, 2021.

The claim by End Wokeness that workers were forced out is also wrong. At the press conference, Sterling said that the video showed two groups of people at State Farm Arena: cutters, who open stack and prepare ballots for scanning, and scanners.

In the video, the cutters began putting away their equipment as Sterling said everyone had been under the impression that everyone would be going home. Later, however, scanners were asked to stay and continue working.

Watson corroborated this account in her affidavit, saying that "observers and media were not asked to leave. They simply left on their own when they saw one group of workers, whose job was only to open envelopes and who had completed that task, also leave."

The affidavit also said that "review of the entire security footage revealed that there were no mystery ballots that were brought in from an unknown location and hidden under tables."

"Video taken hours before shows the table being brought into the room...at 8.22 a.m.," Watson said. "Nothing was underneath the table them [sic].

"Around 10 p.m., with the room full of people, including official monitors and the media, video shows ballots that had already been opened but not counted placed in the boxes, sealed up, stored under the table.

"This was done because employees thought they were done for the night and were closing up and ready to leave."

"When the counting continued into later in the night, those boxes were opened so that the ballots inside could then be counted."

While observers were not present during some of the scanning, this is not a requirement under Georgia Code § 21-2-408 regarding poll watchers. As stated by the United States **Election** Assistance Commission, each state has its own laws on when and where observers can be present.

As stated by Fulton County **Elections** Director Richard Barron in an interview with AP, an **election** board monitor arrived to oversee the scanning at 11:52 p.m. and a state investigator arrived at 12:15 a.m., both remaining there until the count concluded. Sterling also mentioned the arrival of the monitor and the investigator in his press conference.

In short, a water leak at State Farm Arena on **Election** Day was not linked to events in a video of ballot workers, a video that did not depict workers being told to leave, nor did it depict workers surreptitiously counting or "stuffing" ballots.

The Ruling

**False.**

While there was a water leak at a facility where absentee ballots were counted in Georgia in 2020, it happened nearly 14 hours before the video footage of **election** staff working at that facility was recorded.

The footage of the staff leaving does not show them being asked to leave, nor does it show staff taking "suitcases" of ballots, scanning them unsupervised. It shows a group of staff packing up and leaving for the evening before another group, tasked with scanning ballots, returned to continue scanning ballots at the request of **election** officials.

The "suitcases" were ballot containers on wheels. They were not secret ballots, either; they were opened but uncounted from the same day.

Georgia state law does not require the scanners to be observed. However, scanners called back later were nonetheless joined by a monitor and state investigator after returning to work.

**FACT CHECK BY Newsweek's Fact Check team**

[Link to Image](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2304313/georgia-election-ballot-stuffing.jpg)

**Graphic**

Georgia **election** ballot stuffing

Megan Varner/Getty Images

An **election** worker processes absentee ballots at State Farm Arena on November 2, 2020 in Atlanta, Georgia. A recent decision in Connecticut to overturn a mayoral primary result over ballot stuffing concerns, has led to a reignition of mistruths around the 2020 **election**.

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**End of Document**

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1. [Attention! Biden and Trump use misleading economic data to win your vote](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:696W-0M61-DYY9-04FH-00000-00&context=1001073)

CE Noticias Financieras English

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**Length:** 861 words

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/Biden-Trump-scaled.jpg?fit=1024%2C516&ssl=1)

If you only have a few seconds, read these lines about the misleading data on the economy offered by both Joe Biden and Donald Trump, in the open:

* Aware that voters' perceptions of inflation, unemployment and wages impact the vote, Democrats and Republicans take to social media with outdated or unsubstantiated data.

1. Those who surf TikTok find influencers repeating that we are living through a great economic depression and, on the other hand, others celebrating a speech in which Biden assures that the percentage of people working today is the highest in history.
2. In reviewing the inflation and employment numbers, we see that the data in both policy positions are not 100% correct.

**By: Cristina Tardáguila, elDetector, Factchequeado's allied media.**

Economic data and voters' perception of economic well-being are vital ingredients for the outcome of an **election**.

At **election** time, **fact**-checkers know to pay special attention to what is being said about the economy: and the campaigning for 2024 has already begun in the United States.

On August 16, a video went viral on the Rumble platform in which former President Donald Trump, the Republican Party'**s** pre-candidate for the 2024 presidential **election**, claims that any positive data US voters see about the country'**s** economy is the result of what his administration did before Biden took the White House.

In the recording, titled "President Trump will rescue Americans from the economic catastrophe of corrupt Joe Biden", the former president assures that "inflation has reached the highest level in half a century".

On August 29, perhaps in response to Trump, President Biden, who is seeking re-**election** for the Democratic Party, declared in a speech the opposite: "Inflation is now down to about 3%, the lowest rate among the world'**s** major economies".

Interested in knowing the truth, the voter is confused. Who is right?

The same goes for unemployment and wage data. Those who browse TikTok find influencers repeating that "Americans today earn less than they did at the time of the Great Depression economy" or that the **U.S**. is living through the so-called "Silenced Depression." They claim that the economy is in a disastrous state. They see Trump saying that in the first 30 months of the Biden administration only 2.1 million new jobs were created, compared to the 4.9 million he created in that same time when he was in the White House.

But they also find on TikTok videos celebrating a speech in which Biden claims that all the jobs lost during the pandemic have been recovered and that "the percentage of people working today is the highest in history."

**We ask again: Who is right?**

On the inflation issue, we can say that neither Biden nor Trump share 100% correct information.

The Republican gets it right when he says that inflation reached the highest point in four decades, registering 9% in June 2022. However, the following year, it fell to 3%. In other words, Trump uses an old data to attack his adversary, without mentioning the current data. Biden, for his part, is proud of the 3%, but exaggerates by claiming that it is the best inflation rate among the world'**s** major economies. Among the G7 members, Canada has had a lower rate than the United States for months. It was only above in July, by 0.1 percentage point. But Biden chose to ignore it.

The **U.S**. actually recovered jobs lost during the pandemic, but it is false that there are more workers hired today than at any time in history (at most, of the last 5 decades). No database on the subject supports this claim, and Biden did not provide his data source.

Trump'**s** numbers on jobs created in his and Biden'**s** first 30 months in office are also unsubstantiated. **Fact**-checkers at **PolitiFact**, a **FactChecked** media ally, conducted a detailed analysis of how that information is calculated and concluded that the Republican gives a figure that is six times lower than the total number of new jobs actually generated by Biden (which was 13.2 million) and also even somewhat decreases those created during his own administration (5.2 million, not 4.9 million). The **fact** checkers prepared very clear graphs to help the voter understand this.

[Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Datos-de-economia.png?resize=649%2C428&ssl=1)

It is important to remember, however, that economic data can vary on a daily basis and that many of the indexes change on a monthly basis. Therefore, it is critical to follow efforts such as **FactCheck**.**org**, another **FactChecked** media ally.

As of January 2022, this **fact-checking** initiative has prepared a very powerful visual summary called "Biden'**s** Numbers." It is a chart that brings together key **U.S**. social and economic indicators with arrows indicating whether they have gotten better or worse. It is an easy-to-understand material that can be easily shared on social networks and messaging applications.

[Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Economia-grafico-1.png?resize=444%2C476&ssl=1)   [Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Datos-2.png?resize=440%2C561&ssl=1)

Do your part and help fight economic misinformation. Remember, they are trying to manipulate us at all times because they want our vote.

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1. [Poynter Institute: Angie Drobnic Holan Named to Lead the International Fact-Checking Network](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68HX-HP71-JC11-13HT-00000-00&context=1001073)

Targeted News Service

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**Dateline:** ST. PETERSBURG, Florida

**Body**

(TNSper) -- The Poynter Institute issued the following news release:

Angie Drobnic Holan, editor-in-chief of **PolitiFact** and a noted leader in the field of **fact-checking**, has been named the new director of the International **Fact-Checking** Network based at the Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Holan, 50, will take the helm of the IFCN, a Nobel Peace Prize-nominated organization dedicated to supporting **fact**-checkers who battle misinformation worldwide, effective immediately, the Poynter Institute announced Thursday.

"Angie Holan'**s** background as one of the founders of the international modern **fact-checking** movement, deep knowledge of the community, high standards and dedication to the fight against misinformation make her the perfect choice to lead IFCN'**s** next chapter," said Neil Brown, president of the Poynter Institute.

Brown also announced that IFCN program director Ferdi Ferhat Ozsoy, 37, who has been with the organization since 2020 and served as interim director for the past six months, was promoted to the role of deputy director.

Holan will be welcomed into her role June 28-30 in Seoul, South Korea at the GlobalFact 10 gathering of IFCN signatories, the world'**s** largest **fact-checking** conference. Holan replaces Baybars Orsek, who resigned in December.

Holan said she is excited to lead the IFCN at a pivotal time. The community is growing in strength and respect, and **fact-checking** is established as an essential part of the ecosystem to fight harmful misinformation. However, she said: "Misinformation is still on the march. Indeed, its influence seems to be growing.

"Dictators and authoritarian governments increasingly use disinformation as another tool in their arsenal of oppression. They spread lies to gain power and suppress **fact-checking**, as well as all independent journalism," Holan said. "**Fact-checking** is under imminent threat in some parts of the world."

Against this backdrop, the IFCN will continue evolving to empower the **fact**-checkers seeking to bring accurate and truthful information to people everywhere, she said. Among her early goals as director are to improve communications, both among signatories to the IFCN'**s** Code of Principles as well as with the general public; to streamline the process for becoming a signatory; to ensure the timely distribution of grant funding; and to put additional focus on training and mentoring.

"A more effective IFCN means more empowered **fact-checking** organizations around the globe. The IFCN draws its strength and vitality from **fact**-checkers themselves, and **fact**-checkers must remain always at the center of all the IFCN does," Holan said.

Holan has served as editor-in-chief of the **U.S**. **fact-checking** site **PolitiFact** for the past 10 years, with a focus on federal **elections**, legislative issues, and the presidency, and has made numerous media and public appearances on the organization'**s** behalf. Before taking the top role, she was an editor and reporter for the site, and was part of the team that won the Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting in 2009. She has been a member of the IFCN advisory board since its inception in 2015 and helped formulate its Code of Principles.

Holan has traveled and trained at **fact-checking** conferences and gatherings around the world, including in Germany, Brazil and Bosnia and Herzegovina. She has led dozens of briefings of international journalists visiting the United States on professional development tours, from countries such as Japan, Indonesia, South Korea, Moldova, Morocco and India. She is a dual citizen of the United States and Ireland and holds an EU passport.

For the past year, Holan has been a visiting fellow at the Nieman Foundation for Journalism at Harvard University, researching democracy and authoritarianism around the world, studying under Professors Steve Levitsky and Pippa Norris, among others. She also organized a major survey of the state of academic research on **fact-checking** and its application.

Prior to her work with **PolitiFact**, which is also based at Poynter, she was a news researcher at the Tampa Bay Times and Tampa Tribune newspapers in Florida and has been an adjunct professor at Georgetown University. She holds a master'**s** degree in journalism from Columbia University and a master'**s** of library science from the University of South Florida.

"The work of the IFCN is more vital now than ever before," Brown said. "**Fact**-checkers provide an enormous service to free expression across the world, and the IFCN, in turn, provides the support, network, funding and knowledge to help the **fact-checking** movement grow and thrive.

"Building on the work of Baybars and Ferdi, as IFCN'**s** leader, Angie Holan will both help it grow in its service to the **fact-checking** community and help citizens around the world increase their understanding of the value of accurate, truthful information for a free society," he said. "We are so fortunate to have her in this important role."

Holan has relinquished her role with **PolitiFact**, and Brown said that organization will turn its attention quickly to filling the top editor position.

\* \* \*

Original text here: [https://www.poynter.org/**fact-checking**/2023/angie-drobnic-holan-named-to-lead-the-international-**fact-checking**-network/](https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/2023/angie-drobnic-holan-named-to-lead-the-international-fact-checking-network/)

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1. [FactChecking the Biden-Trump Debate ' My Impressions of The Theater of the Absurd](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CJ3-8WS1-JCM9-H0M2-00000-00&context=1001073)

News Release Wire

July 21, 2024 Sunday 9:22 AM EST

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**Body**

By Elayne Savage PhD

Sure has been tons of commentary and interpretations about the Trump/Biden debate.

I had profound reactions to both candidates. And it turns out I had some very different observations and conjectures than has been reported by most media.

I just blame it on my tendency to respect my intuitive sense - to trust my gut. Not that I am ever sure I am !00% right ' but often I am.

So this blog is very personal ' I'm describing here my experiences of watching, the awful feeling in the pit of my stomach from both candidates and the overwhelming feelings that were coming up for me.

There has been a lot of chatter about Donald Trump'**s** larger-then-life presence dominating Biden'**s** seemingly barely-existent energy.

But for me, Donald Trump'**s** 'bigness' felt uncomfortably familiar ' all puffed up like the bullies who used to terrorize me when I was a child playing in the alley between the Washington DC brick rowhouses.

**Feeling Intimidated**

Donald Trump is a formidable opponent! Especially when he puffs himself up and assumes his bully stance. He did it on *The Apprentice* and he continues to play the role in real life.

When someone puffs up like this they take up a *lot* of space. It doesn't leave much room for the other person.

And they become diminished.

And it seemed to me that this is what was happening to Joe Biden ' as Trump became larger-then-life, Biden became smaller . . . and smaller.

**Ambivalence is 'Feeling Stuck'**

The first thought that kept nagging at me throughout the debate was how I found myself wondering if, in **fact**, Joe Biden might be struggling with an unidentified conflict - feeling torn between wanting to run again and conflicted about running again. I kept returning to the thought throughout the debate.

I have heard so many therapy and coaching clients describe "feeling stuck" when they are struggling with ambivalence.

And I have certainly struggled with this internal argument myself ' many times.

This state of having mixed feelings or contradictory ideas about something is *ambivalence*.

"l want to run again /I don't want to run again'

"I can do it/ maybe I can't."

I blogged about my struggles with ambivalence when I was to trying to publish my first blog in 2007:

[**https://www.tipsfromthequeenofrejection.com/2006/12/whispers\_and\_ro.html**](https://www.tipsfromthequeenofrejection.com/2006/12/whispers_and_ro.html)

Too often when we find ourselves in this kind of a stuck place, we end up doing some unconscious self-sabotaging. I sure know I sometimes do.

**Freezing and Blanking Out**

There has been lots of speculation about Joe Biden'**s** stumbling over words and silences.

As a professional speaker and an often-interviewed author over the last 25 years, I sure know the feeling of blanking out on a phrase or a word.

Having nearby notes in case I need a word has always been my security blanket.

Always makes me really nervous to not have my blanky handy.

Sometimes my memory lapses are due to nervousness, but more often due to my ADHD.

One time, just before I was ready to leave for a National Speakers event to present a mini training, I received the news that a family friend had been murdered.

I physically showed up to the event but was really not emotionally present and had several blank-outs during my short presentation.

Watching Joe Biden'**s** demeanor at the beginning of the debate I was reminded of that nightmare experience and found myself wondering if he might have just been made aware of some disturbing information that absorbed his attention.

I was pretty sure Donald Trump would repeat many of the out-and out lies he has been campaigning with, but I was shocked at the hugeness of his lies during the debate ' much worse then I imagined it would be. I could see from Joe Biden'**s** open-mouthed expression that he, too, was totally blown away by the number and inflation of the lies.

And I'm sure my mouth was dropping open as well.

The expression I read in Biden'**s** eyes was 'I can't believe yet another lie, and another and another.'

And I'm sure my eyes were showing the same kind of disbelief.

Actually I was aware that some of my disbelief was that the CNN moderators were clearly not going to call out any of the exaggerations and outright lies coming out of the mouths of either Donald Trump or Joe Biden.

I kept thinking I saw a look of "where are you? Why aren't you saying something?

When someone makes up lies about something, it is always especially hard for me when it feels like they are dismissing my own perceptions that I know I saw with my own eyes or heard with my own ears.

**'You're Imagining It'**

The message is all to familiar from my childhood and I have a huge visceral reaction:

'It'**s** all in your mind.'

"I didn't say that."

"Why would you think that?"

'You're imagining it'

My stomach still knots up when someone lies to me and disputes my reality. Certainly we each might have a different perception ' I'm talking here about intentional lying which is *gaslighting.*

**Gaslighting**

Outright, purposeful lying is gaslighting because it is an attempt to manipulate reality.

I have blogged many times in the past about gaslighting:

Here is one example:

[https://www.tipsfromthequeenofrejection.com/2021/02/describing-the-capitol-siege-like-a-performance-piece.html](file:///C:\Users\harip\Downloads\I%20have%20blogged%20many%20times%20In%20the%20past%20about%20gaslighting:%20%20https:\www.tipsfromthequeenofrejection.com\2021\02\describing-the-capitol-siege-like-a-performance-piece.html)

**Exaggerating vs. Outright Lying**

You probably are aware that several media outlets have been comparing what they call Biden'**s** 'exaggerations' and 'misstatements' with what they call Trump'**s** 'lies':

Here are some links :

**AP** :  [https://apnews.com/article/**fact-check**-misinformation-**election**-debate-trump-biden-577507522762aa10f6ee5be3a0ced2bb](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=T0wqIdG8BwXh9mWwgFD6Sw)

**FOX:** [https://www.livenowfox.com/news/presidential-debate-**fact**-biden-trump-false-claims.amp](https://www.livenowfox.com/news/presidential-debate-fact-biden-trump-false-claims.amp)

[**FactCheck.org**](http://factcheck.org/) **:**  [https://www.**factcheck**.**org**/2024/06/**factchecking**-the-biden-trump-debate/](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=VerXYG4rvXLjK4oLDl3.xA)

**PBS** :  [https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/**fact-checking**-the-claims-biden-and-trump-made-during-the-debate](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=jvM78cbrkgBZPJZBXSqhAw)

**CNN:** [https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2024/06/27/politics/**fact-checking**-the-cnn-presidential-debate](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=LpDXA7N5oVpuS_GNeoujTg)

There are many many more articles ' Just google something like '*Trump Biden debate lies.'*

**Accusations of Getting High and Getting Over-Energized**

Another observation I had watching the debate was remembering all the pre-debate accusations by the Trump team that Biden would be 'high' on stimulant energy drinks like caffeine or Red Bull, or Mountain Dew or even drugs like Adderall.

This Adderall accusation about Biden brought back dÃ©jÃ  vu memories of 2 years ago when there were quite a few speculations about whether Trump might have been over-using Adderall.

Hey, most of us can use an energy boost once in a while. I can sure use one if I have a late evening client or a deadline. I'm a big fan of using a couple sprays of vitamin B12 into my mouth for a boost of energy when I need it!

During this debate we could definitely see by his low energy that Biden probably was not using stimulants.

I found myself wondering if he or his team might have been concerned he would be asked by the moderators about (or accused by Trump of) using energy/performance enhancing drugs, and he was wanting to be able to truthfully say 'no.'

I found myself thinking he sure could have used a swig or two of Donald Trump'**s** caffeine-laced Diet Cokes!

Â© Elayne Savage, PhD

Did you watch the debate? Wondering what your impressions and observations were.

**NEW NOTE: Wanting to add this recent development from the Supreme Court a few days after the debate:**

**On 7/1/24 the U.S. Supreme Court majority ruled that presidents ' including former President Donald Trump ' have immunity from prosecution when carrying out 'official acts.'**

**'Under our constitutional structure of separated powers, the nature of Presidential power entitles a former President to absolute immunity from criminal prosecution for actions within his conclusive and preclusive constitutional authority,' the**  [**court wrote**](https://www.supremecourt.gov/opinions/23pdf/23-939_e2pg.pdf) **. 'And he is entitled to at least presumptive immunity from prosecution for all his official acts. There is no immunity for unofficial acts.'**

**Justice Sonia Sotomayor wrote how the ruling, makes a 'mockery of the principle' that no one is above the law."**

**'The relationship between the President and the people he serves has shifted irrevocably. In every use of official power, the President is now** *a king above the law.'*

**'With fear for our democracy, I dissent.'**

**A king above the law? Wow - Amazing timing!**

**Just think, the Supreme Court of the United States is giving what many consider to be king-like power to US Presidents just 3 days before we were about to celebrate the 255th year of our Independence from the rule of English kings!**

And more recently, I am really bothered by the Secret Service not protecting Donald Trump, in **fact** leaving him exposed to the possibiliity of a repeated attack. That'**s** supposed to be their job. As I watched, the whole thing felt like a surreal Pinter or Beckett or Pirandello play. But then again, the debate, too, felt like Theater of the Absurd.

Would love to hear if any of you had any similar experiences . . .

Until next month,

Elayne

Elayne Savage is the author of ground-breaking relationship books published in 9 languages.? Both books are now available on Kindle!

To order DON'T TAKE IT PERSONALLY! THE ART OF DEALING WITH REJECTION from Amazon:? [amzn.to/2bEGDqu](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=5t2ZTgUwLCeVEW.oM3Xwtg)  To order BREATHING ROOM ' CREATING SPACE TO BE A COUPLE from Amazon:? [amzn.to/2bAHmIL](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=MRlsW4RjZR0MWRTMJrt3pA)

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To find out more about my speaking programs, coaching and consultation services visit: // [www.QueenofRejection.com](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=2fTazp7DYGqIb40m7hCZdw)  or call 5106230 if you or your group can benefit.

Contacting Elayne: ?I welcome your feedback as well as suggestions for topics you'd like to see addressed in this e-letter.?Here'**s** how you can reach me:?

5106230

? [www.QueenofRejection.com](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=2fTazp7DYGqIb40m7hCZdw)   [[email protected]](https://www.tipsfromthequeenofrejection.com/cdn-cgi/l/email-protection#21444d40584f4461705444444f4e4773444b444255484e4f0f424e4c)

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[Facebook.com/elayne.savage](https://clicks.aweber.com/y/ct/?l=BeoeI&m=I.soJFKnWne.pD&b=.3IVd_t_aqTP45DX8c3.Rw)

About:

Dr. Elayne Savage is the Queen of Rejection the ideal expert for journalists on a deadline.

This media-savvy commentator provides succinct insight snd realistic strategies (WebMD, BBC, The London Guardian, Sunday Observer, Toronto Star, Maury Povich, NPR, CNN, MSNBC, Forbes, Forbes Woman, LA Times, New York Times, Chicago Tribune, Reader'**s** Digest, Real Simple, Men'**s** Health, Seventeen, Cosmopolitan).

An international 'overcoming rejection' expert, relationship coach, practicing psychotherapist, keynote speaker, and facilitator.

Topics include 'Tap Into Your Resilience,' 'Get Out of Your Own Way Stop Self-sabotaging, Procrastinating, and Second-guessing,' 'Communication Tips Be Listened To, Heard and Understood,' 'Grandma Passes Down More Than Just Her China A Fresh Perspective On Diversity,' 'Handling Toxic People And Challenging Situations Don't Take It Personally!')

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**End of Document**

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1. [Musk's false US election tweets 'seen 1bn times'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CP0-1071-DY66-53F4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Wish Magazine Online

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**Byline:** Bevan Hurley

**Body**

Posts by [Elon Musk](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/the-times/elon-musk-clashes-with-keir-starmer-over-claim-of-civil-war/news-story/035ea4a856be664a04794d617e70a63a) containing false and misleading claims about American **elections** have been viewed nearly 1.2 billion times on his social media platform Twitter/X, new analysis shows.

In the year to July 31 the Tesla and [SpaceX founder](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/commentary/elon-musks-spacex-may-retrieve-astronauts-stranded-on-the-iss/video/7c0f3cc1e4831481a088b609fe1dc5fd), 53, shared 50 posts containing information about the presidential **elections** that has been debunked by independent **fact**-checkers, according to an analysis by the Centre for Countering Digital Hate, a British non-profit organisation.

In recent days the world'**s** richest man has also been accused of fanning [the social unrest in Britain](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/night-of-farright-violence-averted-in-uk-as-counterprotesters-take-to-streets/news-story/2e39ce480b224a36387b348ccabeccc9) by sharing false claims and provocations.

In the **United States** he has shared deepfake video of [Kamala Harris](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/the-times/harris-wanted-a-pale-and-male-vp-to-counter-trump/news-story/4461ff19033b8fd0a4a72428e1665cd0), the Democratic presidential nominee, with unverified claims that [Democrats](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/democrats-sharpen-their-attacks-on-donald-trump/news-story/5a0239725bce8e98439b051e9fafda6a) are "importing" illegal immigrants to sway **elections**, the organisation said. The South African-born Musk has 193 million followers on Twitter/X.

None of the misleading posts displayed a community note, the platform'**s** term for user-generated **fact-checks**.

