

Reputation penalty - study 2

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Study 2

Note that we ran two waves for Study 2. We're publicly sharing a dataset in which the two wave datasets have already been merged together and personally identifying information has been removed.

List of variables

Main variables

Factual belief 1: Belief that abortion pills are dangerous and that 1 in 5 women will suffer a complication (1-to-4 scale)

Factual belief 2: Belief that more contraception availability increases abortion demand (1-to-4 scale)

Factual belief 3: Belief that if a 10-year-old became pregnant as a result of rape and terminated the pregnancy because it was threatening her life, then that's not an abortion (1-to-4 scale)

Various feeling thermometers (0-to-100 scale)

Abortion laws measure (1-to-4 scale)

Abortion penalties measure (0-to-4 scale)

Some control variables

Partisanship: 1 (Strong Democrat) to 7 (Strong Republican) scale

Male: 1 = Yes, 0 = No

College graduate: 1 = Yes, 0 = No

High household income: 1 = household income of \$100,000+, 0 = below that

Age: 18+

Religiously affiliated: 1 = Yes, 0 = No

Attends religious services at least once a month: 1 = Yes, 0 = No

Non-Hispanic White: 1 = Yes, 0 = No

Factual belief models

Main models

Table 1: Effect of fact check on the belief that abortion pills are dangerous and that 1 in 5 women will suffer a complication (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.27 (0.16)***
Control	-0.57 (0.07)***
Fact check	-0.90 (0.08)***
R ²	0.50
Adj. R ²	0.49
Num. obs.	576
RMSE	0.72

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 2: Effect of fact check on the belief that more contraception availability increases abortion demand (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	0.98 (0.14)***
Control	-0.14 (0.07)
Fact check	-0.23 (0.07)**
R ²	0.28
Adj. R ²	0.27
Num. obs.	581
RMSE	0.68

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 3: Effect of fact check on the belief about the pregnant 10-year-old (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	0.98 (0.18)***
Control	-0.03 (0.10)
Fact check	-0.28 (0.09)**
R ²	0.32
Adj. R ²	0.30
Num. obs.	589
RMSE	0.94

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Does receptivity to fact-checks (that is, the correction - misinformation contrast) differ by Party ID?

Table 4: Interaction between being a Republican/Independent (vs. being a Democrat) and fact check of belief that abortion pills are dangerous (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.23 (0.17)***
Control	-0.51 (0.11)***
Fact check	-0.75 (0.11)***
Independent/Other	0.32 (0.14)*
Republican	0.35 (0.13)**
Control*Independent/Other	-0.16 (0.18)
Fact check*Independent/Other	-0.34 (0.20)
Control*Republican	-0.11 (0.18)
Fact check*Republican	-0.29 (0.20)
R ²	0.50
Adj. R ²	0.49
Num. obs.	576
RMSE	0.72

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 5: Interaction between being a Republican/Independent (vs. being a Democrat) and fact check of the belief that more contraception availability increases abortion demand (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.06 (0.16)***
Control	-0.10 (0.09)
Fact check	-0.21 (0.10)*
Independent/Other	0.26 (0.13)*
Republican	0.34 (0.15)*
Control*Independent/Other	-0.15 (0.17)
Fact check*Independent/Other	-0.06 (0.17)
Control*Republican	0.02 (0.20)
Fact check*Republican	0.02 (0.21)
R ²	0.27
Adj. R ²	0.25
Num. obs.	581
RMSE	0.69

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 6: Interaction between being a Republican/Independent (vs. being a Democrat) and fact check of the belief about the pregnant 10-year-old (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.05 (0.19)***
Control	0.00 (0.15)
Fact check	-0.35 (0.13)**
Independent/Other	-0.11 (0.15)
Republican	-0.07 (0.20)
Control*Independent/Other	-0.08 (0.22)
Fact check*Independent/Other	-0.01 (0.21)
Control*Republican	-0.05 (0.27)
Fact check*Republican	0.27 (0.27)
R ²	0.32
Adj. R ²	0.30
Num. obs.	589
RMSE	0.94

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Does receptivity to fact-checks (that is, the correction - misinformation contrast) differ by religiosity?

