



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Profile

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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 video shows a group of people celebrating the end of covid-19 restrictions in New Zealand.

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

☒ 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

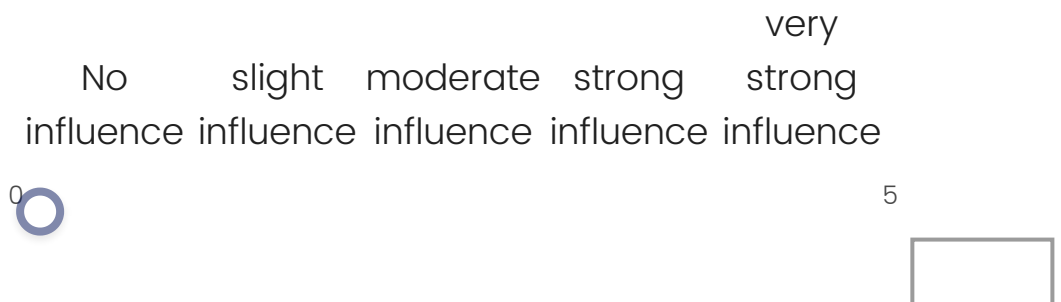
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Q11 Does the text use emotional or manipulative language?

- ☐ 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?

- ☐ Distorted or unnatural hands, feet, or other body parts
- ☐ Stiff facial expressions or unnatural facial features
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- ☐ 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?

Task2



Claim: A video shows dozens of muslims being tortured in burma.

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

☒ 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.)

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- ☐ No, the language is neutral and objective

Q12 Did these emotions influence your judgement?

				very
No	slight	moderate	strong	strong
influence	influence	influence	influence	influence
0				5
<input checked="" type="radio"/>				<input type="text"/>

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- ☐ More likely to believe
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- ☐ No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task3

**jason alexander** ✓

@JJasonAlexander

It's not just the sign that throws me. It's the idea that whatever it's warning about is so prevalent here that they needed a sign.



Claim: A photograph shows an official road sign in arizona warning drivers about parachuting cows.

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

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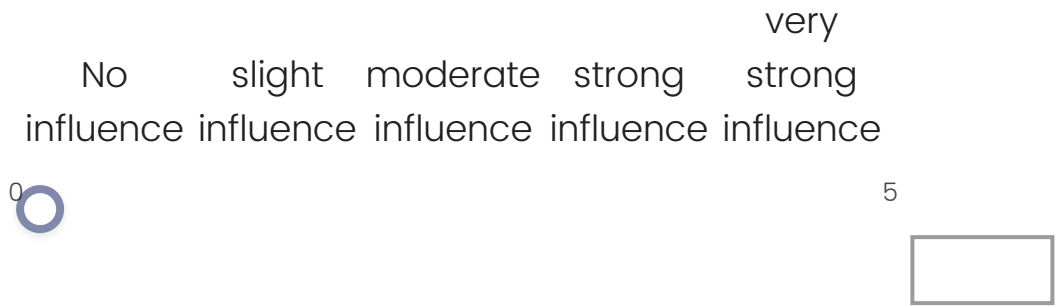
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Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

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

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task4



Claim: A boy plays with a soccer ball under a clothesline in an 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)
- ☐ 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

☒ 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.)

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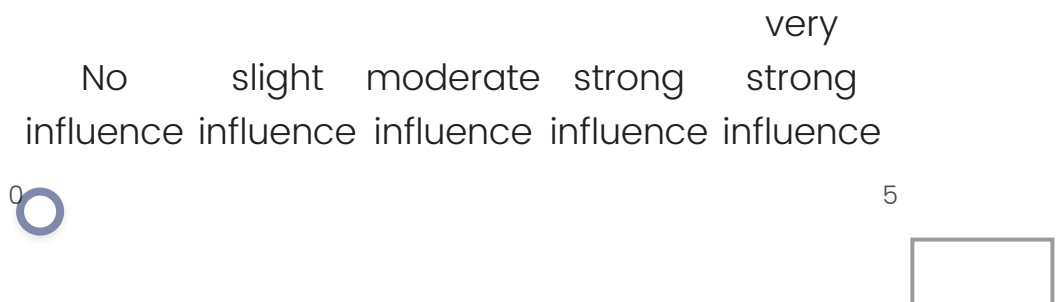
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Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

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

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task5



Claim: Photo of Argentina's football player, Lionel Messi holding the Palestinian National Flag.