"Elon Musk is abusing his privileged position as owner of a small, but politically influential, social media platform to sow disinformation that generates discord and distrust," Imran Ahmed, the head of Centre for Countering Digital Hate, said.

"The lack of community notes on these posts shows that his business is failing woefully to contain the kind of algorithmically boosted incitement that we all know can lead to real-world violence, as we experienced on January 6, 2021." On this date a group of Donald Trump'**s** supporters attacked the **US** Capitol in Washington in an attempt to overthrow President Biden'**s** **election** victory.

Ahmed called for **US** politicians to amend section 230 of the Communications Decency Act, which gives social media companies blanket protection for content posted on their sites.

Musk did not respond to a request for comment. He has an estimated fortune of $US218 bn ($330bn) and bought the social media platform for $US44 billion in 2022.

Musk claimed at the time that the previous owners had stifled free speech and engineered its algorithm to suppress conservative voices.

Since then, he has [rebranded the platform as X](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/social-media-platform-x-hides-likes-to-better-protect-privacy/news-story/ea3ecc093888504937b24f3968435a35), fired 80 per cent of the staff, including most of the content moderators, and reinstated suspended accounts of far-right activists including the British provocateurs Stephen Yaxley-Lennon, who uses the name [Tommy Robinson](https://www.theaustralian.com.au/world/the-times/revealed-farright-network-of-freelance-yobs-behind-riots-sweeping-britain/news-story/711837d3ebb29bb2d1a474e28c6e29e7), and Katie Hopkins.

The rise in hate content published on the site led to an exodus of advertisers and meant that revenue plunged by 40 per cent in the first six months of 2023 compared with the previous year, according to Bloomberg.

This week Linda Yaccarino, X'**s** chief executive, said the company was suing a group of advertisers for orchestrating a "massive advertiser boycott" deprived the company of billions of dollars in revenue and violated **US** antitrust laws.

Musk has injected himself into **election** discourse in the **US**, **UK**, Germany, Brazil and other countries this year. Sir Keir Starmer, the British prime minister, has accused the tycoon of stoking hatred that inflamed riots following the stabbing of three children in Southport on July 30.

Musk posted that a **UK** "civil war was inevitable" in response to a post blaming the violent protests on "mass migration and open borders".

In the first six months of this year, Musk posted false or misleading claims about the Democrats "importing voters" to influence the outcome of **US** **elections** on 42 occasions, receiving 747 million views, according to the Centre for Countering Digital Hate.

Studies by independent **fact-checking** sites such as **PolitiFact** have determined that Musk'**s** claims are false.

He has also posted false or misleading claims about the integrity of voting machines and mail-in ballots during the 2020 **US** presidential **elections**; these posts were viewed 288 million times.

An assessment by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency found "no evidence that any voting system deleted or lost votes, changed votes or was in any way compromised" in 2020.

Last month Musk shared a fake Harris campaign ad using a manipulated version of her voice without stating it was a parody.

Musk, who says he once voted for the Democrats, publicly endorsed Donald Trump after the former president survived an assassination attempt at a rally in Pennsylvania on July 13. He established the pro-Trump political fundraising group America Pac this year to support Trump and other Republican candidates in November.

The super pac, a fund raising body that acts independently of a candidate'**s** campaign, spent more than dollars 800,000 on ads designed to collect voter data by encouraging people in battleground states to visit America Pac'**s** website to register to vote. The super pac is under investigation by the Michigan secretary of state.

*The Times*

**Notes**

Document links may not lead to an active page. Page maintenance is at the discretion of the publisher.

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**Industry:** INTERNET SOCIAL NETWORKING (90%); SOCIAL MEDIA (90%); FALSE OR MISLEADING ADVERTISING (89%); USER GENERATED CONTENT (79%); MEDIA & TELECOMMUNICATIONS (78%); BRANDING (73%); DEEPFAKE TECHNOLOGY (73%); REBRANDING (72%); COMMUNICATIONS LAW (50%)

**Person:** ELON MUSK (93%); KAMALA HARRIS (92%); LINDA YACCARINO (92%); DONALD TRUMP (89%); JOE BIDEN (79%); KEIR STARMER (79%)

**Geographic:** WASHINGTON DC, USA (79%); **UNITED STATES** (97%); UNITED KINGDOM (94%); EUROPE (93%); BRAZIL (79%); GERMANY (79%); NORTH AMERICA (79%); NORTHERN EUROPE (79%); SOUTH AMERICA (79%); WESTERN EUROPE (79%)

**Load-Date:** August 9, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Facthequeado's Tamoa Calzadilla: "we want people to vote based on evidence, not misinformation"](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C45-NVF1-JCMN-Y3XC-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Latin Times

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Tamoa Calzadilla, editor-in-chief of Factchequeado Photo provided by Tamoa Calzadilla

[It is expected](https://naleo.org/2024-data-and-research-hub/) that close to 17.5 million Latinos will be casting a ballot this upcoming presidential **election**. And the demographic'**s** vote could have outsized importance given Latinos' presence in decisive in battleground states like Arizona and Nevada, where they turned out in record numbers for the midterms in 2022.

But as the Americans gear up for what is set to be a consequential **election**, concerns about issues such as misinformation and disinformation take a more prominent spot in the political conversation.

A recent [report](https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/news/ai-lies-and-conspiracy-theories-how-latinos-become-key-target-misinformation-us-election) by the Reuters Institute and the University of Oxford revealed that Latinos have emerged as prime targets of misinformation this **election** season, as campaigns increasingly target the largest minority in the country with the help of new technologies like Artificial Intelligence and more traditional spin-the-narrative methods that have proven to be extremely efficient in the past.

The reasons behind why misinformation is so prevalent among Latino communities abound. But there'**s** one that comes up time and time again: they do not have the same resources as English speakers to inform themselves or verify the veracity of the information they're bombarded with every day.

Tamoa Calzadilla is no stranger to this reality. In **fact**, she was a pioneer in finding ways to combat misinformation among Latinos as the former director of Univision'**s** [elDetector](https://www.univision.com/especiales/noticias/detector/) , the first Spanish-language **fact-checking** platform in the country. Through her work she became prominent in the field to the extent that, when Spain'**s** [Maldita.es](https://maldita.es/) and Argentina'**s** [Chequeado](http://chequeado.com/) joined forces to create a brainchild in the **U.S**. in 2022, Calzadilla became Editor in Chief of the new site, a position she still holds.

The site is called [Factchequeado](https://factchequeado.com/) and this is part of their motto:

"We believe that journalism is a public service, and as such, it should be transparent, collaborative, innovative, and of high quality. We are committed to contributing to the development of strong, critical, and informed communities that can counter misinformation. We aim to provide citizens with quality journalism and educational tools so that they can base their decisions on data and evidence rather than rumors and prejudices. Our community has mechanisms in place to detect falsehoods on its own."

Fresh off winning a prestigious [John **S**. Knight Fellowship](https://jsk.stanford.edu/news/2024/jsk-names-u-s-journalism-fellows-for-2024-2025/) for her contributions to journalism, Tamoa Calzadilla sat down with The Latin Times to discuss what misinformation looks like in 2024, what methods are being used to spread it around and what part do emotions play in the cycle.

The following interview has been translated from Spanish and edited for brevity and clarity.

Screenshot from Factchequeado'**s** website [www.factchequeado.com](http://www.factchequeado.com)

How did Factchequeado come to be?

It was born in April 2022 as a pilot project of Chequeado and Maldita to provide **fact-checking** in Spanish for Latino communities. The idea was to create a system of alliances with media outlets that wish to do **fact-checking** for the Latino community so they could use our content for free. In exchange we would get access to information, we could have awareness around which topics we need to **check** out. This way we can have visibility of what'**s** happening in New York, in the border, in the Midwest, in South Florida.

At this moment we have over 80 allied organizations throughout the **United States**. Some of them are big media conglomerates like Univision. Others are verifiers like **politifact**.org that are in English but are now starting to do things in Spanish. But we also have smaller allies like [Conecta Arizona](https://conectaarizona.com/) , [Conexión Migrante](https://conexionmigrante.com/) , [Madre Tierra Philly](https://madretierraphilly.com/) . I think the count is up to allies across 21 states. And we also have [El Nuevo Da](https://www.elnuevodia.com/) in Puerto Rico.

Besides **fact-checking**, we also provide open resources like [our bilingual guide](https://factchequeado.com/educa/20240304/presentamos-una-guia-bilingue-para-periodistas-que-cubren-comunidades-latinas-e-hispanohablantes/) for journalists who cover Latino communities in the **U.S**.

So why is it so important for Latinos to have **fact-checking** sites catered to them?

When you receive misinformation in English you have several resources to verify it. The New York Times, The Washington Post, along with more than ten **fact-checking** platforms. In contrast, in Spanish there are fewer quality information sources. Moreover, we need to consider that there are specifities with this demographic. Latino and Spanish-speaking communities are two different things: not all Latinos speak only Spanish or only English. They are not all the same, and they don't have the same informational needs or the same informational gaps.

At the same time, we feel that there is a vulnerability for Latinos due to the way they consume social media. They get informed through YouTube, Facebook, and communicate a lot via WhatsApp, which is an encrypted system. It'**s** challenging to see the absurdities being spread there.

Factchequeado'**s** Tamoa Calzadilla speaks at a congress Factchequeado'**s** official Linkedin page

**Checking** out your website I understand you handle two variables to determine what kind of news merits **fact-checking**: virality and level of harm. Can you explain how this process works and how you created your methodology?

Well, first of all we're signatories of the [International **Fact-Checking** Network](https://www.ifcncodeofprinciples.poynter.org/) which is an organization that offers regulations, methodologies and codes of conduct that we must all follow as **fact**-checkers. We're more than 100 signatories and we're committed to being non-partisan, being transparent with sources, being plural and conducting open-source investigations. We're also 100% transparent with the funds we receive.

**Fact-checking** per se involves a [journalistic methodology](https://factchequeado.com/nuestra-metodologia/) based on tags or labels. We have false, needs context, no evidence and true. That verdict comes after **checking** sources and verifying the veracity of images, videos and audios through several technological processes.

We make editorial decisions based on virality and level of harm. Virality means we have a monitoring system that is assisted by artificial intelligence and is constantly improving. Through this system we can understand when something is very viral in social media. If it'**s** not viral, our principle is that we are not going to make it viral ourselves because it has been proven that then you do a disservice: you strengthen the reach of fake news.

The level of harm comes into play when, for example, you're dealing with health issues that may be detrimental to a lot of people. In those cases we decide to act and we do explainers. A good example was what happened with vaccines during the pandemic. We needed to act quickly before certain narratives became viral.

What are scammers and "disinformers" doing to spread misinformation in 2024?

Well these are the first **elections** with generative Artificial Intelligence doing its thing so that'**s** a challenge right there. There isn't necessarily a regulation to prevent a political party or someone involved in politics from deceiving you with fake news or anything else. There'**s** also a lot of concern around X (formerly Twitter) because since Elon Musk took over he eliminated all systems that Twitter was trying to implement to control or moderate misinformation.

We don't like to use the word "control" because we like to defend the first amendment at Factchequeado. So we talk about regulating, moderating. If you as a user want to see a certain content then great but you should know that it has been manipulated. If you want to listen to this audio or if you want to look at that video, I want you to know that it'**s** made with AI and it'**s** a deepfake. Knowing that, then go ahead and watch it.

The Factchequeado Chatbot is perfect for users to send stories they wish to verify

What role do people'**s** emotions play in the spread of misinformation?

The technique that disinformers have perfected is to target your guts, your emotions. That'**s** the reason why things go viral. They target your deepest fears. There'**s** this great example of a story that'**s** been viewed a lot on our website that'**s** about a girl that supposedly [disappeared at Disney](https://factchequeado.com/verificaciones/20231201/falso-ni%C3%B1a-raptada-t%C3%BAnel-ba%C3%B1o-Disney-California/) . We've debunked it several times. But it'**s** your deepest fear as a parent, right? So you share. And disinformers know this.

Happiness is also a powerful tool. "Click here and get a free shopping spree" or "get rich by watching these videos." Sadness also works. Every time there'**s** a tragic event or maybe a child dies, that'**s** fertile ground for scammers. They've also become very adept at using language that speaks to urgency: "alert", "breaking news". They've gotten ahold of this "urgent" tone that plays well with short videos that target emotions. It'**s** become a big challenge for **us** because when we do **fact-checking** we appeal to reasoning, not emotions.

What are some of the themes or topics that you feel are gaining steam among the Latino community when it comes to misinformation in this **election** cycle?

We made a piece about [several topics that concern **us**](https://factchequeado.com/teexplicamos/20240229/narratives-misinformation-immigration-us/) and their veracity back in February. Those who try do disinform in electoral years like this one usually use fear as a tactic. They say for example that the Democratic party is an ally of Nicolas Maduro, Daz-Canel or the Ortegas in Nicaragua. That this is socialism or communism, that it looks like we're heading in that direction. That sort of misinformation goes viral quickly.

There'**s** also misinformation that produces discrimination and xenophobia. For example, the one that says that we're in the middle of "an invasion of criminals" and that all those people coming into the country are coming to commit crimes. Sometimes they latch onto something that actually happened like [the Venezuelan man that killed the student from Georgia](https://apnews.com/article/georgia-student-dead-suspect-brother-green-card-venezuela-44b7c403c31baae50cfd3b3bb3e698ab) and then they make generalizations, ignoring that most mass shooters are white Americans. So it has to do with which narrative you manage to impose

Overall, crime is being used to paint a picture of chaos when the numbers show that crime [is actually decreasing](https://factchequeado.com/verificaciones/20240510/datos-fbi-no-son-falsos-trump/) and has been decreasing since it reached a peak during the pandemic. Homicides, violent crimes, they're all decreasing. So we're trying to communicate these ideas but you see that many politicians continue to echo those narratives. We're concerned about people making bad decisions this **election** cycle based on the wrong reasons. We all have an opinion and we can vote for whoever we want. What we want is for people to make that decision based on evidence and not misinformation.

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[Link to the original story.](https://www.latintimes.com/facthequeados-tamoa-calzadilla-we-want-people-vote-based-evidence-not-misinformation-554341)

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**Classification**

**Language:** English

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**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (69%)

**Geographic:** NEVADA, USA (79%); **UNITED STATES** (92%); ARGENTINA (79%); SPAIN (79%)

**Load-Date:** May 27, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [NewsBusters Podcast: The Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad ABC Debate](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CY6-HV51-F03R-N0XJ-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

September 12th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52698602571525210200125) )

Wow! ABC'**s** presidential debate was remarkably skewed. Donald Trump drew specific hardball questions. Kamala Harris drew vague, open-ended softballs. Trump was "**fact checked**" six times. Harris never was. When you think the point of being a professional journalist is to Destroy Trump, of course you're going to be proud of this debate moderation.

Senior research analyst Bill D'Agostino joins the show to underline how ABC defines "professionalism." We wanted to apologize for saying in pre-debate interviews that maybe ABC would be like Jake Tapper and Dana Bash were on CNN for the Trump-Biden debate in June.

The worst part was asking Harris "questions" that sounded like "your turn. Go." Harris clearly had pre-rehearsed answers. So vague questions made it easier to dodge and launch into the boilerplate. On Afghanistan, they asked "do you believe you bear any responsibility in the way that withdrawal played out?

After challenging Trump about his insults at a National Association of Black Journalists event about Harris "deciding to be black," then they simply askedher "your thoughtson this?" We wanted Trump to point to the moderators and say to Harris, "why are you afraid of an interview with these two Democrats?"

Of course, CNN'**s** Daniel Dale asserted that Trump had lied about 33 times during the debate, and Harris had maybe one. She was "overwhelmingly factual." This is the **PolitiFact** tilt on CNN. Going into the debate, **PolitiFact** dumped 199 "Pants on Fire" articles on Trump. Harris has zero. She was **elected** Attorney General of California in 2011, but it'**s** zero over the last 13 years.

Enjoy the podcast below, or wherever you listen to podcasts.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/09/11/newsbusters-podcast-terrible-horrible-no-good-very-bad-abc-debate)

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**Language:** English

**Publication-Type:** Web Publication

**Journal Code:** 107778

**Subject:** POLITICAL DEBATES (90%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (89%); ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS (78%); **FACT CHECKING** (78%); INTERVIEWS (77%); JOURNALISM (76%); WRITERS (76%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (74%); GOVERNMENT BODIES & OFFICES (65%); ATTORNEYS GENERAL (50%)

**Industry:** PODCASTING (89%); WRITERS (76%); ATTORNEYS GENERAL (50%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (90%); KAMALA HARRIS (79%)

**Geographic:** CALIFORNIA, USA (73%); AFGHANISTAN (55%)

**Load-Date:** September 12, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact check: Trump makes false and unsubstantiated claims in border speech](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BFK-4FJ1-JBSS-S02J-00000-00&context=1001073)

CNN Wire

March 1, 2024 Friday 2:16 AM GMT

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**Length:** 983 words

**Byline:** By Daniel Dale, CNN

**Dateline:** (CNN)

**Body**

Washington (CNN) - President Joe Biden and former President Donald Trump [delivered back-to-back Thursday speeches](https://www.cnn.com/politics/live-news/trump-biden-border-election-news-02-29-24/index.html) at different Texas locations near the border with Mexico.

Biden'**s** speech, largely delivered from a prepared text, was highly factual. Biden devoted much of the address to an accurate description of various provisions of [the bipartisan border bill](https://www.cnn.com/2024/02/06/politics/biden-border-bill/index.html) he supports but [Trump'**s** opposition helped to kill in Congress](https://www.cnn.com/2024/02/05/politics/border-deal-senate-vote/index.html).

Trump'**s** speech minutes prior, much of which appeared to be off the cuff, was filled with assertions about migrants that were unsubstantiated, misleading or plain false.

Some of his words were too conspiratorially vague to definitively **fact-check**. For example, Trump spoke of migrants as "entire columns of fighting-age men" and said "they look like warriors to me; something'**s** going on, and it'**s** bad" - winking at a baseless narrative about foreign adversaries using migration to surreptitiously assemble some sort of enemy force in the US. He said he thinks unnamed people are allowing migrants into the country because "they're looking for votes," faintly echoing his [previous false claim about migrants being signed up to vote](https://www.politifact.com/factchecks/2024/jan/12/donald-trump/trumps-claim-that-millions-of-immigrants-are-signi/) in the 2024 **election** - and declining to explain that non-citizens cannot vote in federal, state and almost all local **elections** (though some migrants might potentially receive citizenship years down the road).

Trump also [spoke](https://x.com/justinbaragona/status/1763314247893672350?s=20) of the US being "overrun" by a "new form" of crime he called "Biden migrant crime." He made that claim though early data [suggests](https://jasher.substack.com/p/crime-in-2023-murder-plummeted-violent#:~:text=The%20quarterly%20data%20shows%20violent,tamping%20down%20the%20overall%20decline.) that in 2023 the US was at or around its lowest violent crime rate in more than 50 years amid a [sharp decline in homicides](https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/04/us/homicide-crime-declines-cities-2023/index.html); though there were cases of undocumented people [committing crimes during his own presidency](https://www.cnn.com/2018/08/21/us/mollie-tibbetts-missing-iowa-student-murder-suspect/index.html); and though, despite some recent [cases](https://www.cnn.com/2024/02/24/us/uga-augusta-university-student-death-saturday/index.html) in which undocumented people are accused of serious offenses, [research has found no connection between immigration and crime](https://www.cnn.com/2024/02/15/us/border-migrants-crime-cec/index.html) - and sometimes that immigrants commit crimes at [lower rates than people born in the US](https://www.ojp.gov/library/publications/comparing-crime-rates-between-undocumented-immigrants-legal-immigrants-and).

Here'**s** a **fact check** of two of Trump'**s** other claims.

**An evidence-free story about foreign countries and 'insane asylums'**

Trump repeated - and broadened - his familiar story about how migrants are supposedly arriving in the US after having been deliberately freed by foreign leaders from prisons and mental health facilities.

After claiming that "they're coming from jails and they're coming from prisons and they're coming from mental institutions and they're coming from insane asylums," Trump added, "You know, I know many of the leaders of these other countries that are doing it." He said moments later, "You look at the jails now - you look at the jails throughout the region but more importantly throughout the world, they're emptying out, because they're dumping them into the United States."

**Facts First**: There is no evidence for Trump'**s** claim that jails "throughout the world" are being emptied out so that prisoners can travel to the US as migrants, nor for his claim that foreign leaders are also emptying out mental health facilities for this purpose. Last year, Trump'**s** campaign was [unable to provide any evidence](https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/29/politics/fact-check-trump-mental-institutions-migrants-doctor/index.html) for his narrower claim at the time that South American countries in particular were emptying their mental health facilities to somehow dump patients upon the US.

Representatives for two anti-immigration organizations told CNN at the time they had not heard of anything that would corroborate Trump'**s** story, as did three experts at organizations favorable toward immigration. CNN'**s** own search did not produce any evidence. The website **FactCheck**.**org** [also found nothing](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/03/factchecking-trumps-rally-fox-interview/).

In response to CNN'**s** 2023 inquiry, Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung cited one source for Trump'**s** claim about prisons being emptied for migration purposes - a 2022 [article](https://www.breitbart.com/border/2022/09/18/exclusive-venezuela-empties-prisons-sends-violent-criminals-to-u-s-says-dhs-report/) from right-wing website Breitbart News about a supposed federal intelligence report warning Border Patrol agents that Venezuela had done this. But that [vague and unverified](https://www.politifact.com/article/2022/sep/29/fact-checking-claim-about-venezuela-sending-prison/) claim about Venezuela'**s** actions has never been corroborated.

Even if Venezuela in particular had indeed freed prisoners to allow people to try to migrate to the US, that would be insufficient proof for Trump'**s** current claim that countries "throughout the world" are doing so. And a [second article](https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/mexico-has-released-nearly-2700-prisoners-early-overall-jail-population-grows-2022-09-15/) that Cheung cited at the time, about Mexico'**s** president having freed 2,685 prisoners, was not about migration at all; that article simply explained that the president had freed them "as part of an effort to free those who have not committed serious crimes or were being held unjustly."

CNN reached out to Cheung again after Trump'**s** speech on Thursday and will update this item with any relevant comment.

**Another inaccurate number about the border wall**

Returning to [one of his regular exaggerations](https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/01/politics/trump-dishonesty-avalanche-102-fall-false-claims/index.html), Trump claimed that "we built 571 miles of border wall" during his presidency.

**Facts First:** Trump'**s** "571 miles" claim is false, an even greater exaggeration than the [inaccurate "561 miles" and "over 500 miles" claims he has made at other points of his campaign](https://www.cnn.com/2023/12/01/politics/trump-dishonesty-avalanche-102-fall-false-claims/index.html). An [official report by US Customs and Border Protection](https://www.cnn.com/2023/07/19/politics/fact-check-christie-trump-border-wall/index.html), written two days after Trump left office and subsequently obtained by CNN'**s** Priscilla Alvarez, said the total number built under Trump was 458 miles - including both wall built where no barriers had existed before and wall built to replace previous barriers. Trump has sometimes put the figure, more correctly, at "nearly 500 miles."

Fifty-two of the 458 miles built under Trump was "primary" wall that was built in parts of the border where no barriers previously existed. The rest was 33 miles of "secondary" wall that was built in spots where no barriers previously existed, plus 373 miles of primary and secondary wall that was built to replace previous barriers the federal government says had become "dilapidated and/or outdated."

By Daniel Dale, CNN

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**Industry:** TELEVISION INDUSTRY (90%); CABLE TELEVISION (74%); PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITALS (64%); RESIDENTIAL CARE (60%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%); JOE BIDEN (79%)

**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (95%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [After Disastrous Debate, PBS's Barron-Lopez Parrots Biden Campaign Happy Talk](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CC2-PPR1-JCMN-Y454-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Byline:** Clay Waters

**Body**

June 28th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52046053343225814200156) )

Taxpayer-supported PBS kept its News Hour crew on deck for Thursday night'**s** first (and only?) Trump-Biden debate of the 2024 presidential **election** cycle, airing on CNN and simulcast on PBS. While other liberal networks were loaded with panic, PBS'**s** White House reporter stuck to repeating the desperate campaign talking points.

