



Universiteit  
Leiden  
The Netherlands

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## Description

**Hello! Thank you for participating in this study.**

In this study, we are going to find out what is the explicit reasoning behind human judgements on what to fact check.

There will be no sensitive or personal information needed.

In order to get payment in Prolific, you have to click the submit button in the end of the questionnaire.

The survey consists of 5 tasks, each with 16 questions, and it will take roughly 10 minutes to complete.

You will be presented with a series of "*pictured claims*" – short statements accompanied by an image. Please read each claim carefully and decide whether it seems **checkworthy or not** (i.e., worth fact-checking).

What is checkworthy? Our core criterion is: if this claim is false, is it likely to have a significant negative impact on an individual or society? Please do not make decisions solely based on whether the image and text match.

Please consider the following questions when making your judgment:

- If someone believes this false claim, will anyone suffer health damage, be scammed, or face safety risks?
- Will it cause unnecessary social panic, discrimination, or antagonism?
- Will it seriously mislead public decision-making (such as voting, health choices) or undermine trust in key institutions (government, hospitals, media)?

## Examples

## Example of a checkworthy claim



*Claim:* “Drinking a cup of bleach can cure COVID-19.”

*Reason:* This statement poses a public health risk and clearly needs fact-checking.

## ✖ Example of a not-checkworthy claim



*Claim:* "Cats sleep for most of the day."

*Reason:* This is a harmless, generally known statement with little consequence even if not fully accurate.

After reviewing each claim and image, please answer the following questions based on your own intuition and judgment.

### Task 1



**Claim:** A picture depicts a paralyzed man's groomsmen holding him up so he could marry his bride.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
- Familiar(I often see similar statements)

Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
- Politics & Policy
- Science & Environment
- Economics & Finance
- Social Events
- Entertainment & Gossip
- Others

Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkwotry

Not checkworthy

## Q6 Why is the claim checkworthy

Potential Harms: If this is false, what are the most direct negative consequences? (e.g., health risks, economic losses, incitement of social hatred, misleading public policy, etc.)

Suspicious Evidence: Which specific elements in the statement (e.g., logical contradictions, questionable data, forged images, unreliable sources) make you feel it needs to be verified?

Avoid using vague expressions such as "seems like fake news" or "feels unreliable."

## Q7 If the claim is false, what consequences might occur?

## Q6 Why is the claim not checkworthy?

- This is just a personal opinion or feeling; there's no right or wrong answer.
- This is a joke or prank, clearly not true.
- The statement is irrelevant; no one would care if it were false.
- The statement cannot be verified (e.g., predicting the future).
- Others (Please explain briefly)

## Q8 Does the image support the claim?

- Fully support
- Partially support
- Misleading

## Q9 In the list of these fruits, please select the third option below.

- Apple
- Banana
- Orange
- Grape

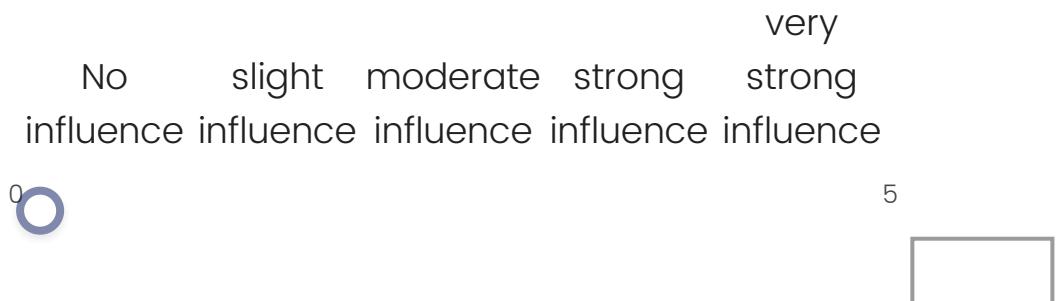
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## Q11 Does the text use emotional or manipulative language?