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

☒ 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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Q8 Does the image support the claim?

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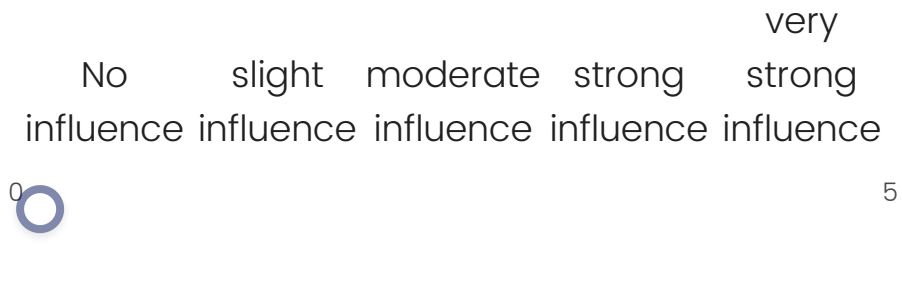
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Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

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

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task6



Claim: Three young sumo wrestler students stand at attention at an award ceremony in front of a man at the microphone.

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

✓ 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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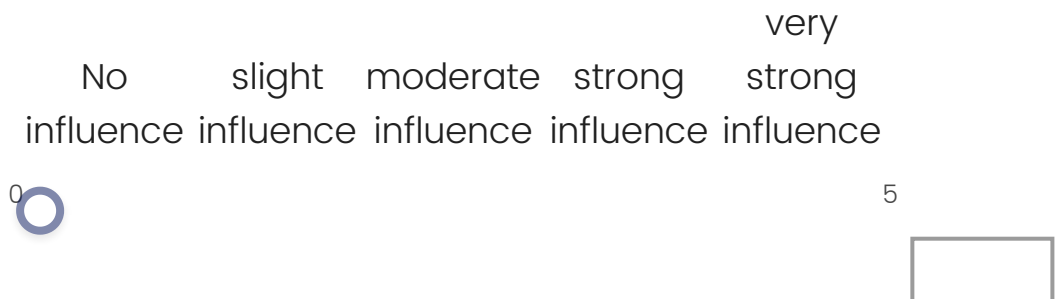
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Q15 Did seeing similar claims before affect your judgment?

- ☐ More likely to believe
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- ☐ No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task7



Claim: A particularly photogenic Russian professional pole dancer posing for a photoshoot.

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)
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Q3 Is the claim novel or familiar?

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- ☐ Health & Medicine
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- ☐ 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.)

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Q8 Does the image support the claim?

