Climate Change in the US Spring 2021

Information and Consent
Welcome to this survey.

This study focuses on views towards the current crises in the United States, the government's response to these crises, and politics. The survey should take around 15-20 minutes to complete.

It is conducted by an international research team based in Germany (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, GESIS), Switzerland (ETH Zurich) and the United States (Michigan State University). The survey is financed by the German Leibniz Institute and serves scientific purposes.

Participation is voluntary, and you may withdraw your participation or your data at any time. The first five questions of the survey ask for your basic demographic characteristics (gender, age, education, race, region). These are necessary to ensure the survey matches the general United States population and census data. If you wish to participate in the survey, we require that you respond to all five demographic questions. After these first five demographic questions, you can skip questions in the survey that you do not want to answer.

The data from this survey will be archived and analyzed in a confidential form that does not allow for any conclusions about individual study participants. There are no known risks posed by participating in this survey. The survey has been reviewed and approved by ETH Zurich's Ethics Committee (EK-2021-N-94).

To obtain scientifically well-validated findings, we rely on your participation and are very grateful for your cooperation.

Please read the questions carefully and answer to the best of your knowledge.

If you have any questions, you can reach us at the email address info@ir.gess.ethz.ch.

- I have read and understood the above information and would like to participate in this survey.
- I do not wish to participate in this survey

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: concern, behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support, factorial endorsement experiment
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

---

age18 Are you a resident of the United States and are currently 18 years or older?
(1) Yes
(2) No

[if age18=No, end survey]

<New page>

gndr For statistical purposes, what is your sex?
(1) Female
(2) Male

age What is your age?
(1) 18-24
(2) 25-34
(3) 35-44
(4) 45-54
(5) 55-64
(6) 65 or older

educ_screen What is the highest level of education that you have completed and received credit for?
(1) Did not complete high school/GED
(2) High school diploma/GED (including some college, with no degree)
(3) Associates degree, Bachelor degree, Graduate degree or higher

racethn What is your race?
(1) White
(2) Black or African American
(3) Hispanic or Latino
(4) Other

region Which region of the USA do you currently live in?
(1) Northeast (CT, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT)
(2) Midwest (IA, IN, IL, KS, MI, MN, MO, ND, NE, OH, SD, WI)
(3) South (AL, AR, DC, DE, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA, WV)
(4) West (AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, NV, OR, UT, WA, WY)

<New page>

pol_trust_text How much would you say you personally trust the following institutions, where 1 means you have "no trust at all" and 7 means you "completely trust"?

trust_pres The President

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

trust_cong Congress

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

trust_slc State and local government

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

<New page>

soc_trust_text How much would you say you personally trust the following groups, where 1 means you have "no trust at all" and 7 means you "completely trust"?

trust_neigh Your neighbors

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

trust_fam Your family

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

trust_ppl1 People you meet for the first time

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

trust_pplnat People from another nationality

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

<New page>

sci_trust_text How much would you say you trust scientists as a source of information about:

sci_trust_cc Climate change?

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

sci_trust_vax Vaccines?

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

sci_trust_nuc Nuclear power safety?

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

sci_trust_evo Evolution?

No trust at all							Completely Trust	Don't know
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	

<New page>

Respondents randomly receive item_1a or item_1b

IRT_1 Of the following statements, how many of them apply to you? We don't want to know which statements, just HOW MANY?

Randomly assign respondents to control or treatment group

IRT_1_c Control	***IRT_1_t*** Treatment
I know a person with the same name as me I have ridden in an ambulance I have signed a petition from street campaigners. I have dropped my cell-phone into a toilet bowl.	I know a person with the same name as me I have ridden in an ambulance I have signed a petition from street campaigners. I have dropped my cell-phone into a toilet bowl. I consider myself to be a supporter of Q-Anon.

0	1	2	3	4	5	Don't know

IRT_2 Of the following statements, how many of them apply to you? We don't want to know which statements, just HOW MANY?