While Biden'**s** doddering, decrepit performance couldn't be ignored (so much for recent PBS-aired claims that clips of Biden'**s** decline were " [edited") Laura Barron-Lopez launched PBS'**s** 17-minute post-debate discussion by spinning hard for Biden.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/06/23/pbs-roundtable-abcs-jon-karl-claims-trump-losing-it-getting-fuzzier)

Barron-Lopez allowed, very mildly, that 'The Democrats that I've been in contact with were not necessarily happy with the president'**s** performance [oh really now?]....they felt as though he got a bit stronger as the night went on, a bit more clear, drew more contrasts as the night went on.' The Democrats she talked to said Biden didn't strike strong enough contrasts on abortion, immigration, and January 6. But then she relayed partisanship from the horse'**s** mouth - the Biden campaign:

Laura Barron-Lopez: The campaign on the other hand, a campaign source was texting me, saying that their internal polling, this is of course campaign polling, but their live internal polling, the dials as they were listening to voters as the debate was going on, they said that that internal polling showed that when Trump personally attacked Biden, called him the worst president, or when Trump tried to talk about the 'suckers and losers' comments, which he made regarding veterans, which his chief of staff John Kelly said that he said, that when Trump tried to talk about that, that voters didn't like Trump'**s** responses on those things, that they weren't happy with that at all.

And that they also were not -- voters turned against Trump when they heard him talking about January 6 and the exchange between Biden and Trump on January 6, and when President Biden called Trump a convicted felon, that also seemed to register poorly for Trump with those voters.

PBS congressional reporter Lisa Desjardins was far more blunt, noting 'the Trump team, Republicans, are declaring victory, that Biden came across just as the GOP said he would, that he 'looked like someone had a hard time finding his words and in the beginning debate especially, that was the case.' She even brought up dark Democratic dreams of a replacement candidate.

Lisa Desjardins: House Democrats are in a very dark place right nowthere is, I will say, in the ether, there are some even sort of raising this idea, like, should this be our nominee? Now that -- this is the worst moment. This is the worst moment. Is it realistic to think that there'**s** actually going to be a change in nominee? No, I don't think so, and Democratic leadership that I'm also texting with, says no, that'**s** ridiculous. But that is how bad this moment is.

After that influx of reality, Barron-Lopez tried more happy talk, saying former Republicans wanted to hit the trail for President Biden and that the right-leaning state of North Carolina was 'maybe gettable' for Biden.

Oddly, the PBS News Hour hosts promoted its own online ' [**fact check**' both before and after the debate but as it turned out, PBS farmed out the actual '**fact checking**' to **Politifact**, which has its own liberal bent. Here'**s** a taste. 'Trump'**s** outlandish immigration claim' that Biden 'allowed millions of people to come in here from prisons, jails and mental institutions' warranted a Pants on Fire! rating (as in 'Liar, Liar'). The Biden headlines were more favorable: 'Biden'**s** close to the mark about immigration reductions.'](https://www.pbs.org/newshour/politics/analysis-fact-checking-the-cnn-trump-biden-debate)

The Daily Signal issued its own less tilted, more comprehensive [**fact-check**.](https://www.dailysignal.com/2024/06/27/fact-check-claims-made-during-biden-trump-debate/)

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/06/28/after-disastrous-debate-pbss-barron-lopez-parrots-biden-campaign)

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**Subject:** POLITICAL PARTIES (90%); US DEMOCRATIC PARTY (90%); US REPUBLICAN PARTY (89%); VOTERS & VOTING (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); LIBERALISM (78%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (77%); **ELECTIONS** (77%); HEADS OF GOVERNMENT **ELECTIONS** (77%); PARTISANSHIP (77%); POLITICAL CANDIDATES (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2008 (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2012 (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES 2024 (77%); US PRESIDENTIAL **ELECTIONS** (77%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (72%); CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (68%); NEGATIVE NEWS (68%); FELONIES (60%); ABORTION (51%); IMMIGRATION (51%); IMMIGRATION, CITIZENSHIP & DISPLACEMENT (51%)

**Industry:** BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (78%); TELEVISION PROGRAMMING (78%)

**Person:** JOE BIDEN (79%); JOHN F KELLY (73%)

**Load-Date:** June 28, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [FACT CHECK: Viral Post Claims Fulton County DA Is Going To Charge Trump For Sullying Her Image; 'There is no evidence that Trump is going to "face charges for sullying" Willis's image. Trump likely cannot be disqualified from running for president if convicted on a criminal charge, according to experts'](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:68YK-1HT1-JBFB-H43S-00000-00&context=1001073)

The Daily Caller

August 16, 2023 Wednesday 08:58 PM EST

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**Section:** POLITICS

**Length:** 682 words

**Byline:** Elias Atienza, Senior Reporter, [elias@dailycaller.com](mailto:elias@dailycaller.com)

**Body**

[Link to Image](https://cdn01.dailycaller.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/GettyImages-1579545990-1-scaled-e1691693681471.jpg)

A post [shared on X](https://twitter.com/PopularLiberal/status/1689635701044961282), the social media platform formerly known as Twitter, claims Fulton County District Attorney Fani Willis is going to charge former President Donald Trump for sullying her image and that Trump would be unable to run for office if convicted.

BOOM: Fani Willis is taking the matter seriously as Donald Trump accuses her of having an affair with a gang member at a recent rally. Willis challenges Trump to prove the accusation by tomorrow or face charges for sullying the image of a prosecutor. If convicted in Georgia,... [pic.twitter.com/P9diQ2gtOv](https://t.co/P9diQ2gtOv)

- Popular Liberal (@PopularLiberal) [August 10, 2023](https://twitter.com/PopularLiberal/status/1689635701044961282?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

**Verdict: False**

There is no evidence that Trump is going to “face charges for sullying” Willis'**s** image. Trump likely cannot be disqualified from running for president if convicted on a criminal charge, according to experts.

**Fact Check:**

Trump claimed in early August that Willis had an affair with a gang member she was investigating, according to [**Factcheck**.**org**](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/08/trump-makes-unsubstantiated-claim-about-fani-willis/). These ads are not substantiated by any evidence, the **fact-checking** outlet reported.

Social media users have been sharing claims that Willis “challenges” Trump to prove the accusation or be charged with “sullying the image of a prosecutor.” The post also claims that Trump would be unable to run for office if convicted.

There is no evidence for this claim. If Willis had said that she would charge Trump for sullying the image of a prosecutor, media outlets would have covered it, yet none have. Willis said in an email to her office not to respond to the “false accusations,” according to [the Atlanta Journal-Constitution](https://www.ajc.com/politics/derogatory-and-false-fulton-da-denies-rumors-circulated-by-trump/YSB6RC7KXZG25COURJFHDA5SGM/).

Stephen Fowler, a reporter with Georgia Public Broadcasting, [debunked](https://twitter.com/stphnfwlr/status/1689690580987543552) the claim in a tweet. [**(RELATED: No, Ukraine Did Not Ask Canada To Send 30,000 Military Age Men To Fight Russia)**](https://checkyourfact.com/2023/08/10/fact-check-ukraine-canada-military-men/)

I see we're also at the “anonymous resister lib fanfic” section of the pre-indictment news cycle, complete with nonsense about “charges for sullying the image of a prosecutor” and alleging Trump couldn't run for office if convicted, with no source (because it doesn't exist) [pic.twitter.com/4vCvW0sFy7](https://t.co/4vCvW0sFy7)

- stephen fowler (@stphnfwlr) [August 10, 2023](https://twitter.com/stphnfwlr/status/1689690580987543552?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw)

“I see we're also at the “anonymous resister lib fanfic” section of the pre-indictment news cycle, complete with nonsense about “charges for sullying the image of a prosecutor” and alleging Trump couldn't run for office if convicted, with no source (because it doesn't exist),” Fowler tweeted.

Trump likely cannot be disqualified from running for president even if he is convicted of a crime.

“Neither conviction for defamation nor for the charges that may be included in a future indictment being pursued by Fani Willis would keep Trump from continuing his campaign or from potentially being **elected** president. If **elected**, it is hard to imagine him being extradited to GA to serve time if he were convicted, but, of course, this has never been tested in court,” [Charles Bullock](https://spia.uga.edu/faculty-member/charles-s-bullock-iii/), a political science professor at the University of Georgia, told **Check** Your **Fact** in an email.

“It'**s** pretty widely accepted that the list of qualifications in the Constitution is exclusive - that is, Congress or states can't add qualifications to those listed in the Constitution. It'**s** something that really doesn't affect your ability to run as a candidate, to appear on the ballot, or to even win the **election**,” Derek Muller, a law professor at the University of Iowa, told [CBS News](https://www.cbsnews.com/news/can-trump-still-run-for-president-if-convicted-felony-2024/) in June 2023.

“There'**s** nothing barring Trump from running. Even a federal conviction doesn't prevent that. ... Even if he were mentally insane. The Supreme Court has said what'**s** in the Constitution are the only requirements you need to run for federal office,” Eugune Mazo, a Seton Hall University law professor, told [Politico](https://www.politico.com/news/2023/04/06/trump-running-for-president-prison-00090931) in April 2023.

**Check** Your **Fact** also looked at the Georgia Secretary of State'**s** [list](https://sos.ga.gov/sites/default/files/2022-01/qualifications_and_disqualifications_2013.pdf) of “general disqualifications.” Every federal and state office had a “general disqualifications” subsection except for the office of the President.

**Check** Your **Fact** reached out to the George Secretary of State'**s** office and a spokesperson for the Fulton County District Attorney'**s** office.

**Graphic**

COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA - AUGUST 5: Former President Donald Trump speaks as the keynote speaker at the 56th Annual Silver Elephant Dinner hosted by the South Carolina Republican Party on August 5, 2023 in Columbia, South Carolina. President Trump was introduced by South Carolina'**s** Governor Henry McMaster. (Photo by Melissa Sue Gerrits/Getty Images)

**Classification**

**Language:** ENGLISH

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**Subject:** CRIME, LAW ENFORCEMENT & CORRECTIONS (92%); CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS (92%); **FACT CHECKING** (92%); PUBLIC PROSECUTORS (92%); CAMPAIGNS & **ELECTIONS** (90%); CRIMINAL OFFENSES (90%); NEGATIVE NEWS (90%); SOCIAL MEDIA (90%); COUNTY GOVERNMENT (89%); INDICTMENTS (89%); **ELECTIONS** & POLITICS (79%); DEFAMATION (78%); LIBEL & SLANDER (78%); LITIGATION (78%); VERDICTS (77%); INVESTIGATIONS (74%); 2024-republican-primary (%); donald-j-trump (%); **elections**-2024 (%); fani-willis (%); georgia (%); **check**-your-**fact** (%); dcexclusives-origreporting (%); newsletter-none (%)

**Company:**  ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION (65%)

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**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (92%)

**Geographic:** GEORGIA, USA (90%); UKRAINE (79%)

**Load-Date:** August 16, 2023

**End of Document**

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1. [Column: The 'Cheapfake' Video Claims of Pro-Biden Bedwetters](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C93-BFK1-F03R-N0YC-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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**Length:** 614 words

**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

June 19th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-51964783297725914300040) )

President Biden'**s** greatest personal vulnerability in his re-**election** campaign is the perception that he'**s** mentally deteriorating and won't be able to finish a second term (when he'd be 86). So it'**s** not surprising that the pro-Biden media are feverishly defending Biden when videos suggest he might be losing it. They're clearly pre-dreading the presidential debate.

In April, a Pew Research Center poll showed 65 percent had little or no confidence in Biden'**s** physical fitness as president, and 62 percent said the same for mental fitness. A recent ABC News/Ipsos poll showed voters preferred Trump 42-23 on 'mental sharpness.'

This deeply upsets leftist journalists, who insisted President Trump was mentally unstable on a regular basiswhen Trump was in the White House. But now that Republicans are spreading videos of Biden looking like a failing geezer, they're all furiously '**fact checking**' and throwing 'Pinocchios.'

Start with a video from a skydiving demonstration at the G-7 summit in Italy. Biden appeared to be wandering away from European leaders to look at something behind him. It turns out he was giving two thumbs-up to a skydiver behind him. But what everyone saw was the leaders of Italy and France trying to discreetly rush and turn Biden around for photographs. It looked like they had 'orders' to keep Grandpa on track.

**PolitiFact** claimed it was 'False' to say Biden 'wandered off' (the cheeky New York Post headline was 'Meander In Chief'). Washington Post '**fact** checker' Glenn Kessler'**s** article carried the hot headline '#8216;Cheapfake' Biden videos enrapture right-wing media, but deeply mislead.' Kessler could have awarded Two Pinocchios ('Significant omissions and/or exaggerations') but careened into ruling Four Pinocchios, for 'Whoppers.' This isn't **fact-checking**. It'**s** spin-spoiling.

'Morning Joe' spent several days raging against the G-7 video, with Mika Brzezinski quoting a distraught Democrat strategist: 'The lie sprinting the 100-meter dash and the **fact check** is taking a stroll on the beach.' Watching European leaders try to 'rescue' Biden from meandering is now a 'lie.' Mika and Joe didn't touch video of Barack Obama grabbing Biden'**s** wrist to lead him off stage at a Hollywood fundraiser.

TV networks and video producers love to make political trouble over bad 'optics.' It'**s** obvious too much can be made of video clips. Too much can be made of verbal stumbles. Watching how someone slurps on their bottled water can only mean so much.

But wow, all the media shoes have switched to the other feet. Four years ago - on June 13, 2020 -- President Trump tentatively tiptoed down a ramp at the Air Force Academy commencement, leading to an anti-Trump feeding frenzy of 'growing health concerns.' On one day (June 15), NewsBusters found CNN and MSNBC spent nearly 51 minutes analyzing the video with medical experts and trying to inflict damage on perceptions of Trump'**s** fitness.

Now with Biden, MSNBC host Nicolle Wallace decried 'a growing and insidious trend in right-wing media' to take 'highly misleading and selectively edited video' of Biden and question his fitness. But four years ago, Wallace offered entirely the opposite spin - 12 and a half minutes on June 15, 2020 raising questions about Trump'**s** tiptoeing, trolling for 'any [conspiracy] theories about why he went to the hospital earlier this year and any connection between his struggle to hold a water glass with one hand, and that walk down the ramp?'

This is not a double standard. It'**s** simply a Democrat standard. Sing consistently from the DNC song sheet. This is the sound of left-wing cable 'news.'

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/06/19/column-cheapfake-video-claims-pro-biden-bedwetters)

**Notes**

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**Classification**

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**Industry:** FILM (89%); BLOGS & MESSAGE BOARDS (78%); CONSERVATIVE MEDIA (78%); LIBERAL MEDIA (78%); MOVIE & VIDEO PRODUCTION (72%); VIDEO INDUSTRY (72%); TELEVISION INDUSTRY (69%)

**Person:** DONALD TRUMP (79%); JOE BIDEN (79%); BARACK OBAMA (58%)

**Geographic:** EUROPE (92%); FRANCE (79%)

**Load-Date:** June 19, 2024

**End of Document**

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1. [Fact-checking the Harris-Trump debate](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CY1-BPF1-JCMC-W2X8-00000-00&context=1001073)

RollCall.com

September 11, 2024 Wednesday 8:03 AM EST

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**Length:** 8466 words

**Body**

By Eugene Kiely, Robert Farley, D’Angelo Gore, Lori Robertson, Jessica McDonald, Saranac Hale Spencer, Alan Jaffe, Kate Yandell, Ben Cohen, Logan Chapman, Sarah Usandivaras and Ian Fox

The highly anticipated debate between former President Donald Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris was a combative event in which **facts** were repeatedly trampled and distorted.

In a lengthy exchange on the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the **U.S**. Capitol, Trump made several statements that were either false, misleading or unsupported, and Harris got a couple of **facts** wrong, too. Trump referred to a rumor that began on Facebook alleging that immigrants in Springfield, Ohio, were stealing and eating local pets. City police have said there have been “no credible reports” of that kind of activity. Harris claimed Trump intends to enact what in effect is a “sales tax” which she said economists estimate would raise prices on typical American families by almost $4,000 a year. That’**s** a high-end estimate from a liberal think tank about Trump’**s** plan for “universal baseline tariffs” on imports. But Trump was also wrong when he claimed Americans would not pay higher prices due to tariffs, and that the higher prices would be borne by the countries the tariffs are levied against. Many nonpartisan economists disagree about the amount that Trump’**s** proposed tariffs would raise prices for American families, but most agree it would be substantial. Trump falsely claimed that Harris was sent “to negotiate peace” between Russia and Ukraine in February 2022. Days before Russia invaded Ukraine that month, Harris met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskky in Germany. She did not meet with Putin, as Trump said. Harris falsely claimed that “Trump left us the worst unemployment since the Great Depression.” When President Joe Biden and Harris took office in January 2021, the unemployment rate was 6.4 percent — lower than it was during several administrations since the 1930s. Harris and Trump traded jabs on manufacturing job performance in their respective administrations, with each claiming the other lost jobs, but both sides are cherry-picking from the statistics. Trump repeated his unsupported claim that “millions of people” are “pouring into our country from prisons, jails, from mental institutions and insane asylums.” And he said these migrants were “taking jobs” from “African Americans and Hispanics and also unions.” Employment and union membership data show no evidence of that, either. Trump repeated his false claim that everyone — liberals and conservatives — wanted to end Roe v. Wade’**s** constitutional right to abortion. The former president repeatedly said Democrats, including vice presidential candidate Tim Walz, were in favor of abortion “in the ninth month” — or even after birth. Abortion that late is exceedingly rare, and abortion after birth does not exist. It’**s** homicide, and it’**s** illegal. Harris repeated the assertion that Trump “will sign a national abortion ban” if reelected, but Trump said that he does not intend to sign such a ban. Harris also tried to tie Trump to Project 2025’**s** proposal for mandatory abortion reporting, but Trump has tried to distance himself from the document. The vice president claimed Trump’**s** economic policies led to “one of the highest” trade deficits in American history. But the annual trade deficits during the Biden administration have exceeded those under Trump. Trump again falsely claimed that fraud was responsible for his loss in the 2020 **election**, and wrongly claimed that none of his lawsuits making that allegation had been decided on the merits. Trump said Harris “will never allow fracking in Pennsylvania.” When she was running for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, Harris did say she was “in favor of banning fracking.” But in an Aug. 29 interview on CNN and at the debate, Harris said, “I will not ban fracking.” Harris claimed that Trump’**s** tax proposal would “provide a tax cut for billionaires and big corporations, which will result in $5 trillion to America’**s** deficit.” That’**s** the estimated 10-year cost of extending all the tax cuts in Trump’**s** 2017 tax law, but those tax changes benefited people of all income groups. Trump falsely claimed that Harris “has a flat plan to confiscate everybody’**s** guns.” Harris has not called for taking away all guns, and her campaign said she no longer supports a mandatory buyback program for so-called “assault weapons.” Trump claimed that he had “no inflation” during his presidency, while inflation experienced under Biden has been “probably the worst in our nation’**s** history.” Inflation was low under Trump, but it wasn’t zero. And while Inflation has risen significantly under Biden, it is far below record levels. Trump made the curious claim that he “saved” the Affordable Care Act, even though he tried, and failed, to repeal and replace it while he was president, and he backed a lawsuit that would have nullified the law. The former president wrongly claimed that “crime in this country is through the roof,” and that FBI data to the contrary is a “fraud” because “they didn’t include the cities with the worst crime.” The latest FBI statistics are based on voluntary reporting from a higher participation of cities than any year during Trump’**s** presidency. Trump falsely claimed that the number of jobs created during the Biden administration “turned out to be a fraud.” The Bureau of Labor Statistics announced a downward revision in the jobs tally during its routine annual revision of jobs data. Trump wrongly claimed that under his administration, “we had the greatest economy.” Harris claimed that Trump “wants to be a dictator on Day 1,” but the former president has said that he was joking when he said he would be a dictator for one day. Trump repeated a popular talking point, calling Harris the “border czar.” She was never in charge of border security, rather, she was tasked with addressing root causes of migration from three Central American Countries. Trump repeated another familiar claim, wrongly saying that the **U.S**. had left “$85 billion worth of brand new, beautiful military equipment” when it left Afghanistan.

The debate was hosted by ABC News on Sept. 10.

Trump, Harris on Jan. 6 attack on **U.S**. Capitol

Co-moderator David Muir kicked off a lengthy back-and-forth between the candidates about the Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the **U.S**. Capitol when he asked Trump if there is anything “you regret about what you did on that day.”

In his response, Trump made several statements that were either false, misleading or unsupported, and Harris got a couple of **facts** wrong.

The former president spoke on Jan. 6, 2021, on the Ellipse not far from the Capitol, where members of Congress were gathering to begin the process of accepting the electoral votes that would make Joe Biden president. In his speech , Trump told his supporters that the Democrats stole the **election**, making numerous false claims about **election** fraud in swing states, and called on then-Vice President Mike Pence to “do the right thing” and reject electoral votes for Biden, so that Trump could remain president.

He also told his supporters to march to the Capitol. They stormed the building, attacked law enforcement officers and interrupted the counting of the electoral votes, which wasn’t completed until the early hours of Jan. 7, 2021 .

In response to Muir, Trump claimed that he had “nothing to do” with the “Save America” rally “other than they asked me to make a speech.” In **fact**, Trump heavily promoted the rally on social media, telling his followers in one post that a new report proves it was “[**s**]tatistically impossible to have lost the **election**” and urging them to attend the Jan. 6 rally. “Be there,” he wrote, “will be wild!”

Trump baselessly claimed that he “went to Nancy Pelosi and the mayor of Washington, D.C.,” Muriel Bowser , and offered to give them “10,000 National Guard or soldiers” for Capitol security. He also falsely claimed that “Nancy Pelosi rejected me,” blaming the then-House speaker for a lack of adequate security.

“It would have never happened if Nancy Pelosi and the mayor of Washington did their jobs,” he said. “I wasn’t responsible for security. Nancy Pelosi was responsible. She didn’t do her job.”

As **FactCheck**.**org** has written , the claim that Pelosi is responsible for Capitol security is exaggerated. The speaker appoints one member of the four-member Capitol Police Board , which oversees Capitol security. Then-Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, a Republican, also appointed a member.

As for Trump’**s** claim that Pelosi turned down his request for 10,000 National Guard troops, the House select committee on the Capitol attack said it found “ no evidence ” of that. In its report, the committee noted that then-Acting Secretary of Defense Christopher Miller said there was “no direct order from the president” to put 10,000 National Guard troops on the ready.

Trump claimed to have new evidence, citing a tape of Pelosi discussing the attack on the day that it happened. “Her daughter has a tape of her saying she is fully responsible for what happened,” Trump claimed. “They want to get rid of that tape.”

Trump is referring to a video released in June by the House Republicans. In the video, which her daughter took on Jan. 6, 2021, Pelosi can be seen questioning the security plans and taking some responsibility for not making sure that security was adequate.

“We have responsibility, Terri. We did not have any accountability for what was going on there, and we should have,” she said. “Why weren’t the National Guard there to begin with?” When someone in the car said that security officials thought they had sufficient coverage, Pelosi angrily responded, “They clearly didn’t know, and I take responsibility for not having them just prepare for more.”

In the video, Pelosi did not say that Trump offered to provide the Capitol with 10,000 National Guard troops, and she did not say, as Trump claimed, that “she is fully responsible for what happened.”

When asked to respond, Harris recalled being at the Capitol that day — but got some **facts** wrong.

“On that day, 140 law enforcement officers were injured and some died, and understand the former president has been indicted and impeached for exactly that reason,” Harris said.

Harris is correct that 140 law enforcement officers were injured on Jan. 6, 2021, but she was wrong to suggest “some died” that day. As **FactCheck**.**org** wrote , none of the officers who provided protection at the Capitol on Jan. 6 died that day, although five officers did die in the days and months after the riot — including one that died the next day after suffering two strokes. Four other police officers died by suicide.

Harris also went too far when she said Trump “has been indicted and impeached for exactly that reason,” referring to the Jan. 6, 2021, attack.

The violent attack on the Capitol was the reason for his second impeachment , which charged him with “inciting violence against the Government of the United States.” But it wasn’t the reason for the federal indictment. In that case, as **FactCheck**.**org** has written , Trump was charged with four counts: conspiracy to defraud the United States, conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding, obstruction of and attempt to obstruct an official proceeding, and conspiracy against rights. Notably absent from the indictment, the New York Times reported , was “any count that directly accused Mr. Trump of being responsible for the violence his supporters committed at the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021.”

Harris also went on to misleadingly claim that Trump is again threatening violence. “Donald Trump, the candidate, has said, in this **election**, there will be a bloodbath if this and the outcome of this **election** is not to his liking,” she said. As **FactCheck**.**org** has written , Trump made his “bloodbath” remark at a March 16 rally in Ohio, while warning of China building auto manufacturing plants in Mexico that will cause a hemorrhaging of **U.S**. auto jobs. A campaign spokesperson told the Washington Post that Trump was referring to “an economic bloodbath for the auto industry and autoworkers” if he loses the **election**.

Falsehood about immigrants eating pets

In the midst of commenting on immigration, Trump referenced a debunked rumor that has been circulating widely on social media this week.

Referring to immigrants in a southwestern Ohio city, the former president said , “In Springfield, they’re eating the dogs, the people that came in, they’re eating the cats. They’re eating, they’re eating the pets of the people that live there.”

