

Voter Suppression

It looks like PolitiFact, Snopes and FactCheck have all been focused on COVID and Trump for quite some time. What I could find about voter suppression doesn't seem particularly relevant (See [Figure 1](#)). Recent misinformation surrounding voting is mostly about the disenfranchisement of Trump supporters and the bus-loads of illegal aliens carted to the polls.

I have attempted to retool positively identified disinformation in the Potential Treatments section (and make up some disinfo in one case). In each of the four proposed treatments, I have a disinformation tactic (plus one actual law), a potential way that this can be adapted to be more general (or misleading) and a suggestion for the type of image that could make this type of statement targeted. I don't know anything about image licensing, experiments, or where this experiment may go so I just kept it simple.

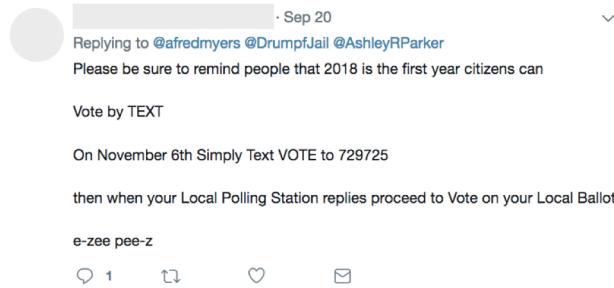
The More Options section shows some attacks upon Kamal Harris, Joe Biden and Hillary Clinton. The problem with these is that I do not think that on their own they could be evidence of voter suppression, rather it could be interpreted as hyper-partisan fake news.

Potential treatments

- “In 2008 in Philadelphia, flyers posted near Drexel University incorrectly warned that police officers would be at polling places looking for individuals with outstanding arrest warrants or parking tickets.”¹
 - Lawmakers pass bill allowing police officers to search for individuals with outstanding arrest warrants or parking tickets at polling places.
 - * Images of police guarding polling place
 - * Images of black man being arrested
 - * Images of Latino man being arrested

¹Wendy Weiser and Adam Gitlin, Dangers of “Ballot Security” Operations: Preventing Intimidation, Discrimination, and Disruption, Brennan Center for Justice, 2016, 6, <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/research-reports/dangers-ballot-security-operations-preventing-intimidation-discrimination>.

Figure 1: Text to vote



Source²

- Lawmakers have passed a law allowing for state and federal elections to occur via text with submission of state or voter ID.
 - * Image of generic bill
 - * Image of black woman on cell phone
 - * Image of Latina woman on cell phone

²Young Mie Kim, “Voter Suppression Has Gone Digital,” Brennan Center for Justice, November 20, 2018, <https://www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/voter-suppression-has-gone-digital>.

- SB 202 [Georgia] makes it a crime for people- and not just people from political organizations- to hand out food or bottles of water within 150 feet of a polling place or 25 feet of any voter standing in line... the law has a sentence which allows poll workers to make available "self-service water from an unattended receptacle to an elector waiting in line to vote."³
 - Federal lawmakers sign sweeping bill making the distribution of food and water at polls illegal.
 - * Image of heatwave
 - * Images of black voters waiting in long lines to vote
 - * Images of Latino voters waiting in long lines to vote

³PolitiFact

Figure 2: Don't vote for anybody!



Source⁴

- Political parties do not serve you. Show your disapproval and skip the polls.
 - * Politicians work for big business⁵



- * Image of police brutality at protest
- * Image of detainment camp

⁴Yonder (previously New Knowledge). (2018). The Tactics and Tropes of the Internet Research Agency. Independent report commissioned by the US Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. <https://www.yonder-ai.com/resources/the-disinformation-report>

⁵bnn-news (No permissions to use)

More options

Figure 3: Kamala's not black

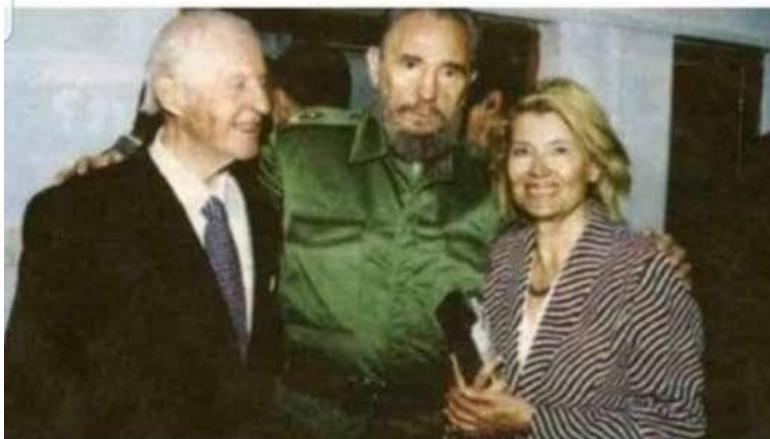


Source.⁶

⁶ “Every organization, political campaign, activists and those using these platforms for outreach should have a focused disinformation arm.” Stop Online Violence Against Women, A Threat to an American Democracy: Digital Voter Suppression, 2020, 10, <http://stoponlinevaw.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/7.pdf>

Figure 4: Jill Biden and Fidel Castro

**JOE BIDEN NO SE ESPERABA QUE ESTA FOTO
EXISTIERA, NADA ESTA OCULTO DEBAJO DEL
SOL : SU ESPOSA JILL BIDEN TUVO UN
ENCUENTRO CON FIDEL CASTRO EN CUBA
BAJO LA ADMINISTRACION DE OBAMA..!!! 😢**



Translation: Joe Biden did not expect this photo to exist, nothing is hidden under the sun: His wife Jill Biden had an encounter with Fidel Castro in Cuba under the Obama administration !!! Source.⁷

⁷Reuters

Figure 5: Hillary's health



⁸Marwick, A., and Lewis, R. (2017). Media Manipulation and Disinformation Online. New York: Data & Society Research Institute.