Randomly assign respondents to control or treatment group

IRT_2_c Control	***IRT_2_c*** Treatment
I know a person with the same name as me I have ridden in an ambulance I have signed a petition from street campaigners. I have dropped my cell-phone into a toilet bowl.	I know a person with the same name as me I have ridden in an ambulance I have signed a petition from street campaigners. I have dropped my cell-phone into a toilet bowl. I will purchase solar panels for my house in the next five years.

0	1	2	3	4	5	Don't know

<New page>

Respondents randomly receive item_2a or item_2b

IRT_3 How many of the following do you agree with? We don't want to know which statements, just HOW MANY?

Randomly assign respondents to control or treatment group

IRT_3_c Control	***IRT_3_t*** Treatment
There should be more funding for the arts. The government should raise taxes on the wealthy. Corporations are taxed too much. Unions have too much power.	There should be more funding for the arts. The government should raise taxes on the wealthy. Corporations are taxed too much. Unions have too much power. The US should ban gas and diesel cars by 2030.

0 1 2 3 4 5 | Don't know

IRT_4 How many of the following do you agree with? We don't want to know which statements, just HOW MANY?

Randomly assign respondents to control or treatment group

IRT_4_c Control	***IRT_4_t*** Treatment
There should be more funding for the arts. The government should raise taxes on the wealthy. Corporations are taxed too much. Unions have too much power.	There should be more funding for the arts. The government should raise taxes on the wealthy. Corporations are taxed too much. Unions have too much power. The 2020 presidential election was stolen.

0 1 2 3 4 5 | Don't know

<New page>

sciknow_text Now, we would like to ask you a few short questions like those you might see on a television game show. For each of the following, please respond if the statement is true or false.

sciknow_1 The center of the Earth is very hot.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

sciknow_2 All radioactivity is man-made.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

sci_know3 Lasers work by focusing sound waves.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

sci_know4 Electrons are smaller than atoms.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

sci_know5 It is the father's gene that decides whether the baby is a boy or a girl.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

sci_know6 Antibiotics kill viruses as well as bacteria.

(1) True
(2) False
(99) I do not want to answer

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Climate change

clim_con_text Now, we'd like to ask you a few questions about climate change.

clim_con In general, how worried are you about climate change?

(1) Not at all worried
(2) Not very worried
(3) Somewhat worried
(4) Very worried
(5) Extremely worried
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

clim_con_oth How concerned do you think the following groups of people are about climate change?

	Not at all concerned (1)	Not very concerned (2)	Somewhat concerned (3)	Very concerned (4)	Extremely Concerned (5)	Don't know (99)
Your close friends						
People living in your city/town						

People living in your state						
People living in the United States						

<New page>

behav_text Now we'd like to ask you how much you would be willing, or not willing, to make the following changes to address climate change.

behav_ pre_bath Use warm water more sparingly (e.g., taking a shower instead of a bath).

(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

behav_ pre_meat Reduce the number of times a week you eat meat (max. 3 times a week).

(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

behav_pre_commute Reduce how often you a your car (i.e. walk, take bus, ride bike).

(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

behav_ pre_offsets Purchase carbon offsets for flight travel (to reduce carbon dioxide emissions).

(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

costs_text How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

costs_bath Taking a shower instead of a bath would reduce my quality of life.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

costs_meat Eating less meat would be inconvenient for me.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

costs_commute Not using my car would be too time-consuming for me.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

costs_offsets Purchasing carbon dioxide offsets for my flights would involve much higher costs for me.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

ind_efficacy How likely do you think it is that limiting your own energy use would help reduce climate change?

