Misinformation

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Contents

GSS Science

Exact Text

Now, I would like to ask you a few short questions like those you might see on a television game show. For each statement that I read, please tell me if it is true or false. If you don't know or aren't sure, just tell me so, and we will skip to the next question. Remember true, false, or don't know.

- First, the center of the Earth is very hot. Is that true or false?
- All radioactivity is man-made. (Is that true or false?)
- It is the father's gene that decides whether the baby is a boy or a girl. (Is that true or false?)
- Lasers work by focusing sound waves. (Is that true or false?)
- Electrons are smaller than atoms. (Is that true or false?)
- Antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria. (Is that true or false?)
- The universe began with a huge explosion. (Is that true or false?)
- The continents on which we live have been moving their locations for millions of years and will continue to move in the future. (Is that true or false?)
- Human beings, as we know them today, developed from earlier species of animals. (Is that true or false?)
- Now, does the Earth go around the Sun, or does the Sun go around the Earth?
- How long does it take for the Earth to go around the Sun: one day, one month, or one year?

Polar Questions

The next few questions are about the Arctic and the Antarctic. The Arctic is the region around the North Pole; Antarctic is the region that contains the South Pole. These questions are like ones you might see on a television game show. If you don't know or aren't sure, just tell me so, and we will skip to the next question. Remember true, false, or don't know.

- The North Pole is on a sheet of ice that floats on the Arctic Ocean. (Is that true or false?)
- The sun never shines at the South Pole. (Is that true or false?)
- Inuit (often called Eskimos) live north of the Arctic Circle. (Is that true or false?)
- Hunting is more likely than climate change to make polar bears become extinct. (Is that true or false?)
- Would you say the polar ice caps have gotten larger or smaller over the last 25 years? (Larger, Smaller, Stayed the Same (Volunteered)

Scientists Diagreement Q

Please look at Card B3. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "Near complete agreement" and 5 means "No agreement at all", to what extent do environmental scientists agree among themselves about the existence and causes of global warming?

Misinformation Index

- The universe began with a huge explosion.

- Human beings developed from animals.
- Hunting make polar bear extint than climate change.
- Polar ice caps got larger or smaller over last 25 yrs.

Information Index

- The center of earth is very hot.
- All radioactivity is manmade.
- The continents have been moving.
- Father gene decides sex of baby.
- Lasers work by focusing sound waves.
- Electrons are smaller than atoms.
- Antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria.
- The earth goes around the sun.
- How long the earth goes around the sun.
- The north pole is on a sheet of ice.
- Inuit live north of the arctic circle.

RESULTS

Misinformation predicted by education, religiosity, partisanship, knowledge, interaction between being low on education (High School or Less=1, Bachelors or Higher=0) and the Internet being your main source of news.

Table 1: GSS 2006: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	big.t	big.f	big.dk	evo.t	eno.f	evo.dk	hnt.t	hnt.f	hnt.dk
R	28.75%	39.22%	32.03%	36.56%	50%	13.44%	43.53%	37.29%	19.19%
I	25.98%	32.28%	41.73%	39.74%	40%	20.26%	43.57%	30.18%	26.25%
D	36.52%	31.18%	32.3%	46.89%	38.43%	14.68%	37.89%	39.63%	22.48%
C	27.24%	40.63%	32.13%	33.07%	53.07%	13.86%	42.68%	36.69%	20.63%
N	28.06%	35.01%	36.93%	40.98%	42.16%	16.86%	42.69%	34.12%	23.19%
L	44.53%	23.68%	31.78%	56.59%	28.6%	14.81%	35.96%	43.03%	21.01%
Never	15.78%	57.14%	27.08%	16.97%	70.88%	12.15%	42.86%	29.4%	27.74%
Some	35.03%	27.78%	37.19%	46.65%	35.75%	17.59%	42.47%	37.49%	20.05%
A lot	54.1%	10.49%	35.41%	74.1%	9.18%	16.72%	34.43%	49.84%	15.74%
Overall	31.69%	34%	34.32%	41.88%	42.53%	15.59%	40.9%	36.93%	22.17%

