

### Willingness to pay

You are invited to participate in a research study by Dr. Prithvijit Mukherjee, Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University and Dr. Lucas Rentschler, a Senior Research Fellow and the Director of the Experimental Economics Program at the Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University. This research is funded by the Center for Growth and Opportunity at Utah State University.

**The purpose of this research is to** study individual's willingness to pay for fact-checking information. Specifically, we are interested in learning about situations where individuals are willing to pay for fact-checking information. You are being asked to participate in this research because you signed up for participating in online surveys on Prolific.co.

**Your participation in this study is voluntary** and you may withdraw your participation at any time for any reason.

**If you take part in this study, you will be asked** to participate in two decision tasks followed by a survey in one session on a single day. The two decision tasks are described below. The tasks will be conducted on computers. In the first task, you would be determining the accuracy of a series of statements and decide whether you would like to see a fact-check for a various cost, you would later have the option to update your initial choice. In the second task you will be asked to choose how many out hundred boxes you want to pick. The survey will consist of standard demographic questions, such as sex, age, race/ethnicity etc., and socio-economic preferences. You will be given instruction in detail about the decision you will make. Your total participation in this project is expected to be 45 minutes.

**The possible risks of participating in this study include loss of confidentiality.** Although you will not directly benefit from this study, it has been designed to learn more about individual's willingness to pay for fact-checking.

**We will make every effort to ensure that the information you provide remains confidential.** We will not reveal your identity in any publications, presentations, or reports resulting from this research study.

**We will collect your information through an online survey.** Online activities always carry a risk of a data breach, but we will use systems and processes that minimize breach opportunities. This data will be securely stored in a restricted-access folder on Box.com, an encrypted, cloud-based storage system.

**For your participation in this research study you will receive on average \$9.5 including a participating fee of \$2. If you choose to withdraw from the study, you will only receive the participation fee of \$2.** You can decline to participate in any part of this study for any reason and can end your participation at any time.

If you have any questions about this study, you can contact the Principal Investigator (404) 652 9176 or [prithvijit.mukherjee@usu.edu](mailto:prithvijit.mukherjee@usu.edu). Thank you again for your time and consideration.

If you have any concerns about this study, please contact Utah State University's Human Research Protection Office at (435) 797-0567 or [irb@usu.edu](mailto:irb@usu.edu).

**By continuing to the survey, you agree that you are 18 years of age or older and wish to participate.** You agree that you understand the risks and benefits of participation, and that you know what you are being asked to do. You also agree that if you have contacted the research team with any questions about your participation and are clear on how

to stop your participation in this study if you choose to do so. Please be sure to retain a copy of this form for your records.