- Fear
- Anger
- Excitement/Surprise
- Sadness/Sympathy
- Humor/Sarcasm
- Religion/Faith
- No, the language is neutral and objective

## Q12 Did these emotions influence your judgement?



Q13 Do you suspect this picture was generated by AI or maliciously tampered with?

- I suspect
- Hard to tell
- No suspicion

Q14 If you suspected AI generation or manipulation, what clues led you to this judgment?

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- Other

Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

- More likely to believe
- More likely to doubt
- No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

## Task2



**Claim:** A video clip shows martial arts star bruce lee expertly playing ping-pong using nunchaku rather than a paddle.

## Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

## Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

## Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
- Familiar(I often see similar statements)

## Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
- Politics & Policy
- Science & Environment
- Economics & Finance
- Social Events
- Entertainment & Gossip
- Others

## Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkworthy
- Not checkworthy

## Q6 Why is the claim checkworthy

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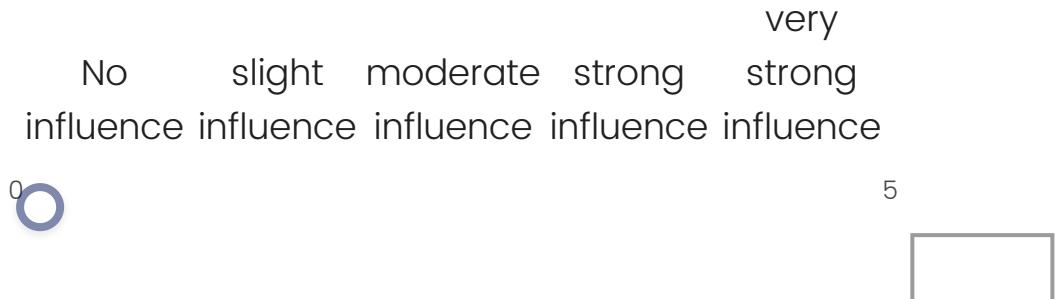
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### Task3



**Claim:** a video shows osama bin laden singing lady gaga's "poker face."

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
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Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

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Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

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- Not checkwerty

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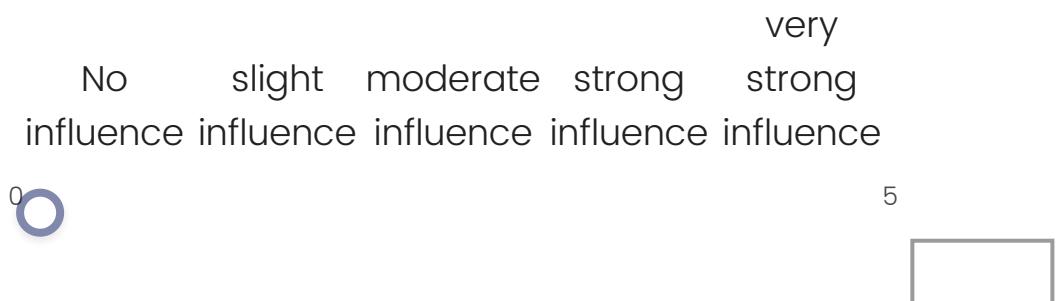
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## Task4



**Claim:** A plant and some leaves in front of the gloomy sky.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
- Familiar(I often see similar statements)

Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
- Politics & Policy
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Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkwotry

Not checkworthy

## Q6 Why is the claim checkworthy

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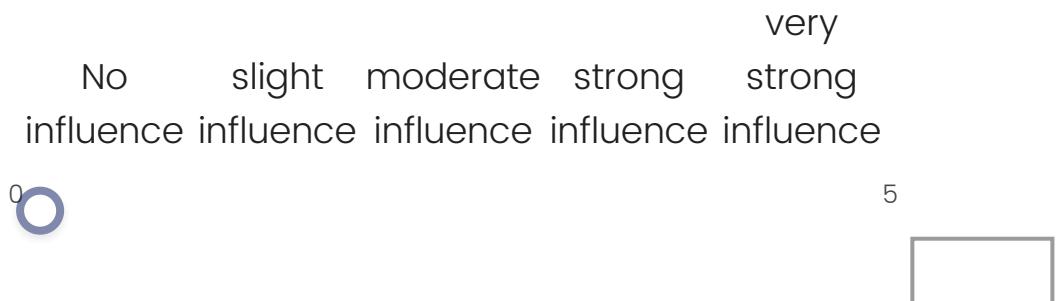
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## Task5



