

THE FOX NEWS LIE

MEDIAMATTERS
FOR AMERICA

The Fox News Lie: Fox's supposed "news" side has lied every weekday since the beginning of the year

Fox News viewers are subjected to a constant torrent of lies, misleading statements, and half-truths as the network's hosts, guests, and on-air personalities weave a comprehensive web of misinformation imbuing virtually all aspects of the outlet's supposed "news" operations. Media Matters has compiled a list of lies and false statements told and retold every single weekday during Fox's purported "straight news" programming throughout the first four full months of 2022.

January 3

FALSE: Fox News contributor Tom Homan [repeatedly claimed](#) the U.S. has "open borders" under the Biden administration.

JOHN ROBERTS (ANCHOR): Tom, you rightly make the point that the Biden administration has not fully reimplemented "Remain in Mexico." It applies mostly just to single males who are coming across the border; doesn't apply to families, as it did under the Trump administration. But at least having that policy partially reinstated, what message does that send to migrants who might have their eyes set on the southern border?

TOM HOMAN (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Well, they got to look up the CBP stats, saying OK, a total of 200 people were returned in two months, when we have had tens of thousands cross the border. The word's out. The whole world knows the border is open, and that's why the numbers continue to climb; 170-some-thousand in November. And December is going to be higher. It's going to be an historic high for December. They haven't put the numbers out yet because they're trying to figure out a way to spin it. But the numbers — every month this year has been historic. We went from the most secure border in my career, which spanned 35 years, to the first year under President Biden, historic highs. We've never seen numbers like this coming across the border in the history of this nation. And he did that within months.

So again, the Biden administration is ignoring border security, they believe in open border policies, and that's why they are not apologizing. That's why they have failed to put any enforcement action in place, and they're suing back and appealing the decisions to secure the border. I have never seen an administration come into office and purposely — and purposely unsecure the most secure border we have ever had. And they're not apologizing for it. This isn't mismanagement. This isn't incompetence. This is open borders by design. This is what they want.

FACT: The claim that the United States has an "open border" with Mexico is "absurd." As [PolitiFact explained](#), there are numerous security measures and types of enforcement at the southern border, including 20,000 Border Patrol agents, physical barriers, and surveillance

systems. PolitiFact also quoted University of Texas Rio Grande Valley political science professor Terence Garrett saying, “There's no such thing as an open border. We don't have an open border. That's absurd.”

January 4

FALSE: Fox News contributor Keith Kellogg [repeatedly claimed](#) the Middle East was “quiet” following the U.S. assassination of Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani during the Trump administration.

SANDRA SMITH (ANCHOR): Meanwhile, Iran sharpening its rhetoric against the United States as that nation marks the second year since the assassination of General Qassim Soleimani.

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GEN. KEITH KELLOGG (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Look, when we killed Qassem Soleimani, that was a strategic decision by President Trump to reset the battlefield in the Middle East, and it was designed to do that and it worked. President – I'm sorry, Prime Minister Netanyahu later told us that we ate the arm off the tiger. And, for a year, things were very, very quiet after we eliminated Soleimani.

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KELLOGG: They always fall back on, well, it's all because of Trump, because Trump killed Soleimani. That was one of the best things that happened to the United States and to peace in the Middle East when we eliminated Soleimani. And I think that period of quiet that we had proved that.

FACT: The assassination of Qassem Soleimani brought the United States and Iran to the brink of war in early 2020. Iran responded with a military strike that [caused more than 100](#) American injuries, which was [reportedly](#) the largest ever ballistic missile strike on U.S. forces, and [nearly led to war](#) between the U.S. and Iran. The tensions following the assassination also [contributed to](#) Iran mistakenly shooting down a Ukrainian passenger jet, killing all 176 people onboard.

January 5

FALSE: Fox News guest Burt Folsom [falsely claimed](#) FBI agents were “involved in stirring up the crowds” during the pro-Trump January 6 insurrection.

BURT FOLSOM (HISTORIAN): I think we need to know more about January 6th. There's so much footage that has not been released. We still don't have data on how many FBI agents were involved in stirring up the crowds. These are important questions

to answer. I think we need a full picture on January 6th. We do not yet have that full picture.

FACT: The FBI was not responsible for the right-wing mob attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021. [Multiple fact checks](#) have [debunked](#) the right-wing conspiracy theory that the FBI was somehow responsible for the insurrection, which attempts to shift blame away from [Donald Trump](#) and the [other Republicans](#) who pushed the “Big Lie” that the election was stolen.

January 6

FALSE: Fox News contributor Tom Homan [lied about](#) the Biden administration’s record on arresting and deporting serious criminals.

TRACE GALLAGHER (GUEST ANCHOR): Well, Immigration and Customs Enforcement has, for the first time in a decade, failed to release its report showing how many illegal immigrants were removed from the country during Fiscal Year 2021. Under Presidents Obama and Trump, the agency released the report in the last weeks of the designated year. So, why the holdup? Is the Biden administration purposely dragging its feet?

