

Appendix 1: Experimental Instructions

In this appendix we provide the instructions for the debunk-after condition. The instructions for the baseline condition is exactly the same without Screen 5 (the false-claim), Screen 6 (the debunking information) and false-claim-related questions in the questionnaire. The instructions for the false-claim condition is exactly the same as the instructions for the debunk-after condition, except that Screen 6 (debunking information) comes after the questionnaire (Screen 13) with its first sentence modified to “On one of previous screens, you saw....” The instructions for the debunk-before condition is exactly the same as the instructions for the debunk-after condition, except that Screen 6 (debunking information) comes before Screen 5 (the false-claim) with its first sentence modified to “On the next screen, you will see....”

Screen 1

Welcome to this study.

We are conducting an academic study about decision making.
The whole study will take around 10 minutes, and you may earn up to \$3.5 in total.

The payment of this survey consists of three parts:

1. For completing all questions according to the instructions, you will receive a \$1 reward. You will also have the opportunity to receive two additional bonuses.
2. The first bonus is an additional \$1. How much of this \$1 bonus you receive is determined by choices that only you make.
3. The second bonus is an additional \$1.50. How much of this \$1.50 you receive is determined by choices that you and others make.

Please pay attention to each of the questions; this will help you make sound decisions and earn a greater amount of money.

Screen 2

Please take a guess: what is the number of people who entered the US in 2016 that were eligible for DACA? (You will receive an additional payment of \$0.25 if you guess correctly.)

- 0
- Around 1,000
- Around 10,000
- Around 100,000
- Around 1,000,000

Screen 3

A refugee caravan with more than 1000 Central American migrants is currently traveling through Mexico; they are leaving their country after a contentious presidential election.

What do you believe are actions that a migrant in this caravan could take? (Choose all answers you consider may apply)

- Some will reach Mexico and legally seek asylum and legally stay in Mexico.
- Some will reach the US border and legally seek asylum and legally stay in the US.
- Some will cross the US border and use DACA to legally stay in the US.
- Some will cross the US border and stay illegally in the US.
- Others

Screen 4



A refugees caravan with more than 1000 Central American migrants is currently traveling through Mexico; they are leaving their country after a contentious presidential election.

Your task: rewrite this information in your own words. Do not copy the information, rather re-state it using plain English that anyone could understand in the textbox.

Screen 5



Claim: *"These throngs of Central Americans are trying to flood across our borders from Mexico so that they can take advantage of the United States DACA program."*

Your task: rewrite the claim in your own words. Do not copy the claim, rather re-state the claim using plain English that anyone could understand in the textbox below.

Screen 6

On the previous screen, you saw a claim that some people might make about this caravan. The claim is FALSE, because one must be "physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012" to request DACA, the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. This is stated in the guidelines provided by the US Department of Homeland Security (a link is provided at the end of this study, but the relevant section is pasted here.) Therefore, these migrants are not eligible for DACA.

Guidelines

You may request DACA if you:

1. Were under the age of 31 as of June 15, 2012;
2. Came to the United States before reaching your 16th birthday;
3. Have continuously resided in the United States since June 15, 2007, up to the present time;
4. Were physically present in the United States on June 15, 2012, and at the time of making your request for consideration of deferred action with USCIS;
5. Had no lawful status on June 15, 2012;
6. Are currently in school, have graduated or obtained a certificate of completion from high school, have obtained a general education development (GED) certificate, or are an honorably discharged veteran of the Coast Guard or Armed Forces of the United States; and
7. Have not been convicted of a felony, significant misdemeanor, or three or more other misdemeanors, and do not otherwise pose a threat to national security or public safety.

Screen 7

The tough reality of Mexico's migrant caravan

120 SHARES

Support for Immigrants in 2018 Refugee Caravan

For: 2018 Refugee Caravan
Los Angeles, CA
Organizer: Undocumedia with Pueblo Sin Fronteras

\$920 of \$50,000 goal

Raised by 13 donors

DONATE NOW

DONATE IN SECONDS

Share on **f**

Every Share Can Raise \$37

120 SHARES

You now have the opportunity to decide if you want to donate some of your \$1 bonus payment. You do not have to, but you can decide to donate up to \$1 of this bonus to a fundraiser that is organized by Undocumedia, a 501c3 nonprofit organization in Los Angeles, CA and Pueblo Sin Fronteras, an international migrant and refugee rights collective, to support the 2018 Refugee Caravan.

These migrants consist of unaccompanied minors, women migrating on their own, and family units. Your donation will be "directly administered by migrant leaders and volunteers from Pueblo Sin Fronteras who are accompanying the caravan through Mexico". Once we have completed our study, we will add all the donations together and send them to Undocumedia and submit the donations as an anonymous donor. At the end of this study, we will also provide you with a link to the fundraising website for Immigrants in 2018 Refugee Caravan so that you can learn more about them.