But, according to the Springfield News-Sun , the rumor began in a local Facebook group. “The original poster did not cite first-hand knowledge of an incident,” the newspaper reported. “Instead they claimed that their neighbor’**s** daughter’**s** friend had lost her cat and found it hanging from a branch at a Haitian neighbor’**s** home being carved up to be eaten.”

City police have said that there’**s** no evidence to support the claims.

“In response to recent rumors alleging criminal activity by the immigrant population in our city, we wish to clarify that there have been no credible reports or specific claims of pets being harmed, injured or abused by individuals within the immigrant community,” the Springfield police said in a statement provided to several news outlets this week.

And, in an unusual move, one of the debate moderators, Muir, provided some live **fact-checking**, saying, “ABC News did reach out to the city manager there. He told us there had been no credible reports of specific claims of pets being harmed, injured or abused by individuals within the immigrant community.”

Indeed, on Sept. 9, Springfield City Manager Bryan Heck provided the same statement as the police to ABC News, and said , “Additionally, there have been no verified instances of immigrants engaging in illegal activities such as squatting or littering in front of residents’ homes. Furthermore, no reports have been made regarding members of the immigrant community deliberately disrupting traffic.”

Even though there’**s** no evidence to support the claim, it has been amplified by Trump’**s** running mate, Sen. JD Vance of Ohio, who posted on X on Sept. 9, “Reports now show that people have had their pets abducted and eaten by people who shouldn’t be in this country. Where is our border czar?”

He backtracked the following day, posting on the same platform : “It’**s** possible, of course, that all of these rumors will turn out to be false.”

Tariffs

Harris claimed Trump intends to enact what in effect is a “sales tax,” which she said economists estimate would raise prices on typical American families by $4,000 a year. That’**s** a high-end estimate from a liberal think tank about Trump’**s** plan for “universal baseline tariffs” on imports.

But Trump was also wrong when he claimed Americans would not pay higher prices due to tariffs, and that the higher prices would be borne by the countries the tariffs are levied against. Many nonpartisan economists disagree about the amount that Trump’**s** proposed tariffs would raise prices for American consumers, but most agree it would be substantial.

According to Harris, her opponent “has a plan that I call the Trump sales tax, which would be a 20 percent tax on everyday goods that you rely on to get through the month.” She said, “Economists have said that that Trump sales tax would actually result for middle-class families in about $4,000 more a year.”

As we’ve written , Trump has been inconsistent and opaque about what exactly he is proposing, but most often he has talked about a 10 percent across-the-board import tax combined with a 60 percent tariff on Chinese goods. On other occasions, he has floated a baseline tariff as high as 20 percent.

The estimate cited by Harris, $4,000, comes from a liberal think tank, the Center for American Progress Action Fund , based on a 20 percent across-the-board import tax combined with a 60 percent tariff on Chinese goods.

Other nonpartisan groups have come in with lower estimates. Based on a 10 percent worldwide tariff and a 60 percent tax on imported Chinese goods, the Tax Policy Center estimated a more modest $1,350 cost to middle-income households. Using those same parameters, an analysis from the Peterson Institute for International Economics concluded Trump’**s** proposed tariffs would cost a typical middle-income household about $1,700 in increased expenses each year. The Tax Foundation estimates such tariffs would amount to an annual tax increase on **U.S**. households of $625.

So Harris has taken advantage of Trump’**s** inconsistent comments about the amount of his proposed universal tariffs to provide a high estimate of its cost to Americans. But Trump’**s** claim that his tariffs wouldn’t cost Americans at all is misleading.

Americans are “not going to have higher prices,” Trump said. “Who’**s** going to have higher prices is China and all of the countries that have been ripping us off for years.”

As **FactCheck**.**org** noted above, economists say American consumers, at least in the short term, would see higher prices due to a universal tariff.

As Erica York, senior economist and research director with the Tax Foundation’**s** Center for Federal Tax Policy, told us earlier this year, “When the **U.S**. imposes a tariff, the person in the United States who is importing the good pays a tax to the **U.S**. government when they import the foreign goods. **U.S**. tariffs are taxes on **U.S**. consumers of foreign goods that must be paid by the importer of the good.”

Harris did not negotiate Ukraine-Russia peace

During an exchange about **U.S**. support for Ukraine, Trump falsely claimed that Harris was tasked with negotiating peace between Ukraine and Russia and their respective presidents.

“Nobody likes to talk about it, but just so you understand, they sent her to negotiate peace before this war started,” Trump said of Harris. “Three days later, [Russian President Vladimir Putin] went in and started the war because everything they said was weak and stupid. They said the wrong things. That war should have never started. She was the emissary. They sent her in to negotiate with [Ukrainian President Volodymr] Zelenskyy and Putin.”

That’**s** not what happened. As we’ve written , in February 2022, Harris traveled to Germany for the annual Munich Security Conference to talk with European leaders about world topics, including Russian aggression toward Ukraine.

In a Feb. 19 speech , she warned that the **U.S**. and its allies would “impose significant and unprecedented economic costs” if Russia attacked Ukraine. She also had in-person meetings with several heads of state, including Zelenskyy and the leaders of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

But Harris did not negotiate peace between Putin and Zelenskyy. Russia reportedly did not send a representative to the security conference that year, and Harris also did not travel to Russia to meet with Putin.

“To be honest, I can’t remember a single contact between President Putin and Ms. Harris,” Dmitry Peskov, a spokesperson for Putin, said in July when asked whether Putin had ever talked with Harris.

Prior to the Munich conference, **U.S**. officials had been warning that Russia planned an invasion of Ukraine. In a Feb. 18, 2022, presser , Biden said, “We have reason to believe the Russian forces are planning to and intend to attack Ukraine in the coming week — in the coming days.” Then Russia launched its invasion on Feb. 24.

Harris wrong about unemployment

While talking about what the Biden-Harris administration inherited from the Trump administration, Harris falsely claimed that “Trump left us the worst unemployment since the Great Depression.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, the **U.S**. unemployment rate peaked at 14.8 percent in April, as businesses and other services shut down to try to slow the spread of the coronavirus. But the economy had begun to recover by the time Biden and Harris took office in January 2021, when the unemployment rate had declined to 6.4 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

That was not the highest unemployment rate since the Great Depression , which followed the stock market crash of 1929. The unemployment rate was higher than 6.4 percent for 65 consecutive months from October 2008 until March 2014, which included periods under Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama. The highest rate during that period was 10 percent in October 2009, a few months after the “ Great Recession ,” which began in December 2007, ended in June 2009.

Before then, the unemployment rate had reached as high as 10.8 percent under President Ronald Reagan in November and December 1982.

Manufacturing jobs

Harris boasted that the **U.S**. has “created over 800,000 new manufacturing jobs, while I have been vice president. … Donald Trump said he was going to create manufacturing jobs. He lost manufacturing jobs.” Trump countered that “they lost 10,000 manufacturing jobs this last month.”

As **FactCheck**.**org** wrote recently , both are cherry-picking data points.

The economy added 462,000 manufacturing jobs in Trump’**s** first two years in office, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics , and then lost 43,000 in his third year, before the pandemic-fueled recession hit.

The economy then shed nearly 1.4 million manufacturing jobs in the first few months of the pandemic, a little more than half of which returned before Trump left office. So Harris is correct that there was a net loss of manufacturing jobs – 178,000 — over Trump’**s** full term, but the vast majority of job losses under Trump were due to the global pandemic.

As of August, the **U.S**. has added 739,000 manufacturing jobs under Biden and Harris — short of the 800,000 mentioned by Harris. (And those numbers may soon change in ways that will markedly change the Biden administration’**s** record. Preliminary estimates of annual revisions to the number of jobs created over the 12 months ending in March indicate that the BLS’ monthly estimates may have overshot manufacturing jobs by 115,000.) As for Trump’**s** claim that “they lost 10,000 manufacturing jobs this last month,” that’**s** actually an undersell. BLS data show a loss of 24,000 manufacturing jobs between July and August, and a net decline of 39,000 this year.

In other words, the trend under both Trump and Biden followed a similar pattern: two years of growth following an economic downturn, followed by job losses in the third year.

No evidence for ‘prisons,’ ‘mental institutions’ claim

Echoing a whopper of a claim he has been making since last year, Trump claimed that “millions of people” crossing the southern border illegally are “pouring into our country from prisons, jails, from mental institutions and insane asylums.”

Immigration experts told us there’**s** simply no evidence for that. One expert said Trump’**s** claim appeared to be “a total fabrication.”

Trump has repeated the claim many times, but he hasn’t provided any credible support for it.

In June, **FactCheck**.**org** looked into Trump’**s** claim as it relates to Venezuela, because he has repeatedly linked a drop in crime there with his claim about countries emptying their prisons and sending inmates to the **U.S**. Once again, during the debate, Trump stated : “Do you know that crime in Venezuela and crime in countries all over the world is way down? You know why? Because they’ve taken their criminals off the street and they’ve given them to her to put into our country,” referring to Harris. Reported crime is trending down in Venezuela, but crime experts in the country say there are numerous reasons for that and they have nothing to do with sending criminals to the **U.S**.

“We have no evidence that the Venezuelan government is emptying the prisons or mental hospitals to send them out of the country, whether to the USA or any other country,” Roberto Briceño-León, founder and director of the independent Venezuelan Observatory of Violence, told us.

He said the drop in crime is partly due to worsening economic and living conditions, which have caused nearly 8 million people to leave the country since 2014. The vast majority have settled in nearby South American countries.

Trump also claimed that those coming into the country were “taking jobs that are occupied right now by African Americans and Hispanics and also unions.” **FactCheck**.**org** previously found no evidence for that, either, in employment and union membership data.

Overturning of Roe v. Wade

In discussing abortion, Trump once again repeated his false claim that everyone wanted to end Roe v. Wade’**s** constitutional right to abortion.

“Every legal scholar, every Democrat, every Republican, liberal, conservative, they all wanted this issue to be brought back to the states where the people could vote — and that’**s** what happened,” he said, also incorrectly crediting six justices on two occasions.

In 2022, after Trump appointed three conservative judges to the court, the Supreme Court overturned the 1973 decision in a 5-4 ruling, immediately putting in place restrictions on abortion in nearly half of states. Since then, as Trump went on to note, several states have voted to enshrine abortion rights in their state constitutions or reject further restrictions.

Experts have previously told us that Trump’**s** claim is “utter nonsense” and “patently absurd.” Contrary to his claim, most Americans opposed the ending of Roe v. Wade. And even though some scholars have been critical of some of the legal reasoning in the decision, many did not wish to end Roe.

No abortions ‘after birth’

In casting his opponent as “radical” on abortion, Trump repeatedly claimed Democrats support abortion “in the ninth month” or later.

“They have abortion in the ninth month,” he said , before alluding to misconstrued comments by former Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam. “He said, the baby will be born and we will decide what to do with the baby. In other words, we’ll execute the baby.” (Trump initially misidentified him as the former governor of West Virginia.)

“Her vice presidential pick says abortion in the ninth month is absolutely fine,” Trump continued , referring to Walz. “He also says, execution after birth. It’**s** execution, no longer abortion, because the baby is born.”

Trump hit the same point again later, again invoking Northam. “You could do abortions in the seventh month, the eighth month, the ninth month, and probably after birth,” he said . “Just look at the governor, former governor of Virginia. The governor of Virginia said, we put the baby aside, and then we determine what we want to do with the baby.”

As the moderator noted, no state allows people to kill babies after birth. That would be infanticide, and it’**s** illegal .

Some states do not have gestational limits on abortion, including Minnesota. Last year, Gov. Walz signed a bill protecting abortion following 2022’**s** overturning of Roe v. Wade. The law eliminated nearly all restrictions on abortion, including gestational limits.

It also removed a requirement that medical personnel “preserve the life and health” of an infant born alive as the result of an abortion. As one obstetrician explained in an editorial in the Minnesota Star Tribune, this is so that parents of a dying infant can hold their baby and say goodbye, and not be forced to watch while the child receives futile medical intervention (the law still requires the infant be given proper medical care and be “fully recognized as a human person and accorded immediate protection under the law”).

Most abortions are performed early in pregnancy. According to the latest statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which are for 2021, 80.8 percent of abortions were performed at or before nine weeks of gestation, and 93.5 percent were performed at or before 13 weeks. Fewer than 1 percent were performed at 21 weeks or later. The figures are voluntarily reported and apply to legal abortions in 48 reporting areas in the **U.S**. (D.C, New York City and all states except for California, Maryland, New Hampshire and New Jersey).

In Minnesota, 88 percent of induced abortions occurred at or before 12 weeks of pregnancy in 2022, according to the latest available data from the Minnesota Department of Health. No abortions occurred in the ninth month.

Trump’**s** references to Northam are distortions of comments the former governor made in a radio interview in 2019. Trump has previously misrepresented the comments in his State of the Union address that year.

In the interview, Northam, who is a physician, said third-trimester abortion is “done in cases where there may be severe deformities. There may be a fetus that’**s** nonviable. So in this particular example, if a mother’**s** in labor, I can tell you exactly what would happen. The infant would be delivered, the infant would be kept comfortable, the infant would be resuscitated if that’**s** what the mother and the family desired. And then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother.”

Northam later clarified that he was not suggesting infanticide, and a spokesperson said Northam was “focused on the tragic and extremely rare case in which a woman with a nonviable pregnancy or severe fetal abnormalities went into labor.”

Trump’**s** stance on national abortion ban, pregnancy monitoring

As she has said before , Harris predicted that Trump “will sign a national abortion ban” if reelected. But Trump has said this year and stated again during the debate that he would not sign such a ban.

“It’**s** a lie,” Trump said in response to Harris’ debate claim. “I’m not signing a ban, and there’**s** no reason to sign a ban, because we’ve gotten what everybody wanted” — for abortion “to be brought back into the states.” Trump was referring to the Supreme Court ruling in 2022 that overturned Roe v. Wade.

He later again denied plans to sign a national abortion ban, saying, “And as far as the abortion ban, no, I’m not in favor of [an] abortion ban, but it doesn’t matter, because this issue has now been taken over by the states.”

But it does matter if Congress sends a national abortion ban bill to the next president’**s** desk. Trump did say during his first presidential campaign and presidency that he would support a federal ban on abortion past 20 weeks in most cases, and he has reportedly more recently privately expressed support for a 16-week abortion ban.

Harris also referenced Project 2025 , a conservative document Trump has tried to distance himself from. “Understand, in his Project 2025 there would be a national abortion — a monitor that would be monitoring your pregnancies, your miscarriages,” Harris said.

As we’ve written previously , Project 2025 does propose mandatory reporting from states to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on miscarriages and abortions. But Trump’**s** campaign has said that Project 2025 “should not be associated with the campaign.” Trump has recently claimed to “know nothing” about Project 2025, although parts of it were written by former members of his administration.

When asked in April about whether states with abortion bans “should monitor women’**s** pregnancies so they can know if they’ve gotten an abortion after the ban,” Trump said such monitoring should be left up to the individual states.

Trade deficit higher under Biden

Moderator Muir asked Harris about the Biden administration’**s** decision to keep in place a number of the tariffs levied by Trump on other countries.

Harris responded : “Well, let’**s** be clear that the Trump administration resulted in a trade deficit — one of the highest we’ve ever seen in the history of America.”

But as **FactCheck**.**org** previously wrote , the trade deficit under the Biden administration has exceeded the deficit during Trump’**s** term.

As of May, the **U.S**. goods and services deficit over the previous 12 months was $799.3 billion, according to data published in early July by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. The trade deficit that period was about $145.6 billion higher, or about 22.3 percent more, than in 2020, when Trump was president. The trade deficit in 2020 was the highest annual deficit under Trump, at $653.7 billion.

Trump refuses to ‘acknowledge’ 2020 loss

Trump lost the 2020 presidential **election**. In the popular vote , Biden received a total of 81 million votes to Trump’**s** 74 million. In electoral votes , Biden garnered 306 to Trump’**s** 232.

But the former president has continued to spread disinformation undermining the integrity of the **election**, saying that he would have won if there hadn’t been widespread fraud.

Debate moderator Muir asked Trump , “Are you now acknowledging that you lost in 2020?”

“No, I don’t acknowledge that at all,” Trump responded, going on to wrongly claim that his **election**-related lawsuits were rejected on a “technicality.”

“They said we didn’t have standing,” Trump claimed .

But a list of lawsuits alleging fraud in the 2020 **election**, compiled by the nonpartisan Campaign Legal Center, shows several cases that were decided on the merits — including some brought by the Trump campaign.

And, as **FactCheck**.**org** has written , local, state and federal judges have said that Trump’**s** lawyers provided no evidence of fraud.

For example, Bucks County Court of Common Pleas Judge Robert Baldi in Pennsylvania rejected the Trump campaign’**s** attempt to toss out absentee ballots in Bucks County, a suburb of Philadelphia. In doing so, Baldi, a Republican , wrote “that there exists no evidence of any fraud, misconduct, or any impropriety with respect to the challenged ballots.” The Trump campaign appealed , but Commonwealth Court Judge Renée Cohn Jubelirer upheld the lower court ruling and also noted that Trump’**s** lawyers made “absolutely no allegations of any fraud.”

Trump’**s** own **election** security officials at the time also called the 2020 **election** “the most secure in American history.”

Fracking

Trump repeatedly said that Harris would ban fracking, or hydraulic fracturing , a technique that uses water, sand or chemicals to extract oil and natural gas from underground rock formations. Harris said she would not.

Fracking can impact the environment, including potential contamination of groundwater, according to the **U.S**. Geological Survey.

“She will never allow fracking in Pennsylvania,” Trump said during the debate in Philadelphia. “If she won the **election**, fracking in Pennsylvania will end on day one.”

Moderator Linsey Davis also asked Harris about how her position has changed on fracking. Responding to Davis, Harris said , ”Let’**s** talk about fracking, because we’re here in Pennsylvania. I made that very clear in 2020 I will not ban fracking. I have not banned fracking as vice president of the United States, and in **fact**, I was the tie-breaking vote on the Inflation Reduction Act, which opened new leases for fracking. My position is that we have got to invest in diverse sources of energy so we reduce our reliance on foreign oil.”

But when she was a candidate in the 2020 race for president, Harris said that she was opposed to fracking. During a September 2019 CNN town hall, Harris was asked by a climate activist if she would commit to a federal ban on fracking because of environmental concerns for local communities. Harris answered, “There’**s** no question I’m in favor of banning fracking, so yes.”

Harris didn’t exactly make her position clear in 2020, as she said in the debate. Instead, in the 2020 vice presidential debate, she said , “Joe Biden will not ban fracking.”

More recently, in an Aug. 29 interview with CNN’**s** Dana Bash, Harris said , “As vice president, I did not ban fracking. As president, I will not ban fracking.”

The Inflation Reduction Act does not refer specifically to fracking, but it does open up federal land to oil and gas leases, which would involve the use of fracking to extract natural gas on some of that land.

Trump tax cuts

Harris misleadingly claimed that Trump’**s** tax proposal seeks to “provide a tax cut for billionaires and big corporations, which will result in $5 trillion [added] to America’**s** deficit.”

That’**s** the estimated 10-year cost of extending all the tax cuts in Trump’**s** 2017 tax law, but those tax changes benefited people of all income groups.

As we’ve written , the vice president is referring to a 10-year cost estimate of extending all the income and corporate tax cuts included in the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act, which Trump signed in December 2017. If Congress does not act, many of the tax cuts, including the individual income tax cuts, will expire after 2025. Trump has proposed keeping them.

But extending the tax cuts would not just benefit large corporations and billionaires, as Harris suggested.

Howard Gleckman, a senior fellow at the Tax Policy Center, wrote in a July 8 blog item that it would cost an estimated $4 trillion over 10 years to extend the TCJA’**s** expiring tax cut provisions. If that happens, less than half — about 45 percent — of the tax cut benefits would go to taxpayers earning $450,000 or more, Gleckman said.

For example, under the TCJA, the child tax credit doubled from $1,000 to $2,000 per child, and the first $1,400 was made refundable, meaning the credit could reduce a family’**s** tax liability to zero and it would still be able to receive a tax refund, according to a Tax Policy Center analysis. The income cutoff for the child tax credit, or CTC, also increased from $110,000 to $400,000 for married couples filing jointly. Those earning less than $400,000 also benefit from changes made in 2017 to the individual tax rates and brackets — which also will expire after 2025 unless Congress acts.

Overall, the Tax Policy Center’**s** distributional analysis found that the tax burden of a typical household in the middle income quintile would decrease by 1.1 percent should Congress extend the TCJA’**s** provisions, as compared with a 1.7 percent decrease in the tax burden for a typical household in the top income quintile.

False gun confiscation claim

Harris, Trump claimed, “has a flat plan to confiscate everybody’**s** guns.” That’**s** false. Harris has no such plan.

In 2019, during her first campaign for president, Harris said that she would support a mandatory buyback program for so-called “assault weapons” — but not all firearms.

“There are certain types of weapons that should not be on the streets of a civil society,” Harris said , referring to assault weapons, which she called “weapons of war,” in a November 2019 NBC News interview , for example. While Harris still supports a ban on purchasing assault weapons, her campaign told us that, as of 2024, she is no longer advocating that Americans be required to give up the assault weapons that they previously purchased.

Inflation

Trump made false claims about inflation during his tenure in office and Biden’**s**.

During an exchange over Trump’**s** proposed tariff policy, the former president said that under his administration there was “no inflation, virtually no inflation,” and that the current administration “had the highest inflation perhaps in the history of our country.”

Inflation was low during Trump’**s** presidency, but it wasn’t zero.

As **FactCheck**.**org** wrote in “ Trump’**s** Final Numbers ,” the Consumer Price Index rose 7.6 percent under Trump — an average of 1.9 percent in each of his four years in office. That continued a long period of low inflation, including during the Obama administration (1.8 percent annual average) and under George W. Bush (2.4 percent average).

It isn’t true that under Biden the **U.S**. has experienced inflation “like very few people have ever seen before. Probably the worst in our nation’**s** history,” as Trump claimed.

The largest 12-month increase in the Consumer Price Index occurred from June 1919 to June 1920, when the CPI rose 23.7 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics in a 2014 publication marking the 100th anniversary of the agency’**s** tracking price changes.

Under Biden, the biggest increase occurred during a 12-month period ending in June 2022, when the CPI rose 9.1 percent (before seasonal adjustment). BLS said it was the biggest increase since the 12 months ending in November 1981.

Inflation has cooled since then. More recently, the CPI rose 2.9 percent in the 12 months ending in July, according to the BLS.

Altogether under Biden’**s** presidency, the CPI has risen 19.4 percent.

Affordable Care Act

Trump made the curious claim that he “saved” the Affordable Care Act, even though he tried, and failed, to repeal and replace it while he was president. His administration also supported a lawsuit that would have nullified the entire law.

The Supreme Court ultimately ruled in 2021 that the plaintiffs didn’t have standing to bring the suit.

If he “saved” the ACA, it was not for lack of trying to end it.

In the debate, moderator Davis asked Trump about his recent statement that, if **elected**, he would keep the ACA, known as Obamacare, “unless we can do something much better.” Davis asked if Trump had a plan to replace the law.

Trump said , “I have concepts of a plan” that “you’ll be hearing about it in the not too distant future” and that “I would only change it if we come up with something that’**s** better and less expensive.”

The former president has made similar comments before. During the 2020 campaign, he said , “What we’d like to do is totally kill it, but come up — before we do that — with something that’**s** great.” He has yet to release a replacement plan for the ACA.

What’**s** “better” is a matter of opinion, of course. One of the main provisions of the ACA is that it prohibits insurers from denying coverage or charging people more based on their preexisting health conditions, provisions that most notably have affected those seeking to buy their own coverage on the individual market. Trump has expressed support for preexisting conditions protections, but his record shows he has backed ideas that would weaken the law’**s** provisions.

Trump supported a 2017 GOP bill that would have included some, but not all, of the ACA’**s** protections for those with preexisting conditions. He also pushed the expansion of cheaper short-term health plans that wouldn’t have to abide by the ACA’**s** prohibitions against denying or pricing coverage based on health status.

In late September 2020, Trump signed an executive order that made the general proclamation: “It has been and will continue to be the policy of the United States … to ensure that Americans with pre-existing conditions can obtain the insurance of their choice at affordable rates.” He said the order put the issue of preexisting conditions “to rest.”

It did not. Karen Pollitz, who was then a senior fellow at KFF, told us at the time that the order was “aspirational” and had “no force of law.”

Despite Trump’**s** comments that he may still replace the ACA, several top Republicans have said the issue is a non-starter in Congress.