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TOM HOMAN (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): No, look, I was the ICE director, and I oversaw that division that put the ICE statistics together every year. They had those final numbers probably by the third week of October. So, I wouldn't call it slow-walking it; they're trying to figure out how to spin the information. The data's not going to be good. If you look at the first half of the year, if you extrapolate that throughout the fiscal year, total removal is going to be down 90%. Ninety percent.

And they said they did all this to focus more on criminals. Well, I think the report is going to show that removals of criminals is down 65%. If they send out an accurate report, which I doubt they're going to do, it's going to clearly show they may not have abolished ICE, but they abolished ICE's mission. They can't do their job anymore. They're putting less handcuffs on criminals, but they put the handcuffs on the officers and agents at ICE, because they can't do their job.

FACT: The number of serious criminals deported by the Biden administration is higher than the number during the Trump administration. The Biden administration [changed its focus](#) to deporting undocumented immigrants who present national security threats and threats to public safety. ICE arrest figures available in October 2021 [showed](#) that arrests of immigrants with “aggravated felony convictions” nearly doubled compared to the same period in the last year of the Trump administration. In March 2022, [CBS News reported](#) that ICE arrests of these criminals “rose to 12,025 in 2021, up from 6,815 in 2020,” and that these crimes included “serious, violent offenses like murder and rape.” Additionally, 66% of deported immigrants during this time had criminal records, up from 56% in 2020. And an [Associated Press report](#)

from March reported that “the number of monthly arrests of aggravated felons up 53% from the final year under President Barack Obama and 51% average during the Trump administration.”

January 7

FALSE: Fox News contributor Dr. Marty Makary [claimed](#) “there is no need for a booster” for people previously infected with COVID-19 or for people in “high-risk categories,” and attacked the Food and Drug Administration for approving COVID-19 vaccine booster shots for younger Americans.

DR. MARTY MAKARY (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Well, look, natural immunity has now been studied in over 100 studies, and all the more research in the world is not going to convince public health officials who are politically appointed, and loyal scientists who have lost their objectivity. Look at how the FDA bypassed their expert panel just to get boosters approved for young people. This is no longer a scientific authority organization.

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FAULKNER: Real quickly, if you have had COVID, you’ve been vaccinated, can you still get a booster if you’re in one of those high-risk categories? Or do you have to wait a period of time?

MAKARY: There’s no need for a booster.

FACT: Booster shots provide safe and effective protection against COVID-19 infection and severe illness more than natural immunity from prior infection. Data reviewed by [FactCheck.org](#) show that “people who have received COVID-19 booster shots ... are less likely to be infected with the coronavirus, at least temporarily, even against the now-pervasive omicron variant,” and that booster shots “also augment protection against severe disease.” Another [FactCheck.org article](#) cited immunology experts who said that “getting three doses of an mRNA vaccine seems to be even better than natural immunity.” According to [reporting](#) from NPR, booster shots are vital “for keeping people out of the hospital” and providing protection during “periodic COVID surges.” The FDA [said](#) it authorized boosters for everyone 18 years of age or older based on studies showing improved immune response compared to the main two-dose course, and to eliminate confusion about who is eligible for a booster dose.

January 10

FALSE: Fox News medical analyst Dr. Marc Siegel [claimed](#) that doctors don’t consider race in making decisions about their patients’ care for COVID-19 infections.

MARC SIEGEL (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): In terms of this [race] issue, it’s disturbing because we make decisions as physicians, based not on race but on risk. Risk not race. And what do I mean by that? If somebody is obese, they’re at higher risk

of COVID complications; diabetes, higher risk of COVID complications; over 65, higher risk. We're also very aware of the fact that the Black population has a lot of distrust built into the medical establishment and they tend to be more on the front line, by the way. There's more front-line workers that are in minority groups – that we factor in. All of that is factored in by deciding who needs what drug – not by race, because you could very well be one race and not be at high risk. All of that has to go into it. Deeply disturbing to see this in New York state, in Utah, and now the FDA coming out. Literally, Bill, if I try to order this drug, Paxlovid, it will ask, "What is the race of the person I'm ordering it for?"

FACT: The FDA agrees that race and ethnicity may be used by doctors to determine risk factors for their patients. A [fact sheet](#) from the FDA noted that race or ethnicity may be used to help determine high-risk patients in administering a COVID-19 treatment drug. Siegel also named risk factors such as diabetes and obesity as high-risk factors for COVID-19 complications without also mentioning [both diseases](#) are especially common in nonwhite communities. Politico [noted](#) that while race does not make someone more biologically susceptible to COVID-19, it does provide a helpful flag for doctors as people of color are "far likelier to lack health insurance, work in a higher-exposure environment, experience discrimination in the health care system, and have an undiagnosed underlying medical condition."

January 11

FALSE: Fox News political contributor Karl Rove [suggested](#) that Democratic candidate Stacey Abrams still has not accepted the 2018 Georgia gubernatorial election result, saying she "refuses to acknowledge" her loss to Brian Kemp.

