



CONSPIRACY THEORIES, LIES, & A.I.

How right-wing disinformation in the Chinese American community reflect the politics of hate in the 2024 election

Executive Summary

As the U.S. presidential election approaches, disinformation and the emergence of artificial intelligence poses a serious threat to our democracy. In Chinese-language social media spaces, right-wing fake news dominates – deifying Trump, stoking fears of communism, and casting doubt on the integrity of elections.

Here at Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA), we’ve monitored Chinese-language disinformation through our Chinese Digital Engagement program, which we started in 2019. Through PiYaoBa, our Chinese-language fact-checking website, we’ve identified more than 600 pieces of disinformation in the past year, from June 10, 2023 to July 29, 2024, which have collectively amassed 11.6 million views. Out of these, 228 pieces of disinformation with total views of 4.05 million across Chinese-language social media platforms such as WeChat, X, YouTube were directly about the 2024 election. The majority of disinformation has been about politics, more specifically, supporting Trump and Republican policies while attacking Biden and Democratic policies. We are also closely monitoring disinformation that favors Democratic Party candidates and policies.

This report shares insights on the nature of the disinformation we’ve observed. We enumerate the top disinformation narratives on Chinese-language social media platforms and look at where and how it circulates.

Conservative messaging tends to target first-generation Chinese immigrants — one of the fastest growing populations in the U.S. — manipulating an emerging political constituency with propaganda and polarization. The closed group chat group nature of platforms like WeChat and Telegram, along with language barriers and readers' news habits, create an ecosystem that makes many diasporic Chinese vulnerable to political disinformation.

While CAA and other groups, often nonprofit and volunteer-run, provide factual information to counter disinformation, it is not enough, particularly against well-resourced media groups and state actors. It is crucial for relevant stakeholders to generate messaging in Chinese to counter the onslaught of fear mongering and conspiracy theories. Indeed, if they do not, it will risk undermining our democratic process and public trust.

Key Findings

- **Twitter Leads in Spreading Disinformation** - WeChat is losing ground as a platform for Chinese-language disinformation. For the first time since we began tracking it, Chinese-language disinformation is spreading mostly via Twitter, far surpassing WeChat, since Elon Musk took over and rebranded it as X. PiYaoBa found that 48% of Chinese-language disinformation is spreading via Twitter versus 25% for WeChat. Still, WeChat and Telegram remain popular channels for circulating election disinformation.
- **The Deification of Trump Cements his Outsized Influence** - Trump continues to be a major influence with right-wing Chinese American content creators. Following the assassination attempt on Trump, they've treated him like a god-like figure, cementing their belief that only he can save America from communism — a disinformation narrative unique to the Chinese-language space.
- **Chinese-Language and Cultural Trauma is Being Exploited** - Although much of the Chinese-language disinformation translates directly from English-language disinformation, right-wing Chinese American social media influencers translate and amplify disinformation in a way that exploits Chinese-language and cultural trauma.
- **A.I. Generated Disinformation Acts as an Excelsator** - Artificial Intelligence technology is exacerbating the situation. This is the first time we have seen

in-language A.I.-generated disinformation playing a role in shaping elections with unprecedented power.

Key Disinformation Narratives About the 2024 Election on Chinese-language Social Media

- Narrative 1: Trump is the only savior of the U.S. and today's problems are because he is not in charge.
- Narrative 2: The "extreme left" policies of Biden, Harris, and the Democratic Party are destroying the U.S. and bringing it closer to communism.
- Narrative 3: The Biden administration opened the border to allow undocumented immigrants to vote for Democrats in the 2024 election.
- Narrative 4: Leftists are masterminds behind various world events and natural disasters and are playing a long game to control everything.
- Narrative 5: The 2020 election was stolen from Trump and widespread voter fraud, especially involving noncitizens, may lead to another stolen election in 2024.

Recommendations

- Recommendation 1: Governments should enact regulations to hold social media companies accountable, working closely with fact-checking organizations and diasporic media to identify the challenges and impacts of disinformation.
- Recommendation 2: Tech companies should develop and or strengthen clear policies and processes when they encounter misinformation and allocate resources to better support in-language fact-checking protocols and accurate information sharing.
- Recommendation 3: Governments, funders and investors concerned about disinformation, should invest more in in-language civic nonprofit media infrastructure

- Recommendation 4: Researchers, tech tool developers, and community-based fact-checking organizations should collaborate more closely to develop better tools and methods for combating disinformation in immigrant communities.
- Recommendation 5: Governments and funders should invest in media literacy education, particularly for immigrant communities.

About CAA

Chinese for Affirmative Action (CAA) was founded in 1969 to protect the civil and political rights of Chinese Americans and to advance multiracial democracy in the United States. Today, CAA is a progressive voice in and on behalf of the broader Asian American and Pacific Islander community. We advocate for systemic change that protects immigrant rights, promotes language diversity, and remedies racial and social injustice.

About PiYaoBa

PiYaoBa is the first centralized fact-checking website dedicated to combating right-wing disinformation in the Chinese American community. The name “PiYaoBa” translates to “let’s fact-check it” in Mandarin Chinese. It was launched in early 2022, providing Chinese Americans with in-language resources and tools to counter disinformation, including real-time alerts, reports, and comprehensive fact-checking articles. PiYaoBa conducts systematic research and documentation of misinformation and disinformation, while also welcoming topic suggestions from readers.

As part of CAA’s pioneering Chinese Digital Engagement program, PiYaoBa contributes to the provision of accurate information to the Chinese American community on social justice. This program, initiated in 2019, encompasses two WeChat channels and the websites JusticePatch.org and PiYaoBa.org. Since its establishment, JusticePatch has published 887 articles, PiYaoBa has published a total of 232 in-depth fact-checking articles and 234 disinformation alerts by July 25, 2024.

Numbers & Observations: The Scale of Chinese-language Election Disinformation

Disinformation surged during Trump’s indictments in August 2023 and continues to increase nearly every month in 2024 as we approach the November election.

PiYaoBa has documented 628 major pieces of disinformation over the past year, from June 2023 to July 2024. Of these, 228 pieces of disinformation with total views of 4.05 million were directly about the 2024 election and explicitly told viewers who to vote for. We define “major” disinformation as a piece of disinformation that has accrued at least 2,500 views on the platform where the disinformation was first observed and which has spread to other platforms. Furthermore, we do not count repeated or similar disinformation on other platforms; the same content was documented only once.

Disinformation about the 2024 election started circulating as early as May 2023, and increased when Trump was indicted in August 2023 in Washington, D.C. and in Georgia on racketeering and other crimes after a two-year investigation into his efforts to overturn his 2020 defeat to Biden. In 2024, election disinformation increased every month, and surged dramatically in July, which saw multiple breaking news stories in politics. (Figure 1). We expect another sharp surge as we approach November.