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) Don't know

clim_fatal How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Climate change is an unstoppable process, we cannot do anything about it.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_future How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Climate change is an unstoppable process, we cannot do anything about it.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

clim_local My local area is already affected by climate change.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_pol_text Now we'd like to ask you about how much you are in favor or against the following policies.

clim_pol_fftax Increasing taxes on fossil fuels, such as oil, gas and coal.
(1) Strongly against
(2) Somewhat against
(3) Neither in favor nor against
(4) Somewhat in favor
(5) Strongly in favor
(99) Don't know

clim_pol_renew Using public money to subsidise renewable energy such as wind and solar power.
(1) Strongly against
(2) Somewhat against
(3) Neither in favor nor against
(4) Somewhat in favor
(5) Strongly in favor
(99) Don't know

clim_pol_banapp A law banning the sale of the least energy efficient household appliances.

(1) Strongly against
(2) Somewhat against
(3) Neither in favor nor against
(4) Somewhat in favor
(5) Strongly in favor
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_econ Some believe that measures against climate change, such as reducing carbon dioxide emissions from burning oil, gas and coal, should have priority even if that hurts the economy and jobs. Others believe that the economy and jobs should have priority even if that results in more climate change. What is your opinion?

(1) Measures against climate change should have priority
(2)
(3)
(4)
(5)
(6)
(7) The economy and jobs should have priority
(99) Don't know

<New page>

green_job [Sponsor] [Type of job created]

[Jobs created]

[Funding source]

How much are you in favor or against this proposal? [1 'strongly against' to 5 'strongly favour']"

#	*Dimension*	*Items*	*# of levels*
1	Sponsor	**Republicans** - *(Some Republicans support a plan that would create new jobs)* **Democrats -** *(Some Democrats support a plan that would create new jobs)* ***Bipartisan*** *- (A bipartisan group of Democrats and Republicans supports a plan that would create new jobs)*	4

		Control *(Politicians are debating a plan that would create new jobs)*	
2	Type of job created	**Green** *(and fight climate change. These new jobs would include insulating and weatherizing homes, installing solar panels, and deliver clean drinking water by replacing old lead pipes.)* **Energy Independent** *(and maintain America's energy independence. These new jobs would work to build new pipelines, eliminate regulations on energy development, and rebuild roads and highways.)* **Control** *(.)*	3
3	Jobs created	**2 million jobs** *(The plan is expected to create 2 million new jobs by 2022)* **4 million jobs** *(The plan is expected to create 4 million new jobs by 2022)* **6 million jobs** *(The plan is expected to create 6 million new jobs by 2022)* **8 million jobs** *(The plan is expected to create 8 million new jobs by 2022)* **10 million jobs** *(The plan is expected to create 10 million new jobs by 2022)* **Control** *(No information presented)*	6
4	Funding source	**Deficit Neutral** *(The plan would not increase the federal deficit)* **Increase Debt** (*The plan would increase the federal deficit*) **Increase Income Tax** (*The plan would be paid for by increasing income taxes for families making over $400,000 a year*) **Increase Corporate Tax** (*The plan would be paid for by increasing taxes on large corporations and businesses.*) **Control** *(No information presented)*	5

green_job How much are you in favor or against this proposal?

(1) Strongly against
(2) Somewhat against
(3) Neither in favor nor against
(4) Somewhat in favor
(5) Strongly in favor
(99) Don't know

<New page>

solar_panel [Sponsor] [Tax credit size]

[Years eligibility]

[Funding source]

How much are you in favor or against this proposal? [1 'strongly against' to 5 'strongly favour']"

#	***Dimension***	***Items***	***# of levels***
1	Sponsor	**Republicans** - *(Some Republicans support a plan that would)* **Democrats -** *(Some Democrats support a plan that would)* ***Bipartisan*** *- (A bipartisan group of Republicans and Democrats supports a plan that would)* **Control** *(Politicians are debating a plan that would)*	4
2	Tax Credit Size	**10% -** *decrease the tax credit to 10%.* **20% -** *decrease the tax credit to 20%.* **30% -** *increase the tax credit to 30%.* **40% -** *increase the tax credit to 40%.* **50% -** *increase the tax credit to 50%.*	5
3	Years Eligibility	**2025** - The eligibility for these tax credits would be extended until 2025. **2030** - The eligibility for these tax credits would be extended until 2030. **2035** - The eligibility for these tax credits would be extended until 2035. **2040** - The eligibility for these tax credits would be extended until 2040.	4
4	Funding source	**Deficit Neutral** *(The plan would not increase the federal deficit)* **Increase Debt** (*The plan would increase the federal deficit*)	5