KARL ROVE (FOX POLITICAL CONTRIBUTOR): Remember, this is a woman who was defeated for governor three years ago and refuses to acknowledge, refuses to concede, saying the election was illegitimate. How do you like being the president of the United States and the vice president having a big lie spreader standing next to you -- "the election was stolen from me three years ago"? I think these voter groups are sending a message maybe to Biden but I think the bigger message is Senate Democrats, pay attention. We're fed up with the president which means we're even angrier with you.

FACT: Stacey Abrams acknowledged the loss in 2018, but criticized Kemp's involvement in administering his own election. Abrams [did acknowledge](#) that Kemp won 10 days after the election. As Media Matters [noted](#), Abrams did say "this is not a speech of concession" as she criticized Kemp's role in purging around 670,000 names from Georgia's voter rolls in 2017 and roughly 53,000 a month ahead of the election. "But my assessment is the law currently allows no further viable remedy," she said.

January 12

FALSE: Fox News correspondent Dr. Nicole Saphier [stated](#) that the average American “should not be wearing” N95 masks amid the spread of the COVID-19 omicron variant. Saphier also implied that N95 masks are not necessary because “the moment you adjust it or take it down,” then “any protection you had ... is essentially gone at that point.”

NICOLE SAPHIER (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): The dialogue around we need to do these things to keep us safe, that is going to continue this panic pandemic into perpetuity. And no, N95 -- sending them to every American household is a complete waste of resources. It is not attainable and it certainly is not going to have the effect that Sen. [Bernie] Sanders would like it to have. The average American in average day settings shouldn't be wearing an N95 mask. Children certainly should not as there is no data showing a healthy child wearing this mask is a benefit to them.

Where it needs to be targeted for health care workers who are in sustained contact with immunocompromised patients and patients with COVID-19, and also for people who are immunocompromised. They would benefit from these higher-quality, higher-filtration masks. But again, the average healthy American in everyday settings should not be wearing these. You are really only supposed to wear them one interaction at a time with COVID because there have been supply chain issues, physicians, nurses, we've all been having to reuse our N95 masks. But I can tell you Dana, the moment you move your mask, the moment you adjust it, or take it down to have a sip of coffee, or a child takes off their mask to have lunch, you have broken that seal, and any protection that you had from the N95 is essentially gone at that point.

FACT: Wearing an N95 mask is one of the best forms of protection against COVID-19. Public health experts [have consistently agreed](#) that N95 and KN95 masks are the best options to protect oneself and others against COVID-19 due to their enhanced ability to minimize spread of droplets in comparison to cloth and surgical masks.

January 13

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [falsely said](#) voting laws in Colorado are “tougher than they are in Georgia.”

WILL CAIN (FOX NEWS HOST): By the way, how about instead of a rebuttal, Harris, we just ask a simple question? Because the president was talking about quote-unquote “voting rights.” I would like to know, from any critic I would entertain, anyone who disagrees — name me, name me the law across the country that disenfranchises minority voters. Name me the law that would roll us back to Bull Connor or George Wallace days. Name me the problem with America's voting.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): They thought that they had perhaps found it in Georgia, but then it backfired when [Major League Baseball] pulled its game from there and put it in Colorado. And then we found out that the restrictions on early voting, for just an example there, are tougher than they are in Georgia. And look at the state of Delaware, where the president spends about 20% of his time these days. Take a look at what they do with early voting there. We won't get into it here, we'll save it for another day, but it's there to see.

FACT: Georgia's laws regarding voter participation are more restrictive than Colorado's. Colorado offers [universal](#) mail-in voting as each resident of the state is automatically mailed a ballot, whereas in Georgia, residents must [request](#) an absentee ballot themselves. If Coloradoans prefer to cast their ballot in person, they [may](#) use a "utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the elector" as proof of identification. On the other hand, Georgia's election law [requires](#) a government-issued photo ID for in-person voting, which is commonly considered a voting suppression technique that disproportionately inhibits people of color and low-income communities.

January 14

FALSE: Fox News anchor Martha MacCallum [claimed](#) that it's a "valid question" whether the COVID-19 vaccine "treats omicron effectively."

MARTHA MACCALLUM (GUEST ANCHOR): From a health perspective, that question was just raised moments ago about whether or not this vaccine treats omicron effectively. So that's, you know, a very valid question for people to ask as they try to implement more vaccines going forward when we're not sure if it really addresses the need that's out there.

FACT: All of the approved vaccines for COVID-19 offer some protection against infection, and effectively prevent severe illness and death from the omicron variant. Though both vaccinated and unvaccinated populations are [susceptible](#) to the omicron variant due to its highly contagious nature, the CDC [notes](#) the vaccines are still "the best public health measure" against the virus and they "protect against severe illness, hospitalizations, and deaths due to infection with the Omicron variant." [Studies have](#) shown that the COVID-19 booster shot is highly effective at reducing rates of virus-associated hospitalization. A booster shot [specifically](#) can also help improve the body's immune response and protect against omicron.