- ☐ Fully support
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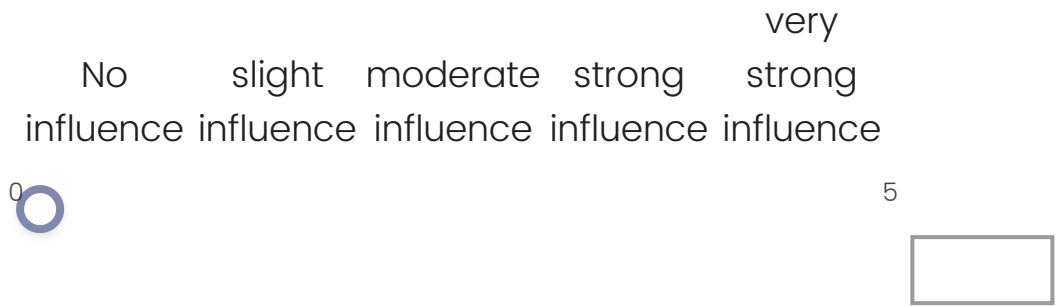
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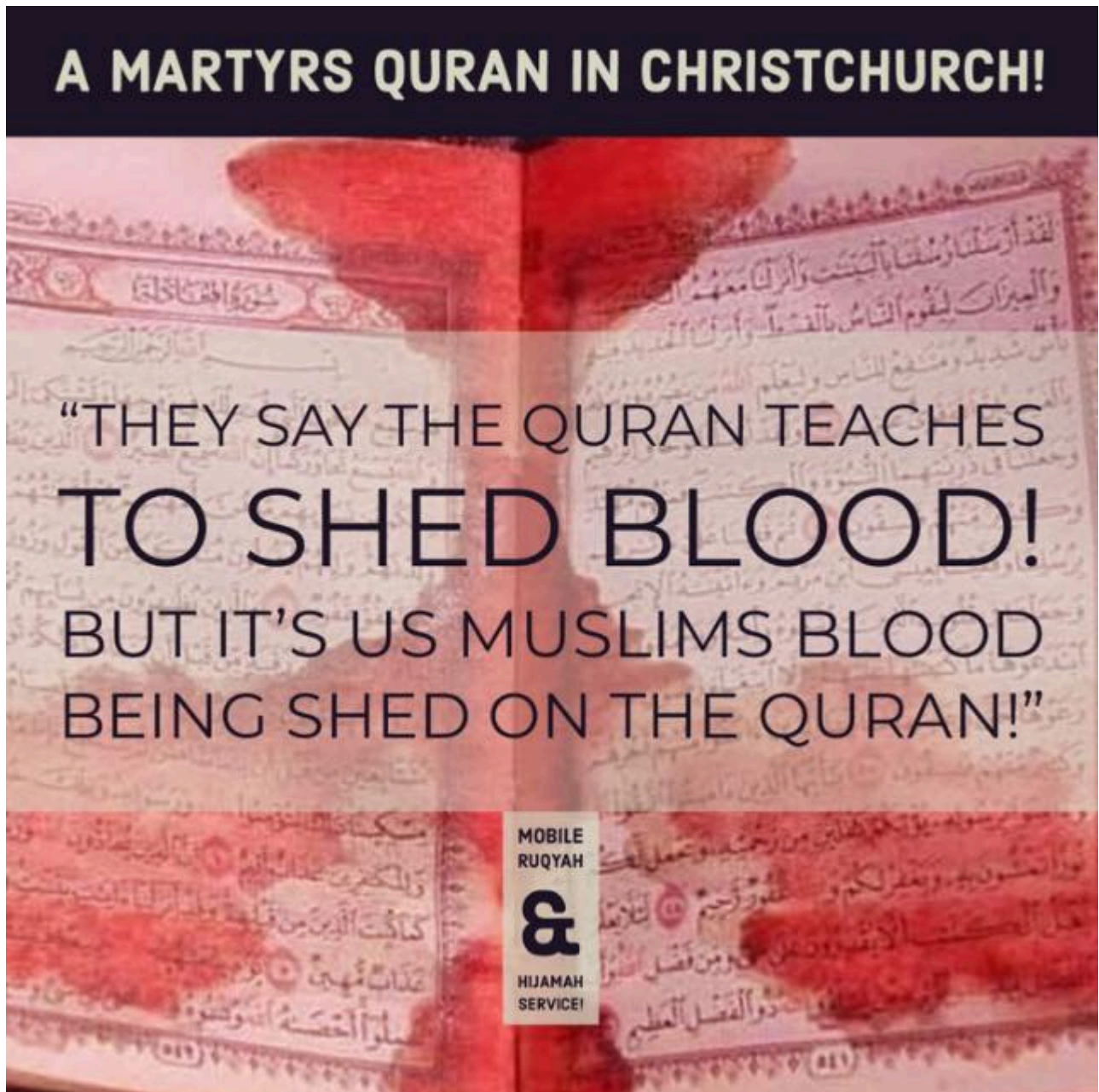
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- ☐ No effect

Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task8



Claim: A photograph shows a blood-stained quran found after the march 2019 Christchurch mass shootings.