Now, please decide how much you would like to donate.

- \$ 0.00 USD
- \$ 0.10 USD
- \$ 0.20 USD
- \$ 0.30 USD
- \$ 0.40 USD
- \$ 0.50 USD
- \$ 0.60 USD
- \$ 0.70 USD
- \$ 0.80 USD
- \$ 0.90 USD
- \$ 1.00 USD

Screen 8

Please estimate what percentage of other Mturkers who decided to donate each amount listed below. Your percentages have to add up to 100%.

One donation choice will be randomly chosen at the end of the study. If the difference between your guess and the real percent of Mturkers who made a donation at that amount is smaller than or equal to 5 percentage points, then you will receive an additional payment of \$0.5.

\$ 0.00 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.10 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.20 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.30 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.40 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.50 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.60 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.70 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.80 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 0.90 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
\$ 1.00 USD	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Total	
	<input type="text" value="0"/>

Screen 9

Please evaluate the different possible donations an Mturker could have made and to decide, for each of the possible donations, whether making that donation would be “socially appropriate” and “consistent with moral or proper social behavior” or “socially inappropriate” and “inconsistent with moral or proper social behavior.” By socially appropriate, we mean behavior that most Mturkers agree is the “correct” or “ethical” thing to do.

Again, one donation choice will be randomly chosen at the end of the study. If your appropriateness rating for the donation choice is the same as the most common appropriateness rating given by other Mturkers, then you will receive an additional payment of \$0.5.

	very socially inappropriate	somewhat socially inappropriate	somewhat socially appropriate	very socially appropriate
\$ 0.00 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.10 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.20 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.30 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.40 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.50 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.60 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.70 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.80 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 0.90 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
\$ 1.00 USD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Screen 10

What is the number of people who entered the US in 2016 that were eligible for DACA? (You will receive an additional payment of \$0.25 if you answer correctly.)

- 0
- Around 1,000
- Around 10,000
- Around 100,000
- Around 1,000,000

Screen 11

You are now close to the end of this study. Please complete a brief questionnaire before receiving your payment.

What is your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Other

What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- Elementary school
- Junior high school
- Senior high school
- Undergraduate school (College)
- Graduate school (Masters or professional)
- Graduate school (PhD)

What is your age?

In which state do you currently reside?

Alabama

My political ideology is:

- Democratic
- Republican
- Independent
- Other

On social issues I am:

- Strongly Liberal
- Somewhat Liberal
- Moderate
- Somewhat Conservative
- Strongly Conservative

Do you have personal feelings about immigrants to the US?

- I have positive feelings about immigrants to the US.
- I have negative feelings about immigrants to the US.
- I have no strong feelings about immigrants to the US.

Did reading the claim affect how much you donated?

- A lot
- A moderate amount
- A little
- None at all

Have you ever heard of the immigrants in 2018 refugee caravan before participating in this study?

- No.
 - Yes.
-

Have you ever heard of the claim before participating in this study?

- No.
- Yes.

Screen 12

What do you believe are actions that a migrant in this caravan could take? (Choose all answers you consider may apply)

- Some will reach Mexico and legally seek asylum and legally stay in Mexico.
- Some will reach the US border and legally seek asylum and legally stay in the US.
- Some will cross the US border and use DACA to legally stay in the US.
- Some will cross the US border and stay illegally in the US.
- Others

Screen 13

Do you believe there are loopholes that can enable someone among the caravan of Central American migrants to be eligible for DACA?

- Definitely yes
- Probably yes
- Might or might not
- Probably not
- Definitely not

Screen 14

If you have any comments on this study, please feel free to let us know (optional).

Screen 15

Original photo

1. The Mercury News/ Christopher Sherman/ Photo: Felix Marquez

<https://www.mercurynews.com/2018/04/03/migrant-caravan-raising-concerns-in-us-takes-break-in-mexico/>

2. CNN/ Catherine E. Shoichet

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/02/americas/mexico-migrant-caravan/index.html>

Fundraising webpage for Immigrants in 2018 Refugee Caravan:

<https://www.youcaring.com/2018refugeecaravan-1164094>

Official websites of the Department of Homeland Security: guidelines for requesting DACA

<https://www.uscis.gov/archive/consideration-deferred-action-childhood-arrivals-daca>

This research is conducted by researchers from the University of Michigan. The aim of this research is to understand how people respond to information and how this information affects the choices they make and the beliefs they hold.