January 17

FALSE: Fox News senior political analyst [Brit Hume](#) attacked Democratic-led efforts to ease voting restrictions around the country, which he falsely suggested were in place to make "it easy to vote but hard to cheat."

BRIT HUME (FOX NEWS SENIOR POLITICAL ANALYST): What the bill is really trying to do is to make permanent the temporary emergency voting regulations that were put into effect to accommodate the pandemic last — in 2020, during the election season.

And, you know, those were thought to be temporary. Some of them were pretty loose, some of them were arguably even unconstitutional, but they went into effect anyway. This measure would enshrine them in law. It's getting resistance.

That is not the same as somebody being against voting rights. It is simply a disagreement over where you draw the line on the issue of trying to make voting — it easy to vote but hard to cheat. That's what this is really all about.

It's not about Bull Connor and Jefferson Davis.

FACT: Strict voter ID laws are discriminatory and can only serve to prevent a form of voter fraud that is vanishingly rare. These laws do [make it harder](#) for people to vote, and people of color are [disproportionately impacted](#) by these restrictions. Actual voter fraud was [extremely rare](#), even in the 2020 election. The laws passed in the aftermath of the 2020 election don't actually target fraud but access to the vote itself, and that does have racist outcomes. Unlike what Hume claimed, this is very much about access to the right to vote. What little fraud there was had no impact on election outcomes, but the lie that it did influenced the passage of laws that [restricted access to the vote](#) in the following year.

January 18

FALSE: Fox News reporter [Lawrence Jones](#) claimed that some district attorneys supported by George Soros and former Attorney General Eric Holder are prioritizing criminals over innocent people.

LAWRENCE JONES (FOX NEWS REPORTER): You look at the interview and it just really hits you in the gut because it really personalizes the story. You know why in criminal prosecutions the state represents the people? They say -- they just say what do the people want to charge? It's because society has been harmed at large when there is a victim in these crimes. And yet it seems like these district attorneys are only representing the criminals.

I've been covering this story for three years. You say we don't have compassion about the homeless? I've covered that story. What we have seen consistently is a lot of these people on the street don't want help. You offer them services, they don't want it. You offer them mental health support, they don't want it. And then you get a situation like this where they kill an innocent young lady that had her whole life ahead of her. These DAs don't care. They put the criminals before the actual victim. And you ask yourself when is enough going to be enough. How

many kids got to die? How many innocent people in subways have to die? How many trees got to be set on fire? How many shots have to be fired in Chicago?

It seems like these DAs and the people that are funding them, George Soros, Eric Holder, who used to be the attorney general of the United States, is prioritizing the people that are perpetuating these crimes. These people aren't reforming their lives. Look, I'm a reasonable person and when there are civil liberties that have been violated, we can have a conversation on that. But that's not what is happening in this country. The criminals are getting the priority and the victims are becoming an afterthought. When they release these people, do they contact the families? No.

FACT: The assertion that the people elected to prosecute crimes in cities instead prioritize criminals is unfounded and ridiculous. Soros' funding district attorney elections is [old news](#) and his and other organizations are largely focused on trying to "reduce incarceration, crack down on police misconduct and revamp a bail system they contend unfairly imprisons poor people before trial." Those prosecutors and their policies are [not to blame](#) for the rise in violent crime over the past few years, according to research conducted at the Justice Tech Lab at Texas A&M University. We don't know exactly why violent crime has increased over the last few years, but [credible theories](#) largely attribute it to the pandemic's disruption of everyday life and the aftereffects of mass civil unrest about policing and not the election of more progressive prosecutors.

January 19

FALSE: Fox News guest John Corelli, a New York City council member, [claimed](#) violent crime has increased in New York City because Democrats have been in control of the city's government for so long.

JOHN ROBERTS (CO-ANCHOR): You know, I lived in New York City for a number of years. I took the subway all over, and that's one of the miracles of New York, is you can literally get anywhere in the city on the subway and, for the most part, I felt absolutely safe. This was a number of years ago. But when you talk about tolerating crime in the city, and I know you don't mean it this way, but I'm just wondering, if people start to tolerate crime in the city. When you have a 40-year-old woman, at 9:20 in the morning, on a Sunday, shoved to her death in front of an R train at Times Square by a homeless man. How could you ever even begin to tolerate that?

JOE BORELLI (NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL MEMBER): No, and it's unfortunate, but this is sort of the long-term effect of the Democratic Party's one-party control of a city. You know, liberals and progressives, all they do is talk about the people who are on the subway, who are the homeless, who are the mentally ill -- always talking about how the treatment options are not there, how we need to keep cops from putting their hands on anyone who might threaten people. But, in reality, they have forgotten about the commuters, they have forgotten about the millions of New Yorkers and visitors who rely on things like the

New York subway every day. The party has to start prioritizing those people over the perpetrators.