Table 2: GSS 2006: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	ice.t	ice.f	ice.dk	sci.cor	sci.2	sci.mid	sci.ovr	sci.dk
R	80.34%	5.62%	14.04%	9.97%	27.1%	37.07%	20.25%	5.61%
I	68.5%	6.04%	25.46%	16.32%	24.21%	33.68%	15.26%	10.53%
D	75.03%	5.59%	19.38%	15.62%	32.24%	31.74%	11.34%	9.07%
C	77.17%	6.3%	16.54%	11.88%	26.88%	35.94%	19.38%	5.94%
N	74.74%	4.58%	20.68%	12.92%	26.77%	39.38%	12.31%	8.62%
L	78.59%	6.26%	15.15%	15.51%	35.1%	27.76%	15.51%	6.12%
Never	61.13%	10.3%	28.57%	16.55%	23.45%	35.52%	14.83%	9.66%
Some	81.99%	3.62%	14.38%	11.97%	29.93%	37.25%	14.41%	6.43%
A lot	85.25%	3.28%	11.48%	11.81%	36.81%	24.31%	21.53%	5.56%
Overall	75.58%	5.74%	18.68%	13.62%	28.54%	34.27%	15.46%	8.11%

Table 3: GLM Predicting 'Misinformation'

	Bear	Ice Cap	Evolve	Big Bang
(Intercept)	-0.87^*	-2.70^*	0.33	-0.70^*
	(0.29)	(0.57)	(0.31)	(0.28)
inf	2.88^*	3.36^*	0.63	0.80
	(0.56)	(1.18)	(0.57)	(0.49)
republican	0.68	0.09	0.44	0.52
	(0.42)	(0.80)	(0.45)	(0.39)
democrat	-0.08	-0.34	0.60	0.68
	(0.39)	(0.76)	(0.41)	(0.36)
inf:republican	-1.20	0.09	0.28	-0.17
	(0.74)	(1.56)	(0.78)	(0.65)
inf:democrat	-0.08	0.41	-0.56	-0.82
	(0.72)	(1.49)	(0.75)	(0.63)
N	1169	452	1076	1267
AIC	1436.16	462.60	1243.91	1752.33
BIC	1557.70	561.33	1363.46	1875.80
$\log L$	-694.08	-207.30	-597.96	-852.17

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

Table 4: GLM Predicting 'Misinformation'

	Net Misinformation	Logit, More than One
(Intercept)	0.34*	0.75*
	(0.03)	(0.06)
degree	−0.04*	−0.05*
	(0.01)	(0.01)
attend	0.01*	0.01
	(0.01)	(0.01)
inf	−0.13*	−0.13
	(0.06)	(0.10)
republican	0.07	0.17*
	(0.04)	(0.08)
democrat	0.01	0.14*
	(0.04)	(0.07)
attend:inf	0.03*	0.04*
	(0.01)	(0.02)
inf:republican	−0.06	−0.26*
	(0.07)	(0.12)
inf:democrat	−0.04	−0.29*
	(0.06)	(0.11)
N	1856	1856
AIC	38.79	2230.62
BIC	237.73	2429.57
$\log L$	16.60	−1079.31

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

NIC 2004 Online

Measures

Global Warming

Which of the following is closest to what you believe is true about global warming -
- it is caused mostly by human activities, like driving cars and burning fuel,
- it is caused mostly by natural changes in the climate,
- it is not occurring at all, or
- haven't you thought much about this?

Spending

- As far as you know, does President Bush want to increase foreign aid, decrease foreign aid, or keep it the same, OR haven't you heard anything about this? - Increase, Decrease, Keep it the same, Haven't heard anything about this

- Out of every $100 in the federal budget, about how many dollars would you say goes to MILITARY SPENDING - 1 dollar, 5 dollars, 10 dollars, 20 dollars, 30 dollars or more, or don't you have much idea about that?

- Out of every $100 in the federal budget, about how many dollars would you say goes go to FOREIGN AID - 1 dollar, 5 dollars, 10 dollars, 20 dollars, 30 dollars or more, or don't you have much idea about that?

Iraq

Coulnd't find these data Here is a series of statements. Please indicate whether, as far as you know, each is either true or false. Or if you haven't heard much about it either way, you should just say so.
- The US has found evidence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq
- Iraq used chemical weapons against U.S. troops during the war in Iraq
- Saddam Hussein did NOT help organize the attack on the World Trade Center on 9

Results

Table 5: NIC 2: Misinformation by PID

	bush.inc	bush.decr	bush.same	bush.dk	mil.corr	mil.under	mil.over	mil.dk
rep	19.36%	3.18%	18.3%	59.15%	10.31%	16.49%	19.59%	49.74%
ind	8.99%	7.87%	3.37%	79.78%	13.33%	7.78%	20%	53.33%
dem	15.49%	14.44%	6.82%	63.25%	10.15%	11.17%	25.63%	50.25%

