

Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review Digest: 12/2024



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December 2024: Volume 5, Issue 5 & Volume 5, Issue 6 (Special Issue on Conspiracy Theories)

The HKS Misinformation Review Digest is back! We are pleased to share our December 2024 Digest, which includes an overview of our latest publications on misinformation research and a look at the leadership updates from this year.

Volume 5, Issue 5 includes articles on mapping adolescent interactions with misinformation to perceptions of online harm, the impact of political ideology and misinformation on recognizing false climate statements, the polarizing discourse on misinformation and its consequences for the field, the role of narrative in misinformation games, the effects of “disputed” tags and political knowledge on the judged truthfulness of election misinformation, and GPT-fabricated scientific papers on Google Scholar.

Volume 5, Issue 6—a special issue on conspiracy theories guest-edited by Dr. Daniel Stockemer and Jean-Nicolas Bordeleau (School of Political Studies, University of Ottawa)—features articles on interventions designed to diminish conspiracy theory beliefs, the climate lockdown conspiracy, the impact of conspiracy belief on democratic culture, the relationship between conspiracy theory beliefs and political violence, the understanding of climate change conspiracy beliefs, the association of cognitive style and skills with conspiracy beliefs, and white consciousness and conspiracy thinking.

With the relaunch of our Digest, we are excited to highlight the changes in our leadership team. We welcome Editor-in-Chief, Dr. Viktoria Gabriel; Associate Editors, Dr. Samantha Bradshaw (School of International Service, American University), Dr. Ben Lyons (Department of Communication, University of Utah), Dr. Toby Prike (School of Psychology, University of Adelaide), and Dr. Francesca Tripodi (School of Information and Library Science, UNC-Chapel Hill); and Managing Editor, Dr. Magda Tarnawska Senel.

We are thrilled to feature the important work of our authors and to continue to provide a platform for rigorous, peer-reviewed research on misinformation. We accept submissions on a rolling basis. More information about the submission process can be found in our updated [Author Guidelines](#). If you would like to join our reviewer community, please follow the steps listed on our [Become a Reviewer](#) page.

Thank you for your continued support for the journal!

The HKS Misinformation Review Editorial Team

Volume 5, Issue 5



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A playbook for mapping adolescent interactions with misinformation to perceptions of online harm

Gowri S. Swamy, Morgan Ames, Niloufar Salehi

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RESEARCH NOTE

Conservatives are less accurate than liberals at recognizing false climate statements, and disinformation makes conservatives less discerning: Evidence from 12 countries

Tobia Spampatti, Ulf J. J. Hahnel, Tobias Brosch

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COMMENTARY

Misinformed about misinformation: On the polarizing discourse on misinformation and its consequences for the field

Irene V. Pasquetto, Gabrielle Lim, Samantha Bradshaw

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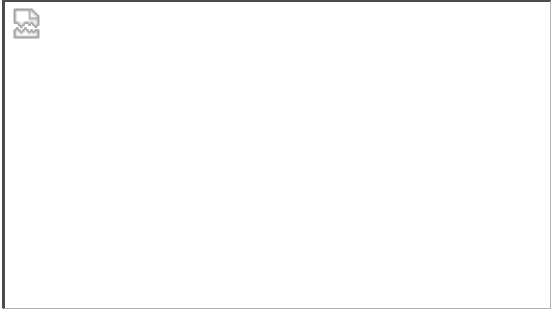


RESEARCH ARTICLE

The role of narrative in misinformation games

Nisha Devasia, Jin Ha Lee

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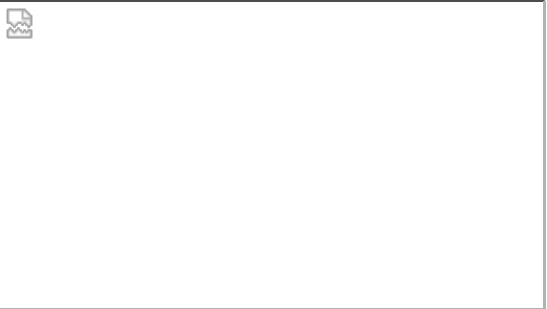


RESEARCH NOTE

Trump, Twitter, and truth judgments: The effects of “disputed” tags and political knowledge on the judged truthfulness of election misinformation

*John C. Blanchar,
Catherine J. Norris*

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RESEARCH NOTE

GPT-fabricated scientific papers on Google Scholar: Key features, spread, and implications for preempting evidence manipulation

*Jutta Haider, Kristofer Rolf
Söderström, Björn Ekström, Malte
Rödl*

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Volume 5, Issue 6, Special Issue on Conspiracy Theories



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Using an AI-powered “street epistemologist” chatbot and reflection tasks to diminish conspiracy theory beliefs

*Marco Meyer, Adam Enders, Casey
Klofstad, Justin Stoler, Joseph
Uscinski*

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COMMENTARY

The climate lockdown conspiracy: You can’t fact-check possibility

Michael P. A. Murphy

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

The impact of conspiracy belief on democratic culture: Evidence from Europe

Maik Herold

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

The relationship between conspiracy theory beliefs and political violence

Adam Enders, Casey Klofstad, Joseph Uscinski

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RESEARCH NOTE

Understanding climate change conspiracy beliefs: A comparative outlook

Daniel Stockemer, Jean-Nicolas Bordeleau

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COMMENTARY

Are conspiracy beliefs a sign of flawed cognition? Reexamining the association of cognitive style and skills with conspiracy beliefs

Roland Imhoff, Tisa Bertlich

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RESEARCH ARTICLE

White consciousness helps explain conspiracy thinking

Feodor Snagovsky

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EDITORIAL

Conspiracy theories and their believers in an era of misinformation

Daniel Stockemer, Jean-Nicolas Bordeleau

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About the journal

The *HKS Misinformation Review* publishes high-quality, interdisciplinary research that examines misinformation from different perspectives—from its prevalence and impact to the effectiveness of possible interventions—employing a fast-review process designed to publish articles within one to three months of entering peer review. Our content emphasizes real-world implications and applications and is released under open-access licensing.



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