FACT: Violent crime in New York is not correlated to partisan control of local government or specific progressive policy goals. According to a report from [The New York Times](#), while political opportunists have sought to link a nationwide increase in homicides and other violent crimes to their opponents' policies, the surges in crime "have occurred nationally, in cities with progressive prosecutors and in cities without." Increases in violent crime are not correlated with Democratic-led reforms, like [bail reform](#), and likely have very little to do with which party happens to be in charge of the city. In fact, some large Democratic-led cities — Boston, Charlotte, Dallas, and St. Louis, for example — have seen decreases in certain violent crime rates even while [Republicans continue blaming Democrats](#) for increased crime.

January 20

FALSE: Fox News reporter [claimed](#) it was hypocritical for Democrats in Washington, D.C., to oppose voter ID laws, but support ID verification for vaccine cards.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): A Fox team investigation revealing hypocrisy in a new Democrat-led vaccine mandate. D.C. residents are not required to show an ID to vote, but a new mandate on proof of vaccine is kind of different. Aishah Hasnie has the low down on that. What did you find out, Aish?

AISHAH HASNIE (FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT): Hey, good morning to you, Bill. So, Mayor Bowser's new vax mandate just went into effect this weekend for restaurants, gyms, and concerts. And businesses must check your vaccination card, and verify that with a photo ID like a driver's license or a passport. But, according to the D.C. Board of Elections website, apparently you don't need a government ID if you want to vote. A utility bill, or even a bank statement, can work. Republicans crying foul as Democrats push their so-called voting rights bill on the Hill. Rep. Thomas Massie announced his office is not going to comply with the new mandate, while House Republican Whip Steve Scalise said this is all about a fight for control versus freedom. D.C. Democrats don't see an issue at all.

FACT: This is a false comparison. According to the ACLU, voter ID laws are part of a long-term discriminatory effort [to restrict voter participation](#) among marginalized communities by increasing barriers to entry for all voters. Meanwhile, in-person voter fraud, the only type of voter fraud that could be dissuaded by voter ID requirements, is [vanishingly rare](#). By comparison, the [vaccine mandate](#) in Washington, D.C., was intended as a temporary public health measure in anticipation of a surge in COVID-19 infections and required only customers over the age of 18 "to show photo ID and proof of vaccination when entering certain indoor establishments." The mandate [applied](#) to only nonessential indoor service providers such as restaurants, movie theaters, fitness clubs, and concert venues. Additionally, [according to USA Today](#), while it is

true that D.C. voters are able to vote "without presenting any form of identification, ... election officials still verify their identities."

January 21

FALSE: Fox News contributor [Tyrus](#) claimed that University of Pennsylvania swimmer Lia Thomas had an unfair advantage over her competitors because she is transgender.

TYRUS (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): This whole issue, I think, you have to really look, go back to — and I always look to Caitlyn Jenner in this situation, because no one I think represented amateur athletics at a higher level than she did, when she competed. She competed as a man when she won her gold in the Olympics. But her struggle, her emotional struggle, was her entire life. And, in some conversations I had with her, she talked about after she won her medal, if she would have transitioned at that time and would have come back to the Olympics the following series she wouldn't have competed, because she would have had an unfair advantage because she grew up biologically and trained as a man.

There are just certain differences you can't change. That's why we have weight classes in boxing. As much as I would like to be light heavyweight champion of the world, I'm not going to make weight. They can't make exceptions for that. And sports, by definition, is discriminatory in terms of that's the whole point. That's why we have doping, and checking for drugs, and making sure everyone is in the right weight class in certain sports, and whatever, and having divisions. So, as much as emotionally I applaud this individual for being who they want to be, but in terms of sports, it's not fair to women athletes because there is an unfair advantage. And, in this case, very similar to Caitlyn Jenner, this young woman grew up and trained as a man. There are just certain physiological differences you can't change.

FACT: Transgender women don't actually have a unique or unfair advantage in sports.

According to a fact check [compiled by the ACLU](#), the claim that "women and girls have an advantage because they are trans ignores the actual conditions of their lives." It also diminishes the [severe disadvantages](#) experienced by transgender people, which often includes routine harassment, discrimination, and violence. According to [written testimony](#) submitted in Dr. Joshua Safer in a 2020 case involving transgender athletes represented by the ACLU, "A person's genetic make-up and internal and external reproductive anatomy are not useful indicators of athletic performance."

January 24

FALSE: Fox News contributor Ted Williams [claimed](#) that "the one thing that is not talked about enough is Black-on-Black crime."

TED WILLIAMS (FOX CONTRIBUTOR): Dana, the other sad commentary is that it's 90% of those young people dying are people of color. And you have these law-abiding citizens in these Black communities — and the one thing that is not talked about enough is Black-on-Black crime. Black people are killing Black people, unfortunately, at a massive proportion in these major metropolitan cities like Baltimore.