Table 6: NIC 2: Misinformation by PID

	aid.corr	aid.over	aid.dk	gw.hmn	gw.ntrl	gw.not	gw.dk
rep	11.89%	37.47%	47.55%	52.23%	31.23%	4.72%	11.81%
ind	14.44%	31.11%	47.78%	68.18%	12.5%	1.14%	18.18%
dem	12.44%	37.56%	49.49%	69.95%	13.99%	0.52%	15.54%

BTP 2004 General Election

Measures

Misinformation Index

- True or false - "Iraq was directly involved in the attacks on the WTC and the Pentagon on 9-11 2001" (False)
- True or false - "Large quantities of weapons of mass destruction have been found in Iraq" (False)
- True or false - "On average, prescription drugs cost more in Canada than in the US" (False)
- Which of the following was true of George W. Bush during the Vietnam War? (served in the TX Air National Guard)

(2 or 3); Dem. Misinform (1)

1. He was drafted but never went to Vietnam
2. He was a decorated officer serving in Vietnam
3. He was ineligible to serve in the military because of a medical deferment
4. He served in the Texas Air National Guard

- Which of the following was true of John Kerry during the Vietnam War? (decorated officer serving in Vietnam) (1 or 3)

1. He was drafted but never went to Vietnam
2. He was a decorated officer serving in Vietnam
3. He was ineligible to serve in the military because of a medical deferment
4. He served in the Massachusetts Air National Guard

Information Index

- How did John Kerry vote in the Senate on the resolution authorizing President Bush to go to war with Iraq? (Voted for);
- Which of the following countries now harbors the most Al Qaeda and Taliban fighters? (Pakistan);
- A major destination of white collar jobs that have gone to other countries is? (India);
- Which of the following is closest to the number of Americans killed in Iraq since the war began? (1000)

RESULTS

Table 7: BTP 2004: Misinformation by PID

	n11.t	n11.f	n11.dk	wmd.t	wmd.f	wmd.dk	drugs.t	drugs.f	drugs.dk
R	23.98%	54.59%	21.43%	7.14%	83.67%	9.18%	2.04%	91.84%	6.12%
I	20%	61.9%	18.1%	6.67%	90.48%	2.86%	0%	94.29%	4.76%
D	15.93%	67.7%	15.93%	6.64%	87.61%	5.31%	2.21%	90.27%	7.52%

Table 8: BTP 2004: Misinformation by PID

	gw.corr	gw.r	gw.d	gw.dk	ker.corr	ker.r	ker.dk
R	80.1%	2.04%	1.53%	15.82%	83.67%	1.53%	14.8%
I	82.86%	0.95%	2.86%	11.43%	86.67%	0%	13.33%
D	69.47%	0.44%	7.52%	21.68%	76.99%	1.77%	21.24%

Table 9: Binary Logit: Predicting One or more Misinformation

	Mod1	Mod2	Mod3	Mod4
(Intercept)	−13.61	0.25	−13.61	0.13
	(535.41)	(0.51)	(535.41)	(0.39)
femaleTRUE	0.16	0.16	0.16	0.15
	(0.20)	(0.20)	(0.20)	(0.19)
ppage	−0.00	−0.00	−0.00	−0.00
	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)	(0.01)
as.factor(ppeducat)hs	−0.63*		−0.63*	−0.59*
	(0.29)		(0.29)	(0.28)
as.factor(ppeducat)some college	−0.62*		−0.62*	−0.55
	(0.30)		(0.30)	(0.30)
as.factor(ppeducat)bachelor's degree or higher	−1.34*		−1.34*	−1.25*
	(0.34)		(0.34)	(0.33)
as.factor(w4b76)democrat	13.78		13.78	
	(535.41)		(535.41)	
as.factor(w4b76)republican	14.41	0.56	14.41	
	(535.41)	(0.44)	(535.41)	
as.factor(w4b76)independent	14.15	0.65	14.15	
	(535.41)	(0.56)	(535.41)	
as.factor(w4b76)other	15.00	0.89	15.00	
	(535.41)	(0.87)	(535.41)	
as.factor(w4b76)no preference	13.52	−0.75	13.52	
	(535.41)	(0.45)	(535.41)	
t1pk	−1.61*	−1.79*	−1.61*	−1.39*
	(0.33)	(0.58)	(0.33)	(0.38)
I(as.numeric(ordered(btp04$ppeduc)))		−0.23*		
		(0.07)		
I(as.numeric(ordered(btp04$rel)))		0.09		
		(0.07)		
as.factor(w4b76)republican:t1pk		0.15		
		(0.77)		
as.factor(w4b76)independent:t1pk		−0.59		
		(0.98)		
as.factor(w4b76)other:t1pk		0.74		
		(1.39)		
as.factor(w4b76)no preference:t1pk		1.50		
		(0.97)		
rep				0.69
				(0.38)
rep:t1pk				−0.31
				(0.64)
N	646	644	646	645
AIC	691.22	691.19	691.22	692.96
BIC	905.82	941.38	905.82	853.86
log L	−297.61	−289.59	−297.61	−310.48

