

News Item

Following politicians on social media exposes audiences to more misinformation | The Media School

By Betsi Grabe & James Shanahan October 29, 2020

BLOOMINGTON, Indiana — Social media scholars have known for some time that politicians are among the most prolific spreaders of misinformation on social media. The latest in a series of studies from Indiana University's Observatory on Social Media shows the impact of that behavior on the fall 2020 presidential election. The new study found Americans who follow politicians on social media are more likely to be exposed to false stories and more likely to believe those stories than those who don't follow politicians.

The latest survey, conducted from Oct. 15-24, looked at five different untrue narratives, including two that came from sources leaning left on the political spectrum and two that have remained constant throughout all four surveys.

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Source: Following politicians on social media exposes audiences to more misinformation: News: The Media School