FACT: The phenomenon of so-called “Black-on-Black crime” is a specific fixation of both right-wing media and mainstream outlets. The idea that “Black-on-Black crime” is dominant is a [long-standing racist myth](#) often used to distract from conversations about racial justice, or to paint Black people as inherently criminal. Because of [residential segregation](#), most homicides are [intra-racial](#), meaning Black people are most likely to be killed by other Black people, just as white people are most likely to be killed by other white people. “Black-on-Black crime” is no more of a distinct phenomenon than “[white-on-white crime](#).” Williams’ claim also ignores major anti-violence efforts by people in Black communities. From [Chicago](#) to [New York](#) to [Philadelphia](#), [Black activists](#) in major cities nationwide have been creating and [implementing solutions](#) to gun violence in their communities for decades, often with little government support or media attention. Black people are [disproportionately](#) harmed by gun violence. However, the media often ignore [factors](#) that increase violence — such as [income inequality](#) and [structural racism](#) — and instead perpetuate racist falsehoods.

January 25

FALSE: Fox News guest and Jason Miyares, the attorney general of Virginia, [blamed](#) the mental health crisis among young people during the pandemic on masking, adding that “children aren’t the cause of the spread.”

JASON MIYARES (VIRGINIA ATTORNEY GENERAL): We have seen a mental health crisis now with our young people, and a lot of this I think can be traced back to the fact that they are masked. I had one parent who said it was heartbreaking that their 9-year-old daughter said they were so excited that, for the first time, they could see their best friend without a mask. Because they don't know what they look like. I mean, you're hearing these heartbreaking stories — and, we're now in year two of the pandemic. It's time to empower parents, they can make the best decision that, statistically speaking, that this is not really going to be hurting children. Children aren't the cause of the spread, and so [inaudible] empowering parents now that we're in year two. We're confident of our legal strategy. I'm going to side with parents, and not these kind of far-left school boards that say parents don't matter.

FACT: Mask mandates are not responsible for the mental health issues facing school-aged children, which preexist the pandemic, and kids can spread COVID-19. Youth in the U.S. are suffering a [mental health](#) crisis that [began before](#) the pandemic and has since [intensified](#). However, the evidence [does not suggest](#) masking hurts [children’s mental health](#). More likely [drivers](#) include trauma from losing a caregiver, which has [impacted](#) over 200,000 kids in the U.S., increased [domestic violence](#), family [economic hardship](#), and [social isolation](#).

While [children](#) are less susceptible to severe illness from COVID-19 than adults, they can still catch and spread it. At [least](#) 13 million kids in the U.S. have had a confirmed case of COVID-19, with [thousands](#) suffering from a severe multisystem inflammatory condition caused by the virus. These figures are likely an underestimate; based on antibody studies, the CDC estimates that 75% of children have been [infected](#) with COVID-19.

January 26

FALSE: Fox News radio host Jimmy Failla [claimed](#) that requiring children to wear masks at school is “abusing kids,” arguing that the benefits of masking are based on “very dubious data.”

JIMMY FAILLA (FOX NEWS RADIO HOST): We're abusing kids. Let's be very clear about this. And that's the prevailing sentiment in this country. Because every one of these mask-optional decisions, like Glenn Youngkin made in Virginia, does not deny any parent the right to mask their kid, first and foremost. So, if you believe the mask works, you shouldn't care what my kid thinks. But we know that when it comes to putting masks on kids, as we do here in New York, OK, they are doing this with very dubious data. You know, there is an old saying in the legal profession: If you have the facts, you pound the facts; if you have nothing, you pound the table. They are very much pounding the table when it comes to mask use. Because no one speaks to any specific set of data that says yeah, the masks are really helping these kids.

FALSE: Masking is a safe and effective way to protect children and adults from COVID-19. Several [studies](#) have [shown](#) that mask mandates [reduce](#) the spread of COVID-19 in schools, protecting both [children](#) and [adults](#) — including parents, family, and teachers — from infection. Child welfare [advocates](#) say requiring kids to wear masks is protective, not abusive, and that intentionally mischaracterizing it as such minimizes real child abuse.

January 27

FALSE: Fox News contributor Tom Homan [claimed](#) that a “secure border saves lives” and that “every place a wall is built, illegal immigration is decreased.”

TOM HOMAN (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Look, I've said it many times, a majority of the media — they're just an extension arm of the Democratic Party, they are covering this president. But let me foot stomp what you just said. Let's talk about President Trump for a minute. Illegal immigration was down 83% under President Trump. Thirty-five-, 40-year low. How much fentanyl didn't come across the border because all the border [inaudible] were back on the line? How many children didn't die, how many women didn't get sexually assaulted?

A secure border saves lives. And that's common sense. Border wall saves lives. Joe Biden came in and undid all of it to win the support of the progressives left to become president. He voted for border barriers as a senator. And the first day on the job, he ended construction of border barrier, which the Border Patrol agents will tell you was their number one wish, their number one want to help them do their job. Every place a wall has been built, illegal immigration has decreased. The facts and data are clear.