Appendix 2: Figures and Tables

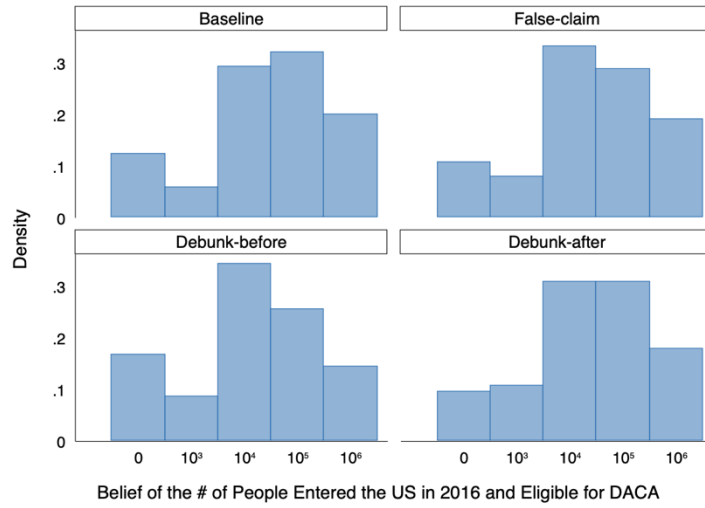


Figure A.1: Prior Belief Distribution of the Number of People Who Entered the US in 2016 and Were Eligible for DACA

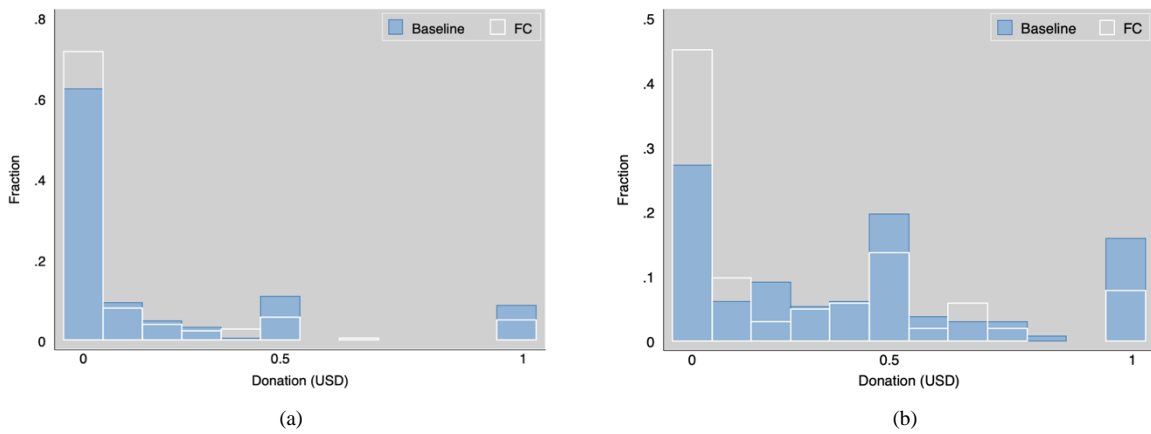


Figure A.2: Histograms of Donation Amounts in Baseline and False-claim Conditions

Table A.1: Interaction of Exposure to the False Claim and Attitude toward Migrants on Norms

DV	OLS Prescriptive norm for donating zero
False claim (FC)	-0.066 (-0.22)
Neutral	-0.382 (-1.43)
Positive	-0.387 (-1.40)
FC* Neutral	0.549 (1.60)
FC*Positive	0.170 (0.49)
+Controls	Yes
_cons	2.238*** (5.41)
<i>N</i>	361

Notes: The control variables include education, age, gender, political orientation and the prior belief of DACA eligibility. The *t*-statistics are reported in parentheses; marginal effects are reported for logit regressions. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$

Appendix 3: Unexpected Impact of False Claim on Donation

Most participants (65.5% in false-claim / 70.9% in debunk-before / 63.5% in debunk-after condition) consider the exposure to the false claim does not affect their donations, while most of the rest perceive the effect to be “a moderate amount” or “a little,” only a few participants consider the effect to be “A lot” (6.8% in false-claim / 0.6% in debunk-before / 5% in debunk-after condition).

Table A.2: Reported effect of the exposure to the false claim

Perceived Impact	A lot	A moderate amount	A little	None at all
false-claim (n=177)	12	15	34	116
debunk-before (n=172)	1	21	28	122
debunk-after (n=178)	9	25	31	113

Table 5C: Conditional Logit on the Prescriptive Norm and Chosen Donation Amount

	(1) chosenAction	(2) chosenAction	(3) chosenAction
Payoff to Self	6.262*** (3.71)	6.502*** (3.79)	6.217*** (3.56)
Appropriate		0.134 (0.94)	0.512** (2.74)
Appropriate x False Claim			-0.826** (-3.28)
+Controls	Yes	Yes	Yes
<i>AIC / BIC</i>	968.3./1266.8	969.4./1273.8	960.3/1270.5
<i>N</i>	2574	2574	2574

Notes: The control variables include education, age, gender, political orientation and the prior belief of DACA eligibility. *t* statistics in parentheses. * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, *** $p < 0.001$