		Increase Income Tax (*The plan would be paid for by increasing income taxes for families making over $400,000 a year*) **Increase Corporate Tax** (*The plan would be paid for by increasing taxes on large corporations and businesses.*) **Control** *(No information presented)*	

solar_panel How much are you in favor or against this proposal?

(1) Strongly against
(2) Somewhat against
(3) Neither in favor nor against
(4) Somewhat in favor
(5) Strongly in favor
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_skep_exagg How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The seriousness of climate change has been exaggerated.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_skep_impact How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Emissions of CO_2 (carbon dioxide) has only a marginal impact on climate change.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_ant_treat_X Increased global temperature is expected the cause the sea-level to rise. The amount of sea-level rise depends upon whether emissions from greenhouse gases can be reduced.

Assuming that greenhouse gas emissions [decrease greatly/decrease somewhat/remain the same], scientists expect that by [year] the sea-level will rise by up to [rise]. Even small increases to sea-level can have large impacts. For example, if the sea-level were to increase by [rise] today, over [pop_FL] people in Florida and [pop_NY] in New York would be forced to move further inland, and hundreds of [millions] in damages.

Treatment	scenario	year	rise	pop_FL	pop_NY	damages
1	greatly decrease	2100	2	100,000	25,000	Hundreds of millions of
2	Decrease greatly	2200	2	100,000	25,000	hundreds of millions of
3	Decrease greatly	2300	3	300,000	70,000	Several billion
4	Decrease somewhat	2100	2	100,000	25,000	hundreds of millions of
5	Decrease somewhat	2200	4	650,000	150,000	Several billion
6	Decrease somewhat	2300	5	1,250,000	275,000	hundreds of billions of
7	Remain the same	2100	3	300,000	70,000	Several billion
8	Remain the same	2200	7	3,400,000	600,000	hundreds of billions of
9	Remain the same	2300	12	5,500,-000	1,000,000	trillions of

<new page>

clim_ant_con How concerned are you about increases to global sea-level rise?

(1) Not at all worried
(2) Not very worried
(3) Somewhat worried
(4) Very worried
(5) Extremely worried
(99) I do not want to answer

<new page>

clim_ant_bev_text Given these future increases to sea-level rise, we'd like to ask you how much you would be willing, or not willing, to make the following changes:

<new page>

clim_ant_bev_bath Use warm water more sparingly (e.g., taking a shower instead of a bath)

(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

clim_ant_bev_meat Reduce the number of times a week you eat meat (max. 3 times a week)
(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

clim_ant_bev_commute Reduce how often you use a car (i.e. walk, take bus, ride bike).
(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

clim_ant_bev_offsets Purchase carbon offsets for flight travel (to reduce CO2 emissons)
(1) Not at all willing
(2) Somewhat unwilling
(3) Neither willing nor unwilling
(4) Somewhat willing
(5) Very willing
(6) I already do this
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

att_check1 To show that you are reading the questions carefully, please indicate below how many wheels a bicycle has.

(1) 1
(2) 2
(3) 3
(4) 4
(5) 5

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Conspiracy Theories

considea_text Now, we'd like you to answer the following questions regarding conspiratorial beliefs. We are interested in what you think. There are no right or wrong answers.