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

Table 10: Ordered Logit: 0, 1, or more than 1

	Value	Std. Error	t value
femaleTRUE	0.17	0.19	0.87
ppage	-0.00	0.01	-0.65
I(as.numeric(ordered(btp04$ppeduc)))	-0.23	0.06	-3.59
I(as.numeric(ordered(btp04$rel)))	0.12	0.07	1.69
rep	0.48	0.23	2.06
dem	-0.13	0.24	-0.55
t1pk	-1.53	0.32	-4.85
0|0.2	-0.28	0.44	-0.65
0.2|0.4	1.52	0.45	3.35
0.4|0.6	3.68	0.61	5.99

UK EU

Finally, a quick quiz about Europe. For each of the following, please tick one box to show whether you think it is true or false, or whether you don't know?

Information

- EU has recently expanded to 15 T1
- Britains income tax rates decided in Brussels
- Elections to European Parliament every 5 years
- Liberal Democrats least in favour of EU
- How united or divided do you feel each of the three major parties are on their policy towards Europe? (Conservative, Lib Dem.) (Very united, Somewhat united, CC/Neither united no, Somewhat divided)*

*Note -For each of the party unity variables, the "CC/Neither united no" category (value 3) represents a collapsing of two categories from the self-administered questionnaires of times 1 and 2 (SAQ1 and SAQ2). The first category was originally just "neither united nor divided" and the second (CC) was "can't choose." The two categories were collapsed by SCPR in the dataset originally sent to us, so we can not recover the frequencies of the separate responses from the questionnaires. Interestingly enough, the SCPR retained "can't choose" as a separate label for values of 8 on these variables, but apparently they recoded all responses of 8 to be 3 since frequency distributions of the variables do not turn up any responses of 8.

Misinformation

- Switzerland is to join EU

How Vote -
- To weaken links with EU
- To keep things just as they are
- To strengthen links with EU

Results

	swiss.t	swiss.f	swiss.dk
pro EU	25.93%	34.57%	38.27%
indiff	11.5%	34.5%	51%
anti EU	12.23%	44.15%	43.09%

Table 11: Binary Logit: Predicting Misinformation

	Mod1
(Intercept)	-2.53^*
	(0.53)
female	-0.10
	(0.22)
ppage	-0.01
	(0.01)
minority	0.22
	(0.54)
as.factor(educ4)0.33	-0.38
	(0.36)
as.factor(educ4)0.66	-0.01
	(0.26)
as.factor(educ4)1	-1.18^*
	(0.47)
as.numeric(ordered(ukeu$t1howvote))	0.52^*
	(0.14)
t1pk	0.97^*
	(0.41)
N	663
AIC	622.07
BIC	783.96
$\log L$	-275.04

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

Pew October 2009

Measures

Information

- Do you happen to know which political party has a majority in the U.S. House of Representatives? [Democrats]
- Do you happen to know if Iran and Israel do or do not share a border? [No]
- Does the so-called "cap and trade" legislation being discussed in Congress deal with... [Energy and Environment]
- Does the so-called "public option" legislation being discussed in Congress deal with... [Health care]
- Do you happen to know who is chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board? Is it ... [Ben Bernanke]
- Can you tell me who is the newest justice to join the Supreme Court? Is it ... [Sonia Sotomayor]
- Can you tell me who is the chairman of the Senate finance committee, which is working on a bill to reform the health care system? Is it ... [Max Baucus]
- About how many U.S. military personnel are currently in Afghanistan [70k]

