OSoC2016 Questionnaire

Garrett, R. K., & Weeks, B. E. (2017). Epistemic beliefs' role in promoting misperceptions and conspiracist ideation. *PLOS ONE*. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0184733

Below are a series of statements. For each one, say how much you personally agree with the statement.

Strongly disagree 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Strongly agree 9

feel1 I trust my gut to tell me what's true and what's not
feel2 I trust my initial feelings about the facts
feel3 My initial impressions are almost always right
feel4 I can usually feel when a claim is true or false even if I can't explain how I know
evid1 Evidence is more important than whether something feels true
evid2 A hunch needs to be confirmed with data
evid3 I trust the facts, not my instincts, to tell me what is true
evid4 I need to be able to justify my beliefs with evidence
poli1 Facts are dictated by those in power
poli2 What counts as truth is defined by power
poli3 Scientific conclusions are shaped by politics

Below are a series of statements, please state how true you believe each statement to be.

Definitely not true 1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Definitely true 5

c1. A powerful and secretive group known as the New World Order are planning to eventually rule the world through an autonomous world government which would replace sovereign governments.
c2. The assassination of Martin Luther King Jr. was the result of an organized conspiracy by U.S. government agencies such as the CIA and FBI.
c3. The Apollo moon landings never happened and were staged in a Hollywood film studio.
c4. 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.
c5. 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.
c6. Princess Diana's death was not an accident but rather an organized assassination by members of the British royal family who disliked her.
c8. U.S. agencies intentionally created the AIDS epidemic and administered it to Black and gay men in the 1970s.

Please read the following statements. You will probably find that you agree with some of the statements, and disagree with others, to varying extents. Please state how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

rel1. God has given humanity a complete, unfailing guide to happiness and salvation, which must be totally followed.

rel3. The basic cause of evil in this world is Satan, who is still constantly and ferociously fighting against God.

rel5. There is a particular set of religious teachings in this world that are so true, you can't go any "deeper" because they are the basic, bedrock message that God has given humanity.

rel6. When you get right down to it, there are basically only two kinds of people in the world: the Righteous, who will be rewarded by God; and the rest, who will not.

rel8. To lead the best, most meaningful life, one must belong to the one, fundamentally true religion.

rel11. The fundamentals of God's religion should never be tampered with, or compromised with others' beliefs.

partyid. DERIVED: Political party affiliation (7 categories)

1 Strong Republican
2 Not Strong Republican
3 Leans Republican
4 Undecided/Independent/Other
5 Leans Democrat
6 Not Strong Democrat
7 Strong Democrat

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

educ. Education (Highest Degree Received)

1 No formal education
2 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th grade
3 5th or 6th grade
4 7th or 8th grade
5 9th grade
6 10th grade
7 11th grade
8 12th grade NO DIPLOMA
9 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE - high school DIPLOMA or the equivalent (GED)
10 Some college, no degree
11 Associate degree
12 Bachelors degree
13 Masters degree
14 Professional or Doctorate degree