**Claim:** A long-haired woman wearing an aqua shirt and white pants watches as a short-haired man wearing a gray shirt and black shorts attempts to pick up a spare at a bowling alley.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable

- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
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Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
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Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkworthy
- Not checkworthy

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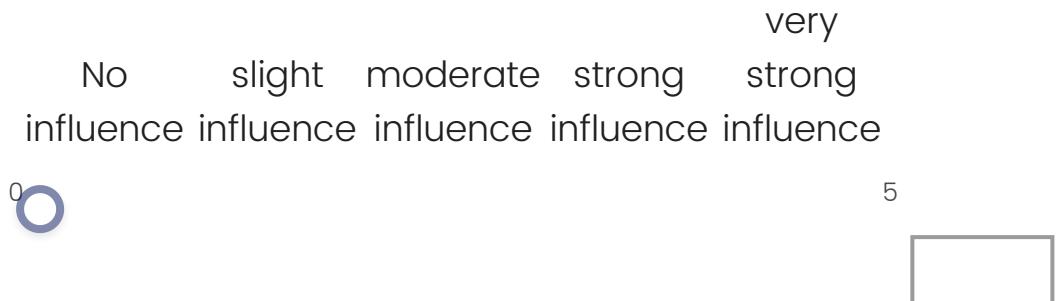
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  - Other

Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

- More likely to believe
- More likely to doubt
- No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

## Task6



**Claim:** Two mosaic workers in white jackets work on an elaborately designed tile floor.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

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- Checkworyt
- Not checkworthy

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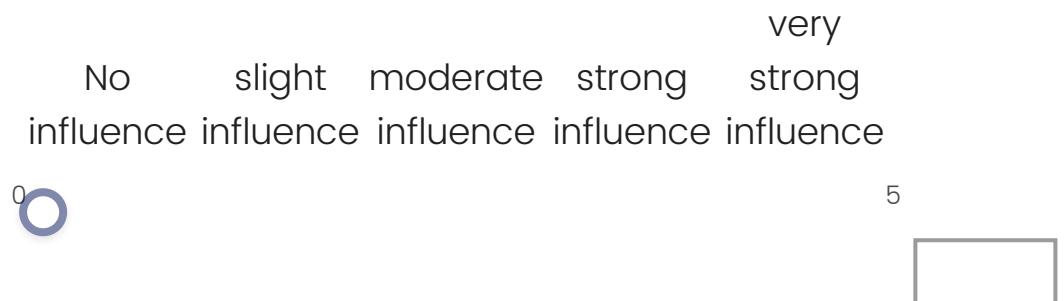
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## Task7

The youngest parents in the world  
Two students from the same school  
Him 13 years old  
She 12 years old  
THEIR BABY 6 days 😍😍😍



**Claim:** A photograph shows the youngest parents in the world.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable(Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
- Familiar(I often see similar statements)

Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
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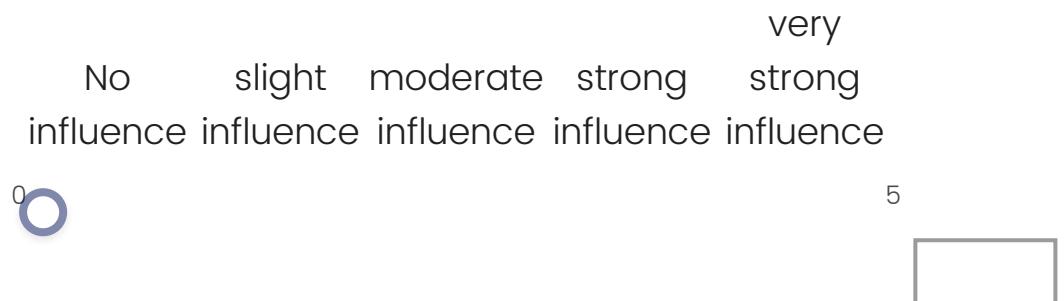
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- More likely to believe
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- No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