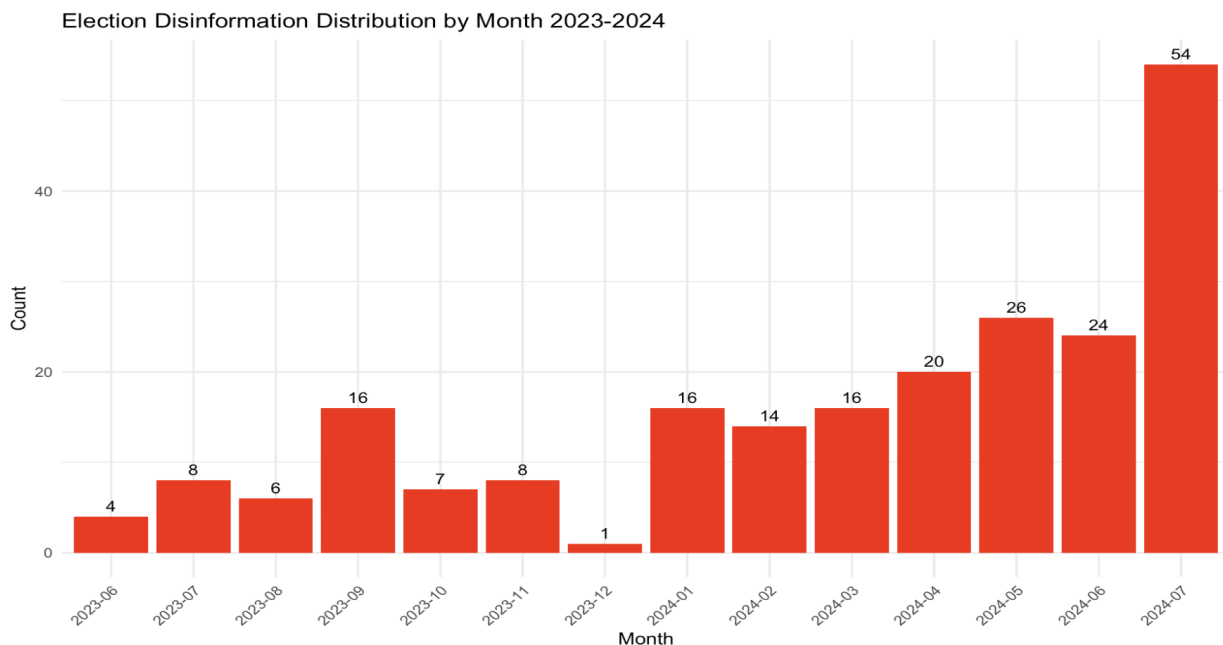


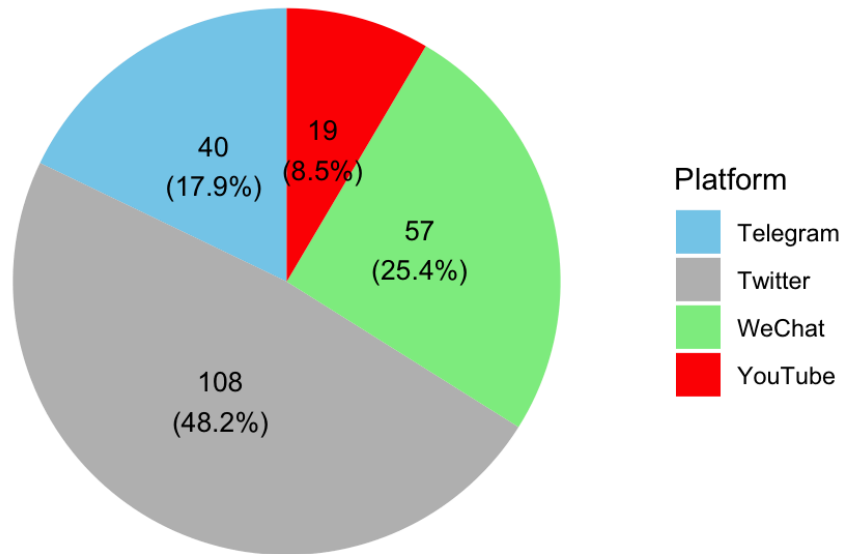
Figure 1: Election Disinformation Distribution by Month

For the first time since we began tracking Chinese-language disinformation, it is spreading mostly via Twitter/X.

We found that 2024 election disinformation is mainly spreading on Twitter (48%), followed by WeChat (25%), Telegram (18%), and YouTube (9%). It is noteworthy that this is the first time that Twitter surpassed WeChat, the dominating Chinese-language social media app, to become the No.1 social media platform where election disinformation originates and circulates (Figure 2). Prior to this, such as during the 2022 midterms, we found that 54% of disinformation was on WeChat.

PiYaoBa noticed an increase of disinformation on Twitter particularly after Elon Musk bought it in October 2022. Significant shifts on the platform from changes to content moderation policies to the reinstatement of previously banned accounts, including Donald Trump, has contributed to the rise in hate speech and disinformation on X. Much of the Chinese-language Twitter disinformation directly translates from English-language disinformation. However, the surge of Twitter disinformation is also related to the fact that many Chinese-language social media influencers are transitioning out of WeChat because of censorship on that platform in favor of Twitter as their main channel. Even the influencers who remain on WeChat tend to cite information from Twitter, particularly from right-wing influencers.

2024 Election Disinformation Across Platforms



“微信 WeChat” includes: WeChat public accounts, WeChat group message, and individual users’ share.

Figure 2: 2024 Election Disinformation Across Platforms

In terms of scale or impact, readership differs a lot by platform, with Twitter having the highest average views with 26.32K per piece of disinformation and WeChat having the second highest with an average of 18.59k per piece. YouTube and Telegram have average views of 5.69k and 2.64k, respectively (Figure 3).

In addition, the statistics for the views above are only for the first appearance of a particular piece of disinformation on a single platform. When we detect highly similar disinformation narratives on the same platform, we record it once and on the platform where we first monitored the disinformation. However, influencers tend to post the same piece of information to multiple platforms, so the collective views for any given piece of disinformation across platforms is actually higher.

