Start of Block: Consent

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Q15 **Dear Participant,**  
   
 You are being asked to participate in a study. Our study goal is to better understand how people evaluate news. Here are some things you should know before you decide to join:  
   
 Requirements:  
 You must be a fluent English speaker and 18 years of age or older.  
   
 Procedure:  
 We will ask you to read the instructions, rate 16 news headlines, and answer follow-up questions. We anticipate that your participation presents no greater risk than everyday use of the Internet.   
   
 Compensation:  
 You will be compensated through Amazon MTurk using the code you receive at the end of the study.  
   
 Benefits:   
 We do not expect you will gain other direct benefits from participating. The research will inform broader academic discourse and the future designs of news platforms.  
   
 Data Sharing:  
 De-identified data from this study may be shared with the research community to advance science. We will remove any personal information that could identify you before files are shared so that, by current known methods, your responses are fully anonymized.  
   
 Taking Part is Voluntary:  
 You do not have to be in this study if you don’t want to be. You can change your mind and leave the study at any time without giving any reason. You do not waive any of your legal rights by participating in this research.  
   
 Questions about the Study:   
 The research is led by Maurice Jakesch at Cornell University. If you have any questions about the study, please contact the him (mpjakesch@gmail.com). Because emails may contain your name, we will delete the emails once the study is complete.   
   
 Questions about Your Rights as a Research Participant:   
 You may contact the Institutional Review Board (IRB) for Human Participants at 607-255-5138. You may also report your concerns or complaints anonymously through Ethicspoint online by calling toll free at 1-866-293-3077.

consent **I have read the above information and received answers to questions I had.**

* I CONSENT to take part in the study. I am 18 or older, and I understand my rights in this study. (1)
* I DO NOT CONSENT to take part in the study. (2)

End of Block: Consent

Start of Block: Instructions

Q17 You will read 16 news headlines. **Some of the headlines you will see are false**, while others are true**.** We ask you to tell us whether you think each headline is true or false.

Display This Question:

If group = treatment

Q18 Your answers will be evaluated by a politically balanced panel of experts consisting of three Republicans and three Democrats. If you rate 12 out of 16 articles correctly, you will receive a **$1.5 bonus payment** on top of the base compensation.

Q24 You have 15 seconds to evaluate each headline. Please do not search for the headlines online but give your honest opinion. We hope you enjoy the task!

End of Block: Instructions

Start of Block: Checks

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check\_1 Some warm-up questions: Choose the accurate rephrasing of *"It is easy to see John".*

* John is easy to see. (1)
* John is eager to see. (2)
* John’s sister’s friend’s car. (3)

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check\_2 Based on the task description, the news headlines you will read:

* some are true, some are false (1)
* are all true (3)
* are all false (4)

Display This Question:

If group = treatment

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check\_3 Let's make sure we're on the same page regarding the bonus:

* I will only be paid the MTurk worker compensation. (1)
* I will get the MTurk compensation, plus $1.5 if I answer 12 or more questions correctly. (2)
* I will get the MTurk compensation, plus $1 if I get all questions right. (3)

End of Block: Checks

Start of Block: Evaluation task

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Q22 ${lm://CurrentLoopNumber} of ${lm://TotalLoops}

Q20 .card { max-width: 770px; padding: 1rem 1.5rem; border-radius:5px; box-shadow:0 3px 8px #aaa; line-height: 1.4; margin:0em auto; } .container { max-width: 100%; } h1 { margin: 0; padding-top: 4px; font-size: 1.4rem; font-family: Roboto,RobotoDraft,Helvetica,Arial,sans-serif; line-height: 1.4; font-weight: 500; overflow-wrap: break-word; } img { max-width:80%; max-height:25px; height: 40px; width:auto; }   
   
 ${lm://Field/2} [].forEach.call(document.querySelectorAll('em , .LabelPositionBELOW , .PageTimer fieldset , #Buttons'), function (el) { el.style.visibility = 'hidden'; }); function showQuestion() { [].forEach.call(document.querySelectorAll('em , .LabelPositionBELOW , #Buttons'), function (el) { el.style.visibility = 'visible'; }); } setTimeout("showQuestion()", 3000); function showTimer(cpr\_loop) { if ("${lm://CurrentLoopNumber}" == cpr\_loop){ [].forEach.call(document.querySelectorAll('em , .LabelPositionBELOW , .PageTimer fieldset , #Buttons'), function (el) { el.style.visibility = 'visible'; }); } } setTimeout("showTimer(${lm://CurrentLoopNumber})", 11000);

answer   
*The claim in the headline is:*

* True (1)
* False (2)