Media
Glenn Beck is...[media personality]
Misinformation

- Do you happen to know if the national unemployment rate is currently closer to [5%, 10%, 15%, 20%]
- Is health care spending per person in the U.S. higher, lower, or about the same as in most major European nations? [Lower in US, About the Same, Higher in US]
- Do you happen to know if the Dow Jones Industrial Average is currently closer to [3k, 6k, 10k, 16k]

RESULTS

Table 12: Pew 2009: Misinformation by Party ID

	emp.corr	emp.r	emp.d	emp.dk	hlth.t	hlth.f	hlth.dk	dow.cor	dow.r	dow.d	dow.dk
R	61.62%	25.33%	4.7%	8.36%	58.49%	15.93%	20.63%	43.6%	11.75%	1.83%	42.82%
I	55.32%	29.79%	3.19%	11.7%	60.64%	24.47%	12.77%	38.3%	10.64%	3.19%	47.87%
D	57.02%	31.49%	3.4%	8.09%	70.64%	11.49%	13.83%	32.55%	14.26%	2.77%	50.43%

Table 13: Binary Logit: Predicting Misinformation

	Health	Dow	Unemp. R	Unemp. D
(Intercept)	-1.76^*	-2.09^*	0.18	-2.62^*
	(0.42)	(0.47)	(0.31)	(0.61)
as.factor(educ)2	0.12	0.49	0.46	-0.93
	(0.41)	(0.47)	(0.30)	(0.60)
as.factor(educ)3	0.14	0.48	0.20	-0.58
	(0.41)	(0.48)	(0.31)	(0.59)
as.factor(educ)4	0.34	0.57	-0.22	-0.12
	(0.41)	(0.48)	(0.32)	(0.58)
as.factor(rid)ind	0.94	-0.57	-0.21	0.26
	(0.49)	(0.66)	(0.44)	(1.03)
as.factor(rid)rep	0.13	0.22	-0.39	1.37^*
	(0.39)	(0.40)	(0.31)	(0.64)
inf	-1.19^*	-0.42	-2.75^*	-0.67
	(0.60)	(0.53)	(0.48)	(1.02)
as.factor(rid)ind:inf	-0.09	0.58	0.37	-0.87
	(1.03)	(1.23)	(1.01)	(2.28)
as.factor(rid)rep:inf	0.72	-0.91	0.59	-2.49
	(0.78)	(0.79)	(0.67)	(1.43)
N	939	939	939	939
AIC	777.79	735.57	1044.91	314.76
BIC	952.20	909.98	1219.32	489.17
$\log L$	-352.89	-331.78	-486.46	-121.38

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

NES 1988

Information

- which party controls the House?
- which party controls the Senate?
- Identification (7) - Kennedy, Schultz, Rehnquist, Gorbachev,Thatcher,Arafat,Wright

Misinformation

WOULD YOU SAY THAT COMPARED TO 1980 -

- Defense Spending Increased or Decreased [Increased]
- Inflation [Decreased]
- Unemployment [Decreased]
- Deficit [Increased]
- Enviroment (Fed. efforts increased or decreased) [Decreased]

Other pertinent variables

- WOULD YOU SAY THAT OVER THE PAST EIGHT YEARS THE ECONOMIC POLICIES OF THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION HAVE MADE THE NATION'S ECONOMY BETTER, WORSE, OR HAVEN'T THEY MADE MUCH DIFFERENCE EITHER WAY?
- HAVE THE POLICIES OF THE REAGAN ADMINISTRATION MADE THE UNITED STATES MORE SECURE OR LESS SECURE FROM ITS FOREIGN ENEMIES THAN IT WAS IN 1980, OR HASN'T THIS CHANGED VERY MUCH?

Results

Table 14: NES 1988: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	inf.btr	inf.wrse	inf.sm	inf.dk	ump.btr	ump.wrse	ump.sm	ump.dk
R	55.28%	19.85%	22.42%	2.45%	74.36%	9.02%	14.43%	2.19%
I	27.92%	40.1%	29.44%	2.54%	43.15%	27.41%	22.34%	7.11%
D	24.77%	44.91%	28.39%	1.92%	38.51%	34.77%	24.24%	2.49%
C	46.12%	30.12%	22.07%	1.69%	62.19%	18.81%	16.82%	2.19%
M	29.45%	38.36%	30.14%	2.05%	52.74%	21.23%	22.6%	3.42%
L	32.12%	37.69%	28.85%	1.35%	48.46%	29.62%	20%	1.92%
Overall	37.41%	33.92%	26.14%	2.54%	53.57%	23.35%	19.96%	3.12%