Crime

Trump wrongly claimed that “crime in this country is through the roof,” and that FBI data to the contrary is a “fraud” because “they didn’t include the cities with the worst crime.” FBI data for 2023 is based on reporting from a higher participation of cities than any year during Trump’**s** presidency, and the figures show violent crime is trending down.

As **FactCheck**.**org** has written, in Trump’**s** last year in office — 2020 — murders and violent crime went up, and there was a smaller increase the following year, Biden’**s** first year in office. But since then, murders and violent crime have been dropping.

The FBI 2022 annual report showed a slight decline in the nationwide murder rate and a larger drop in the violent crime rate between 2020 and 2022. Preliminary FBI figures for 2023 and the first quarter of 2024 show further declines in violent crimes and murders. The 2023 figures are based on data from voluntary reports by 79 percent of law enforcement agencies in the **U.S**., representing higher participation than any year during Trump’**s** presidency.

The final numbers and information about nationwide crime rates, which are adjusted for population, won’t be available until the FBI’**s** annual crime report is released in October.

The trend in the FBI reports is backed by other credible sources as well.

AH Datalytics’ analysis of data about homicides from more than 200 large **U.S**. cities showed homicides declined by about 12 percent in 2023, crime analyst Jeff Asher, co-founder of AH Datalytics, told us in May. Its data show murders have continued to drop this year overall. The FBI data also track with a large decline in shooting victims in 2023 documented by the Gun Violence Archive .

The latest figures from the Major Cities Chiefs Association also show a decline in murders and violent crime. The number of murders went down by 17 percent from the first half of 2023 to the first half of 2024 in 69 large **U.S**. cities that provided data.

And finally, the Council on Criminal Justice’**s** mid-year 2024 crime report representing data from 39 cities found: “Overall, most violent crimes are at or below levels seen in 2019, the year prior to the onset of the COVID pandemic and racial justice protests of 2020. There were 2 percent fewer homicides during the first half of 2024 than during the first half of 2019 and 15 percent fewer robberies. Aggravated assaults and domestic violence incidents also are below levels seen five years ago.”

It’**s** not fraud, it’**s** routine revisions

After falsely claiming the FBI crime data are fraudulent, Trump claimed the “number of 818,000 jobs that they said they created turned out to be a fraud.” The jobs data isn’t fraudulent, either.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics last month announced that it would likely revise monthly employment figures based on more comprehensive data — a routine revision it does every year.

“There’**s** no evidence whatsoever of any manipulation or padding,” David Wilcox , a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics and director of **U.S**. economic research at Bloomberg Economics, told us when **FactCheck**.**org** wrote about Trump’**s** claims in August. He called the BLS’ recent announcement “completely formulaic,” as it reflected the same pattern of how the BLS has been revising the job figures over many years.

As we’ve written , the BLS publishes monthly employment figures that come from a survey of more than 100,000 employers. Later, it obtains more comprehensive data from state unemployment insurance tax filings that employers submit to determine what taxes they owe to unemployment benefit programs. Once a year, the BLS adjusts its monthly estimates based on those state filings.

This year, the BLS announced on Aug. 21 a preliminary estimate that the number of jobs created over the 12 months ending in March would likely be adjusted downward by 818,000 jobs. That’**s** an adjustment of -0.5 percent to the March level of employment, larger than the average revision over the last 10 years. There have been other large revisions in the past, however.

The annual revision for 2019 , under Trump, was a reduction of 514,000 jobs, or -0.3 percent of the initial March 2019 employment estimate. The 2009 revision was a reduction of 902,000, or -0.7 percent of the original March 2009 estimate.

BLS’ final estimate for the year ending in March 2024 will be issued in February 2025, when the January employment report is released. That’**s** when the final revisions have been issued each year dating back to 2004 .

The **U.S**. has added 15.8 million jobs under Biden. An 818,000 downward revision would drop that number to about 15 million.

More repeats

The candidates repeated several other claims **FactCheck**.**org** has **fact-checked** before:

Economy. Trump revisited one of his commonly repeated claims , saying at the beginning of the debate that, under his administration, “we had the greatest economy.”

But the **U.S**. didn’t have “the greatest economy” under Trump. Economists look to real (inflation-adjusted) gross domestic product growth to measure economic health, and that figure exceeded Trump’**s** peak year of 3 percent growth more than a dozen times before he took office.

Every president since the 1930s except for Barack Obama and Herbert Hoover has seen a year with at least 3 percent growth in GDP.

Dictator. The vice president repeated one of her favorite talking points when she claimed Trump “wants to be a dictator on Day 1.” He said he was joking when he said he wouldn’t be a dictator “except for Day 1.”

Harris was referring to a comment that Trump made at a Fox News town hall in December. At the event, Sean Hannity gave Trump the chance to respond to critics who warned that Trump would be a dictator if **elected** to a second term. “Under no circumstances, you are promising America tonight, you would never abuse power as retribution against anybody,” Hannity said . Trump responded, “Except for Day 1.”

Trump went on to say, “We’re closing the border. And we’re drilling, drilling, drilling. After that, I’m not a dictator.”

Trump later claimed he was joking with Hannity. In a Feb. 4 interview with Fox News’ Maria Bartiromo, Trump said: “It was with Sean Hannity, and we were having fun, and I said, ‘I’m going to be a dictator,’ because he asked me, ‘Are you really going to be a dictator?’ I said, ‘Absolutely, I’m going to be a dictator for one day.’ I didn’t say from Day 1.”

Trump told Bartiromo his “dictator” comment was “said in jest.”

Border czar. Trump falsely claimed Harris is the “border czar.” She’**s** not.

As **FactCheck**.**org** has written , Biden in March 2021 tasked Harris with leading efforts to address the root causes of migration from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The Central American initiative , known as the “Roots Causes Strategy,” seeks to deter migration from those countries by, among other things, providing funds for natural disasters, fighting corruption, and creating partnerships with the private sector and international organizations.

Harris was not put in charge of **U.S**. border security, as the “border czar” title implies. That is the responsibility of the secretary of the Department of Homeland Security.

Afghanistan. If Trump had been president during the **U.S**. withdrawal from Afghanistan, he said , “We wouldn’t have left $85 billion worth of brand new, beautiful military equipment behind.”

But that’**s** a gross exaggeration . That figure — actually $82.9 billion — was the total amount spent on the Afghanistan Security Forces Fund since the war began in 2001. But it wasn’t all for military equipment, and most of the equipment purchased in those two decades had become inoperable, relocated, decommissioned or destroyed.

CNN reported in April 2022 that a Department of Defense report said $7.12 billion of military equipment the **U.S**. had given to the Afghan government was in Afghanistan after the **U.S**. withdrawal.

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**Person:** KAMALA HARRIS (92%); DONALD TRUMP (89%); JOE BIDEN (79%); TIMOTHY J WALZ (57%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [Why Kamala Harris and Donald Trump Don't Need to Worry About Deepfakes](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D9D-F8B1-F118-90SY-00000-00&context=1001073)

Politico.com

October 28, 2024 Monday 9:00 AM GMT

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**Section:** POLITICOPICKS

**Length:** 1396 words

**Byline:** Sasha Issenberg

**Highlight:** It'**s** not the presidential campaign that people need to be concerned with - it'**s** local races.

**Body**

If you want to agonize over a 2024 **election** that will be upended by a viral falsehood or deepfake, stop worrying about Kamala Harris and Donald Trump and turn your eyes to the local candidates whose names you might not even know yet.

The public conversation about disinformation is inevitably trained on the presidential race, where the Justice Department has charged foreign operations with trying to shape the **election** through digital malfeasance. Iranian hackers stole and distributed confidential Trump campaign records, according to one indictment. Other researchers have traced a manufactured news story accusing Harris of vehicular homicide back to a Kremlin-affiliated troll farm.

But how many people caught the incident that occurred ahead of Utah'**s** GOP primary for governor? A video that impersonated Gov. Spencer Cox'**s** voice falsely showed the Republican admitting to the "fraudulent collection of signatures" on his ballot-access petition - and quickly caught fire on social media. It remains accessible and easy to share on the platform X as Cox seeks to win a second term next month.

Amid billions of dollars spent trying to move opinions using traditional methods, it'**s** unlikely a deepfake attack on Trump or Harris would swing the presidential **election**. But the situation is far different as one moves down the ballot, where voters' views of candidates are likely to be more susceptible to new information, whether or not it'**s** true.

That is especially perilous to candidates for offices like county treasurer, city council or state legislature where campaigns typically lack the tools to anticipate viral attacks and the experience to effectively react to them. For a candidate otherwise unfamiliar to voters, and with little ability to communicate with them through advertising or press coverage, that could be the difference between an unwelcome distraction and an existential threat.

"The platforms don't have the resources to monitor across all of the races, the candidates have less resources to counter and monitor disinfo, let alone know who at the platforms to contact," said Katie Harbath, a former Facebook policy director who oversaw the company'**s** **election** business. "This creates a perfect storm where it doesn't take a bad actor much effort to wreak havoc."

Since the 2016 **election**, American progressives have invested heavily in developing a well-funded disinformation-defense infrastructure that can supply Democratic candidates and party organizations with real-time intelligence on online narratives, as well as public-opinion analysis that can illuminate which memes pose actual electoral danger. The counter-disinformation specialists who have been trained in this system have developed crucial experience navigating social media platforms' ever-changing policies. They also have cultivated direct access to the platforms' corporate employees who can expedite requests to review content for removal or deemphasis on a site.

Many of those who work on Democratic presidential and major statewide campaigns - not just digital staffers, but field, fundraising and communications staffers, and at times candidates - now receive ongoing coaching about how and when to respond so as not to further promote or amplify the underlying claim. (Republicans do not appear to have invested in a similar apparatus.)

Most typically the experts' advice is: do nothing. Nonresponse is often the best response, because rashly trying to counter a trending post could have unanticipated consequences, including amplifying its message.

That helps illuminate how Harris' campaign has navigated the recent controversy over Trump'**s** virulent lies about legal Haitian immigrants in Ohio. Except when specifically pressed by journalists, Harris has done little to correct or rebut the false claims, which Trump running mate JD Vance conceded were part of a strategy to "create stories" that would drive media attention to immigration. Yet Harris didn't quite ignore the issue, either, choosing to go to the southern border for a photo op and make a get-tough-on-smugglers policy speech.

It also explains why Harris' campaign has not publicly confronted attacks like the video from a fictitious San Francisco news outlet that assembled random images of car crashes and broken bones with an actor'**s** narration to allege falsely that Harris killed a girl in a 2011 hit-and-run incident. Microsoft'**s** Threat Analysis Center traced the video back to a Russian troll farm, as **fact-check** sites like **Politifact** and **Snopes** rushed to declare it a fabrication.

The other reason to not respond is that despite dire warnings from intelligence services and online researchers about how such foreign influence operations are likely to intensify before the presidential **election**, these attacks are not likely to have much impact on what happens on November 5.

Based on everything we know about political psychology, few voters' opinions are likely to be durably shaped by any single video clip of Harris or Trump - a single campaign ad, a news report whether positive or negative, or a misleading clip. Voter views of the presidential candidates are fairly hardened along partisan lines, helping to explain why polls do not fluctuate much, even after seemingly major events like a felony conviction or forceful debate performance.

Yet this logic does not apply in many down-ballot races, where voters often do not receive strong partisan cues from the candidates. With little press coverage or paid advertising to shape viewers' opinions, a single rumor or video could have much more immediate impact and easily become an enduring piece of content when they seek out material to inform their choice.

The case of the video deceptively impersonating Utah'**s** governor illustrates the hazards of politicians entering this sphere unprepared.

In a well-intentioned if clumsy attempt to deliver a "huge warning to everyone" about deepfakes, county commissioner Amelia Powers Gardner shared the video on her own account. A Salt Lake City television station used Gardner'**s** post as reason to air a nearly four-minute story about it. The station'**s** web article on the subject was then circulated nationally by Yahoo News, all with links leading back to the underlying video - giving immeasurably more attention to the lie than it would have received otherwise.

Little of the robust **fact-checking** infrastructure that has been built in newsrooms since 2016 is aimed at state and local politics, where there are already few journalists positioned to do even basic campaign coverage. The leading **fact-checking** sites tend to neglect anything not related to the presidential race or control of Congress. A search of them - all chockablock with articles about Trump, Harris and their running mates - reveals no coverage of the Utah incident.

"Sometimes there'**s** not that much information at all online about our candidates, especially if they're a challenger or if they've never run for office before," said Jessica Post, the former longtime executive director of the Democratic Legislative Campaign Committee, which supports the party'**s** statehouse candidates nationwide. "You Google their track record and it'**s** a track meet when they were in high school."

If a dishonest attack is launched into that void, candidates running for city, county or many state offices are likely to be unprepared. Such down-ballot campaigns typically do not have even a single digital staffer, let alone one dedicated to working to counter disinformation; instead, they might be relying on the candidate'**s** niece to run the social media accounts between homeroom and trigonometry. Without any training in the particular dynamics of viral disinformation, a campaign manager risks either failing to discern a threat until it is too late, or overreacting in a way that ends up helping to amplify an unfavorable storyline.

Local candidates may have no choice but to rely on decidedly low-tech tactics to inoculate themselves against new digital threats.

"The thing that these local candidates have that a presidential candidate can't is they can meet someone face-to-face," said Amanda Litman, the co-founder of Run for Something, a progressive organization that recruits candidates to run in down-ballot races. "It'**s** much harder to believe the fraudulent video of someone you've met at your door, you see when you go to the gym or at the grocery store."

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1. [The Dangers Of An AI-Driven Rift In US Politics: How to Spot Fake News About The Elections](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CYD-VD31-F03R-N1RP-00000-00&context=1001073)

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The Dangers Of An AI-Driven Rift In US Politics: How to Spot Fake News About The **Elections**

Deepfake technology and artificial intelligence (AI) have quickly changed the face of digital communication, but they also carry significant concerns. The dissemination of false information, where AI-driven technologies can produce believable but wholly fake content, including audio and video modifications, is one of the most concerning threats.

In particular, deepfakes can blur the boundaries between **fact** and fiction by manipulating reality in ways that are challenging to spot. When utilized improperly, these tools have the potential to severely damage public confidence in the media, magnify lies, and deceive large numbers of people.

As the 2024 US **Elections** approach, the threat posed by [deepfakes in the presidential electionbecomes even more concerning. In a time when the public relies heavily on digital platforms for news and political updates, the potential for deepfakes to manipulate voters' perceptions and decisions is a significant challenge.](https://www.expressvpn.com/blog/guide-to-spotting-fake-election-news/)

From altering political speeches to fabricating statements by candidates, deepfake technology can be used as a [symbolic weaponto sow confusion, distrust, and division in an already polarized society. Safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process has never been more critical, as AI and deepfake misinformation could have real-world consequences on democracy itself.](https://theconversation.com/deepfakes-threaten-upcoming-elections-but-responsible-ai-could-help-filter-them-out-before-they-reach-us-231860)

Understanding AI'**s** Evolution In Misinformation

The growth of artificial intelligence (AI) has significantly impacted the production and dissemination of false information. Early artificial intelligence (AI) disinformation applications concentrated on using bots and algorithmic content recommendation systems to propagate incorrect material automatically. These devices produced echo chambers, amplified content that divides people, and altered news feeds.

By delivering customized fake news to particular groups, AI-driven algorithms trained on user behaviour have made disinformation more potent and difficult to identify. Social media platforms became havens for this misinformation, with AI manipulating users' visual perceptions to reinforce prejudices, sway beliefs, and spread false narratives.

As AI advanced, so too did its capabilities in generating fake content. Enter deepfakes-a particularly insidious form of AI-generated media. Deepfakes use deep learning techniques, such as generative adversarial networks (GANs), to create hyper-realistic but entirely fabricated audio, images, and videos. These forgeries can seamlessly replace or alter someone'**s** likeness or voice, making it appear like they said or did things they never did. While early deepfakes were crude and easily identifiable, advancements in AI have made them increasingly sophisticated and challenging to detect.

How AI-Driven Rift Can Polarize **Elections**

Deepfakes and false information produced by AI seriously jeopardize national **elections** by eroding public confidence in the democratic process. AI tools may quickly create and disseminate incorrect or misleading material, sending people customized messages to sway their viewpoints. This may exacerbate contentious issues, change how the public views candidates, or affect voting behaviour.

Because AI-generated content can take advantage of search engines and social media platforms, it spreads quickly, confusing voters and making it harder for them to separate **fact** from fiction.

Deepfakes elevate the risks by introducing convincing but fabricated videos or audio clips that can alter public perception. Imagine a deepfake video showing a candidate making inflammatory remarks or admitting to criminal behaviour-such a video could go viral before it gets debunked by **fact**-checkers, leaving a lasting impact even after being exposed as fake. The damage can be profound, as deepfakes create doubt about what is real. Even authentic videos may be questioned by the general public, allowing false claims of "fake news" to increase, weakening the electorate'**s** trust in legitimate information sources.

In a polarized political environment, deep fakes can be strategically used to target specific voter groups with tailored false narratives, creating confusion and mistrust across party lines. False videos can also damage politicians' reputations or misrepresent their policies in ways that are difficult to refute in real time, primarily as **elections** draw closer.

This erosion of trust can discourage voter turnout, foster cynicism, and delegitimize the electoral process. As AI continues to evolve, the risk of its misuse during national **elections** will require vigilance, more robust regulatory frameworks, and advanced detection technologies to mitigate its impact on democracy.

Spotting AI-Generated Misinformation on the **Elections**

As the 2024 US Presidential **Elections** approach, the threat of AI-generated misinformation and deepfakes looms large. With these technologies becoming more sophisticated, voters must recognize and combat deceptive content. Here are some key strategies to spot AI-generated misinformation and deepfakes in the **election** context:

Analyze the source: One of the easiest ways to identify misinformation is to evaluate the source. Be cautious of content from unfamiliar or unreliable websites. Trusted news organizations and official campaign pages are more likely to provide accurate information. **Check** if the source has a history of spreading misleading content, and look for verification from multiple reliable outlets before believing or sharing any politically charged material.

Look for inconsistencies: Deepfakes, while increasingly sophisticated, often have telltale signs. Pay close attention to facial movements, especially around the eyes and mouth. AI-generated videos may show unnatural blinking, irregular lip-syncing, or awkward head movements. The audio may sound slightly off, with unnatural speech patterns or robotic intonations. Small details like lighting mismatches or awkward visual transitions can also be red flags when identifying manipulated media.

**Check** for factual accuracy: AI-generated misinformation often includes content that distorts **facts** or creates false narratives. Cross-**check** information related to the **elections** with reputable organizations such as **PolitiFact**, **FactCheck**.**org**, or **Snopes**. These platforms actively work to debunk misinformation, especially during **election** periods and can help verify the authenticity of claims.

Use deepfake detection tools: Emerging tools can help spot deepfakes. Some social media platforms integrate AI-driven detection algorithms to flag potentially fake videos, and third-party tools like Deepware and Sensity specialize in deepfake analysis. These tools analyze video metadata and patterns that are invisible to the human eye.

By applying these strategies and remaining vigilant, voters can protect themselves from AI-driven misinformation and deepfakes, ensuring their electoral decisions are based on accurate, verified information. The integrity of the 2024 **elections** depends on collective awareness and action against such digital manipulation.

As the 2024 US Presidential **Elections** draw near, staying vigilant to AI-generated misinformation is more crucial than ever. The rapid evolution of deepfake technology and AI-driven content generation poses severe risks to the integrity of the democratic process. When fabricated media mislead voters through manipulated videos or distorted news, their ability to make informed decisions is compromised. This could ultimately influence **election** outcomes in ways that undermine the people'**s** will.

[Link to the original story.](https://www.ibtimes.co.in/dangers-ai-driven-rift-us-politics-how-spot-fake-news-about-elections-872355)

**Notes**

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**Geographic:** UNITED STATES (79%)

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1. [NY Times Lead Story: Blame Trump, Musk, and Republicans in General for Election Lies](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D8J-3MJ1-JCMN-Y419-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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New York Times reporter, [social media censorship supporter, and](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2022/10/22/not-again-ny-times-page-one-disinfo-dud-digs-disinfo-board-czar) [First Amendment non-fan Steven Lee Myers' 'news analysis' led Thursday'**s** front page: '](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2023/02/13/nyt-first-amendment-barrier-democracy-saving-censorship-big-tech) [Voters Strain Under Deluge Of Untruths -- Disinformation Climbs to a Sordid New Peak.'](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/10/23/business/media/election-disinformation.html)

And who'**s** responsible? The Russians, Donald Trump, Elon Musk, and Republicans in general.

Myers noted false claims from Russia about Gov. Tim Walz being spread on social media by a Florida deputy sheriff, then transitioned smoothly to blame 'the world'**s** richest man, Elon Musk' for helping spread it. (Musk is a billionaire that the Times feels free to criticize, unlike George Soros, who the paper shields [by accusing conservative critics of anti-Semitism.)](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/05/10/desperate-ny-times-valid-soros-criticism-equals-republicans-echo)

Smears, lies and dirty tricks -- what we call disinformation today -- have long been a feature of American presidential **election** campaigns. Two weeks before this year'**s** vote, however, the torrent of half-truths, lies and fabrications, both foreign and homegrown, has exceeded anything that came before, according to officials and researchers who document disinformation.

The effect on the outcome on Nov. 5 remains to be seen, but it has already debased what passes for political debate about the two major party candidates, Mr. Trump and Vice President Kamala Harris. It has also corroded the foundations of the country'**s** democracy, undermining what was once a shared confidence that the country'**s** **elections**, regardless of who won, have been free and fair.

As if the mainstream media hasn't done that very thing itself with its own brand of **election** interference.

And does a sweet image of a girl and a puppy really have a corrosive effect on democracy? If posted by a Republican, then yes, evidently.

A fictitious image of a girl clutching a puppy in a life raft so moved Amy Kremer, the chairwoman in Georgia for the Republican National Committee who posted it this month, that she stood by it even after she learned it was not real.

'Y'all, I don't know where this photo came from and honestly, it doesn't matter,' she wrote on X, where her initial post received more than 3 million views. 'It is seared into my mind forever.'

The Times is disappointed that conservatives have taken steps to neutralize Big Government censorship online.

A concerted conservative legal and political campaign that went all the way to the Supreme Court has abetted the falsehoods about **election** fraud anyway. The project has undercut government agencies, universities and research organizations that once worked with the social media giants -- especially Facebook and Twitter -- to slow the spread of disinformation about voting.

Myers circled back to the left'**s** current Public Enemy No. 2, space entrepreneur and X owner Elon Musk.

Perhaps the single biggest factor in today'**s** disinformation landscape has been Mr. Musk'**s** ownership of Twitter, which he bought two years after the 2020 **election** and rebranded as X.

And could this be the [first mention in the Times of Meta chief Mark Zuckerberg'**s** 'sorry, my bad' letter to Congress for interfering in the 2020 **election** process?](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/09/01/shameless-new-york-times-censors-mark-zuckerbergs-belated)

In August, Mr. Zuckerberg wrote a mea culpa to Representative Jim Jordan of Ohio, the Republican chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, who has led the conservative charge against moderation by the major social media platforms.

Mr. Zuckerberg said that, in hindsight, Facebook had wrongly restricted access to some content about the pandemic and the laptop belonging to Mr. Biden'**s** son, Hunter.

'We've changed our policies and processes to make sure this doesn't happen again -- for instance, we no longer temporarily demote things in the **U.S**. while waiting for **fact**-checkers,' he wrote.

Perhaps the most galling part of the story was recruiting [Democratic hack and **PolitiFact** founder Bill Adair onto Team Truth vs. Republicans:](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2024/10/09/politifacts-truth-o-meter-has-dramatic-democratic-party-tilt)

One of the trailblazers in **fact-checking** in the United States has been **PolitiFact**, which the journalist Bill Adair founded in 2007 to measure the claims politicians make on a scale from true to mostly true, mostly false to 'pants on fire.'.While 'all politicians lie' might be a common lament, Mr. Adair said that the blame has tilted significantly to the Republican Party. 'You have a convergence of a politician and a party that believe they can benefit from lying,' he said.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/10/25/ny-times-lead-story-blame-trump-musk-and-republicans-general)

**Notes**

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1. [PBS Fails at Debate Fact-Checking, Adores Taylor Swift's Harris Endorsement](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CY8-6M41-F03R-N0T4-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

Newsbusters.org

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**Body**

September 12th, 2024 ( [Newsbusters.org](http://newsbusters.org/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=newstex) - Delivered by [Newstex](https://newstex.com/?utm_source=%5B%5BDELIVERY_RECIPIENT_CODE%5D%5D&utm_medium=partner&utm_campaign=Newsbusters.org&utm_id=107778&utm_content=NBST-107778-52702054047525206000147) )

PBS'**s** coverage of Tuesday night'**s** Trump-Harris debate included [live **fact-checking** from its partner **PolitiFact**, which has racked up a](https://x.com/NewsHour/status/1833641635948662931) [liberally slanted record. But when Harris falsely claimed Trump had promised a 'bloodbath,' no one at PBS or **PolitiFact** corrected her.](https://www.newsbusters.org/media-and-places/politifact)

**PolitiFact** didn't award Harris a False rating on its Truth-O-Meter for that lie (and went very soft on her otherwise), instead making do with a neutral tweet, and not even mentioning it in its [debate roundup. It merely](https://www.politifact.com/article/2024/sep/11/2024-presidential-debate-fact-check-harris-trump/) [tweeted:](https://x.com/PolitiFact/status/1833685641366040736)

Harris said Trump said "there will be a bloodbath" if the "outcome of this **election** is not to his liking." In an Ohio speech in April, Trump criticized Biden'**s** plans for electric vehicles. He called out China for building manufacturing plans in Mexico and promised to put a 100% tariff on cars crossing the border.