Display This Question:

If group = treatment

Q55   
*If your answer 12 or more questions correctly, you will receive a $1.5 bonus payment.*

Q53 Timing

First Click (1)

Last Click (2)

Page Submit (3)

Click Count (4)

End of Block: Evaluation task

Start of Block: Follow-Up Questions

Q26 To help us improve result quality, please answer these questions honestly. We will approve your HIT no matter what you answer below.

follow\_random Have you answered questions randomly?

* Yes (1)
* No (3)

follow\_search Have you searched some of the headlines on the web (e.g. Google):

* Yes (1)
* No (2)

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follow\_purpose Describe in a few words what you perceived to be the purpose of this study:

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| Page Break |  |

Q67 Please tell us about yourself:

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dem\_pol\_1 Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

* Republican (1)
* Democrat (2)
* Independent (3)
* Other (6)

dem\_pol\_2 Where would you place yourself on a scale from extremely liberal to extremely conservative?

* liberal (3)
* somewhat liberal (4)
* somewhat conservative (5)
* conservative (6)
* no opinion (8)

dem\_pol\_3 If you had to position yourself on the political map, you would be on the

* Left or center-left (1)
* Right or center-right (2)

dem\_gender To which gender identity do you most identify?

* Female (1)
* Male (2)
* Other (3)

dem\_education What is the highest level of school you have completed?

* Less than a high school diploma (1)
* High school degree or equivalent (e.g. GED) (2)
* Associate degree (e.g. AA, AS) (5)
* Bachelor’s degree (e.g. BA, BS) (6)
* Master’s degree (e.g. MA, MS) (7)
* Professional degree (e.g. MD, JD) (8)
* Doctorate (e.g. PhD, EdD) (9)

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dem\_birth Which year were you born?

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Q30 In these final part of the survey, you will see 9 media sources. We are interested in two things: Whether you are **familiar** with the media source. Whether you **trust** the information that comes from the media source.

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Q34 Do you **recognize** the following websites?

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Yes (1) | No (2) |
| (source\_familiarity\_huff) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_nyt) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_fox) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_bbart) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_drudge) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_cnn) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_nypost) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_newsweek) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_sun) |  |  |
| (source\_familiarity\_dailytimes) |  |  |

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| Page Break |  |

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Q33 How much do you **trust** the following websites?

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Not at all (1) | Barely (2) | Somewhat (8) | A lot (9) | Entirely (10) |
| (source\_trust\_huff) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_nyt) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_fox) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_bbart) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_drudge) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_cnn) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_nypost) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_newsweek) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_sun) |  |  |  |  |  |
| (source\_trust\_dailytimes) |  |  |  |  |  |

End of Block: Follow-Up Questions

Start of Block: Debriefing

Q60 Thank you for participating in this study! In order to get the information we were looking for, we provided you with incorrect information about some aspects of this study. Now that the experiment is over, we will describe the deception to you, answer any of your questions, and provide you with the opportunity to make a decision on whether you would like to have your data included in this study. What the study is really about is what role media sources play in our evaluation of news. To test this, we have given you the impression that some of the headlines you saw were published by newspapers that, in reality, have not actually published these headlines. Of the headlines you saw the claims about the lack of women in Iceland, the Corona brewery founder and the Golden Corral lawsuit were disproved by fact checkers.

Display This Question:

If group = treatment

Q62 As we provided you incorrect information, **we have decided to award you the full $1.5 bonus payment irrespective of your answers**. Your answers will not be evaluated, but we will send you the full bonus payment within three business days.

debrief\_agree Although you have already completed the survey, your involvement is still voluntary, and you may choose to withdraw the data you provided prior to debriefing without penalty. Withdrawing your submission will not adversely affect your relationship with Cornell University, the researchers, or any of our affiliates. For any questions, please contact <s.tech.cornell@gmail.com>.

* I AGREE that the data collected during the study may be included for the purpose of the study. (1)
* I WITHDRAW my participation for this study. (2)

debrief\_feedback Was there anything that was unclear, something that didn't quite make sense or could be done better? **Leave us a few words, anything helps!**

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End of Block: Debriefing