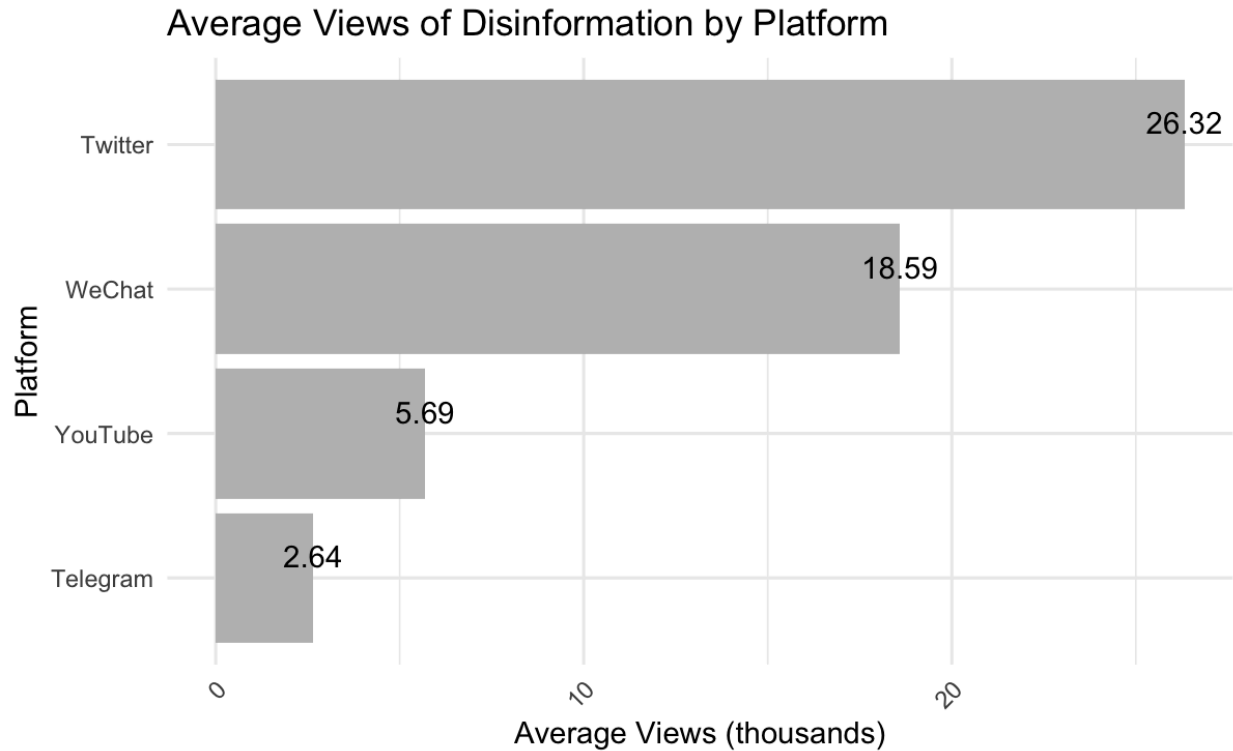


Figure 3: Average Views of Disinformation by Platform

A.I.-powered disinformation challenges the integrity of elections in different languages with unprecedented speed.

A.I.-generated content has already begun to negatively impact the upcoming November election, not only in English, but also in Chinese and other languages. A.I. content leans right, supporting Trump and attacking Democratic candidates and policies.

Some A.I. content has gained much attention on Chinese social media and right-wing communities. For example, an A.I.-generated photo of a smiling Trump attending a cookout surrounded by Black people was widely translated and forwarded with comments that claim he has wide support among Black voters but that the mainstream media refused to report on that.



CNN绝不会报道此事：川普在纽约布朗克斯与黑人们亲密交通

Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729221626/https://nacr.info/WordPress/index.php/2024/05/24/trumps-explosive-rally-in-bronx-new-york/

Translation: CNN will never report on this.

Whether in the form of text, robo-calls, audio, photos, or video, A.I.-generated content can be used to make candidates appear to have said or done things they haven't, thereby tarnishing their reputations or misleading voters. We worry that A.I.-powered disinformation will exponentially pollute the social media landscape.

Key 2024 Election Disinformation Narratives

Out of the 228 pieces of election-specific disinformation that we tracked over the past year, the top two topics are: supporting Trump and Republican policies (27.9%) and attacking Biden and Democratic policies (26%). The next three disinformation topics are immigration (15.5%), election-related conspiracy theories (14.2%), and election denialism (7%). It's worth noting that since July 22, the second day after Biden dropped

out of the race and endorsed Kamala Harris, we have already identified 13 pieces of disinformation targeting Harris in just one week. (Figure 4).

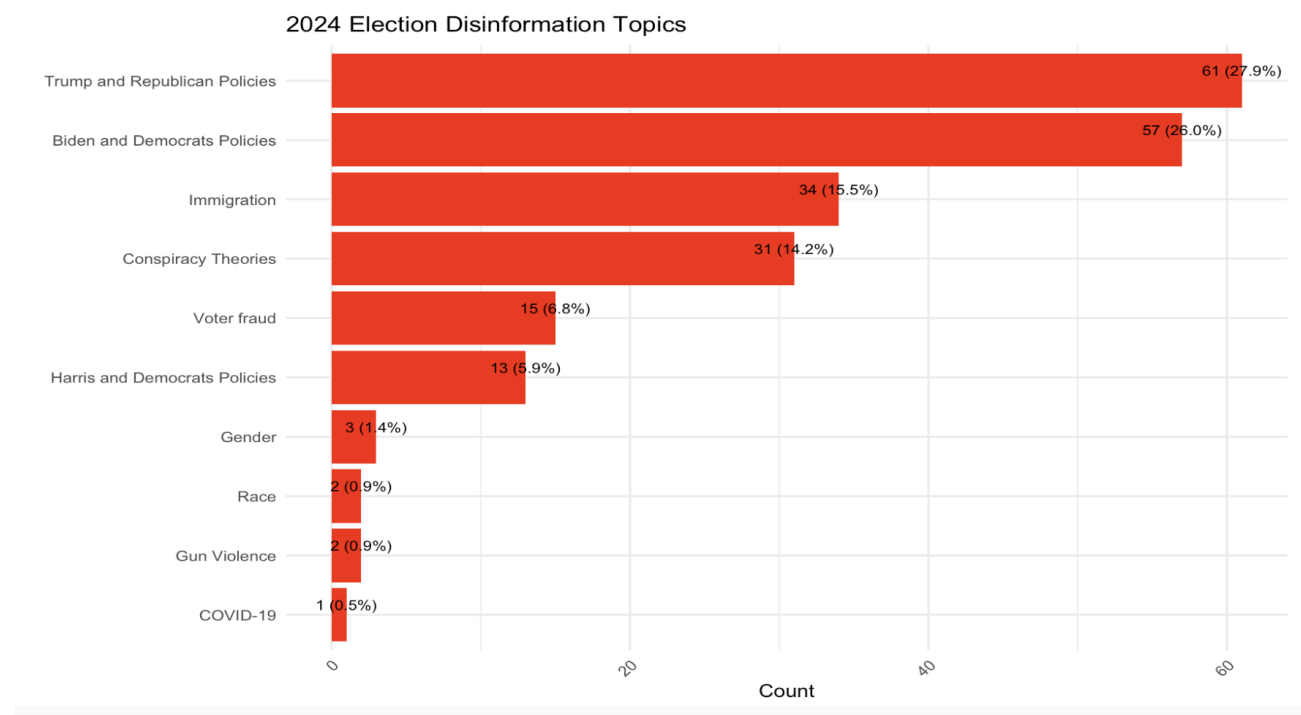


Figure 4: 2024 Election Disinformation Topics

Disinformation Narrative 1: Trump is the only savior of the U.S. and today's problems are because he is not in charge.