Table 15: NES 1988: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	env.incr	env.decr	env.sm	env.dk	def.incr	def.decr	def.sm	def.dk
R	32.3%	14.73%	30.88%	22.09%	73.51%	3.62%	8.53%	14.34%
I	26.02%	16.84%	22.96%	34.18%	69.54%	2.54%	6.6%	21.32%
D	17.33%	28%	26.67%	28%	72.89%	3.67%	6.11%	17.33%
C	28.26%	18.68%	30.43%	22.63%	74.9%	3.36%	7.61%	14.13%
M	21.38%	17.24%	33.1%	28.28%	66.9%	5.52%	9.66%	17.93%
L	20.08%	31.74%	24.28%	23.9%	78.59%	3.63%	5.74%	12.05%
Overall	24.21%	21.05%	28%	26.74%	72.28%	3.47%	7.15%	17.1%

Table 16: NES 1988: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	dft.lrgr	dft.smlr	dft.sm	dft.dk
R	76.8%	6.06%	13.14%	3.99%
I	70.56%	3.55%	15.74%	10.15%
D	72.93%	5.89%	14.38%	6.8%
C	79.13%	4.97%	12.82%	3.08%
M	76.71%	3.42%	10.27%	9.59%
L	73.46%	7.69%	13.85%	5%
Overall	73.93%	5.67%	14.1%	6.31%

Table 17: Logit Predicting Misinformation; Knowledge Index includes placement items

	Inflation	Unemployment	Env.
(Intercept)	1.52*	1.26*	−0.40
	(0.65)	(0.46)	(0.29)
know	18.58*	4.80	4.44*
	(9.02)	(2.91)	(1.44)
I(pid3 == "rep")TRUE	−0.03	0.25	0.05
	(0.77)	(0.63)	(0.35)
I(pid3 == "dem")TRUE	1.28	1.29*	−0.17
	(0.78)	(0.60)	(0.33)
know:I(pid3 == "rep")TRUE	−12.04	−0.98	0.14
	(9.24)	(3.45)	(1.56)
know:I(pid3 == "dem")TRUE	−15.27	−2.53	−0.65
	(9.17)	(3.20)	(1.55)
N	1154	854	1471
AIC	334.83	385.53	1729.35
BIC	456.05	499.53	1856.40
$\log L$	−143.41	−168.76	−840.67

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

NES 2000

Misinformation

- Would you say that compared to 1992, the nation's economy is better, worse, or about the same? (V001596)
- Would you say that compared to 1992, the federal budget deficit is now smaller, larger, or about the same? (V001590)
- Would you say that compared to 1992 the nation's crime rate has gotten better, gotten worse, or stayed about the same? (V001617)

Table 18: NES 2000: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	ecn.c	ecn.i	ecn.sm	ecn.dk	def.c	def.i	def.sm	def.dk	crm.c	crm.i	crm.sm	crm.dk
R	67.31%	4.85%	27.18%	0.65%	13.59%	61.17%	21.36%	3.88%	11.33%	12.62%	73.46%	2.59%
I	56.32%	6.9%	31.03%	5.75%	11.49%	48.28%	24.14%	16.09%	22.09%	6.98%	65.12%	5.81%
D	79.21%	4.74%	14.47%	1.58%	10.26%	66.05%	17.37%	6.32%	35.53%	4.74%	56.58%	3.16%
C	66.67%	6.57%	26.28%	0.49%	13.14%	61.07%	20.92%	4.87%	18.98%	11.19%	67.64%	2.19%
M	78%	2%	18%	2%	20%	54%	20%	6%	30%	6%	58%	6%
L	80.24%	3.63%	14.11%	2.02%	8.47%	68.95%	16.53%	6.05%	33.06%	4.03%	60.48%	2.42%
Overall	71.18%	5.06%	21.74%	2.02%	11.76%	61.57%	19.85%	6.83%	24.05%	8.23%	64.3%	3.42%

PREDICTIONS

Table 19: Prediction Results

	q	inc	pguess	pmis	ppmis
1	Inflation	60.1%	3.22%	56.88%	94.64%
2	Unemployment	43.3%	3.43%	39.87%	92.08%
3	Environment	52.2%	15.99%	36.21%	69.37%
4	Deficit	31.6%	5.71%	25.89%	81.93%
5	Crime	72.5%	4.37%	68.13%	93.97%
6	Hunt Bear	40.9%	13.94%	26.96%	65.92%
7	Evolution	42.5%	10.83%	31.67%	74.52%
8	Big Bang	34%	14.96%	19.04%	56%