Table 7: Interaction between high/low (vs. medium) religious attendance and fact check of belief that abortion pills are dangerous (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.56 (0.19)***
Control	-0.64 (0.16)***
Fact check	-0.89 (0.22)***
High attendance	-0.08 (0.16)
Low attendance	-0.27 (0.13)*
Control*High attendance	0.23 (0.25)
Fact check*High attendance	-0.01 (0.30)
Control*Low attendance	0.04 (0.18)
Fact check*Low attendance	-0.01 (0.24)
R ²	0.50
Adj. R ²	0.48
Num. obs.	576
RMSE	0.72

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 8: Interaction between high/low (vs. medium) religious attendance and fact check of the belief that more contraception availability increases abortion demand (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	0.90 (0.18)***
Control	0.06 (0.16)
Fact check	0.05 (0.15)
High attendance	0.19 (0.25)
Low attendance	0.13 (0.13)
Control*High attendance	0.01 (0.32)
Fact check*High attendance	-0.22 (0.33)
Control*Low attendance	-0.29 (0.18)
Fact check*Low attendance	-0.36 (0.17)*
R ²	0.29
Adj. R ²	0.27
Num. obs.	581
RMSE	0.68

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 9: Interaction between high/low (vs. medium) religious attendance and fact check of the belief about the pregnant 10-year-old (1-to-4 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	1.04 (0.25)***
Control	0.07 (0.24)
Fact check	-0.27 (0.25)
High attendance	0.06 (0.24)
Low attendance	-0.05 (0.19)
Control*High attendance	0.00 (0.37)
Fact check*High attendance	-0.04 (0.34)
Control*Low attendance	-0.15 (0.27)
Fact check*Low attendance	-0.01 (0.28)
R ²	0.31
Adj. R ²	0.30
Num. obs.	589
RMSE	0.94

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Attitudinal belief models

Main models

Table 10: Effect of fact check about abortion pills on ratings of Alliance Defending Freedom (0-to-100 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	17.19 (5.87)**
Control	3.77 (2.67)
Fact check	-5.93 (2.97)*
R ²	0.29
Adj. R ²	0.28
Num. obs.	444
RMSE	22.81

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 11: Effect of fact check about contraception availability on ratings of Seth Gruber (0-to-100 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	16.85 (4.72)***
Control	2.95 (2.08)
Fact check	-7.56 (2.21)***
R ²	0.35
Adj. R ²	0.33
Num. obs.	422
RMSE	17.77

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 12: Effect of fact check about pregnant 10-year-old on ratings of Americans United For Life (0-to-100 scale)

	Model 1
Intercept	7.54 (3.82)*
Control	0.79 (2.29)
Fact check	-0.63 (2.20)
R ²	0.60
Adj. R ²	0.59
Num. obs.	460
RMSE	19.82

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Attitudes by partisanship

Table 13: Fact-checking the claim that abortion pills are dangerous does not have a statistically significant effect on Democrats' opinions of Alliance Defending Freedom (0-to-100 scale)

	Democrats	Republicans	Other
Intercept	19.76 (8.60)*	31.35 (12.78)*	11.30 (9.22)
Control	6.14 (4.17)	0.49 (5.93)	5.17 (4.61)
Fact check	-5.26 (4.29)	-4.54 (6.05)	-6.76 (5.88)
R ²	0.36	0.11	0.34
Adj. R ²	0.33	0.02	0.28
Num. obs.	214	109	121
RMSE	22.61	24.94	20.54

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 14: Fact-checking the claim that contraception availability increases abortion demand low- ers Democrats’ opinions of Seth Gruber (0-to-100 scale)

	Democrats	Republicans	Other
Intercept	20.38 (6.86)**	20.23 (14.87)	20.67 (8.21)*
Control	−1.98 (2.92)	7.61 (4.51)	5.77 (5.15)
Fact check	−11.62 (3.05)***	1.19 (6.25)	−6.88 (4.74)
R ²	0.36	0.33	0.33
Adj. R ²	0.33	0.25	0.27
Num. obs.	211	90	121
RMSE	17.68	19.27	17.43

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 15: Fact-checking the claim about the pregnant 10-year-old lowers Democrats’ opinions of Americans United For Life (0-to-100 scale)

	Democrats	Republicans	Other
Intercept	12.82 (5.15)*	10.63 (10.62)	28.16 (8.17)***
Control	2.93 (2.97)	−1.88 (5.98)	−1.54 (4.51)
Fact check	−6.38 (2.88)*	4.28 (5.17)	6.09 (4.71)
R ²	0.68	0.38	0.37
Adj. R ²	0.66	0.31	0.31
Num. obs.	239	102	119
RMSE	18.31	21.47	19.58

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Attitudes by religiosity

Table 16: Fact-checking the claim that abortion pills are dangerous reduces the low religiosity group’s opinions of Alliance Defending Freedom (0-to-100 scale)

	Low religiosity	Medium religiosity	High religiosity
Intercept	18.55 (7.39)*	30.75 (19.23)	24.13 (13.62)
Control	2.04 (3.52)	−0.63 (6.71)	8.85 (5.91)
Fact check	−12.95 (3.69)***	−4.72 (8.95)	15.44 (6.79)*
R ²	0.32	0.07	0.36
Adj. R ²	0.30	−0.05	0.28
Num. obs.	282	82	80
RMSE	21.95	25.09	22.61