Like the English-language disinformation, this narrative paints Trump as a heroic defender of American values facing unjust persecution and unfairly targeted by political opponents and the media to interfere with the 2024 election. Trump's defenders even liken him to Christ, describing him as a martyr who has sacrificed himself for the country. These posts exaggerate Trump's past achievements and overstate public support for him. This narrative dangerously promotes conspiracy theories about a deep state and undermines the justice and election systems.

Where Chinese-language disinformation differs is in exploiting Chinese Americans' cultural trauma, such as saying, "If Biden is re-elected, the U.S. will become a one-party country" or "This is our last chance to save the U.S."¹ Any liberal policy or even moderate policy championed by Democrats such as gun control, equal rights for LGBTQ people, or

¹ MoshangUSA. "川普被定罪，中国人不必再润美国," Weixin, 30 May 2024, web/20240807174811/https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/UFMgKtkAJ4ks0XzTieWmVA.

reproductive rights equates a slide into communism in their view. This narrative resonates particularly within the Chinese community due to the experiences of many Chinese immigrants who left China where political dissent is prohibited and censorship is a part of social control. A complete sense of disempowerment is aligned with how many far-right supporters view themselves as being sidelined by globalization, immigration, and progressive social policies.

Since the attempted assassination of Trump, his status as a god-like figure has only been elevated. Chinese supporters might see Trump as someone who is willing to risk his life for their shared beliefs, reinforcing their loyalty to him. Surviving an assassination attempt that was televised globally contributes to the hero narrative and solidifies his image as a capable leader against the perceived threat of communism.



曹長青 
@CaoChangqing

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驻约旦美军今遭无人机袭击，3死20多受伤。上次是从阿富汗撤军，13美军阵亡。拜登窃选掌权后，全球大乱：乌克兰战争，加沙军事冲突，也门武装袭击商船，北韩发射核武试验，伊朗轰炸巴基斯坦，现美军直接受到攻击。都跟拜登无能、外交失败有关。只有川普重返白宫，才有助结束世界乱象，重燃人们的希望！

[Translate post](#)

3:23 PM · Jan 28, 2024 · 32.3K Views

Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729222441/https://x.com/CaoChangqing/status/1751747970251231325

Translation: U.S. troops in Jordan were hit by a drone strike today, killing 3 and injuring more than 20. The last time we withdrew from Afghanistan, 13 U.S. troops were killed in action. Since Biden stole the election and took power, there has been global chaos: war in Ukraine, military conflict in Gaza, armed attacks on merchant ships in Yemen, North Korea launching a nuclear test, Iran bombing Pakistan, and now direct attacks on U.S. troops. All related to Biden's incompetence and failure of diplomacy. Only Trump's return to the White House will help end the world's chaos and restore hope!

PiYaoBa Fact-Checks:

[川普首次刑事审判的事实核查指南](#) / A Fact-Checking Guide to Trump's First Criminal Trial

[\[半真半假\] 川普力挺技术移民](#) / [Half true, half false] Trump supports skilled immigration, international students can get green card once graduated

[将中国移民描述为“军龄男性”是川普的恐吓策略](#) / Describing Chinese immigrants as “military-age men” is a Trump scare tactic

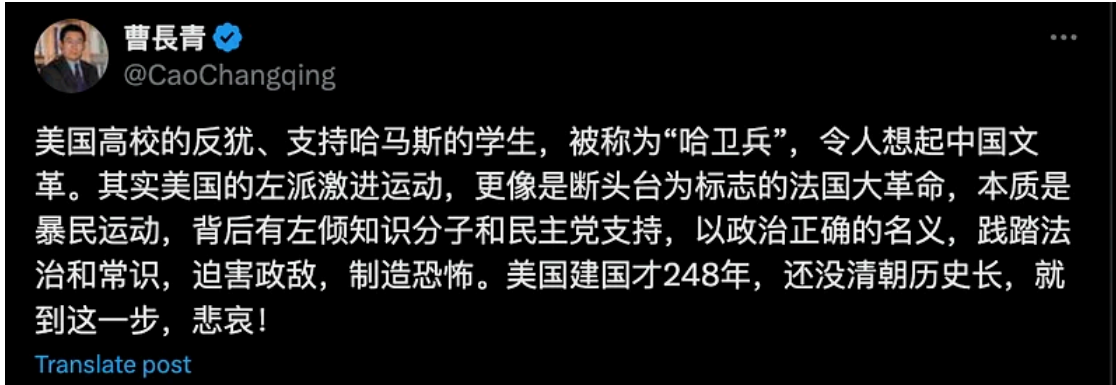
Disinformation Narrative 2: The “extreme left” policies of Biden, Harris, and the Democratic Party are destroying the U.S. and bringing it closer to communism.

After Vice President Kamala Harris became the presumptive nominee for the Democratic Party, disinformation narratives frame her candidacy with sexist and misogynistic remarks falsely claiming that she is incompetent and achieved political success only through currying sexual favors. While she has been labeled a “childless cat lady” in English media, Chinese influencers nicknamed her “乌鸡” or “Black Chicken” with “chicken” as a humiliating slang term for a sex worker in Chinese. Or they call her “小三” which means “homewrecker,” alluding to her past relationships.

These same influencers claim that the Democratic Party had preordained Harris's succession since 2020. This further buttresses their false allegations that the Democrats are a “dictatorship,” who are staging a coup. They have even speculated, without evidence, that Biden might be under house arrest or is near death.

This disinformation narrative falsely attacks Biden, Harris, and the Democratic Party for all the “problems,” including economic collapse, particularly inflation; increase in crime and failed safety policies; crisis at the border and a strain on public resources; and gun control. It also accuses Democrats of pushing the United States towards socialism and communism through student protests, DEI policies, and LGBTQ rights, while undermining American capitalist principles and individual freedoms.

For example, the student protests held across college campuses this spring were portrayed as an American version of China’s Cultural Revolution. The disinformation falsely claimed that elite leftist organizations paid students to protest. In Chinese history, the Cultural Revolution was a top-down political movement initiated by the Chinese government, characterized by violence and chaos, and resulting in the death of 1-2 million people in China.



Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729220935/https://x.com/CaoChangqing/status/1783135540000284778

Translation: Anti-Semitic and pro-Hamas students in American universities are being called "Ha wei bing – Pro-Hamas soldiers," reminiscent of China's Cultural Revolution. In fact, the radical leftist movement in the United States is more like the French Revolution, marked by the guillotine. Essentially, it is a mob movement supported by left-leaning intellectuals and the Democratic Party. Under the guise of political correctness, they trample on the rule of law and common sense, persecute political opponents, and create terror. The United States has only been founded for 248 years, not even as long as the Qing Dynasty, and it has reached this point. It's sad!