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)

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- ☐ 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

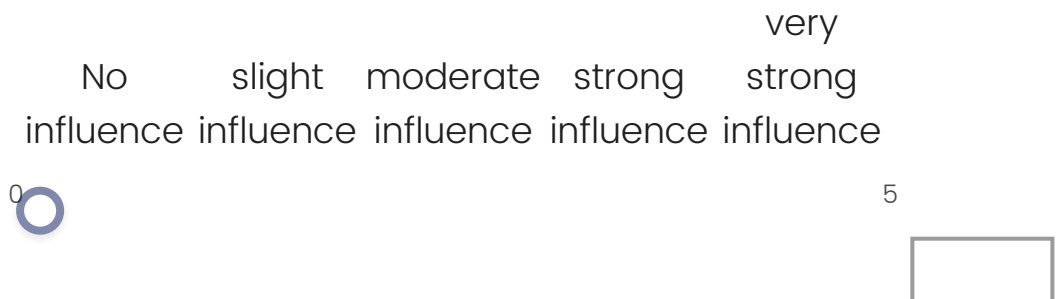
Q10 Would your judgement change without the image?

- ☐ 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?

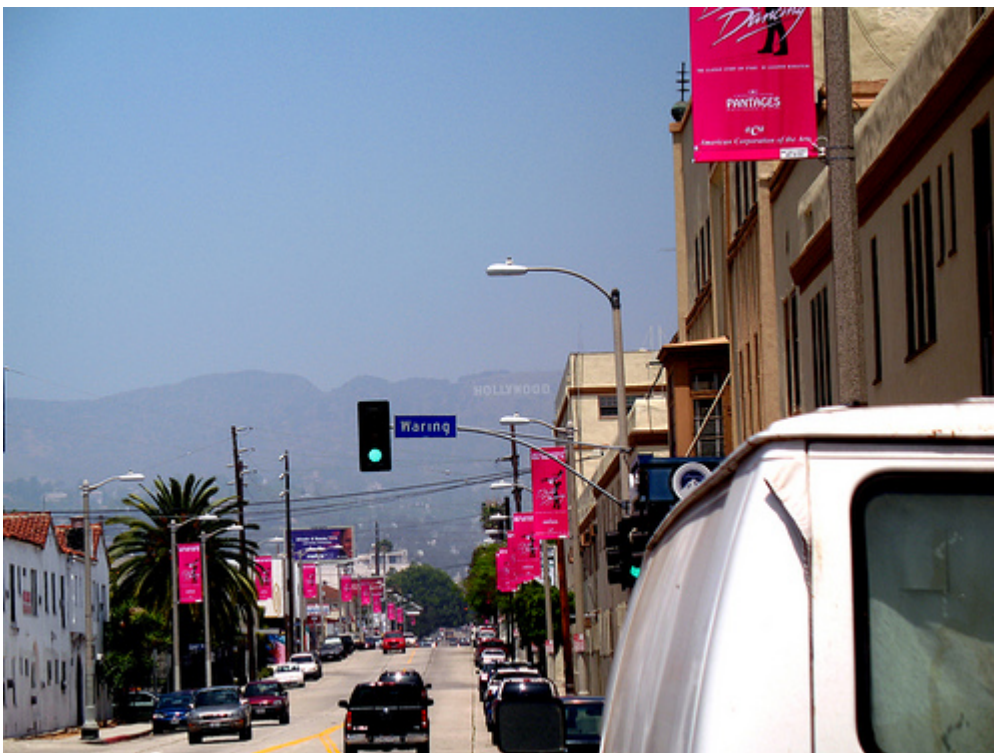
- ☐ Distorted or unnatural hands, feet, or other body parts
- ☐ Stiff facial expressions or unnatural facial features
- ☐ Text incorrectly blended with objects (e.g., floating text)
- ☐ Illogical lighting, texture, or perspective
- ☐ The image feels “too perfect” or unrealistic
- ☐ I have seen evidence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

Task9



Claim: Cars drive down a sunny road in a safe city.

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

☒ 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.)

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Q12 Did these emotions influence your judgement?

				very
No	slight	moderate	strong	strong
influence	influence	influence	influence	influence

☐ 0

☐ 5

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Q16 How might personal feeling influence interpretation of this statement?

Task10



Claim: Photo of Union Minister Smriti Irani drinking alcohol and preparing counter tweets to Rahul Gandhi.

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)

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Q12 Did these emotions influence your judgement?

	No	slight	moderate	strong	very strong
	influence	influence	influence	influence	influence
0					5
<input checked="" type="radio"/>					<input type="text"/>

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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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