FACT: Extending the border wall increased migrant deaths and had little effect on drugs, human trafficking, or undocumented immigration. Trump's proposed wall was an [expensive and ineffective](#) — not to mention [inhumane](#) — method of controlling immigration into the United States. Constructing more border fencing would likely increase [migrant deaths](#) and would further [disrupt](#) Indigenous [lands](#) and animal [habitats](#) while failing to halt [human trafficking](#) and [drug trade](#). Central American migrants often come to the U.S. [because](#) of poverty and violence and the devastating effects of [climate change](#), factors that a border wall cannot address. Building additional border fencing would not “save lives”; instead, it would likely increase [migrant deaths](#) while [failing](#) to improve U.S. public safety. The border wall is also nonfunctional in addressing what has historically been the [largest source](#) of undocumented immigration, whereby immigrants enter the country on a legal visa, [usually via a plane or ship](#) far from the southern border, and remain [after their visa expires](#).

January 28

FALSE: Fox News host Pete Hegseth [claimed](#) people who support “radical” district attorneys and the “defund movement” are “pro-criminal,” claiming that it is now “open season” on police in the US. and that the “criminal” has been “elevated.”

PETE HEGSETH (FOX HOST): We have to be careful sometimes with hyperbole, especially in the cable news business. It is not hyperbole to say it is open season right now on America's police officers.

...

These people have been dehumanized during a defund movement that has demoralized the police yet elevated the criminal who dehumanize that police officer and feel like the streets are theirs. And there are no consequences because of radical DAs — and the widow pointed that out directly today and got a huge, huge standing ovation. Policies have matter, and the police is bearing the brunt. And if a day like today doesn't make you understand that, then you're just on the wrong side of the ledger on this. Then you're pro-criminal.

FACT: There is little evidence to suggest recent progressive policies are correlated with attacks on cops. While law enforcement deaths have increased in the past two years, about 66% of police officers who died in 2021 died of [COVID-19](#), not violent attacks. Only 14% of law enforcement [deaths](#) in 2021 (62 total) were caused by shootings. And while shootings of officers

increased between 2020 and 2021, the number of such deaths in 2021 is still far below annual averages in the 1970s and 1980s. Furthermore, the number of police killed in 1995, during the [heyday](#) of “tough on crime” policies, was [higher](#) than the number killed in 2021. Meanwhile, since 2015, cops have [killed](#) roughly [1,000](#) people per year, which is an average of almost three killings per day.

January 31

FALSE: Fox News correspondent Dan Springer [claimed](#) the Portland, Oregon auto crime unit was “gutted” to “appease rioters” during a segment sensationalizing auto thefts.

DAN SPRINGER (FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT): Last year, Portland had over 9,000 cars stolen. Police recovered 78% of them within 30 days but they rarely, if ever, investigate. So, the vast majority of these cases go unsolved, and the thieves go unpunished. Witnesses tell us they've seen stolen cars brought into homeless encampments on tow trucks, and within two days they're completely stripped and torched, with VIN numbers scratched off. Portland ditched its auto crime unit in 2006, and was gutted by defunding to appease rioters in 2020.

FACT: Portland’s police department was not “gutted,” and the temporary cuts were made in response to voters, not rioters. As Springer noted, Portland [disbanded its auto crime unit](#) due to budget cuts more than 15 years ago, in 2006, so it could not have been the target of public outcry in 2020. Although Portland did make some cuts to the police department budget in 2020, the city council [gave back](#) millions of dollars to an existing budget of \$230 million in 2021. The temporary cuts were made [in response to two factors](#), the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal budgets, and demands from community leaders to overhaul the police department. Portland, Oregon also doesn’t even [rank](#) in the top ten cities with the highest car theft crime rates.

February 1

FALSE: Fox Business host Charles Payne and former acting ICE director Ronald Vitiello [pushed](#) the debunked narrative that migrant resettlement flights are “secret” and being hidden by the Biden administration.

CHARLES PAYNE (FOX BUSINESS HOST): The former acting [Immigration and Customs Enforcement] director, Ron Vitiello. Ron, let's just start with these flights that are now the Biden administration pushing back on. I should note, Ron Desantis, governor of Florida, also said there were 70 secret flights last summer, just into Jacksonville alone. We're not supposed to believe our lying eyes, I guess, on these, huh?

RONALD VITIELLO (FORMER ACTING ICE DIRECTOR): Yeah, don't believe the facts, or what you see with your own eyes. Very well-put. So, we've been talking about these flights since the spring. And, if it is in fact unaccompanied minors who are

being sent to shelters, or to sponsors, or family in the United States, why can't the administration just publish the manifests to the states that they're going to, or to those airports? Right? Those flights don't take off whenever they want, they don't land whenever they want? That's all very regimented. Those contractors that are employed by ICE to bring those people to those destinations have to file flight plans. They have to get permission to take off and land at airports. Why can't they just put that out so that the governors, members of the House, can see where these flights are going and what the volume is. Why are they not doing that? Even though we've all been talking about it since at least the spring. And all they've got to do is be a little bit more transparent so they can stop having this conversation about what might or might not be secret flights.