How much do you agree with the following statements?

considea_1 The Apollo moon landings never happened and were staged in a Hollywood film studio

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

considea_2 The assassination of John F. Kennedy was not committed by the lone gunman Lee Harvey Oswald but was rather a detailed organized conspiracy to kill the president.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

considea_3 The U.S. government allowed the 9/11 attacks to take place so that it would have an excuse to achieve foreign (e.g., wars in Afghanistan and Iraq) and domestic (e.g., attacks on civil liberties) goals that had been determined prior to the attacks

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

considea_4 The Coca-Cola company intentionally changed to an inferior formula with the intent of driving up demand for their classic product, later reintroducing it for their financial gain.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

considea_5 In July 1947, the U.S. military recovered the wreckage of an alien spacecraft from Roswell, NM, and covered up the fact.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

considea_6 Area 51 in Nevada is a secretive military base that contains hidden alien spacecraft and/or alien bodies.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_conspiracy1 How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Climate change is a hoax perpetrated by corrupt scientists who wish to spend more taxpayer money on climate research

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

clim_conspiracy2 The truth about climate change has been hidden by powerful oil companies and politicians.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

Qonspire_text How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Qonspire_satan The government, media, and financial worlds in the U.S. are controlled by a group of Satan-worshipping pedophiles who run a global child sex trafficking operation

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

Qonspire_storm There is a storm coming soon that will sweep away the elites in power and restore the rightful leaders

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

Qonspire_patriots Because things have gotten so far off track, true American patriots may have to resort to violence in order to save our country

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

cap_riot_text How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

cap_riot_trump Donald Trump is at least partly to blame for starting the deadly Jan. 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

cap_riot_peace The people who gathered at the U.S. Capitol on Jan. 6 were mostly peaceful, lawabiding Americans

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

cap_riot_lwing The Jan. 6 riot at the Capitol was led by violent left-wing protestors trying to make Trump look bad

(1) Strongly disagree

(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Vignette Experiment
Split A: Random assign 1'000 respondents to Vignette Experiment
Random assignment (pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors) or control

Pro-climate change conspiracy treatment:
We will now show you three different short pieces of text. These texts have been taken from recent news editorials on how the US has responded to major crises over the past 20 years. Please read the following texts carefully.

<New page>

Over the past 20 years, the United States has faced a series of crises. From terrorism, to financial crises, and recently the Coronavirus pandemic, the US requires coordinated actions to resolve these crises.

But some people are concerned that the US is not adequately solving with these crises, not because they are incapable, but rather because powerful elites are acting in secret to block them.

<New page>

From the Kennedy assassination, to UFOs and 9/11, Americans have often wondered, is there more to the story then we have been told? Are powerful people hiding something from us?

<New page>

The answer is YES, throughout recent US history, powerful people working in the government have been acting in secret.

<New page>

Over recent decades, people acting within the government and in private industries have hidden the truth about climate change. A trove recently released of internal documents revealed that the oil industry knew at least 50 years ago that air pollution from burning fossil fuels posed serious risks to human health, and have worked with US lawmakers to resist placing further restrictions on greenhouse gases emissions.

Anti-climate change conspiracy treatment:
We will now show you three different short pieces of text. These texts have been taken from recent news editorials on how the US has responded to major crises over the past 20 years. Please read the following texts carefully.

<New page>

Over the past 20 years, the United States has faced a series of crises. From terrorism, to financial crises, and recently the Coronavirus pandemic, the US requires coordinated actions to resolve these crises.

But some people are concerned that the US is not adequately solving with these crises, not because they are incapable, but rather because powerful elites are acting in secret to block them.

<New page>

From the Kennedy assassination, to UFOs and 9/11, Americans have often wondered, is there more to the story then we have been told? Are powerful people hiding something from us?

<New page>

The answer is YES, throughout recent US history, powerful people working in the government have been acting in secret.

<New page>

Over recent decades, people acting within the government and in private industries have hidden the truth about climate change. Some climate scientists say current discussions about climate change are not based in facts, and are just scaremongering. The Earth is not warming nearly as quickly as the United Nations' models predict, and the sea-level is not projected to rise for at least the next 100 years.