## Task8



**Claim:** The dog and cat are on a comfy bed.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable (Able to verify authenticity)
- Opinion or judgement (Unable to verify authenticity)

### Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

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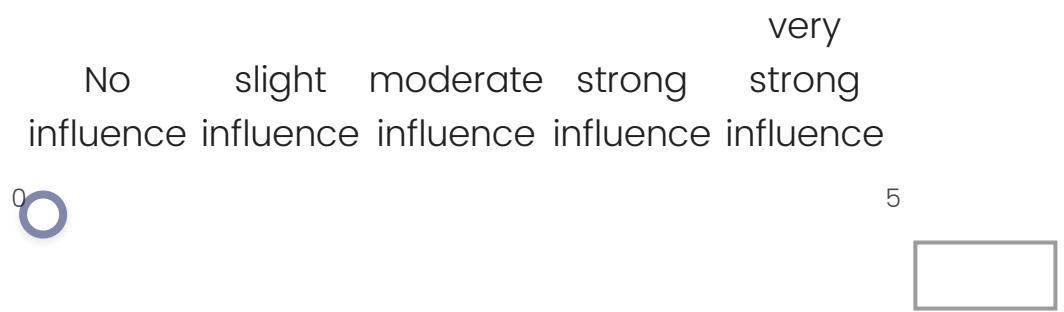
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## Task9

 Curtis Grimes   
1d · 

The message is clear and it's not going to get any better until Jesus comes back. This is all planed, organized and executed precisely to lure you in. Open your eyes and make things right with Jesus before it's too late. I love you!



Nike to Release a Shoe Dedicated to Satan with a Pentagram and Human Blood in it – In a Limited Edition of 666 Pairs

**Claim:** Nike will release a shoe in collaboration with lil nas x dedicated to satan with a pentagram and human blood in it

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- Clearly understandable

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- Politics & Policy
- Science & Environment
- Economics & Finance
- Social Events
- Entertainment & Gossip
- Others

Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkworthy
- Not checkworthy

## Q6 Why is the claim checkworthy

Potential Harms: If this is false, what are the most direct negative consequences? (e.g., health risks, economic losses, incitement of social hatred, misleading public policy, etc.)

Suspicious Evidence: Which specific elements in the statement (e.g., logical contradictions, questionable data, forged images, unreliable sources) make you feel it needs to be verified?

Avoid using vague expressions such as "seems like fake news" or "feels unreliable."

## Q7 If the claim is false, what consequences might occur?

//

## Q6 Why is the claim not checkworthy?

- This is just a personal opinion or feeling; there's no right or wrong answer.
- This is a joke or prank, clearly not true.
- The statement is irrelevant; no one would care if it were false.
- The statement cannot be verified (e.g., predicting the future).
-  Others (Please explain briefly)

## Q8 Does the image support the claim?

- Fully support
- Partially support
- Misleading

## Q9 In the list of these fruits, please select the third option below.

- Apple
- Banana
- Orange
- Grape

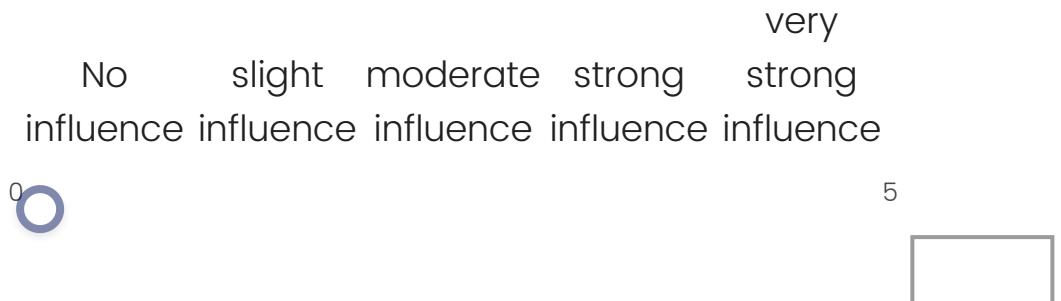
## Q10 Would your judgement change without the image?

