Garrett, R. K. (2019). Social media's contribution to political misperceptions in U.S. Presidential elections. *PLOS ONE, 14*(3), e0213500. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0213500

2012 CODEBOOK – COMPLETE WORDING

[GRID; SP ACROSS]
[RANDOMIZE]
[PROMPT IF MISSING ANSWER IN ANY ROW]

Q2 In the past month, how often did you get news or information about the Presidential candidates or the campaign from...

Every day or almost every day 1	Several times a week 2	Several times a month 3	Rarely 4	Never 5

a. Print newspapers
b. Television
c. Print magazines
d. Radio News
e. Political Talk Radio
f. The Internet or World Wide Webg. An app for a mobile phone or tablet

[RANDOMIZE]
[PROMPT IF MISSING ANSWER IN ANY ROW]

Some people use the Internet to learn and talk about politics. We have a few questions for you on this topic.

EMAIL How often did you use email to do each of the following in the past month?

Every day or almost every day 1	Several times a week 2	Several times a month 3	Rarely 4	Never 5

a. Read political emails from friends or family
b. Read political emails from political candidates, parties, or other political groups
c. Read political emails from a news organization
d. Write or forward emails containing political opinions or news stories to friends or family
e. Email videos or images about politics or a political candidate to friends or family
f. Write political emails to a candidate or elected official

[RANDOMIZE]
[SHOW COLUMN HEAD AFTER 5TH ITEM AND AT THE BOTTOM AS WELL AS THE TOP]
[PROMPT IF MISSING ANSWER IN ANY ROW]

WEB People also sometimes get their news on the web. Please tell me how often you got information about the Presidential candidates or the campaign from each of these sources in the past month?

Every day or almost every	Several times a week	Several times a month	Rarely 4	Never 5

day 1	2	3		

a. The website of a major national news organization that is not frequently characterized as favoring a particular party or ideology, including *USA Today, CBS News*, and *Yahoo! News*.
b. The website of a major national news organization that is frequently characterized as favoring liberal positions or Democratic candidates, such as *The New York Times* or *MSNBC.*
c. The website of a major national news organization that is frequently characterized as favoring conservative positions or Republican candidates, such as *The Wall Street Journal* or *FOX News.*
d. The website of a politically conservative online news organization or blog, such as *Drudge Report, TownHall* or the *Cybercast News Service (CNS News).*
e. The website of a politically liberal online news organization or blog, such as *The Huffington Post, ThinkProgress* or the *Daily Kos*.
f. The website of nonpartisan online news organizations or blogs, such as *RealClearPolitics* or *Politico*.
g. A website focusing on community news, including local news organizations and citizen journalism.
h. The website of a nonpartisan organization that summarizes or recommends news stories, such as *Google News* or *Reddit*.
i. The website of a nonpartisan fact-checking organization, such as *FactCheck.org* or *Politifact.*
j. The website of a nonpartisan organization that provides voter information, such as *Project Vote Smart*, *Smart Voter*, or *Wikipedia.*
k. The website of a political television comedy program such as *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* or *The Colbert Report*.

SNS1 Turning to a different topic...do you ever use an online social networking site, such as Facebook, Twitter, or LinkedIn?

1 Yes
2 No

[IF SNS1=1]
[GRID; SP ACROSS]
[RANDOMIZE]
[PROMPT IF MISSING ANSWER IN ANY ROW]

SNS2 So you sometimes use social networking sites, such as Facebook or Twitter. People also get and share political news using these sites. How about you? How often did you use social networking sites to do the following <u>in the past month</u>?

Every day or almost every day 1	Several times a week 2	Several times a month 3	Rarely 4	Never 5

a. Read news headlines or short news summaries about the Presidential candidates or the campaign.
b. Read messages from, or profiles of, the presidential candidates or the campaign.
c. Read political opinions about the presidential candidates or the campaign.
d. Look at a video or image about the Presidential candidates or the campaign.

[DISPLAY]

Now we'd like to know a bit about what you've heard about the Presidential candidates. The next few pages concern different statements people have made about the candidates. Please answer a few questions about each statement.

[DISPLAY ABOVE R1A TO R3A]
[DISPLAY R1A TO R3A ON THE SAME SCREEN]
Here's a statement that has been made about Mitt Romney:

Mitt Romney, who is Mormon, does not call himself a Christian.

[SP]
R1a How often have you heard this statement?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R2a Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R3a What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…
1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE R1B TO R3B]
[DISPLAY R1B TO R3B ON THE SAME SCREEN]
Here's a statement that has been made about Mitt Romney:

As Governor of Massachusetts, Mitt Romney signed a healthcare law providing taxpayer-funded abortions.

[SP]
R1b How often have you heard this statement?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R2b Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R3b What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…
1 Definitely True

2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE R1C TO R3C]
[DISPLAY R1C TO R3C ON THE SAME SCREEN]
Here's a statement that has been made about Mitt Romney:

Mitt Romney said he knows what it means to work with the black community because his ancestors owned slaves.

[SP]
R1c How often have you heard this statement?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R2c Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R3c What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…
1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE R1D TO R3D]
[DISPLAY R1D TO R3D ON THE SAME SCREEN]
Here's a statement that has been made about Mitt Romney:

Mitt Romney said that Mormon Church leaders should play a defining role in national affairs.

[SP]
R1d How often have you heard this statement?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]
R2d Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?
1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

R3d What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…

1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE O1A TO O3A]
[DISPLAY O1A TO O3A ON THE SAME SCREEN]

Here's a statement that has been made about Barack Obama:

Barack Obama is Muslim, not Christian.

[SP]

O1a How often have you heard this statement?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O2a Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O3a What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…

1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE O1C TO O3C]
[DISPLAY O1C TO O3C ON THE SAME SCREEN]

Here's a statement that has been made about Barack Obama:

Barack Obama used federal stimulus money to outsource U.S. bridge projects to Chinese companies.

[SP]

O1c How often have you heard this statement?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O2c Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times

4 Many times

[SP]

O3c What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…

1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE O1D TO O3D]
[DISPLAY O1D TO O3D ON THE SAME SCREEN]

Here's a statement that has been made about Barack Obama:

Barack Obama said he wants gas prices to skyrocket so that Americans will switch to alternative energy sources.

[SP]

O1d How often have you heard this statement?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O2d Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O3d What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…

1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

[DISPLAY ABOVE O1E TO O3E]
[DISPLAY O1E TO O3E ON THE SAME SCREEN]

Here's a statement that has been made about Barack Obama:

Barack Obama is a Socialist because he believes the government should own the property and equipment used to produce goods.

[SP]

O1e How often have you heard this statement?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O2e Have you ever heard or read anything suggesting that the statement is false?

1 Never heard at all
2 Once or Twice
3 A few times
4 Many times

[SP]

O3e What do you think about the accuracy of this statement? Is it…

1 Definitely True
2 Probably True
3 Probably False
4 Definitely False
5 Unsure

Q1A How closely do you follow news about the 2012 Presidential election?

1 Very closely
2 Somewhat closely
3 Not too closely
4 Not at all closely

POLAF Generally speaking, when it comes to political parties in the United States, how would you best describe yourself?

1 A Strong Democrat
2 A Not Very Strong Democrat
3 Independent, lean toward Democrat
4 Independent (close to neither party)
5 Independent, lean toward Republican
6 A Not Very Strong Republican
7 Strong Republican
8 Something else, please specify

[Variables beginning with PP were provided by GfK]