<New page>

Anti-conspiracy theory treatment:
We will now show you three different short pieces of text. These texts have been taken from recent news editorials on how the US has responded to major crises over the past 20 years. Please read the following texts carefully.

<New page>

Over the past 20 years, the United States has faced a series of crises. From terrorism, to financial crises, and recently the Coronavirus pandemic, the US requires coordinated actions to resolve these crises.

But some people are concerned that the US is not adequately solving with these crises, not because they are incapable, but rather because powerful elites are acting in secret to block them.

<New page>

From the Kennedy assassination, to UFOs and 9/11, Americans have often wondered, is there more to the story then we have been told? Are powerful people hiding something from us?

<New page>

The answer is NO, while there have been many crises in recent US history, the government has worked hard to help Americans get through them and provided as accurate information to the public as they could.

<New page>

The United States has some of the strongest laws in the world requiring that open and accurate information is shared with the public. Any person can request sensitive information from the Federal Government via the Freedom of Information Act, and the Government is required to respond. The US government agencies are required to declassify almost all of its documents after 25 years.

<New page>

[All respondents are presented prosoc items after treatments]

cons_gen How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement:

There are powerful people within the government acting in secrecy for their own benefit, against the common good

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

prosoc_text Please state how likely you are to do the following:

prosoc_ev Purchase a vehicle with an electric motor (solely electric battery powered) as your next car.

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) I do not want to answer

prosoc_fff Participate in a protest in support of climate change action (e.g. Fridays for Future)

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) I do not want to answer

prosoc_ac Use less air conditioning in the summer and less heat in the winter.

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) I do not want to answer

prosoc_mask Wear a mask when I go out this winter during flu and cold season.

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

prosoc_vote Vote in the November 2022 Federal Election?

(1) Not at all likely
(2) Not very likely
(3) Somewhat likely
(4) Very likely
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

prosoc_text3 Please state how often you have done the following in the last 12 months:

prosoc_charity Given money to charity.

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

prosoc_volunteer Volunteered for a charity
(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

prosoc_boycott Boycotted a product
(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

prosoc_vax Have you been vaccinated against COVID-19 (either one or two doses)?
(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

[If prosoc_vax is No]

prosoc_vax_int Do you intend to get the COVID-19 vaccine within the next 3 months?
(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

att_check2 Please respond yes if you have done all three of the following in the past 3 months:

- Bought a boat
- Had hip surgery
- And obtained a helicopter license

(1) Yes, I have done all three of these in the past 3 months
(2) No, I have not done all three of these in the past 3 months

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

media_text Now we'd like to ask you some questions about how often you read different news sources

media_national *How often do you*....Read a national newspaper such as USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, or The New York Times (in print or the digital version, app, etc.)

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

media_online *How often do you*....Read online news websites (such as Yahoo News or Google)?

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

media_fnc *How often do you....*Watch Fox News?

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

media_cnn *How often do you....*Watch CNN?

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

media_oan *How often do you....* Watch One America New Network (OAN)?

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

media_social *How often do you....*Get news from social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook)?

(1) Never
(2) Rarely
(3) Sometimes
(4) Often
(5) Frequently
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

item_text_dir Please select whether you agree with the following statements, yes or no:

[If respondent presented IRT_1]

item_1_dir I consider myself to be a supporter of Q-Anon.

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

[If respondent presented IRT_2]
item_2_dir I used a reusable bag last time I went grocery shopping.

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

[If respondent presented IRT_3]
item_3_dir The 2020 presidential election was stolen.
(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

[If respondent presented IRT_4]
Item_4_dir The US should ban gas and diesel cars by 2030.
(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Political Attitudes

party_id Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a Republican, Democrat or Independent?

(1) Strong Republican
(2) Not strong Republican
(3) Independent, close to Republican
(4) Independent
(5) Independent, close to Democrat
(6) Not strong Democrat
(7) Strong Democrat
(99) Don't know

[If selected independent, display party_id_ind item]

party_id_ind You said that you think of yourself as an Independent politically. If you had to identify with one party of the two parties, which one would you choose?