- Yes, without the image I would be less willing to fact-check it
- Yes, without the image I would be more willing to fact-check it
- No, my judgment is mainly based on the text; the image does not affect it
- No, my judgment is mainly based on the image; the text does not affect it

## Q11 Does the text use emotional or manipulative language?

- Fear
- Anger
- Excitement/Surprise
- Sadness/Sympathy
- Humor/Sarcasm
- Religion/Faith
- No, the language is neutral and objective

## Q12 Did these emotions influence your judgement?



Q13 Do you suspect this picture was generated by AI or maliciously tampered with?

- I suspect
  - Hard to tell
  - No suspicion

Q14 If you suspected AI generation or manipulation, what clues led you to this judgment?

- Distorted or unnatural hands, feet, or other body parts
  - Stiff facial expressions or unnatural facial features
  - Text incorrectly blended with objects (e.g., floating text)
  - Illogical lighting, texture, or perspective
  - The image feels “too perfect” or unrealistic
  - I have seen evidence elsewhere that this image is fake
  - Other

Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

- More likely to believe
- More likely to doubt
- No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

## Task10



**Claim:** A video shows popcorn being popped via the use of a pickle, a aa battery, and an iphone charger cord.

Q1 How understandable is this claim?

- Clearly understandable
- Vague or ambiguous

Q2 Is the claim factual or opinion-based?

- Factual or verifiable (Able to verify authenticity)

- Opinion or judgement(Unable to verify authenticity)

Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

- Novel(First time or rarely seen)
- Familiar(I often see similar statements)

Q4 Which domain best fits this claim?

- Health & Medicine
- Politics & Policy
- Science & Environment
- Economics & Finance
- Social Events
- Entertainment & Gossip
- Others

Q5 Is the claim checkworthy?

- Checkwerty
- Not checkworthy

## Q6 Why is the claim checkworthy

Potential Harms: If this is false, what are the most direct negative consequences? (e.g., health risks, economic losses, incitement of social hatred, misleading public policy, etc.)

Suspicious Evidence: Which specific elements in the statement (e.g., logical contradictions, questionable data, forged images, unreliable sources) make you feel it needs to be verified?

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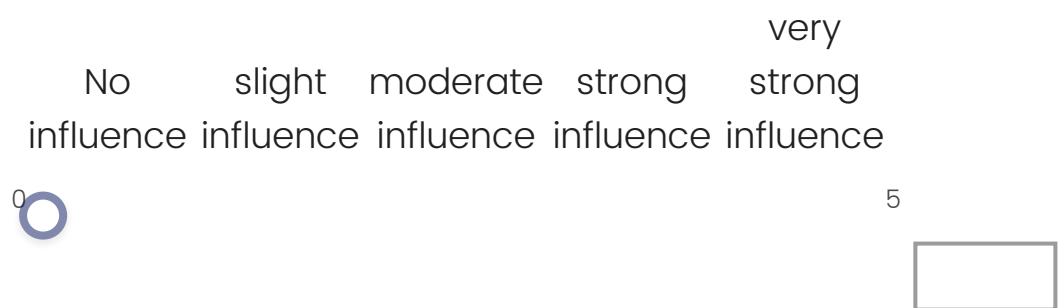
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Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

## Submit

Do you have any feedback about this questionnaire? if you have, please let us know about your feeling.

You have finished all tasks!

- I confirm that I have completed all tasks and click Submit

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