PBS has made the same fake "bloodbath" claim on [numerous occasions.](https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/09/04/study-hating-republicans-hailing-democrats-pbss-very-biased-2024)

Then it was on to abortion, when Donald Trump claimed 'radical' Democrats were in favor of 'executing' babies after birth.

Trump: '.you can look at the governor of West Virginia [sic], the previous governor of West Virginia [sic], not the current governor is doing an excellent job, but the governor before he said, the baby will be born and we will decide what to do with the baby, in other words, we'll execute the baby -- and that'**s** why I did that, because that predominates, because they're radical, the Democrats are radical in that,'

**PolitiFact** rated Trump'**s** 'execute the baby' comment 'False,' which itself was falsely confident in giving Northam'**s** rambling response the benefit of the doubt. **PolitiFact** huffed:

Former Virginia Gov. Ralph Northam, a Democrat and a physician, never said he would sanction the execution of newborns.Trump puts words in the then-governor'**s** mouth, saying doctors would urge the mother to let them forcibly kill the newborn.

Context: Virginia'**s** then-Democratic governor Ralph Northam was doing a live radio interview with D.C.'**s** WTOP in January 2019. The host asked the governor to explain what Fairfax County Delegate Kathy Tran meant when she said her bill to lift restrictions on third-trimester abortions would permit an abortion even if a woman was ready to give birth. Here'**s** what the former governor said:

Northam: .it'**s** done in cases where there may be severe deformities, there may be a fetus that'**s** non-viable.The infant would be delivered, the infant would be kept comfortable, the infant would be resuscitated if that'**s** what the mother and the family desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother. So I think this was really blown out of proportion.

Later on debate night, PBS News' digital producer Deema Zein hosted a post-debate chat on [YouTube with PBS political reporters Laura Barron-Lopez and Lisa Desjardins. Trump'**s** 'execute the baby' comment came up again.](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8pJrIOey7OQ)

Zein forwarded a reader question about Trump'**s** 'claims that executing babies after birth is allowed under Democrats.' Barron-Lopez seemed ignorant of the Northam context Trump had clearly been using.

Laura Barron-Lopez: It'**s** not true that Democrats support or that there is any execution of babies by any means whatsoever. I mean it'**s** a ludicrous claim and it'**s** just not true and Donald Trump and Republicans know that it'**s** not true and yet they continue to repeat it.

Desjardins agreed, paraphrasing debate moderator Linsey Davis saying 'that it'**s** not legal in any state.'

Then the big news: Pop star endorses Harris!

Barron-Lopez: We did have some breaking news as we were going live right now and I just wanted to get it in, speaking of young voters and who could potentially help Harris rally them Taylor Swift don't think she needs an introduction and explanation of who that is, but she endorsed Vice President Harris right after the debate, on Instagram.

Desjardins added an odd talking point, saying "Democrats are going to love" that Swift is playing concerts in Miami near **Election** Day.

Desjardins: And now she is not someone who has really brought politics usually into her shows. But her Eras tour is still going on, her next three dates, by the way, are the end of October or in the middle of October, in Florida. Now that'**s** now pretty a reddish, red state, but there are congressional races in that state, I think she'**s** going to be in Miami, there a congressional race right there that Democrats would love to see their folks supercharged, and her audience, a hundred-thousand people, that -- campaign is very hard of them to reach that kind of engaged audience in that way, so even just her presence there in Miami at that particular time after endorsing Biden [sic] is something Democrats are going to love.

As will PBS, no doubt.

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/clay-waters/2024/09/12/pbs-fails-debate-fact-checking-adores-taylor-swifts-harris)

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1. [Fact-checking Biden’s State of the Union](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6BH6-8V41-F03F-K2G7-00000-00&context=1001073)

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**Body**

**By Robert Farley, D’Angelo Gore, Saranac Hale Spencer, Catalina Jaramillo, Kate Yandell, Jessica McDonald, Alan Jaffe, Eugene Kiely and Lori Robertson**

In his final State of the Union address prior to the November general **election**, President Joe Biden focused on Ukraine, the Israel-Hamas war, the economy, reproductive rights, prescription drug costs and border security. Biden also criticized many of the policies of “my predecessor” — without naming former President Donald Trump. But he sometimes stretched the **facts** or left out important context.

* Biden boasted that under his leadership “wages keep going up.” But over the entirety of Biden’**s** presidency, wages are down when adjusted for inflation.

1. Biden claimed that the more recent **U.S**. inflation rate of about 3 percent is the “lowest in the world!” But several nations reported lower rates than the **U.S**. in December.
2. He again claimed to have “cut the federal deficit by over $1 trillion” — although declining deficits have mostly been the result of expiring emergency pandemic spending.
3. Biden said he had created a “record” 15 million new jobs. His 14.8 million new jobs is a record for any president in the first three years, but it’**s** not the highest job growth rate that any president has achieved in that period of time.
4. He suggested that “many” of the new jobs in **U.S**. semiconductor factories will be “paying $100,000 a year and don’t require a college degree.” But an industry trade group previously reported that only workers with bachelor’**s** or graduate degrees make that much.
5. Biden said, “My policies have attracted $650 billion in private sector investment in clean energy [and] advanced manufacturing.” Those are announcements about intentions to invest, not actual investments.
6. Biden highlighted recent decreases in murder and violent crime rates, but he neglected to mention that they are still coming down from their pandemic peak.
7. Biden omitted context of a Trump comment following an Iowa school shooting.
8. The president said billionaires pay an average federal tax rate of only 8.2 percent, but that’**s** a White House calculation that includes earnings on unsold stock as income.
9. Biden said that because of the Affordable Care Act, more than 100 million people can no longer be denied health insurance due to preexisting conditions. But pre-ACA, employer plans covered many of those people and couldn’t deny policies.
10. Biden said he was “cutting our carbon emissions in half by 2030.” That’**s** the **U.S**. goal, relative to 2005 emissions, but studies suggest current policies will not reduce emissions by that much.

Biden [spoke](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/03/08/us/politics/state-of-the-union-transcript-biden.html) to Congress on March 7.

**Wages**

Biden boasted that “wages keep going up, inflation keeps coming down.” But over the entirety of Biden’**s** presidency, wages are down when adjusted for inflation.

Average weekly earnings for rank-and-file workers [went up 14.8 percent](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000030) during Biden’**s** first three years in office, according to monthly figures compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. But inflation ate up all that gain and more. “Real” weekly earnings, which are adjusted for inflation and measured in dollars valued at their average level in 1982-84, actually [declined 3.1 percent](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000031) since Biden took office.

The [inflation-adjusted average weekly earnings](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000031) of [production and nonsupervisory workers](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000031), who make up 81 percent of [all employees in the private sector](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000031), and the [inflation-adjusted average hourly earnings of all employees](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000013) have both been on the rise for the last year and a half, with real weekly earnings rising [1.5 percent](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0500000031) since hitting the low point under Biden in June 2022.

Inflation has also moderated greatly since hitting a peak increase of 9 percent for the 12 months ending in June 2022, the [biggest](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/archives/cpi_07132022.htm) such increase in over 40 years. The unadjusted consumer price index rose [3.1 percent](https://www.bls.gov/news.release/cpi.nr0.htm) in the 12 months ending in January, the most recent figure available, and as Biden said, it has been trending down.

But looking at the entire three years of Biden’**s** presidency so far, the [consumer price index](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUSR0000SA0?) has risen a total of 18 percent.

**Inflation**

Biden claimed that inflation in the United States “has dropped from 9 percent to 3 percent — the lowest in the world!”

The year-over-year inflation rate was 3.1 percent in January, down from 9 percent in June 2022, [according to](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CUSR0000SA0?) the Bureau of Labor Statistics. But that’**s** still higher than the 1.4 percent rate when Biden took office.

Furthermore, the current **U.S**. inflation rate is not the lowest of any country.

December [data](https://stats.oecd.org/Index.aspx?DataSetCode=PRICES_CPI) from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development shows that Italy — a member of the G7, a group of seven of the world’**s** most advanced economies — had a lower year-over-year inflation rate than the United States. While the **U.S**. inflation rate was 3.3 percent for the 12 months ending that month, Italy’**s** was 0.6 percent.

[Other countries](https://perma.cc/2P7R-6DHY) with “advanced economies,” as defined by the International Monetary Fund, and millions of residents, including Denmark (0.7 percent), Lithuania (1.2 percent), Belgium (1.4 percent) and South Korea (3.2 percent), also had lower inflation rates than the United States as of December.

Even by the White House’**s** [own calculations](https://perma.cc/76J8-EYZC), which adjust for differences in how countries calculate inflation, Biden’**s** claim was inexact.

In a [Jan. 11 post](https://twitter.com/WhiteHouseCEA/status/1745454379266924631) on the social media platform called X, the White House Council of Economic Advisers wrote that as of November, the latest month with complete G7 data, “both core & headline **U.S**. inflation were among the lowest in the G7” — not *the* lowest.

That’**s** because Italy had a lower headline inflation rate than the United States, according to the CEA’**s** post. Supporting documentation provided by the White House shows that Italy’**s** rate was 0.5 percent and the **U.S**. rate was almost 2.5 percent.

[Headline inflation](https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/IF10477.pdf), unlike core inflation, factors in food and energy prices.

**Deficits**

Biden continues to misleadingly claim, as he did during his address, that’**s** he’**s** “already cut the federal deficit by over $1 trillion dollars.”

[Budget deficits](https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2024-02/51134-2024-02-Historical-Budget-Data.xlsx) have declined from the record spending gap of $3.1 trillion in fiscal 2020, the last full fiscal cycle before Biden took office. In fiscal 2021, the deficit was about $2.8 trillion; in fiscal 2022, it was almost $1.4 trillion; and in fiscal 2023, which ended Sept. 30, it was roughly $1.7 trillion.

But as **FactCheck**.**org** [has](https://www.factcheck.org/2022/12/the-whoppers-of-2022/) [explained](https://www.factcheck.org/2022/12/the-whoppers-of-2022/) [several](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/04/factchecking-bidens-reelection-remarks/) [times](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/12/the-whoppers-of-2023/), the primary reason that deficits went down by about $350 billion in Biden’**s** first year, and by another $1.3 trillion in his second, has to do with emergency COVID-19 funding that expired in those years.

Budget experts said that if not for more pandemic and infrastructure spending championed by Biden, deficits would have been even lower than they were in fiscal years 2021 and 2022.

As of February, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office [projected](https://perma.cc/A7XC-BVM3) that under current law, the deficit would fall to $1.6 trillion in fiscal 2024, rise to $1.8 trillion in fiscal 2025, then return to $1.6 trillion in fiscal 2027. “Thereafter, deficits steadily mount, reaching $2.6 trillion in 2034,” the CBO said.

**‘Record’ jobs**

As he has [done in](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/02/04/remarks-by-president-biden-at-a-campaign-event-henderson-nv/) [recent](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/02/23/remarks-by-president-biden-at-the-national-governors-association-winter-meeting/) [speeches](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/02/04/remarks-by-president-biden-at-a-campaign-event-las-vegas-nv/), Biden boasted that he has created a “record” 15 million new jobs in his first three years in office. He frequently adds on the campaign trail that that’**s** more than any president had created in [three years](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/02/05/remarks-by-president-biden-during-greet-with-mgm-resorts-management-and-culinary-leaders-las-vegas-nv/) or in the [first four-year term](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/speeches-remarks/2024/02/04/remarks-by-president-biden-at-a-campaign-event-las-vegas-nv/).

“Fifteen million new jobs in just three years — a record, a record!” he said Thursday night, right after saying that “our economy is literally the envy of the world.”

He’**s** right on the new jobs — to a point.

Since Biden took office, the **U.S**. economy added 14.8 million jobs (not quite 15 million), which is a record number of jobs, at least since 1939, for any president in his first three or four years in office, [according to](https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CES0000000001) Bureau of Labor Statistics data going back to January 1939.

But Biden isn’t accounting for population and job growth. Other presidents have seen a greater percentage increase.

The 14.8 million additional jobs under Biden represent a growth rate of 10.3 percent, as measured from January 2021, when Biden took office, through January 2024, the latest month for which data from the BLS is available. While impressive, the 10.3 percent growth rate isn’t as high as under some past presidents when there were fewer jobs.

In President Jimmy Carter’**s** only four years in office, from January 1977 to January 1981, the **U.S**. added 10.3 million jobs. That’**s** an increase of 12.8 percent. In Carter’**s** first three years, the **U.S**. added 10.1 million jobs, or 12.5 percent.

In President Lyndon Johnson’**s** only full term in office, from January 1965 to January 1969, the **U.S**. economy added 9.9 million jobs — a 16.5 percent job growth. In the first three years of that term, from January 1965 to January 1968, the **U.S**. added 7.2 million jobs, which was an increase of 12.1 percent.

In President Bill Clinton’**s** first term, from January 1993 through January 1997, the **U.S**. added 11.6 million jobs, an increase of 10.5 percent. That’**s** a slightly higher rate of job growth than in Biden’**s** first three years. But in Clinton’**s** first three years, the number of jobs increased by 7.8 percent, which is smaller.

However, the **U.S**. added a total of 22.9 million jobs in Clinton’**s** two terms, an increase of 20.9 percent, from 109.8 million jobs in January 1993 to 132.7 million in January 2001. It remains to be seen whether job growth continues at such a pace under Biden in a second term, if he wins reelection.

**Semiconductor jobs**

On [multiple occasions](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/10/bidens-misleading-talking-point-on-100k-no-degree-jobs/), Biden has left the misleading impression that new jobs in **U.S**. semiconductor factories would pay above $100,000 annually for those without a college degree.

During his speech, he said, “Private companies are now investing billions of dollars to build new chip factories here in America, creating tens of thousands of jobs. Many of those jobs paying $100,000 a year and don’t require a college degree.”

In a [2021 report](https://perma.cc/W8ZG-3ZXK), the Semiconductor Industry Association, a trade group, and Oxford Economics found that 277,000 people worked in the industry with an average salary of $170,000 in 2020. While the report said industry workers “consistently earn more than the **U.S**. average at all education attainment levels,” it noted that “average wages vary based on educational attainment.”

But only those with a bachelor’**s** degree ($120,000) or a graduate degree (over $160,000) had wages that topped six figures. Workers with a high school education or less could expect to earn a little more than $40,000. Those with at least some college experience could make $60,000, while earning an associate’**s** degree could increase that to $70,000.

According to the report, only 20 percent of semiconductor workers at the time had not attended college. Conversely, 56 percent of workers had a bachelor’**s** or graduate degree.

**Clean energy/advanced manufacturing jobs**

Biden boasted, “My policies have attracted $650 billion in private sector investment in clean energy, advanced manufacturing, creating tens of thousands of jobs here in America.” But those are announcements about intentions to invest, not actual investments.

The policies to which Biden is referring are mainly the [CHIPS Act](https://perma.cc/3W5U-V437), which includes $39 billion to fund manufacturing facilities in the United States and $11 billion for semiconductor research and development; the [Inflation Reduction Act](https://perma.cc/3W5U-V437), which includes an estimated [$369 billion](https://perma.cc/WRC7-G8V3) to combat climate change while also investing in “energy security”; the $1.9 trillion [American Rescue Plan](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text); and the [bipartisan infrastructure law](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text), which included [$550 billion](https://www.investopedia.com/here-s-what-s-in-the-usd1-trillion-infrastructure-bill-passed-by-the-senate-5196817) in new infrastructure spending.

The claim about the amount of private sector investment in clean energy and manufacturing that those policies have created is based on a [White House tabulation](https://www.whitehouse.gov/invest/) of public announcements about investments — or, as a White House press release puts it, “commitments to invest.”

“These are announced plans for investments,” [Douglas Holtz-Eakin](https://www.americanactionforum.org/experts/douglas-holtz-eakin/), president of the center-right American Action Forum, told **FactCheck**.**org** in a phone interview. “They may take years to happen, or they may not happen at all.”

“He makes it seem like the investments have happened already or that they are happening this year, and they are not,” Holtz-Eakin said. “They may not come to fruition. Market conditions change.”

And, he said, while $650 billion sounds like a lot of investment, with [gross capital stock](https://fred.stlouisfed.org/series/RKNANPUSA666NRUG) in the United States over $69 trillion, even if that amount were invested this year, “it wouldn’t exactly transform the economy.”

**Crime**

Biden highlighted the continued drop in murder and violent crime rates since he took office, but he left out some important context.

“Last year the murder rate showed the sharpest decrease in history,” Biden said. “Violent crime fell to one of its lowest levels in more than 50 years.”

It’**s** true that there has been a sharp decline in murder and homicide rates recently.

The number of homicides was 10 percent lower in 2023 than in 2022, according to a January [report](https://counciloncj.org/year-end-2023-crime-trends/) from the Council on Criminal Justice, which gathered data from 32 participating cities.

And, as **FactCheck**.**org** has [written before](https://www.factcheck.org/2024/01/bidens-numbers-january-2024-update/), a November [report](https://majorcitieschiefs.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/MCCA-Violent-Crime-Report-2023-and-2022-January-to-September.pdf) from the Major Cities Chiefs Association [showed](https://perma.cc/4H76-LA5T) a 10.7 percent decline in the number of murders from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, 2023, compared with the same time period in 2022, in 69 large **U.S**. cities.

Similarly, violent crime has also gone down, according to the most [recent data released](https://www.fbi.gov/news/press-releases/fbi-releases-2022-crime-in-the-nation-statistics) by the FBI, and the Council on Criminal Justice [report](https://counciloncj.org/year-end-2023-crime-trends/) found that there were “3 percent fewer reported aggravated assaults in 2023 than in 2022 and 7 percent fewer gun assaults in 11 reporting cities. Reported carjacking incidents fell by 5 percent in 10 reporting cities but robberies and domestic violence incidents each rose 2 percent.”

But, in both cases, the homicide and violent crime rates are higher than they were in 2019 — the year before the COVID-19 pandemic broke out.

While it’**s** unclear exactly why, there was a sharp increase in homicide and violent crime during the pandemic that may have been broadly due to the wide availability of guns and the insecurity brought on by the pandemic, according to an [analysis](https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/myths-and-realities-understanding-recent-trends-violent-crime?gclid=Cj0KCQiAj4ecBhD3ARIsAM4Q_jGg-az7emFerr78dXXnoCA9hlEl1BvevFxQeYm_0xwCqfFR7Id8cjIaAiZKEALw_wcB&ms=gad_violent%20crime_617000456634_8626214133_143843260761) from the Brennan Center for Justice.

While Biden was correct in pointing out a recent decrease in murder and violent crime, he didn’t account for the preceding increase during the pandemic.

**Trump’s ‘get over it’ comment**

While speaking about the mass shooting in Uvalde, Texas, and other gun violence, Biden said, “Meanwhile, my predecessor told the NRA he’**s** proud he did nothing on guns when he was president. After another school shooting in Iowa recently, he said — when asked what to do about it — he said, ‘Just get over it.’”

But Biden omitted much of what Trump said after the Jan. 4 [shooting at Perry High School in Iowa](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/01/04/us/perry-iowa-school-shooting.html), where a 17-year-old student killed a sixth grader and injured four other students and the principal.

The following day, at a [campaign rally in Sioux Center](https://www.c-span.org/video/?532608-1/president-trump-holds-rally-sioux-center-iowa), Iowa, [Trump offered](https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/elections/presidential/caucus/2024/01/05/donald-trump-sends-deepest-sympathy-in-perry-school-shooting-then-attacks-biden-haley-desantis/72107498007/) his “support and deepest sympathies” to the victims of the school shooting. “We’re really with you as much as anybody can be. It’**s** a very terrible thing that happened. It’**s** just terrible to see that happening,” Trump said. “That’**s** just horrible. It’**s** so surprising to see it here.”

He added, “But we have to get over it. We have to move forward. But to the relatives, and to all of the people who are devastated right now, to the point they can’t breathe, they can’t live, we are with you all the way.”

**Taxes paid by billionaires**

As he [has said](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/02/bidens-tax-rate-comparison-for-billionaires-and-schoolteachers/) many times [before](https://perma.cc/5BVB-5ATT), Biden claimed that billionaires pay an average federal tax rate of 8.2 percent, less than the rate paid by “a teacher, a sanitation worker or a nurse.” But that’**s** not the average rate in the current tax system; it’**s** a White House calculation that factors in earnings on unsold stock as income.

When looking only at income, the top-earning taxpayers, on average, pay higher tax rates than those in the income groups below them, as **FactCheck**.**org** [has explained](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/02/bidens-tax-rate-comparison-for-billionaires-and-schoolteachers/). Biden’**s** point, which he doesn’t make clear, is that the current tax system does not tax earnings on assets, such as stock, until that asset is sold, at which point they are subject to capital gains taxes. Until stocks and assets are sold, any earnings are referred to as “unrealized” gains.

The president has used the 8 percent figure to argue that wealthy households, those worth over $100 million, [should pay](https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/131/General-Explanations-FY2024.pdf#page=89) a [25 percent minimum tax](https://perma.cc/RJ97-SC33), as calculated on both standard income and unrealized investment income combined.

The problem with the current system, the White House has said, is that unrealized gains could go untaxed forever if wealthy people hold on to them and pass them on to heirs when they die.

Under what’**s** called [stepped-up basis](https://taxfoundation.org/tax-basics/step-up-in-basis/), the value of an asset is adjusted to the fair market value at the time of the inheritance. This wipes out any taxes on the unrealized gains that accumulated from the time the investor bought the asset and the time it was inherited.

When **FactCheck**.**org** wrote about this last year, [Erica York](https://taxfoundation.org/staff/erica-york/), a senior economist and research manager at the Tax Foundation, explained that wealthy households can also borrow money against the assets they own “to consume their wealth without paying tax.” After the family member passes away, the assets can go to heirs, who won’t have to pay taxes on the unrealized gains. York referred to the strategy as “buy, borrow, die.”

Biden’**s** brief talking point leaves the misleading impression that billionaires are only paying 8 percent on average in federal taxes under the current tax system.

**Preexisting conditions**

Biden said that because of the Affordable Care Act, “over 100 million of you can no longer be denied health insurance because of preexisting conditions,” claiming that Trump wants to repeal the ACA and take away this protection.

The 100 million figure is [an estimate](https://avalere.com/press-releases/repeal-of-acas-pre-existing-condition-protections-could-affect-health-security-of-over-100-million-people) of how many Americans not on Medicare or Medicaid have preexisting conditions. But if the ACA were eliminated, only those buying their own plans on the individual, or nongroup, market would immediately [be at risk](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/09/biden-misleads-on-preexisting-conditions/) of being denied insurance.

The ACA instituted sweeping protections for those with preexisting conditions, [prohibiting](https://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/about-the-aca/pre-existing-conditions/index.html) insurers in all markets from denying coverage or charging more based on health status. Those protections were most important for the individual market. Even before the ACA, employer plans couldn’t deny issuing a policy — and could only decline coverage for some preexisting conditions for a limited period if a new employee had a lapse in coverage.

**FactCheck**.**org** last [wrote](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/12/biden-spins-the-facts-in-campaign-speech/) about this issue in December, when Biden said “over 100 million people” had protections for their preexisting conditions “only” because of the ACA, a figure he also [used](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/10/biden-on-the-stump/) [during](https://www.factcheck.org/2020/09/biden-misleads-on-preexisting-conditions/) the 2020 campaign.

Again, those with employer plans did have protections before the ACA. The law’**s** broad protections would benefit people who lost their jobs or retired early and found themselves seeking insurance on the individual market. As of 2022, 20 million people, or about [6.3 percent](https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/total-population/?dataView=1&currentTimeframe=0&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D) of the **U.S**. population, got coverage on the individual market.