(1) Republican Party
(2) Democratic Party
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

poli_ori We hear a lot of talk these days about liberals and conservatives. Where would you place yourself on this scale?

(1) Extremely liberal
(2) Liberal
(3) Somewhat liberal
(4) Moderate
(5) Somewhat conservative
(6) Conservative
(7) Extremely conservative
(99) Don't know

free_market Please respond with how much you agree with the following statement. The free-market system is the best way to solve the United States' economic problems?

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<New page>

poli_int How interested would you say you are in politics – are you…

(1) Not interested at all
(2) Not very interested
(3) Somewhat interested
(4) Very interested
(99) Don't know

<New page>

pres_2024 If the 2024 Presidential Election were to be held tomorrow, who would you vote for?

(1) Joe Biden
(2) Donald Trump
(3) Someone else:____
(99) Don't know

<New page>

gov_job Now thinking about the United States government, how satisfied are you with the way it is doing its job?

(1) Not at all satisfied
(2)
(3)
(4) Somewhat satisfied
(5)
(6)
(7) Extremely satisfied
(99) Don't know

sat_demo And on the whole, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in the United States?

(1) Not at all satisfied
(2)
(3)
(4) Somewhat satisfied
(5)
(6)
(7) Extremely satisfied
(99) Don't know

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Socio-political Identity

pop_test Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

pop_ppl1 Politicians should always listen closely to the problems of the people.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_ppl2 Politicians don't have to spend time among ordinary people to do a good job.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_ppl3 The will of the people should be the highest principle in this country's politics.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_ant1 The government is pretty much run by a few big interests looking out for themselves.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_ant2 Government officials use their power to try to improve people's lives.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_ant3 Quite a few of the people running the government are crooked.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_man1 You can tell if a person is good or bad if you know their politics.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_man2 The people I disagree with politically are not evil.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

pop_man3 The people I disagree with politically are just misinformed.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

[If Republican/Democrat is selected in partyid partyid_ind, display [Republican/Democrat] all eff_part items]

eff_part_text You mentioned that you think of yourself as a [Republican/Democrat]. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

eff_part_1 When I speak about the [Republican/Democratic] party, I usually say "we" instead of "they".

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_2 I am interested in what other people think about the [Republican/Democratic] party.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_3 When people criticize the [Republican/Democratic] party, it feels like a personal insult.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_4 I have a lot in common with other supporters of the [Republican/Democratic] party.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_5 If the [Republican/Democratic] party does badly in opinion polls, my day is ruined.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_6 When I meet someone who supports the [Republican/Democratic] party, I feel connected.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_7 When I speak about the [Republican/Democratic] Party, I refer to them as "my party".

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

eff_part_8 When people praise the [Republican/Democratic] party, it makes me feel good.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

[If Republican/Democrat is selected in partyid partyid_ind, display opposite party for all neg_part items]

neg_part_1 Compared to other Americans, would you say [Democrats/Republicans] are:

(1) A lot more moral
(2) Somewhat more moral
(3) About the same
(4) Somewhat more immoral
(5) A lot more immoral
(99) Don't know

neg_part_2 Compared to other Americans, would you say [Democrats/Republicans] are:

(1) A lot more hard working
(2) Somewhat more hard working
(3) About the same
(4) Somewhat more lazy
(5) A lot more lazy
(99) Don't know

neg_part_3 Compared to other Americans, would you say [Democrats/Republicans] are:

(1) A lot more open-minded
(2) Somewhat more open-minded
(3) About the same
(4) Somewhat more close-minded
(5) A lot more close-minded
(99) Don't know

neg_part_4 Compared to other Americans, would you say [Democrats/Republicans] are:

(1) A lot more intelligent
(2) Somewhat more intelligent
(3) About the same
(4) Somewhat less intelligent
(5) A lot more less intelligent
(99) Don't know

neg_part_5 Compared to other Americans, would you say [Democrats/Republicans] are:

(1) A lot more honest
(2) Somewhat more honest
(3) About the same
(4) Somewhat less honest
(5) A lot more less honest
(99) Don't know

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

BLOCK: Demographics

Demo_text The following questions are for statistical purposes, to make sure that our study represents all kinds of people

educ_screen What is the highest level of education that you have completed and received credit for?