PiYaoBa Fact-Checks:

[见势不妙，右翼开始大肆攻击贺锦丽](#) With Biden dropping out of the race, right-wing attacks on Kamala Harris begun.

[\[假\] 拜登政府治下的经济很糟糕，通货膨胀压低了生活水平](#) / [False] The economy is terrible under the Biden administration

[\[假\] 拜登本月提议对所有美国人增税](#) / [False] Biden proposes raising taxes on all Americans this month

[麦当劳退出加州的谣言来自内容农场，疑似AI生成](#) / Rumors of McDonald's exiting California came from content farms, suspected to be generated by A.I.

Disinformation Narrative 3: The Biden administration opened the southern border to allow migrants to vote for Democrats in the 2024 election.

Taken from English-language disinformation, this narrative accuses Biden of intentionally opening the U.S. border to allow migrants in so that they can vote in November. It advances a conspiracy theory known as the “Great Replacement” which falsely suggests that Democrats encourage migration to replace white people; a related idea mirrored on the Chinese-language side. These claims persist despite the fact that noncitizens are not legally allowed to vote in federal elections.

The disinformation often includes false claims that the Biden administration is relaxing border security, providing incentives for migrants to come to the U.S. with the aid of humanitarian organizations, and using executive actions to grant them rights and benefits, including the ability to vote. It stokes racism and fear during an election year by falsely claiming migrants from Palestine, Africa, and South America are criminals and terrorists. It has been proven that immigrants, including undocumented immigrants, are 60% less likely to commit crime as compared to their U.S. citizen counterparts.²

For Chinese immigrant communities, it perpetuates the idea that undocumented immigrants are cutting an imaginary line and are being fast-tracked for work permits at the expense of immigrants who arrived via visas.

PiYaoBa Fact-Checks:

[警惕共和党总统候选人误读移民数据、散播阴谋论](#) / Beware of Republican presidential candidates misreading immigration data and spreading conspiracy theories

[\[假\] 拜登使让更多无证移民入境, 从而建立“一党制国家”](#) / [False] Biden will allow more undocumented immigrants to enter the country, thus establishing a "one-party state"

[\[假\] 川普和马斯克: 拜登政府秘密空运数十万移民入境](#) / [False] Trump and Musk: The Biden administration is secretly airlifting hundreds of thousands of migrants into the country

Disinformation Narrative 4: Leftists are masterminds behind various world events and natural disasters and are playing a long game to control everything.

² Garsd, Jasmine. “Immigrants are less likely to commit crimes than U.S.-born Americans, studies find.” NPR, 8 Mar. 2024, www.npr.org/2024/03/08/1237103158/immigrants-are-less-likely-to-commit-crimes-than-us-born-americans-studies-find.

People who spread conspiracy theories rely on the notion that these theories can serve as a “万金油” or “cure-all balm” for any uncertainties or challenges occurring in the world. For example, the terrorist attack in Moscow is somehow related to the U.S. election, according to disinformation narratives. And perhaps the earthquake in Taiwan, too. It was faked, they claim. These theories are often just hypotheses, with no attempt at evidence. And yet, the challenge for fact-checking these conspiracy theories is that they are constructed in such a way that you can't prove them true so you can't definitively prove them wrong either.

Among these is the notion of “下一盘大棋” or “playing a long game,” where leftists are identified as the masterminds behind complex and secretive strategies. These theories offer convenient explanations for negative outcomes or perceived threats, enabling supporters to maintain their beliefs without critically examining evidence.

For example, after the assassination attempt on Trump, various conspiracy theories emerged suggesting that the Secret Service was involved in a premeditated scheme to kill him, that China was involved, or that it was Antifa. Another conspiracy theory blames DEI because the Secret Service director is a woman and there was a female agent on stage with Trump, who they falsely claimed hid behind him instead of protecting him.

A lack of trust in institutions fuels these tendencies to chalk up events to a cadre of all-controlling entities. By attributing obstacles to powerful, shadowy forces, they avoid confronting the complexities of political and social realities. This narrative not only reinforces their worldview but also solidifies their loyalty to Trump by framing him as a victim of conspiracy.



Limei 李玫
@xlmsnow



越来越多的信息显示，很多重大事件都与中情局有关，911，肯尼迪被刺，J6，川普机秘文件案，2020盗选、目前针对川普的选举干预.....

中情局是谁在控制？

[Translate post](#)

Source: web.archive.org/web/20240729221939/https://twitter.com/xlmsnow/status/1786013994131542144

Translation: Increasingly, information shows that many major events are related to the CIA: 9/11, the assassination of Kennedy, January 6th, Trump's classified documents case, the 2020 election fraud, and the current election interference against Trump...

PiYaoBa Fact-Checks:

[川普第四次被起诉引发新的阴谋论](#) / Trump's fourth indictment sparks new conspiracy theories

[莫斯科恐袭后, 阴谋论泛滥](#) / After Moscow attack, conspiracy theories proliferate

[货船撞塌巴尔的摩大桥, 最荒唐可笑的阴谋论淹没社交媒体](#) / Cargo ship crashes into Baltimore bridge, and the most ridiculous conspiracy theories flood social media

Disinformation Narrative 5. The 2020 election was stolen from Trump and widespread voter fraud, especially involving noncitizens, will lead to another stolen election in 2024.

These disinformation efforts aim to sow doubt about the election's outcome, highlighting vulnerabilities in the election system where none exist, and allege widespread manipulation by government officials. This narrative is designed to pre-emptively delegitimize the results of the 2024 election, especially if they do not favor

Trump. By spreading these unsubstantiated claims, this disinformation campaign aims to create a sense of inevitable fraud, fostering distrust and suspicion among voters.

This tactic not only undermines confidence in the democratic process but also exacerbates political polarization, especially within the Chinese-speaking community, where cultural and historical contexts may make such narratives more resonant.

Meanwhile, anti-China rhetoric continues to spread in right-wing English-language media, especially as both Democrats and Republicans have asserted claims that the CCP is attempting to influence the 2024 election. Despite a lack of evidence, allegations of widespread voter fraud involving stories of either noncitizens casting ballots or noncitizens appointed as commissioners intersect with false allegations of having ties with the CCP or being directly supported by the CCP. For example, such false claims have been directed at San Francisco Election Commissioner Kelly Wong.³



Ana kercia Freitas \$FAME

@Anna_kercia

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2024美国又要大选了，大量红墙内及少量墙红外的粉蛆又开始发力各种黑川普挺拜登了，这进一步证实了一个事实，那就是：中共和美共早已狼狈为奸，他们窃取了2020的大选，还想再故技重施。共产就是一个邪恶的魔鬼，他们为了实现绝对的权威和永久的统治，不遗余力给民众洗脑，使他们成为奴隶、成为狗！

[Translate post](#)

5:26 PM · Mar 10, 2024 · 494 Views

Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729222617/https://x.com/Anna_kercia/status/1766983956472254890

Translation: With the U.S. election coming up again in 2024, a large number of CCP supporters inside the red wall and a small number of those outside the red wall have started to make all kinds of efforts to criticize Trump and support Biden, which further confirms the fact that the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) and the Communist Party of

³ Mount, Beatrice. "Right-wing media start racist smear campaign against new San Francisco Elections Commissioner Kelly Wong." Media Matters, 29 Feb. 2024, www.mediamatters.org/immigration/right-wing-media-start-racist-smear-campaign-against-new-san-francisco-elections.

the United States (CPUSA) have been working hand in glove for a long time, and that they have stolen the 2020 election, and they want to do the same trick again. The CCP is an evil devil, and they spare no effort to brainwash the people and make them slaves and dogs in order to achieve absolute authority and permanent rule!