As for Trump, he has said he wants to get rid of the law, [posting](https://apnews.com/article/trump-obamacare-health-care-biden-c2b1f5776310870deed2fb997b07fc2c) on social media in November that Republicans “should never give up” on terminating the ACA. Trump said he was “seriously looking at alternatives,” but he hasn’t provided a plan. And he never released one while he was president either.

Given what Trump has backed in the past, he may well support a plan that wouldn’t be as comprehensive as the ACA and would lead to an increase in the uninsured and fewer protections for those with health conditions. But Biden makes the assumption Trump wouldn’t replace the ACA with anything at all.

**Carbon emissions**

In one of his few, short references to climate change in the speech, Biden said, “I’m cutting our carbon emissions in half by 2030.”

Biden is likely referring to the [emissions target](https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/04/22/fact-sheet-president-biden-sets-2030-greenhouse-gas-pollution-reduction-target-aimed-at-creating-good-paying-union-jobs-and-securing-u-s-leadership-on-clean-energy-technologies/) for heat-trapping greenhouse gases his administration set for the **U.S**. in April 2021 as part of rejoining the [Paris Agreement](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement), the international accord that ideally aims to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels — and from which Trump had officially [withdrawn](https://2017-2021.state.gov/on-the-u-s-withdrawal-from-the-paris-agreement/) the country in 2019. The goal under Biden is to reduce American emissions by 50 to 52 percent from 2005 levels by 2030.

The Biden administration has made substantial progress in meeting the goal, most notably with the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, Biden’**s** signature climate legislation that [includes](https://www.factcheck.org/2022/08/how-does-the-inflation-reduction-act-address-climate-change/) [investments](https://www.whitehouse.gov/cleanenergy/inflation-reduction-act-guidebook/) in clean energy. But as **FactCheck**.**org** has [written](https://www.factcheck.org/2023/04/warming-beyond-1-5-c-harmful-but-not-a-point-of-no-return-as-biden-claims/), when the president has previously claimed the United States is “on track” to achieve its Paris goal, estimates suggest existing policies will not quite get the country all the way there.

“Based on Congressional action and currently finalized regulations, we are not on track to meet 50-52 percent below 2005 by 2030,” [Jesse Jenkins](https://environmenthalfcentury.princeton.edu/experts/jesse-jenkins), who leads the Princeton Zero-Carbon Energy Systems Research and Optimization Laboratory, told **FactCheck**.**org** in an email last April. Jenkins said then that it was possible “the gap could be closed” once certain rules are finalized and others are proposed. The Biden administration, however, has recently announced or is reportedly planning changes that some say would weaken rules related to [vehicle](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/02/17/climate/biden-epa-auto-emissions.html) and [gas power plant](https://www.nytimes.com/2024/02/29/climate/epa-climate-power-plant-emissions.html) emissions.

In a [January update](https://archive.is/wip/46SKo), the research firm Rhodium Group estimated that under current policy, the **U.S**. will cut emissions 29 to 42 percent below 2005 levels in 2030.

A recent [analysis](https://www.carbonbrief.org/analysis-trump-election-win-could-add-4bn-tonnes-to-us-emissions-by-2030/) by Carbon Brief, a **U**.K.-based climate-focused website, similarly projected that if Biden were reelected, the **U.S**. would get to a 43 percent reduction. That’**s** much higher than a second term for Trump — who, assuming he would undo Biden’**s** policies, would cut emissions by just 28 percent — but also still not to the full halfway mark.

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**Body**

Speaking at a rally in South Carolina, 2024 US Presidential hopeful Donald Trump made the bizarre claim that windmills, or wind farms, were driving whales crazy and to their deaths.

This year has seen an unusually high number of whale deaths off the East Coast of the US.

More than 30 humpback whales alone have been stranded and died along the Atlantic coast from Maine through Florida this year.

Many of the whales have displayed evidence of pre-mortem vessel strike — a collision with a boat — however, this finding isn't consistent with all the whales examined.

It has led many, like Mr Trump, to claim that the growth of wind farms and the survey work behind it might be disturbing and ultimately leading to the death of whales — although the scientists say that this is not necessarily the case.

Donald Trump during his South Carolina rally; he is hoping to secure the 2024 presidency

Speaking at the rally about the maritime industry and boat speed limits, Mr Trump said: "Their windmills are causing whales to die in numbers never seen before, nobody does anything about that, they're washing up on the shore [...] the windmills are driving them crazy, they're driving the whales a little batty, and they're washing up on shore at levels never seen before."

It is true that whales have been washing up on the US coast at an unprecedented level.

The majority of those whales have been baleen whales, a type of whale that has baleen plates instead of teeth.

Scientists say there are a variety of reasons behind the whale deaths which appear to be part of a longer-term trend of unusually high mortality among marine animals.

Most say there is no indication that the standings and subsequent deaths have anything to do with the wind farms and surveys done in preparation for installing the turbines.

This is because the acoustic mechanisms being used in the surveys are either completed out of the hearing range of baleen whales or only slightly capable of disturbing them, according to scientists speaking to **factcheck**.**org**.

Dead whales like this one on New York Beach have been washing up all across the US East Coast

However, Dr Rachel Cartwright, a whale scientist, told Express.co.**uk** that there were some concerns that the farms could in theory be contributing to harming whales.

"We know that there are some noise impacts associated primarily with the construction and to a lesser degree with the operation of wind farms," she said. "However, I'm sure that most of us whale researchers agree that these impacts pale in comparison to issues related to ocean warming and acidification.

"If both the sites chosen and the timing of installation of wind farms is done in a way that takes into consideration the presence of whales, then it can be done with minimal impact. Anything that helps slow the current rate of climate change, ocean warming and associated loss of sea ice is going to be a very good thing for whales."

She went on to talk about the practices meant to be observed when planners are scouting out wind farm locations, and how not following them may well cause harm to whales: "The thing is that large whales are highly migratory, so for example on the east coast of the US, where many wind farms are under consideration, if the really noisy construction work is done in the winter when the whales have migrated out of the area, then the impact is way less.

"Also, feeding areas and migratory corridors can be mapped and avoided. These are pretty finite areas, and although they do shift a bit, they should still be included in any environmental impact statement."

Regulations within wind farming require operators to ensure that no whales are in the vicinity when conducting a survey.

Douglas Nowacek, the chair of marine conservation technology at Duke University, told the **fact-checking** website that, "there'**s** basically zero chance that those surveys have caused any mortality".

This hasn't stopped individuals and platforms that have previously endorsed Mr Trump from also asserting that wind farms are, in **fact**, killing whales.

Ex-Fox News host Tucker Carlson earlier this year aired a segment titled, "The Biden Whale Extinction", in which he blamed wind farms for "killing a high number of whales".

Outlets like Media Matters have picked up on the popularity with which such narratives have attracted on social media.

They say there is no indication that the standings and subsequent deaths have anything to do with the wind farms and surveys done in preparation to install the turbines.

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Offshore wind farms have boomed in the US since 2016

Between January 1 and March 1 of this year on Facebook alone, 84 percent of the 288 posts which mentioned "wind energy" specifically made reference to the claim that wind farms kill whales.

While the scientists claim that no malpractice is occurring, Michael Shellenberger, a former public relations professional who writes about politics and the environment, in August released his short documentary, 'Thrown to the Wind'.

In it, a small team of scientists gather evidence that suggests increased traffic from wind farms and their surveyors aligns with the increase in deaths.

The documentary shows scientists apparently recording far higher noise levels from the sonar survey ships, and at greater distances than are permitted by the authorities.

While the evidence collected is a correlation that could simply be coincidental, former House of Lords member and science writer Matt Ridley noted in a piece for The Spectator: "It'**s** not a mad idea that wind farms threaten whales."

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1. [Trump’s Closing Argument: Lies, Distortions and Inaccuracies; Fact Check](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6DB9-6CC1-DXY4-X0HN-00000-00&context=1001073)

The New York Times

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**Section:** US; politics

**Length:** 2508 words

**Byline:** Linda Qiu and Jamie Leventhal, &lt;p&gt;Linda Qiu is a reporter who specializes in **fact-checking** statements made by politicians and public figures. She has been reporting and **fact-checking** public figures for nearly a decade.&lt;/p&gt;

**Highlight:** Beyoncé, whales, voting and immigration: For Mr. Trump, no topic is too insignificant or too important when it comes to making misleading or inaccurate statements.

**Body**

Beyoncé, whales, voting and immigration: For Mr. Trump, no topic is too insignificant or too important when it comes to making misleading or inaccurate statements.

Former President Donald J. Trump, in the closing days of the 2024 **election**, continues to be a font of exaggerations, misleading claims and outright lies.

For Mr. Trump, no topic is too important or too insignificant when it comes to making inaccurate or distorted assertions. In the past two weeks, he has shared false claims about voting, immigration, economic policy and his opponent, Vice President Kamala Harris, as well as whales, an astronaut, Beyoncé, Oprah Winfrey and his own uncle, among countless other misleading statements.

Mr. Trump frequently revisits certain claims or inflates old exaggerations into even more egregious falsehoods.

Here’**s** a **fact-check** of his recent remarks.

False Claims of Voter Fraud

Mr. Trump has continued to repeat the lie that the 2020 **election** was stolen ([it was not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)), reprising a number of inaccurate claims about the race that year: insisting that courts threw out all of his **election** lawsuits without considering the merits ([of 64 lawsuits filed](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) by Mr. Trump and his supporters, 20 were dismissed before being heard on the merits, 30 included a hearing on merits and 14 were dismissed by the plaintiffs themselves); asserting that **election** observers were not given access ([his own lawsuits say otherwise](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)); and claiming that former President Jimmy Carter had opposed mail-in voting ([he supported it in 2020](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)).

As **Election** Day nears, Mr. Trump has again cited examples of what he calls fraud.

False. Mr. Trump’**s** campaign said he was referring to a ruling by a federal judge in Virginia ordering the state to restore about 1,600 voter registrations — not thousands of ballots that have already been cast. The Supreme Court [has since temporarily paused](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that decision, meaning the state can remove those voters from its rolls ahead of this **election** cycle.

Virginia, citing the need to remove noncitizens who could vote illegally, began purging from its rolls people whose driver’**s** license forms suggest they are not citizens. It said that 600 people had marked themselves as noncitizens on official forms and that another 1,000 had said they were citizens but were previously listed as noncitizens. The Justice Department and voting rights groups [sued Virginia](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), arguing, among other things, that many may in **fact** be citizens who had improperly filled out the forms or had since been naturalized. A federal court agreed.

A lawyer representing the state acknowledged the possibility that some may be citizens but said removing the names was necessary to prevent noncitizens from voting. But that is not evidence that thousands of noncitizens have voted illegally, and [instances in which that has happened](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) are extremely rare.

False. Again, Mr. Trump was wrongly describing other voter documents as ballots cast.

Officials in Lancaster County, Pa., [announced on Oct. 25](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that they were investigating two batches of 2,500 voter registration applications for potential fraud. Officials [told The New York Times](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that some contained incorrect Social Security numbers or addresses, and other residents told investigators they had not filled out the forms. But not all the applications were fake and the registrations included both Democratic and Republican voters, they said.

Again, no actual votes were in dispute.

Inaccurate Attacks on Harris

[Misleading attacks on Ms. Harris](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) figured prominently in Mr. Trump’**s** last rallies and appearances in the news media. Those include characterizing her as the Biden administration’**s** “border czar” ([this was not her title](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)), claiming that she supports defunding the police and abolishing Immigrations and Customs Enforcement ([this overstated her positions](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)) and asserting that she supports banning cows and cars ([she does not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)).

His recent remarks also include fresh and false attacks on her economic policies.

False. Most elements of the 2017 tax cut that Mr. Trump signed into law are set to expire next year. Mr. Trump was referring to an estimate of the average tax increase in that situation. But Ms. Harris [has proposed extending the individual tax cuts](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) for those making under $400,000, while raising taxes on the very wealthy and corporations and giving lower- and middle-class taxpayers additional tax breaks.

The Tax Foundation, a conservative think tank, [estimated](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that the law’**s** expiration would cost each taxpayer about $2,853 on average. But there is great variability depending on each family and on each taxpayer’**s** individual circumstances. The think tank [estimated that a single person](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) making $30,000 would see a hike of $243 and a family making over $2 million would see an increase of $24,000.

More important, that is not what Ms. Harris has proposed.

Under Ms. Harris’**s** plan — which includes expanding the child and earned-income tax credits and providing down-payment assistance for some home buyers — all income groups barring the top 5 percent of earners would see after-tax income increase by $1,800 or more, according to [the University of Pennsylvania’**s** Penn Wharton Budget Model](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), a nonpartisan research group. The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, a liberal think tank, [similarly found](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that all but the top 1 percent would see after-tax income increase by $1,100 or more.

Mr. Trump’**s** claim about a 33 percent tax hike on domestic production refers to Ms. Harris’**s** proposal to increase the top corporate tax rate from 21 percent to 28 percent. That is indeed a 33 percent increase, but that rate generally [only applies to the profits of traditional C corporations](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), and allows deductions for the cost of goods, wages, advertising, other taxes and interest.

But other types of businesses like sole proprietorships, partnerships and **S** corporations are [taxed differently](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html). Known as “pass-throughs” because the income of these businesses are passed through their owners’ tax returns and taxed at individual rates, they would not generally be subject to the 28 percent tax increase. [Most businesses are, in **fact**, pass-throughs](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), and they earn a [majority of business income](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in the United States, contrary to Mr. Trump’**s** claim that the increase of the corporate tax rate would apply to “all domestic production.” A portion of these businesses would be subject to Ms. Harris’**s** proposal to the top marginal tax rate from 37 percent to 39.6 percent — that is not a 33 percent increase.

The Trump campaign cited the Tax Foundation’**s** [assessment](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that raising the corporate tax to 28 percent would cause a loss of 159,000 jobs and a 0.8 percent decline in gross domestic product. That is not the same thing, though, as a 33 percent tax on all domestic production.

False. Ms. Harris called for a ban on hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in 2019 during the Democratic primary in the 2020 **election**. She no longer holds that position and has [promoted increased oil and gas development,](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) including new leases for fracking, that have taken place under the Biden administration. Mr. Trump also vastly overstated the number of jobs in fracking.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that there were about [120,000 jobs](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in oil and gas extraction across the entire country in September, and [22,200 jobs](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in “mining, quarrying and oil and gas extraction” — not just fracking — in Pennsylvania in 2023. And the Energy Department estimated that [there were nearly 49,000 workers](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in Pennsylvania’**s** fuels sector in 2023, including more than 16,000 in oil and other petroleum and more than 13,000 in gas.

The American Petroleum Institute, an industry group, estimated that [there were some 93,000 direct jobs in oil and gas](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in Pennsylvania in 2021 — again, across the entire sector and not just fracking — and a total of 423,000 jobs “supported” by the industry. But experts [have taken issue with the figure](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), noting an industry’**s** economic activity typically [only generates up to twice the number of indirect jobs](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

The Trump campaign cited [a 2019 report from the **U.S**. Chamber of Commerce](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) estimating that Pennsylvania would lose 609,000 direct and indirect jobs under a nationwide fracking ban — resulting from “higher residential energy costs,” “higher business energy costs” and “upstream production losses.” [As The Washington Post noted](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), Mr. Trump’**s** own Energy Department [said that the study’**s** finding appeared to be an outlier](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

A researcher with the Ohio River Valley Institute, a nonprofit think tank, told The Washington Post that there were [about 18,000 direct fracking jobs in the state.](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)

Doubling Down on Old Falsehoods

Mr. Trump’**s** appearances in the last week included many familiar boasts, superlatives and dire warnings: The 2017 tax cut was the “biggest” ([it was not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)), that the level of illegal immigration under him was the lowest in “recorded history” ([it was not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)) and that he had “rebuilt” the military ([he did not)](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html). Conversely, by his account, Mr. Biden and Ms. Harris presided over “the worst inflation in history”([they did not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)), the import of “criminal migrants from jails” and “insane aslyums” ([there is no evidence for this](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)) and the diversion of funds from disaster relief to migrant shelters ([no funds have been diverted](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)).

In some cases, Mr. Trump has updated familiar talking points, railing against crime and reverting to anti-immigrant messaging.

False. During the presidential debate in September, Mr. Trump insisted that violent crime rose under the Biden administration, prompting the ABC anchor David Muir to **fact-check** him. Recently, Mr. Trump has insisted that he had been proved right by referring to and either misstating or wildly inflating an [analysis of official crime data published by Fox News](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

The F.B.I. reported that violent crime [had declined by 3 percent](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in 2023, and released revised figures for 2022, as it does every year. The revisions, according to the Fox News report, show a 4.5 percent increase in violent crime from 2021 to 2022.

But even that figure is misleading, [as **FactCheck**.**org** has noted](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html). That is because crime data from 2021 was incomplete, as police departments across the country transitioned to a different reporting system. Moreover, the revised data still show that [violent crime had declined overall](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) since 2020 from a rate of 386.3 per 100,000 people to 360.9 in 2021, then 377.1 in 2022 and then 363.8 in 2023.

“Violent crime still had a small down in 2023 relative to 2022 and was largely in line with the historically low violent crime rates observed from 2013 through 2019,” [wrote Jeff Asher, a crime data analyst](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

“None of these revisions change our understanding of the nation’**s** crime trends,” he added.

This is exaggerated. After repeating [a debunked claim](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that Haitian migrants were eating pets in Springfield, Ohio, the Trump campaign has pivoted to less fantastical, yet nonetheless hyperbolic warnings about their impact on the community.

Mr. Trump overstated the number of Haitian migrants in Springfield. City officials have [estimated 12,000 to 20,000](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), some of whom have lived in the country for many years.

No entity has “dropped” the migrants into the city, which [explained](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in an F.A.Q. that “once a person with temporary protected status enters the country, they are free to locate wherever they choose.” Many were drawn to Springfield [to fill jobs](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

The Trump campaign pointed to [doctors](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) and [officials](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in the city describing struggling to adapt to an influx of migrants. Although the city has said a lack of resources in schools and public health was a current challenge, a public health official in Springfield [said its hospitals were not overwhelmed](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html). Similarly, school officials have said that the influx of students who do not speak English [“puts a strain”](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) on the system, but those students’ needs for resources was “[not taking away](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) from funding that’**s** used for the English-speaking population.”

A Grab Bag of Errant Claims

Digressions, too, are a staple of Mr. Trump’**s** messaging and can incorporate his penchant for exaggeration. In the past two weeks, he has repeated inaccurate claims that he was on Oprah Winfrey’**s** final show ([he was not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)), that devastating wildfires were caused because “they’re not allowed to rake their forests” ([this was misleading](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)) and that wind turbines cause whale deaths ([they do not](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)).

Mr. Trump also did not stick to the **facts** on a broad range of topics.

False. Mr. Aldrin, the astronaut who was the second man to walk on the moon, [endorsed Mr. Trump last week](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in a statement that did not say that the endorsement was Mr. Aldrin’**s** first. [A longtime Republican donor](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), Mr. Aldrin has endorsed a number of Republican candidates in the past, including [Martha McSally](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in Arizona’**s** Senate race in 2020 (a **fact** that Mr. Trump himself [shared on social media](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)); [Dan Crenshaw](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) for a House seat in Texas in 2018; [Mark Treadwell](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), then the lieutenant governor of Alaska, in a Senate race in 2014; and [Christine O’Donnell](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) in Delaware’**s** Senate race in 2008. Mr. Aldrin also [spoke at the Conservative Political Action Conference in 2016](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) and [appeared at a campaign rally for President George W. Bush in 2004.](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html)

“They said, ladies and gentlemen, they said, Beyoncé’**s** coming to sing. And she came, but she didn’t sing. And then Kamala came on as Beyoncé was leaving without singing even one song, and they booed the hell out of both of them.”

— in a rally on Oct. 30 in Green Bay, Wis.

False. Beyoncé spoke at a rally for Ms. Harris this month in Houston. While she did not perform, as Mr. Trump said, the two women were not booed. The Trump campaign pointed to a [Daily Mail report](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) about Beyoncé fans angry that she did not perform, quoting an unnamed fan describing feeling “bamboozled” on social media. The report did not mention booing.

“I had an uncle that was at M.I.T. for — a professor for 41 years, the longest-serving professor ever.”

— at the Rocky Mount, N.C., rally

False. [Dr. John G. Trump](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), Mr. Trump’**s** uncle, was a faculty member at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology from 1936 to 1980 and a professor emeritus until his death in 1985, [according to the university’**s** museum](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html). The university [told Newsweek](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that Professor Trump was not its longest-serving faculty member and that it knew of at least 10 people who had served longer or were currently serving.

This is misleading. Mr. Trump was referring to [Alyssa Farah Griffin](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html), a former Trump aide and now a co-host of “The View” who recently [signed a letter warning](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) that Mr. Trump, if re-**elected**, would rule like a dictator. Ms. Farah Griffin worked in the press office as [the White House director of strategic communications](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) from April 2020 to her resignation in December 2020. Her title was “assistant to the president,” a [designation for top-ranking officials](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html) and the same held by senior aides including advisers (like Ivanka Trump), the White House counsel (like Pat A. Cipollone) and chiefs of staff (like John F. Kelly). Ms. Farah Griffin was not an “assistant press secretary,” [a term for lower-ranking aides in the press office](https://www.nytimes.com/2023/08/17/us/politics/trump-election-lies-fact-check.html).

PHOTO: Former President Donald J. Trump repeatedly revisits certain claims or further inflates old exaggerations. (PHOTOGRAPH BY Doug Mills/The New York Times FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES)

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1. [WHAT THEY ARE SAYING: Trump's Disastrous Interview at the National NABJ Convention](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6CM9-W991-JC11-103M-00000-00&context=1001073)

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**Body**

The Democratic National Committee issued the following news release:

Yesterday, Donald Trump spent 34 minutes lying to and insulting Black journalists, Vice President Kamala Harris, and the American public when he took the stage at what was supposed to be an hour-long conversation at the National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ) annual convention in Chicago, IL. Expectations were already low, yet, Trump still successfully managed to waste everyone'**s** time (literally) in what was no doubt a colossal trainwreck.

DNC Chair Jaime Harrison:

Here'**s** what some NABJ reporters had to say:

@HaroldRKuntz3: Per Folks in the inside: "Trump is threatening to pull out if we **fact check** him."

@AmeshiaCross: Trump is the holdup. He is refusing a live **fact check**. Doesn't want to take the stage if **Politifact** is live **fact checking** #NABJ24

@AmeshiaCross: Read him the receipts: he'**s** hosted white supremacists, attacked Black journalists, Black candidates (birtherism) Trump attacked saying he saved HBCUs, says he'**s** been the best POTUS since Lincoln, calls the questions nasty and disgraceful #NABJ24

@TheAmirVera: Former President Donald Trump came out to barely any applause. #NABJ24

@JasJWright: Trump'**s** interview at NABJ is off to a very rough start.

After @rachelvscott asks about his prior comments about Black electeds, including comments like "rabid"

Trump slams the questioner for greeting him in a "horrible manner," as someone in the crowd yelled "show her some respect."

Trump said "I have been the best president for the Black population since President Lincoln," to which the crowd laughed loudly

@CuriousScout: Boy this is rough to witness. @rachelvscott doesn't deserve to be treated like this in what should be a safe space for Black women journalists #NABJ #NABJ24 @kadiagoba @HARRISFAULKNER

@CuriousScout: Ok @rachelvscott tried but Trump has fully attacked her right at the gate. "Fake news" and "Black population" already dropped.

@rolandsmartin: It took @realDonaldTrump less than 1 minute to start insulting @NABJ. This is 100% TRASH.

@shaq\_omari: Presidential Candidate Donald Trump comes out on stage and calls ABC News a "fake news network" #NABJ #DonaldTrump #Trump #NABJFactCheck

@keithboykin: Right off the bat, Trump attacks ABC reporter for asking a question in a "horrible manner" and attacks them for being "fake news" and "rude." NABJ got played

@amberwaves: Out the gate on @rachelvscott'**s** fair question about the elephant in the room on him even being here and the name calling and criticisms of Black journalists, Trump calls her nasty and disrespectful all throughout his non-answer. #NABJ24

@KarenAttiah: Trump has not answered directly a single question #NABJ24

@Chandelis: Donald Trump says he didn't know VP Harris was a Black woman until recently:

"She was always of Indian heritage & she was only promoting Indian heritage. I didn't know she was Black until a number of years ago when she happened to turn Black & now she wants be known as Black."

@shaq\_omari: Donald Trump dodges the question on whether VP Kamala Harris is a DEI hire, saying Harris only claimed she'**s** Black a few years ago.