(1) Did not complete high school/GED
(2) High school diploma/GED
(3) Some college
(4) Associates degree
(5) Bachelor's degree
(6) Master's degree or higher
(99) I do not want to answer

income Last year, that is in 2020, what was your total family income from all sources, before taxes?

(1) Under $30,000
(2) $30,000 - 49,999
(3) $50,000 - $74,999
(4) $75,000 - $99,999
(5) $100,000 – $149,999
(6) More than $150,000
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

hh_mem How many people, including children, currently live in your household?

_____

rural_urb How would you describe the area where you live?

(1) Urban, a big city
(2) Suburb, outskirt of a big city
(3) Rural town or small city
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

health Would you say your own health, in general, is excellent, good, fair or poor?

(1) Poor
(2) Fair
(3) Good
(4) Excellent
(99) I do not want to answer

<New page>

relig_pref What is your religious affiliation?

(1) Christian- Protestant
(2) Christian- Evangelical
(3) Christian - Catholic
(4) Christian - Other
(5) Jewish
(6) Muslim
(7) Other
(8) None, no religious preference
(99) I do not want to answer

born_agn Would you say you have been **'born again'** or have had a **'born again' experience**? That is, a turning point in your life when you committed yourself to Christ?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) I do not want to answer

<new page>

bible Which of these statements comes closest to describing your feelings about the Bible?

(1) The Bible is the actual word of God and is to be taken literally, word for word.
(2) The Bible is the inspired word of God but not everything should be taken literally, word for word.
(3) The Bible is an ancient book of fables, legends, history and moral precepts recorded by man.
(99) Don't know

<new page>

god_text How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

god_control God is in control of everything that happens to the Earth.

(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

god_will Whatever happens to the future of the Earth is part of God's plan.
(1) Strongly disagree
(2) Somewhat disagree
(3) Neither agree nor disagree
(4) Somewhat agree
(5) Strongly agree
(99) Don't know

<new page>

final_text Now we would like to ask you about the future of the Earth.

final_judge Jesus will return to Earth
(1) Yes
(2) No
(99) Don't know

[*If final_judge=(1) yes*] ***final_time*** When do you believe Jesus is most likely to return to Earth?
(1) Before 2050
(2) Between 2051 and 2100
(3) Between 2101 and 2200
(4) Between 2201 and 2300
(5) After 2300
(99) Don't know

[*If final_judge=(1) yes*] ***fin_earth*** Which of the following best reflects your beliefs about end times?
(1) The planet Earth will be renewed
(2) A new earth will be created elsewhere
(99) Don't know

Structure of Survey Instrument:

- Start: demographic screeners, forms of trust, item experiment, scientific knowledge
- Climate change: behaviors, perceived costs, efficacy, skepticism, policy support
- Conspiracy theories: ideation index, climate change, QAnon
- [Split A] Vignette experiment: random assignment to control, pro-climate change conspiracy, anti-climate change conspiracy, anti-conspiracy theory treatment, pro-social behaviors
- Media Consumption: media consumption, direct item experiment
- Political attitudes: party affiliation, orientation, general attitudes
- [Split B] Social-political Identity: negative partisanship, affective partisanship, populism
- Demographic information
- End

End

Thank you very much for your participation! You have just made an important contribution to research at ETH Zurich.

Do you have any suggestions or comments on the survey topic or the questionnaire?

If so, please make a note of them here. Thank you very much.

(TEXTFIELD)