PiYaoBa Fact-Checks:

[\[假\] 美国选举有问题: 少量蓝色大城市控制着大部分美国人](#) / [False] There is something wrong with the U.S. election: a small number of large blue cities control the majority of Americans

[推特事实核查名存实亡, 马斯克大肆散布大选谣言](#) / Twitter's fact-checking system is in name only, and Musk is spreading election rumors

[\[假\] 大学教授黑进投票器, 说明选举舞弊](#) / [False] University professor hacked into voting machines, showing election fraud

Our Efforts

Since the establishment of CAA's Chinese Digital Engagement program in 2019, we've published 234 disinformation alerts and 1,119 articles on our websites PiYaoBa and JusticePatch, which we promote through newsletters and two WeChat channels. Through monitoring known disinformation accounts and seeing what topics trends, we're able to produce in-depth articles addressing fake news in a timely manner.

By creating this trove of factual articles, whenever a piece of disinformation has a second life – as many inevitably do – our fact-checks are ready to debunk it. For example, one disinformation that resurfaces every election is that California's Proposition 47 makes stealing less than \$950 not a crime, leading to a jump in traffic for [our articles disproving that lie](#).

Our work has also led to fruitful collaborations with researchers and other organizations in the anti-disinformation space. We partnered with [Co.insight](#), a research project funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation that brings together academics and community organizations, to find better tech-based solutions to combating misinformation targeting AAPI communities. This includes developing a Telegram-based fact-checking tip line. We provided support to researchers at Santa Clara University in developing a Chinese-language disinformation repository. We

frequently exchange best practices and learnings with other Asian American communities, such as Vietnamese, Filipino, and Indian communities. We've also partnered with social media influencers on Tiktok, Telegram, and Twitter to amplify our fact-checking efforts.

However, our team faces many challenges. We have identified over 150 Chinese-language social media accounts spreading disinformation, vastly outnumbering factual information outlets. A.I.-powered disinformation exacerbates the issue. Our WeChat fact-checking efforts face censorship, and its closed nature hinders the development of disinformation monitoring and resources sharing tools. Holding U.S.-based social media platforms accountable for in-language disinformation is also extremely difficult. To break the echo chambers of a right-wing-dominated disinformation ecosystem, much more needs to be done.

Recommendations

Disinformation is a symptom of deeper issues within society. In order to address the complexity of these issues, we need to recognize its underlying causes. Deep divisions within society including political polarization, economic inequality, and a distrust in institutions create fertile ground for disinformation. A fragmented media landscape with echo chambers can reinforce disinformation. Social media platforms play a part in creating deeper divisions when it allows for the rapid dissemination of false information outpacing the ability to fact-check and verify disinformation.

Recommendation 1

Governments can provide solutions to the disinformation crisis by enacting far-reaching regulations. Policymakers and legislators should work closely with fact-checking organizations and diasporic media groups to identify the challenges and dangerous impacts of in-language disinformation, particularly in the A.I. era. This includes implementing policies to hold major social media platforms accountable and legally liable for promoting harmful content.

Recommendation 2

Tech companies should develop policies and allocate resources to better support in-language fact-checking and accurate information sharing. They should strengthen

their efforts to curb misinformation instead of rolling them back, especially given that even their existing measures such as labeling disinformation with warnings mostly exist only on English-language content. Companies need more culturally-competent staff fluent in Chinese and other languages to fix the loophole of in-language disinformation.

Recommendation 3

Funders and investors in the journalism space should invest more in in-language civic media and nonprofit media. This will ensure that immigrant communities have access to quality news and information, particularly for community members who have limited English proficiency and are low-income.

Recommendation 4

Increased communication and cooperation between researchers, tech tool developers in the disinformation space, and community-based fact-checking organizations in the immigrant space is essential. Collaboration will enable the development of better tools and methods for combating disinformation in immigrant communities.

Recommendation 5

A multi-pronged approach to in-language media literacy would ensure that people have the critical thinking and digital skills they need to be informed and safe from disinformation. Governments and funders should invest in media literacy education, particularly for immigrant communities.

Appendix

Additional examples of Chinese-language disinformation.

Disinformation Narrative 1: Trump is the only savior of the U.S. and today's problems are because he is not in charge.

Example 1.1



华裔美国人有失去自由和国家的危机感：不希望美国变成共产独裁国家！



北美保守评论-2
10.2K subscribers

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54



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518 views May 29, 2024

▲“勇气是会传染的！”这句话激励了成千上万的华裔美国人。这就是为什么我们要站起来，你知道，华裔美国人大多数都很安静，我们过去就像是胆小鬼，但现在我们站起来了。我们现在大声疾呼，为了什么呢？
因为我们有强烈的危机感，有失去国家和自由的危机感！要知道，我们是从共产主义国家中国逃出来的。我们不想美国变成共产主义国家。川普为拯救美国牺牲了很多，我们感谢他。我们对川普并不是出于个人崇拜，不！因为人们会说，你把他当成偶像了。不是这样的，我们逃离过一个共产主义国家，那里的人们崇拜独裁者。川普是一位有常识的总统。他试图拯救我们的国家，我们支持他，因为他热爱这个国家。我们爱川普！

Source: web.archive.org/web/20240730165444/https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yFnc7Iipits

Translation from YouTube: "Bravery is contagious!" This statement has inspired thousands of Chinese Americans. That's why we stand up, you know, most Chinese Americans are very quiet, we used to be like cowards, but now we stand up. We are now speaking out loudly, for what? Because we have a strong sense of crisis, a sense of losing our country and our freedom! You know, we escaped from the communist country of China. We don't want America to become a communist country. Trump has sacrificed a lot to save America, and we thank him. Our support for Trump is not about personal worship, no! Because people will say, you idolize him. It's not like that, we have fled a communist country where people worship the dictator. Trump is a president with common sense. He is trying to save our country, and we support him because he loves this country. We love Trump!

Disinformation Narrative 2: The “extreme left” policies of Biden, Harris, and the Democratic party are destroying the U.S. and bringing it closer to communism.