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 17: Fact-checking the claim about contraception availability lowers the low religiosity group's ratings of Seth Gruber (0-to-100 scale)

	Low religiosity	Medium religiosity	High religiosity
Intercept	19.67 (5.87)***	20.80 (7.79)**	9.63 (18.91)
Control	1.02 (2.53)	10.52 (4.10)*	-1.52 (8.82)
Fact check	-10.07 (2.62)***	-3.68 (4.26)	0.87 (8.69)
R ²	0.37	0.42	0.30
Adj. R ²	0.35	0.35	0.14
Num. obs.	281	92	49
RMSE	17.42	16.28	20.81

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 18: Fact-checking the claim about the pregnant 10-year-old has a statistically insignificant effect on ratings of Americans United For Life (0-to-100 scale)

	Low religiosity	Medium religiosity	High religiosity
Intercept	5.87 (4.52)	0.52 (9.89)	19.04 (11.26)
Control	1.22 (2.85)	-9.04 (6.26)	7.08 (5.83)
Fact check	0.13 (2.79)	-11.29 (4.96)*	9.57 (5.69)
R ²	0.51	0.68	0.51
Adj. R ²	0.49	0.64	0.46
Num. obs.	294	81	85
RMSE	19.67	18.15	21.50

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Other attitudes: abortion laws and penalties

Table 19: Effect of fact check on attitudes about abortion laws (1-to-4 scale)

	FC1	FC2	FC3
Intercept	0.93 (0.18)***	0.85 (0.16)***	0.88 (0.14)***
Control	0.11 (0.05)*	0.03 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.05)
Fact check	0.04 (0.05)	-0.03 (0.04)	-0.07 (0.05)
R ²	0.78	0.76	0.79
Adj. R ²	0.77	0.76	0.78
Num. obs.	572	578	584
RMSE	0.45	0.45	0.45

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

Table 20: Effect of fact check on attitudes about abortion penalties (0-to-4 scale)

	FC1	FC2	FC3
Intercept	0.13 (0.16)	0.14 (0.17)	-0.06 (0.16)
Control	0.00 (0.11)	0.04 (0.09)	-0.01 (0.08)
Fact check	-0.03 (0.10)	-0.05 (0.09)	0.07 (0.08)
R ²	0.55	0.65	0.68
Adj. R ²	0.54	0.64	0.68
Num. obs.	572	577	584
RMSE	1.00	0.90	0.84

*** $p < 0.001$; ** $p < 0.01$; * $p < 0.05$

H1 graph (factual beliefs)

H2 graph (attitudinal beliefs)

Balance tables

First fact-check (abortion pills):

% latex table generated in R 4.4.1 by xtable 1.8-4 package % Thu Jan 16 18:37:01 2025

	Variable	Control	Fact check	Misinfo	p-value (c vs fc)	p-value (c vs mis)
1	Age	40.11	41.11	39.70	0.44	0.72
2	Partisanship (7-point scale)	3.19	3.26	3.43	0.72	0.24
3	Share who are college graduates	0.55	0.56	0.63	0.75	0.10
4	Share who are male	0.53	0.52	0.48	0.75	0.27
5	Share who are non-Hispanic White	0.67	0.66	0.66	0.86	0.80
6	Share who have household incomes of \$100,000+	0.28	0.26	0.25	0.74	0.49

Second fact-check (contraception):

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	Variable	Control	Fact check	Misinfo	p-value (c vs fc)	p-value (c vs mis)
1	Age	42.06	41.24	39.94	0.53	0.09
2	Partisanship (7-point scale)	3.07	3.25	3.19	0.39	0.58
3	Share who are college graduates	0.64	0.57	0.54	0.16	0.03
4	Share who are male	0.49	0.48	0.52	0.85	0.55
5	Share who are non-Hispanic White	0.63	0.68	0.68	0.30	0.30
6	Share who have household incomes of \$100,000+	0.35	0.26	0.25	0.06	0.03

Third fact-check (10-year-old):

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	Variable	Control	Fact check	Misinfo	p-value (c vs fc)	p-value (c vs mis)
1	Age	41.71	41.45	39.91	0.84	0.17
2	Partisanship (7-point scale)	3.04	3.25	3.16	0.31	0.54
3	Share who are college graduates	0.63	0.57	0.61	0.19	0.75
4	Share who are male	0.45	0.51	0.55	0.22	0.06
5	Share who are non-Hispanic White	0.63	0.65	0.67	0.69	0.51
6	Share who have household incomes of \$100,000+	0.22	0.20	0.24	0.60	0.64