Table 20: Logit Predicting Misinformation

	Inflation	Unemployment	Env.
(Intercept)	1.52*	1.73*	−0.40
	(0.65)	(0.77)	(0.29)
know	18.58*	3.99	4.44*
	(9.02)	(3.53)	(1.44)
I(pid3 == "rep")TRUE	−0.03		0.05
	(0.77)		(0.35)
I(pid3 == "dem")TRUE	1.28		−0.17
	(0.78)		(0.33)
know:I(pid3 == "rep")TRUE	−12.04		0.14
	(9.24)		(1.56)
know:I(pid3 == "dem")TRUE	−15.27		−0.65
	(9.17)		(1.55)
I(libcon == "con")TRUE		0.38	
		(0.87)	
I(libcon == "lib")TRUE		1.29	
		(1.05)	
know:I(libcon == "con")TRUE		−1.20	
		(3.87)	
know:I(libcon == "lib")TRUE		−3.35	
		(4.00)	
N	1154	717	1471
AIC	334.83	296.43	1729.35
BIC	456.05	406.23	1856.40
$\log L$	−143.41	−124.22	−840.67

Standard errors in parentheses

* indicates significance at $p < 0.05$

NES 1992

Measures

• Would you say that over the past year, the level of unemployment in the country has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse? (923527)
Would you say much better or somewhat better?
Would you say much worse or somewhat worse? (923528)
• Would you say that over the past year, inflation has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse? (923529)
Would you say much better or somewhat better (923530)
• How about the economy. Would you say that over the past year the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse?(923531, 923532)
• What about in the last few months, since about the 4th of July. Would you say that the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse? (923533, 923534)
• Compared to four years ago, would you say that the nation's economy has gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse? (923535, 923536)
• Would you say that over the past year economic conditions in this state have gotten better, stayed about the same, or gotten worse? (923543, 923544)

Table 21: NES 1992: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	ump.c	ump.i	ump.sm	ump.dk	inf.c	inf.i	inf.sm	inf.dk	ecn.btr	ecn.wrs	ecn.sm	ecn.dk
R	4.2%	71.2%	23.4%	1.2%	9.4%	42.2%	46%	2.4%	7.2%	61%	31.2%	0.6%
I	2.38%	83.33%	13.49%	0.79%	3.97%	65.87%	29.37%	0.79%	1.59%	69.84%	26.98%	1.59%
D	1.55%	86.76%	10.85%	0.85%	3.8%	61.41%	33.8%	0.99%	3.1%	78.03%	17.75%	1.13%
C	2.75%	75.27%	21.98%	0%	8.79%	42.86%	47.53%	0.82%	6.59%	64.01%	29.4%	0%
M	2.11%	81.02%	15.96%	0.9%	7.23%	60.84%	30.42%	1.51%	5.12%	72.59%	21.69%	0.6%
L	1.69%	88.19%	9.28%	0.84%	5.91%	47.26%	45.99%	0.84%	4.22%	76.79%	18.99%	0%
Overall	2.62%	79.56%	16.54%	1.29%	6.24%	53.84%	38.27%	1.65%	4.55%	71.43%	22.82%	1.21%

NES 2004

Measures

• Would you say that OVER THE PAST YEAR, inflation has gotten BETTER, stayed ABOUT THE SAME, or gotten WORSE? (V043104)
Would you say MUCH [better/worse] or SOMEWHAT [better/worse] (V043105)

• Would you say that OVER THE PAST YEAR, the level of unemployment in the country has gotten BETTER, stayed ABOUT THE SAME, or gotten WORSE? (V043101)
Would you say MUCH [better/worse] or SOMEWHAT [better/worse] (V043102)

• Do you think the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people in the United States today is LARGER, SMALLER, or ABOUT THE SAME as it was 20 years ago? (V045113)
(Would you say the difference in incomes is) MUCH [larger/smaller] or SOMEWHAT [larger/smaller]? (V045113a)
Do you think this is A GOOD THING, A BAD THING, or haven't you thought about it?