Example 2.1

 **Limei 李玫** @xlmsnow

败登退选，乌鸡上位，名不不正言不顺。
败登是盗选上位，又被强行退位。
乌鸡捡漏上位，盗选都省了。
民主党是一个独裁政党暴露无疑。

[Translate post](#)

 **Limei 李玫** @xlmsnow · Jul 21

突发新闻：乔·拜登刚刚宣布退出 2024 年大选！

 **Joe Biden** @JoeBiden

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, JR.

July 21, 2024

My Fellow Americans,

Over the past three and a half years, we have made great progress as a Nation.

Today, America has the strongest economy in the world. We've made historic investments in rebuilding our Nation, in lowering prescription drug costs for seniors, and in expanding affordable health care to a record number of Americans. We've provided critically needed care to a million veterans exposed to toxic substances. Passed the first gun safety law in 30 years. Appointed the first African American woman to the Supreme Court. And passed the most significant climate legislation in the history of the world. America has never been better positioned to lead than we are today.

I know none of this could have been done without you, the American people. Together, we overcame a once in a century pandemic and the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. We've protected and preserved our Democracy. And we've revitalized and strengthened our alliances around the world.

It has been the greatest honor of my life to serve as your President. And while it has been my intention to seek reelection, I believe it is in the best interest of my party and the country for me to stand down and to focus solely on fulfilling my duties as President for the remainder of my term.

I will speak to the Nation later this week in more detail about my decision.

For now, let me express my deepest gratitude to all those who have worked so hard to see me reelected. I want to thank Vice President Kamala Harris for being an extraordinary partner in all this work. And let me express my heartfelt appreciation to the American people for the faith and trust you have placed in me.

I believe today what I always have: that there is nothing America can't do – when we do it together. We just have to remember we are the United States of America.



9:05 PM · Jul 21, 2024 · 6,270 Views

Source: web.archive.org/web/20240729220719/https://x.com/xlmsnow/status/1815206427352240276

Translation: Biden steps down, Kamala Harris takes over, without proper justification or legitimacy. Biden came to power through election fraud and now was forcibly removed from office. Harris took over by chance, without even needing election fraud. The Democratic Party's true nature as a dictatorial party is now unmistakably exposed.

Example 2.2

美国，你和下一代的未来：你的选择？		
	 共和党	 民主党
理念	热爱美国，自我负责，个人努力进取，机会平等	别人负责，依靠政府和他人，否认美国伟大的历史和传统价值观，CRT,结果平等
治安	支持警察，停止无保释金假释罪犯，law and order	削减警察经费，取消保释金，释放罪犯到大街上，支持黑命贵（BLM）和 Antifa
教育和就业	择优录取，能力竞争，支持天才班和特殊高中（SHSAT）	按肤色录取，种族分配，取消天才班和特殊高中
婚姻	男女结合婚姻	同性婚姻
性别	男女有别	消灭差异，男女同厕
变性	审慎对待	不经家长同意8岁就行
财产	保护私有财产，保护小房东	纵容租霸，支持不劳而获
社会	小政府自由市场，资本主义，减税，良性循环，繁荣	大政府管控，社会主义，增税，逆向淘汰，劣币驱良币，贫困
福利	保障公民基础福利	滥用福利“龙虾党”（非法移民也享受）
边境	加强边境执法	完全开放边境
移民	鼓励合法移民，打击非法	保护非法
选票	公民才可投票，记合法选票	非公民也可投票，所有票都算
言论	支持宪法第一修正案提倡言论自由	限制表达,取消文化 (Cancel culture)
枪支	支持宪法第二修正案的拥枪自由	全面禁枪
医保	反对奥巴马医保	实行奥巴马医保
家庭	重视家庭	消灭传统家庭
堕胎	反对任意堕胎，保护生命	随意堕胎
大麻	严格控制	合法化

English Translation:



Which Way Are You Voting: Red/Blue?

 Republicans	 Democrats
Patriotism	Defiance on America Greatness
Capitalism	Socialism
Conservatism	Liberalism
Prosperity	Poverty
Constitution	Communism
Supporting Police	Defunding Police
Law and Order	Riot & Violence (BLM/Antifa)
Stop No Cash Bailout	No Cash Bailout Reform
Gun Rights (2nd Amendment)	Gun Control
Meritocracy; SHSAT/Talent Programs	Racial Quote; Cancel SHSAT/Talent Programs
Equal Opportnuies	Equal Results
Free Speech (1st Amendment)	Suppression; Cancel Culture
Letting Babies Live/Pro-life	Killing Babies
Legal Immigration	Open Border; Illegal Immigration
Small Government	Big Government
Tax Breaks	Higher Taxes
Small Businesses	Over-Regulation
Support Small Landlords	Allow Professional Tenants
Strong Military	Weak Military
Voter ID	Let Anyone Vote
Man-Woman Marriage	Same Sex Marriage
Gender Difference	Gender Confused
Prudent Transgender Decision	Transgender Decision without Parent Involvement
Working Class	Welfare State (Abuse Welware)
Marijana Restriction	Marijana Iegalization
No Community Jail/Homeless & Illegal Imigrants Shelter	Community Jail/Homeless & Illegal Imigrants Shelter



Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729221609/https://twitter.com/Mydoglucky2/status/1771271342152683848

Disinformation Narrative 3: The Biden administration opened the border to allow undocumented immigrants to vote for Democrats in the 2024 election.

Example 3.1



昆侖 @Kunluntalk

如果不是马斯克买下了推特，美国人，将永远不会知道拜登政府，在制造毫无设防，让百万非法移民涌入的边境危机的同时，竟然通过空运，将33万非法移民，投送到美国不同的城市。让他们落地生根，获得身份，参与选举。33万人，什么概念？就是完全可以左右美国总统大选摇摆州选举结果的人数。这就是当下此刻，美国联邦政府正在做的事情。

美国的国土安全部，在拜登政府之下，完全是通过直接输入非法选民的方式，颠覆美国的选举格局，等于是改造美国的社会结构，等同于改变美国的社会制度。

如此邪恶，
如此可恶...

[Translate post](#)

Elon Musk @elonmusk · Mar 5

Treason indeed! Ushering in vast numbers of illegals is why Secretary Mayorkas was impeached by the House.

They are importing voters. This is why groups on the far left fight so hard to stop voter ID requirements, under the absurd guise of protecting the right to ...

[Show more](#)

4:28 PM · Mar 5, 2024 · 126.9K Views

Source: web.archive.org/web/20240729222115/https://x.com/Kunluntalk/status/1765142450946097446

Translation: If Musk hadn't bought Twitter, Americans would never have known that the Biden administration, while creating a border crisis that allowed millions of illegals to pour in, went so far as to airlift 330,000 illegals, and drop them off in different cities across America. What is the concept of 330,000 people? That's the number of people who could swing the outcome of the U.S. presidential election in swing states. That's what the U.S. federal government is doing at this very moment.