#DonaldTrump #Trump #NABJ24 #NABJ #**Election**

@KarenAttiah: The crowd has actually been gasping and upset at Trumps attacks on N.A.B.J., Kamala Harris'**s** racial identity, etc

@AmeshiaCross: "Is she Indian or is she Black....she was Indian forever until she....long pause...became a Black person" @realDonaldTrump on @KamalaHarris What the hell is this #NABJ24

@KarenAttiah: Room is boiling with anger and disappointment right now

@KarenAttiah: Trump is saying he doesn't know much about the Sonya Massey case in response to a question about police and qualified immunity #NABJ24

@AmeshiaCross: Someone just yelled at Trump"sir have you no shame" from the audience. Trump refuses to admonish the Jan 6 rioters already convicted #NABJ24

@KarenAttiah: This does not help us here in the room, who aren't seeing it on the screens. And Trump is not being **checked** directly!!!

This is a charade.

@WilliamsSharrie: Trump recap at @NABJ:

-Says opening question was horrible, rude and nasty

-I didn't know Kamala is Black until a few years ago. She was Indian until she turned Black

-A Black job is any job, any job a Black person has

-Rioters from Jan 6th deserve immunity #NABJ24

@sagesurge: My favorite quote from Trump at this disaster at the National Association of Black Journalists is...

"A lot of journalists in this room are Black."

#NABJ #NABJ24 #NABJ2024

@sagesurge: Trump'**s** team cut them off when they asked about Project 2025.

#NABJ #NABJ24 #NABJ2024

@Stephon\_Dingle: Former president Trump leaves after last question to a murmuring crowd. The 35 minute convo was quite something to witness in person. It was mixed with defiant silence at times, along with laughs and random singular shouting in response to Trump claims.

@NABJ @wjz #Campaign2024

@theatlantavoice: Trump was hauled off stage after 35 minutes. He was supposed to be on stage for 60 minutes. This was a disaster. #NABJ24

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Original text here: <https://democrats.org/news/what-they-are-saying-trumps-disastrous-interview-at-the-national-nabj-convention/>

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1. [Donald Trump To Detroit: Drop Dead](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D5D-P0G1-F03R-N444-00000-00&context=1001073)

Newstex Blogs

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Isn't this nicer than any picture of that man? Photo by [Max Harlynking on](https://www.wonkette.com/true) [Unsplash](https://unsplash.com/)

Donald Trump gave a campaign speech at the Detroit Economic Club Thursday, and as has become the norm for the least normal candidate ever, the Great Leader rambled incoherently for nearly two hours, flitted from one topic to another with no apparent logic, and lied, lied, lied. We think it might have been billed as a speech on his economic policy, which is China, tariffs, immigrant murderers, inflation, immigrant rapists, voter fraud, immigrants with big knives coming to kill you and eat your pets while taking all the hurricane money and also did he mention China, and immigrants.

But there we go, falling into that old journalistic trap of making Trump sound more coherent than he was.

[TV news station website Click On Detroit sanewashed it by saying Trump 'spoke for more than an hour, covering a wide range of topics, including the automotive industry and manufacturing.'](https://www.clickondetroit.com/news/local/2024/10/10/trump-takes-jab-at-detroit-in-speech-at-detroit-economic-club-duggan-responds/)

[The Detroit News helpfully explained that Trump 'pitched Michigan business leaders Thursday on a series of steps he hopes can reinvigorate what he says is a 'collapsing' **U.S**. auto industry, while also criticizing Detroit, the city where he was delivering his remarks.'](https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2024/10/10/donald-trump-detroit-economic-club-speech-auto-industry-evs-kamala-harris-lansing-assembly-plant/75496438007/)

Well OK, if you say so. You sure that'**s** what he did?

Wonkette will tell you what he did. That'**s** why you should

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[Here'**s** video of the full speech, for anyone with more patience than we have; we started skipping ahead during the initial two-plus minutes when Trump smiled and swayed as 'God Bless the USA' played.](https://youtu.be/Km-gQhP5fnw)

<https://www.youtube-nocookie.com/embed/Km-gQhP5fnw?rel=0&autoplay=0&showinfo=0&enablejsapi=0>

Trump had a teleprompter, for all the good it did. After some ritual lies about Hurricane Helene, Trump exaggerated [Thursday'**s** inflation report, saying that it DOUBLED economists' predictions. His speechwriters must have been so proud: The monthly rate was up two tenths of a percent instead of the one-tenth in the forecast. But the annualized rate was up just 2.4 percent from this time last year (compared to a 2.3 percent forecast). Aren't numbers fun?](https://www.cnbc.com/2024/10/09/stock-market-today-live-updates.html)

And then I remembered that **fact-checking** a two hour Trump speech would take days, so here, have a few WTF moments.

[Per the Detroit News, the 'plan' to boost the auto industry involved tariffs on imported vehicles, duh, as well as yet another made-up tax exemption, this time a promise to make interest on car loans fully deductible. We guess that was in there.](https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2024/10/10/donald-trump-detroit-economic-club-speech-auto-industry-evs-kamala-harris-lansing-assembly-plant/75496438007/)

Trump also brought that sense of sunny, can-do optimism that audiences have come to know and love, proclaiming 'Your car industry is going out of business. It'**s** going out of business,' but just **elect** him and everything will be fine again.

But if Harris wins, Trump warned, then all of America 'will be like Detroit. Our whole country will end up being like Detroit if she'**s** your president. You're going to have a mess on your hands.' Like Detroit? Gosh, what ever could he have been talking about?

[Detroit Free Press columnist Khalil AlHajal points out that despite the friendly crowd, the joke fell flat. While they laughed at his other punchlines, they stayed silent when he insulted the majority-Black city he was standing in. And Detroit'**s** doing pretty well, thanks, Mayor Mike Duggan pointed out, what with crime down, population increasing, and new industries booming.](https://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/khalil-alhajal/2024/10/11/trump-detroit-kamala-harris-election-2024/75619035007/?utm_source=freepress-dailybriefing-strada&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dailybriefing-greeting&utm_term=newsletter-greeting&utm_content=pdtf-detroit-nletter65)

In **fact**, AlHajal adds,

Detroit actually did inspire a part of Harris' economic plan. Harris announced in August a proposal to provide up to $25,000 in down payment assistance to first-time home buyers.

We're already doing that. Detroit'**s** program served as a model for the national initiative, according to Duggan.

It'**s** almost as if everything Trump thinks he knows is forever trapped in the 1980s.

Also, here'**s** a fun thing: One of Trump'**s** [oldest and favoritest lies since at least 2016 is that he received a 'Michigan Man of the Year' award in 2013, although no such award exists. In his Detroit speech, Trump bristled at being called a liar by New York Times reporter Peter Baker, the latest reporter to **fact check** the story. Trump dramatically](https://www.factcheck.org/2019/08/trumps-dubious-michigan-man-of-the-year-boast/) [pulled from his suit pocket a printout of a newspaper story he said proved that the award was real, and that he DID TOO get the award. He even worked in a joke about Kamala Harris working at McDonalds, which](https://x.com/justinbaragona/status/1844437132573876242) [Trumpers think never happened.](https://www.wonkette.com/p/kamala-harris-did-not-put-mcdonalds)

Thus did Trump destroy the failing New York Times, because there was an article about the award! Except nah, it was a [2023 article from the Oakland (Michigan) Press about Trump being honored by local Republicans as 'Man of the Decade,' a real upgrade. The article did say Trump had been awarded 'Man of the Year' a decade earlier, so he still wins!!!](https://www.theoaklandpress.com/2023/05/18/oakland-county-gop-to-honor-donald-trump/)

Except nah again, because the 2023 article was wrong, [an error the editors apologized for in a correction published after Trump repeated the lie in his speech: 'Trump was the keynote speaker at the 2013 dinner in Novi, which drew a record crowd. He was not honored as Man of the Year.' Oops.](https://www.theoaklandpress.com/2023/05/18/oakland-county-gop-to-honor-donald-trump/)

There was even more dogshit in the speech, like when Trump [decided he needed to define 'groceries.'](https://x.com/Acyn/status/1844456223883788692)

'The word grocery - it'**s** a sort of simple word. It sort of means like everything you eat. The stomach is speaking, it always does. And I have more complaints about that, bacon, things going up. Double, triple, quadruple.'

Very stable economic policy expert, he'**s** the guy.

Following the speech, Trump sat down to take a few friendly questions from GOP fucktondonor John Rakolta, who may sound familiar. A decade ago, Rakolta was among [several rich assholes who pushed a crazy scheme to turn Detroit'**s** Belle Isle, a huge, historic public park on an island in the river separating Detroit from its neighbor to the south, Canada, into an](https://www.wonkette.com/p/lets-learn-about-the-mitt-romney-bff-who-wants-to-steal-a-public-park-secede-from-michigan) [independent nation, a libertarian paradise with no taxes or regulations. That never happened.](https://www.alternet.org/2013/01/libertarian-developers-ayn-rand-fantasy-detroits-latest-nightmare)

But he'**s** more likely to sound familiar because his wife, Terry Rakolta, [tried to get 'Married With Children' taken off the air back in the '80s. That also never happened.](https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/tv/tv-news/katey-sagal-says-married-with-children-sent-terry-rakolta-flowers-every-year-for-inadvertently-helping-ratings-4164591/)

Rakolta wanted to know how Trump raised such wonderful successful children, and for some reason Trump didn't use the big word nepotism because it'**s** not in his vocabulary. Instead, Trump went off on an eight-minute rant that eventually ended up calling for the death penalty for drug dealers, which we doubt would actually help with the Terrible Twos.

Also, we have [previously discussed Donald Trump'**s** sociopathic parenting, so fuck him.](https://www.wonkette.com/p/how-donald-trumps-sociopathic-parenting-made-donald-trump-jr-the-winner-he-is-today)

Oh, also, it sure [sounds like Trump farted during the speech, too. At about the 4-second mark here:](https://x.com/Acyn/status/1844476557768999384)

After you listen to that a few dozen times, please remember for Crom'**s** sake to turn down your speakers again so you won't be blasted by the next audio thing you play.

[Share](https://www.wonkette.com/p/donald-trump-to-detroit-drop-dead?utm_source=substack&utm_medium=email&utm_content=share&action=share)

[ [Detroit News /](https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/politics/2024/10/10/donald-trump-detroit-economic-club-speech-auto-industry-evs-kamala-harris-lansing-assembly-plant/75496438007/) [Detroit Free Press /](https://www.freep.com/story/opinion/columnists/khalil-alhajal/2024/10/11/trump-detroit-kamala-harris-election-2024/75619035007/?utm_source=freepress-dailybriefing-strada&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=dailybriefing-greeting&utm_term=newsletter-greeting&utm_content=pdtf-detroit-nletter65) [New Republic /](https://newrepublic.com/post/187055/donald-trump-loses-train-thought-awkward-speech) [**FactCheck**.**Org**. /](https://www.factcheck.org/2019/08/trumps-dubious-michigan-man-of-the-year-boast/) [AlterNet]](https://www.alternet.org/2013/01/libertarian-developers-ayn-rand-fantasy-detroits-latest-nightmare)

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**End of Document**

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1. [Repetition of a meme with a false claim that the January 6 Committee destroyed evidence.](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6D7Y-B491-JCG7-851J-00000-00&context=1001073)

CE Noticias Financieras English

October 22, 2024 Tuesday

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<img width="780" height="520" src="<https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?fit=780%2C520&ssl=1>" class="attachment-rss-image-size size-rss-image-size wp-post-image" alt="capitolio 6 de enero" srcset="<https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?w=780&ssl=1> 780w, <https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?resize=300%2C200&ssl=1> 300w, <https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?resize=768%2C512&ssl=1> 768w, <https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?resize=400%2C267&ssl=1> 400w, <https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/rsz_6_de_enero_capitolio.webp?fit=780%2C520&ssl=1&w=370> 370w" sizes="(max-width: 34.9rem) calc(100vw - 2rem), (max-width: 53rem) calc(8 \* (100vw / 12)), (min-width: 53rem) calc(6 \* (100vw / 12)), 100vw" /><p>The House committee that investigated the attack on the **U.S**. Capitol on January 6, 2021 issued a report of more than 800 pages presenting and analyzing evidence about what happened that day.

It also released videos, transcribed interviews, statements and other documents. However, some high-profile conservatives are making the false claim that the committee destroyed "all the evidence."</p> <p>This is a translation from El Tiempo Latino. You can read the original article at **Factcheck**.**org**. Written by Saranac Hale Spencer.</p> <p>The House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6 Attack on the **U.S**. Capitol issued an 800+ page report in 2022 detailing how former President Donald Trump'**s** false claims undermining the integrity of the 2020 **election** led to the riot on Capitol Hill.</p> <p>The committee also released more than 140 transcripts of the testimony that was included in the report and has made public the videos, statements and documents, including memos, emails and voicemails.</p> <p>But now, in the final weeks before the 2024 **election**, some conservative influencers - including Donald Trump Jr. and Jack Posobiec - are spreading a meme that makes the false claim that the committee destroyed "all the evidence" linking Trump to the attack.</p> <p>The meme features an image of Al Pacino in the 1983 film "Scarface" with the text, "If Trump was guilty, why did the Jan. 6 Select Committee destroy all the evidence they collected against him?"</p> <p>The claim that the committee destroyed evidence appears to be a repeat of an argument we wrote about last year. Republican Rep. Barry Loudermilk of Georgia had told Fox News in a story published Aug. 8, 2023, that the committee had failed to properly preserve some documents, data and video statements.</p> <p>That same day, Trump took that argument further, posting on his social media platform, "The Jan. 6 Non-Selective Committee got rid of EVERYTHING! Discarded, Eliminated, Thrown Out. A blatant violation of the law."</p> <p>The following month, in an appearance on NBC'**s** "Meet the Press," Trump made a similar claim.</p> <p>But, as we noted at the time, Loudermilk'**s** original claim did not allege that the committee'**s** records were destroyed, as Trump claimed. Rather, Loudermilk expressed concerns about what materials needed to be archived. When we contacted Trump'**s** spokesperson for clarification or evidence to support his claims, we did not receive a response.</p> <p>In a letter to Loudermilk on July 7, 2023, Rep. Bennie Thompson, who chaired the committee, reported that more than one million records had been prepared for release and archiving in coordination with various government offices, including the National Archives and Records Administration and the House Administration Committee.</p> <p>In a footnote to that letter, Thompson explained, "The Select Committee did not archive temporary committee records that were not elevated by committee actions, such as use in official hearings or publications, or those that did not advance its investigative activities."</p> <p>Thus, the meme shared by Trump'**s** eldest son and Posobiec appears to be a recycled version of this old claim. In reality, the evidence collected by the committee is still publicly available on a government website.</p> <p>House Select Committee to Investigate the January 6th Attack on the United States Capitol. Final Report. 22 Dec 2022.</p> <p>Habeshian, Sareen. "All the transcripts the Jan. 6 committee has released so far." Axios. 30 Dec 2022.</p> <p>Farley, Robert and D'Angelo Gore. "**FactChecking** Trump on 'Meet the Press.'" **FactCheck**.**org**. 20 Sep 2023.</p> <p>**U.S**. Government Publishing Office. Select January 6th Committee Final Report and Supporting Materials Collection. Accessed 14 Oct 2024.</p>

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1. [Biden confuses statistics on Hispanic students](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C22-0KF1-DYY9-02K9-00000-00&context=1001073)

CE Noticias Financieras English

May 16, 2024 Thursday

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[Link to Image](https://i0.wp.com/eltiempolatino.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/2-open-house.png?fit=1024%2C594&ssl=1)

According to the Department of Education, approximately 28% of **U.S**. students are Hispanic. According to Census Bureau data, about 15% of **U.S**. students speak Spanish at home. And approximately 21% of students come from households where at least one person speaks Spanish.

This is a translation of El Tiempo Latino. You can read the original article at **Factcheck**.**org**. By Robert Farley.

Three different statistics. Three different numbers.

President Joe Biden in his remarks to the Latino audience whose votes he hopes to win routinely confuses these statistics, sometimes during the same speech or interview.

For example, in his remarks during a Cinco de Mayo reception at the White House (May 6) Biden called Latinos "the future of our nation."

"You know, everybody says.... why have I always been so fundamentally focused on Latinos?" said Biden. "Simple proposition: you make up 28% of the students in America. Think about it, think about it. Twenty-eight percent of all students in high schools and elementary schools in the **U.S**. are Latino."

So far, so good. The Department of Education'**s** National Center for Education Statistics indicates that by the fall of 2021, approximately 28% of students enrolled in public schools in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade were Hispanic/Latino.

But later in the speech, Biden said, "You know, when you have 28% of all students in our schools through high school, 28% speaking Spanish, how the hell can we not pay attention?"

This is not accurate. It assumes that all Hispanic students speak Spanish, and they don't.

Normally we wouldn't write about an **elected** official making a mistake with a statistic that he had gotten right before. But in this case, it is a statistic that Biden has gotten wrong numerous times, and for years.

For example, on a Spanish-language radio program recorded on , Biden was asked why it was important for him to have events like the Cinco de Mayo reception.

"The Hispanic community is part of America'**s** future," Biden said. "Twenty-eight out of every 100 students in school speak Spanish - 28! The idea of ignoring that, how could that be? That'**s** our future." (The Republican National Committee singled out Biden for this, , "He completely made that statistic up." But Biden did not make up the figure; he mistook it for a different statistic, as this article makes clear.)

On other occasions, Biden has cited similar figures such as the percentage of students who come from Spanish-speaking households, as he did in an April 9 interview on Univision and in remarks at the Congressional Hispanic Caucus gala on Sept. 21, 2022.

Analyzing data from the Census Bureau'**s** 2022 American Community Survey, Jeffrey Passel, senior demographer at the Pew Research Center, concluded that approximately 21% of students in the **U.S**. live in a household where at least one person speaks Spanish.

In fairness, Biden has gotten the statistic right numerous times as well, such as during his remarks at the Economic Leadership Summit of the Americas on Nov. 3, when he said, "About a quarter of the children in our public schools today are Hispanic." But Biden often confuses the percentage of Hispanic students in the **U.S**. with the percentage of students in the **U.S**. who speak Spanish.

This confusion led **PolitiFact** to step in with two **fact-checks** when Biden said it incorrectly repeatedly on the campaign trail in September 2020, and again in June.

At least once, the White House press office has corrected the president on the official transcript. When Biden, in remarks at a reception for Hispanic Heritage Month on Sept. 30, 2022, said, "Twenty-six percent of every child in school today speaks Spanish," the press office later clarified that he meant "is Latino."

There is a difference between being Latino and speaking Spanish. According to the Census Bureau'**s** 2022 American Community Survey, about 45% of **U.S**.-born Hispanics speak only English. Another 45% speak another language but also speak English "very well". As would be expected, a much smaller percentage of foreign-born Hispanics, who make up about one-third of the Hispanic population in the country, speak only English (6.5%) or speak another language but also speak English "very well" (31%).

According to Passel of the Pew Research Center, the American Community Survey shows that about 26% of K-12 students are Hispanic (slightly more in public schools than in private schools). This is close to the 28% cited by Biden, and, as we said, the Department of Education reports the figure as 28%.

As for the percentage of students in the **U.S**. who speak Spanish, the American Community Survey questions do not make it easy to answer that accurately.

Analyzing the available survey data (not whether anyone speaks Spanish, but whether it is "spoken at home") for those ages 5 and older, Passel said that about 15% of K-12 students speak Spanish at home, representing about 55% of Hispanic students. We looked at the survey data another way; people ages 5-17 (school age but not necessarily students) and similarly found that nearly 15% of that population speaks Spanish.

Analyzing data from the 2022 American Community Survey (the most recent available) Passel estimated that the proportion of K-12 students who come from a household where someone speaks Spanish is 21%.

Again, Biden mixes these statistics, often inflating the percentage of students who speak Spanish.

We contacted the White House press office for comment or support for the president'**s** claims, but did not get a response.

**Classification**

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**Person:** JOE BIDEN (79%)

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**End of Document**

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1. [PolitiFact Screams 'Pants On Fire' at Tucker Carlson's 'QAnon Shaman' Video](https://plus.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:67RF-5411-JCMN-Y2M6-00000-00&context=1001073)

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**Length:** 645 words

**Byline:** Tim Graham

**Body**

Mar 09, 2023( Newsbusters.org: <http://newsbusters.org>/ Delivered by Newstex)

Tucker Carlson is clearly a hate figure in the offices of **PolitiFact**. Over the years, this is his "Truth-O-Meter" record:[1] one "Mostly True," one "Half True," and 26 "Mostly False" or worse ratings (five "Mostly False, twelve "False" and NINE "Pants On Fire").

Now compare that to the other cable hosts in his hour. Chris Hayes, who'**s** hosted an MSNBC show since 2011, has one "True" and one "Half True" (that one from 2011). CNN'**s** Anderson Cooper, who'**s** had a prime-time show from the founding of **PolitiFact** in 2007....doesn't have a page[2]! That'**s** zero "**fact checks**."

Unsurprisingly, the latest "Pants On Fire" from **PolitiFact** takes Carlson'**s** January 6 riot videos, specifically the footage of the "Q-Anon Shaman" Jacob Chansley wandering the halls of the Capitol facing no visible resistance from police. Carlson said they basically acted as "tour guides" -- mocking the appearance without audio.

Tucker Carlson claimed that Capitol Police officers acted as 'tour guides' for 'QAnon Shaman' Jacob Chansley during the Jan. 6 Capitol attack. That'**s** Pants on Fire! <https://t.co/2th41j8HjT>[3]

— **PolitiFact** (@**PolitiFact**) March 9, 2023[4]

**PolitiFact**'**s** Madison Czopek makes the point that what you don't hear is that the cops were trying to get Chansley to vacate the premises. "Capitol Police officers repeatedly asked Chansley and other rioters to leave the Capitol building, according to the plea agreement."

She added reaction from Tom Manger, who took over the Capitol Police after the riot.

In aninternal department memo[5], Manger, the Capitol Police chief, said Carlson'**s** claim that officers helped the rioters and acted as tour guides was "outrageous and false."

Manger denounced Carlson'**s** program and contested Carlson'**s** assertion that the network had reached out to Capitol Police for context before airing the segment.

"Tour guides" is an exaggeration -- like, well, calling the riot a "deadly insurrection" -- but you won't get a "Pants On Fire" for that. **PolitiFact** has been extremely aggressive at any conservative attempts to downplay the riot -- or make the point that many "rioters" were charged with "parading," not violent offenses.

Carlson was underlining that Chansley was non-violent, even if he wanted "justice" (whatever that means) for Mike Pence. "If he was in **fact** committing such a grave crime, why didn't the officers who were standing right next to him place him under arrest?" Why did they throw the book at non-violent Chansley with a 44-month jail sentence? Because he was "the face" of the riot.

Meanwhile, Chris Hayes doesn't fear a **fact check** when he says The New York Times is "not a liberal paper[6]." Anderson Cooper doesn't have to worry when he says Tucker Carlson would have wet his pants[7] if he was in the middle of the riot, because he'**s** "somebody who has never put himself in harm'**s** way in any capacity for anyone else." That kind of mockery is acceptable. Cooper is a golden boy at **PolitiFact**.

[ 1]: https://www.**politifact** .com/personalities/tucker-carlson/ [ 2]: [https://www.**politifact**.com/search/?q=anderson+cooper](https://www.politifact.com/search/?q=anderson+cooper) [ 3]: <https://t.co/2th41j8HjT> [ 4]: [https://twitter.com/**PolitiFact**/status/1633835129402716175?ref\_src=twsrc%5Etfw](https://twitter.com/PolitiFact/status/1633835129402716175?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw) [ 5]: <https://twitter.com/KFaulders/status/1633156537253240832?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw%7Ctwcamp%5Etweetembed%7Ctwterm%5E1633156537253240832%7Ctwgr%5E2eabe942573025784bf1c426e7eabcf6d69c0985%7Ctwcon%5Es1_&ref_url=https%3A%2F%2Fabcnews.go.com%2FPolitics%2Fcapitol-police-chief-slams-carlsons-comments-jan-6%2Fstory%3Fid%3D97686463> [ 6]: <https://www.newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/kevin-tober/2023/03/08/msnbcs-hayes-smears-daily-caller-claims-nyt-not-liberal-paper> [ 7]: [https://www.independent.co.**uk**/news/world/americas/us-politics/anderson-cooper-tucker-carlson-capitol-riot-b2296851.html](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/us-politics/anderson-cooper-tucker-carlson-capitol-riot-b2296851.html) ;;;;

[Link to the original story.](https://newsbusters.org/blogs/nb/tim-graham/2023/03/09/politifact-screams-pants-fire-tucker-carlsons-qanon-shaman-video)

**Notes**

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**Person:** TUCKER CARLSON (93%)

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**End of Document**