• Now thinking about the economy in the country as a whole, would you say that over the past year the nation's economy has gotten BETTER, stayed ABOUT THE SAME, or gotten WORSE? (V043097)

NES 2008

MEASURES

- (Panel has deficit Q as well)
- Would you say that OVER THE PAST YEAR, the level of unemployment in the country has gotten BETTER, stayed ABOUT THE SAME, or gotten WORSE? (V083087)

Would you say MUCH better or SOMEWHAT better? / Would you say MUCH worse or SOMEWHAT worse? (V083087a)

- Would you say that OVER THE PAST YEAR, inflation has gotten BETTER, stayed ABOUT THE SAME, or gotten WORSE? (V083089)

Would you say MUCH better or SOMEWHAT better? / Would you say MUCH worse or SOMEWHAT worse? (V083089a)

- Do you think the difference in incomes between rich people and poor people in the United States today is LARGER, SMALLER, or ABOUT THE SAME as it was 20 years ago? (V085080) (Post-election)

(Would you say the difference in incomes is) MUCH larger or SOMEWHAT larger? (V085080a)

Table 22: NES 2004: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	ump.btr	ump.wrs	ump.sm	ump.dk	inf.btr	inf.wrs	inf.sm	inf.dk	ecn.btr	ecn.wrs	ecn.sm	ecn.dk	rich.lrgr	rich.smlr	rich.sm	rich.d
R	40%	20.82%	29.69%	9.48%	7.42%	35.05%	46.39%	11.13%	42.47%	21.24%	35.46%	0.82%	66.8%	3.09%	19.79%	10.31
I	15.25%	52.54%	22.88%	9.32%	3.39%	45.76%	38.14%	12.71%	14.41%	49.15%	33.9%	2.54%	68.64%	1.69%	11.02%	18.64
D	9.12%	55.91%	20.78%	14.19%	2.53%	50%	32.26%	15.2%	9.29%	62.67%	27.03%	1.01%	72.3%	2.7%	8.78%	16.22
C	39.27%	22.77%	25.92%	12.04%	7.85%	36.39%	42.15%	13.61%	40.84%	27.49%	31.15%	0.52%	67.28%	3.4%	19.37%	9.95%
M	18.52%	44.11%	25.59%	11.78%	3.37%	49.83%	33.33%	13.47%	19.87%	43.77%	35.35%	1.01%	74.07%	0.34%	11.45%	14.14
L	11.2%	52.28%	24.07%	12.45%	1.66%	45.23%	37.76%	15.35%	12.86%	59.34%	26.97%	0.83%	75.52%	1.66%	9.96%	12.86
Overall	21.95%	41.34%	24.67%	12.05%	4.54%	43.23%	38.7%	13.53%	22.94%	44.72%	31.19%	1.16%	69.47%	2.72%	13.78%	14.03

Table 23: NES 2004: Misinformation by PID, Ideology, Rel. Belief

	ump.btr	ump.wrs	ump.sm	ump.dk	inf.btr	inf.wrs	inf.sm	inf.dk	ecn.btr	ecn.wrs	ecn.sm	ecn.dk	rich.lrgr	rich.smlr	rich.sm	rich.d
R	40%	20.82%	29.69%	9.48%	7.42%	35.05%	46.39%	11.13%	42.47%	21.24%	35.46%	0.82%	66.8%	3.09%	19.79%	10.31
I	15.25%	52.54%	22.88%	9.32%	3.39%	45.76%	38.14%	12.71%	14.41%	49.15%	33.9%	2.54%	68.64%	1.69%	11.02%	18.64
D	9.12%	55.91%	20.78%	14.19%	2.53%	50%	32.26%	15.2%	9.29%	62.67%	27.03%	1.01%	72.3%	2.7%	8.78%	16.22
C	39.27%	22.77%	25.92%	12.04%	7.85%	36.39%	42.15%	13.61%	40.84%	27.49%	31.15%	0.52%	67.28%	3.4%	19.37%	9.95%
M	18.52%	44.11%	25.59%	11.78%	3.37%	49.83%	33.33%	13.47%	19.87%	43.77%	35.35%	1.01%	74.07%	0.34%	11.45%	14.14
L	11.2%	52.28%	24.07%	12.45%	1.66%	45.23%	37.76%	15.35%	12.86%	59.34%	26.97%	0.83%	75.52%	1.66%	9.96%	12.86
Overall	21.95%	41.34%	24.67%	12.05%	4.54%	43.23%	38.7%	13.53%	22.94%	44.72%	31.19%	1.16%	69.47%	2.72%	13.78%	14.03