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security, under the Biden administration, is completely subverting the U.S. electoral landscape through the direct importation of

illegal voters, which is tantamount to transforming the U.S. social structure, which is tantamount to changing the U.S. social system.

We observed a growing number of users in mainland China using anti-vaccine “evidence” from American users to argue that vaccines do not work. On the flip side, many American conservative users cite the strict “zero case” COVID-19 policies in China to argue that the Democratic Party is moving toward communism.

Example 3.2



西行小宝2.0
@usa912152217



1/28 ▲👉 遍布美国的犹太裔美国非营利组织HIAS，正在帮助非法移民在美国定居。从难民抵达机场的那一刻起，重新安置合作伙伴就会去接他们，为他们提供食物、住房和就业服务。所有这些犹太服务机构的所在地，都与非法移民的居住地和民主党人的投票地紧密重叠。

所以，犹太人组织正在帮助民主党再次利用非法移民偷取大选，而民主党对那些反犹太的挺巴抗议者却装作什么也没发生。这究竟是什么套路？难道都是演戏吗？犹太人组织跟民主党是一伙的，而民主党的金主支持挺巴反犹太抗议者，原来他们都是一伙的。所以，我们应该排除这些东西的干扰，不论挺巴挺以，都不要站队，我们只挺美国第一，就不会错了。

rumble.com/v49ivk6-hias-r...

hias.org/resettlement-p...

Translate post



5:27 PM · Jan 28, 2024 · 8,317 Views

Source:

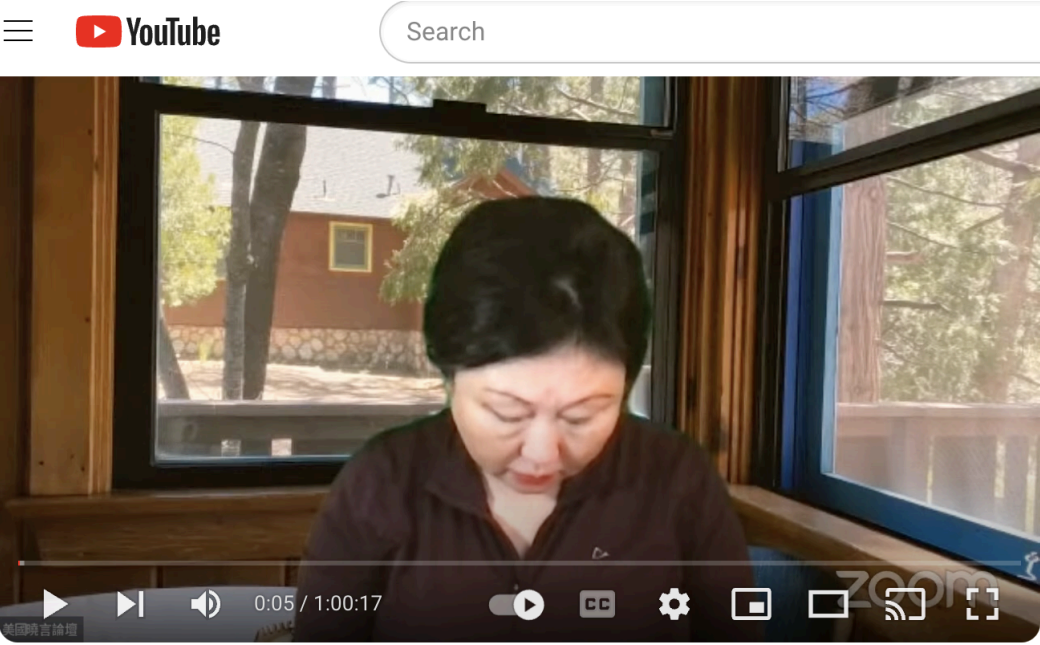
web.archive.org/web/20240729221506/https://x.com/usa912152217/status/1751748811343769703

Translation: HIAS, a Jewish-American nonprofit organization, is helping illegal immigrants settle in the United States. All of these Jewish service organizations are located in areas that closely overlap with where illegal immigrants live and where Democrats vote.

So Jewish organizations are helping the Democrats steal the 2024 election again using illegal immigrants, while the Democrats pretend nothing is happening to the anti-Semitic Jumba protesters. Jewish organizations are in cahoots with the Democrats, and the Democrats' gold-diggers support the pro-Palestinian anti-Semitic protesters, so it turns out they're all in cahoots.

Disinformation Narrative 4: Leftists are masterminds behind various world events and natural disasters and are playing a long game to control everything.

Example 4.1



The image shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top left is the YouTube logo. A search bar is located at the top right. The video frame shows a woman with dark hair, wearing a dark shirt, looking down. The video player controls at the bottom show a play button, a progress bar at 0:05 / 1:00:17, and various icons for volume, closed captions, settings, and full screen. Below the video player is a light blue information box with the title "2020 United States Elections" and a Wikipedia snippet: "The 2020 United States elections were held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020. The Democratic Party's nominee, former vice president Joe Biden, defeated incumbent Republican president Donald Trump in the presidential election." Below this box is a bolded Chinese headline: "3月21日【美国晓言论坛】独家重磅3! 塞尔维亚政治家全景式揭露--塞尔维亚如何干预美国2020DX及深层政府、美国民主党和索某斯等勾联拉..."

Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729223617/https://www.youtube.com/live/i-aNOpWxtC4?si=hy3KdB21i_F9XbCz

Translation: March 21st, [American Xiaoyan Forum] Exclusive Bombshell 3! Serbian politician reveals panoramic view – How Serbia intervened in the 2020 U.S. elections, Deep State, how the U.S. Democratic Party collaborated with Soros to destabilize America.

Disinformation Narrative 5: The 2020 election was stolen from Trump and widespread voter fraud, especially involving non-citizens, may lead to another stolen election in 2024.

Example 5.1



曹長青 
@CaoChangqing

...

如果下次大选民主党不作弊，2024拜登绝对会输给川普。今布隆伯格民调，在关键7个摇摆州，川普支持率全都超过拜登：亚利桑那、乔治亚、密西根、内华达、北卡、宾州、威斯康星。不仅经济政策，甚至在乌战问题上川普也赢过拜登。拜登的民主党用尽一切手段阻止川普，就是因为他们确信川普会赢，吓到疯狂。

[Translate post](#)

8:46 AM · Oct 20, 2023 · 59K Views

Source:

web.archive.org/web/20240729223750/https://twitter.com/CaoChangqing/status/1715394059106414937

Translation: If the Democrats don't cheat in the next election, Biden will definitely lose to Trump in 2024. Today's Bloomberg poll, in the key 7 swing states, Trump's favorability rating all exceeds Biden's: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, Nevada, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. Not only on economic policy, but even on the U.S. war Trump won over Biden. The reason Biden's Democrats did everything they could to stop Trump is because they were convinced Trump was going to win and were scared to death of insanity.

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