FACT: Migrant resettlement flights aren't a "secret" and the Biden administration isn't hiding information about them. The migrant resettlement flights sometimes happen [at night](#), as many commercial flights do, but they are not "[secret](#)" operations. They are a [standard practice](#) that has been utilized by both the Trump and Biden administrations to "resettle displaced migrant minors and families who faced inadequate housing in the area where they were being held." The Biden administration is [executing routine policy](#) to remove migrants from facilities on the southern border that are "far overcapacity" and [relocating them to facilities](#) with more capacity for them, or where unaccompanied minors can be released to sponsors or family members.

February 2

FALSE: Fox News contributor Joe Concha [blamed](#) a recent spike in crime on "apathetic" and "activist media" supporting "rioting" in summer 2020 and "cutting police funds" by \$1 billion in New York.

JOE CONCHA (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): You see the polls that have been out recently, where 8-in-10 Americans say they are deeply concerned about crime. And, when you juxtapose the media coverage of crime here in New York City, for example. As an example, Harris — the Associated Press had this story out yesterday, quote "A string of high-profile crimes in New York City has frayed nerves, but statistics suggest it is still about as safe or safer than it was a decade ago." Well, according to New York City Police Department crime stats, major crimes are up in New York City 38%, rape up 27%, robbery up 33%, grand larceny up 57%, grand larceny auto up 93%.

This is a result of two things, right? One, an apathetic or activist media, right, during the summer of 2020 that insisted that rioting cities like in Minneapolis, or New York, or Los Angeles, or Seattle, Portland, many points in between, was somehow justified in the summer of 2020, all in the name of social justice. Remember, the cause is bigger than the virus. And two, Mayors like Bill de Blasio, who formerly — is now the former mayor, thank God — cutting police funds to the tune of \$1 billion in New York, and demoralizing his department in the process. And we are now not just seeing a sizable increase in crime, Harris, but criminals have become fearless. They are utterly brazen because they know, even if police forces are beefed up, they know that district

attorneys like Alvin Bragg in Manhattan aren't going to enforce the law the way they should.

FACT: Protests against police brutality in 2020 did not cause an uptick in violent crime, and New York's police budget was not cut by \$1 billion. The [Associated Press report](#) Concha mockingly referred to is actually correct, New York City "is still about as safe or safer than it was a decade ago," meaning the city's murder and violent crimes rates are roughly in line with the past decade and "a far cry from the early 1990s" when the city was much more dangerous. A Washington Post analysis found that [there is no provable connection](#) between social justice demonstrations in the summer of 2020 and increased crime during that period — rather gun seizures started to increase in March 2020, long before the protests started — nor is there any connection between decreased police funding and increases in homicides. Finally, according to an [analysis](#) published by the nonpartisan Citizens Budget Commission (CBC), proposed budget cuts for the New York Police Department are far short of \$1 billion. The 2021 fiscal year projects just \$474 million in discretionary cuts, 75% of which was achieved through reductions to overtime, which the CBC points out are "not realistic or recurring." The NYPD's budget, inclusive of overtime, is expected to return to previous levels starting in 2022.

February 3

FALSE: Fox News reporter [blamed](#) increased crime on progressives' "soft on crime" policies.

MADISON ALWORTH (FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT): The president is here to talk about gun violence. But all of the business owners that I've been talking to over the last couple of weeks, and today included, they say it's not just gun violence, it's all over crime. All those categories that you have mentioned, it's up. And that's what they are seeing impact their businesses. I was in Chinatown today, I spoke to two different business owners there. That's a community that has seen crime spike since the pandemic, issues with homelessness, and the tourism being so low down has really severely impacted that community. Now, these business owners are telling me that the current DA policies, that are progressive and soft on crime — they're helping criminals and hurting businesses.

FACT: Progressive local policies or law enforcement reforms are not responsible for rising crime. A fact-check of these claims published by [The Appeal](#) pointed out that "actual studies of progressive prosecutor decarceral policies have consistently demonstrated no correlation to a rise in crime." Furthermore, some jurisdictions with Republican mayors and state politicians are seeing significant increases in [homicide rates](#). Further reporting from [The New York Times](#), demonstrates that crime surges "have occurred nationally, in cities with progressive prosecutors and in cities without," despite claims that such increases are linked to progressive policies.

February 4

FALSE: Fox News contributor Marc Thiessen [blamed](#) the “border crisis” for “unleash[ing] a torrent of illegal drugs on American city streets.”

MARC THIESSEN (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Well, first of all, the reason [President Joe Biden] went [to New York City] is because approval of his policies on crime are plummeting. He’s down to 36% of approval on crime, down from 46%. So, like everything else, his approval on handling of crime is plummeting, so he is trying to cauterize the wound. The problem is, it’s not that should be calling out other Democrats, though I’m glad he said he’s against defunding the police. It’s that he needs to be changing his own policies.

So, if you look at — there are 22 American cities where homicides went up last year, 12 of those set crime records, a lot of those murders are drug related. Why are we seeing an increase, a surge in drug-related crime? It’s because the border crisis has produced not just a surge in illegal migrants, but a surge in illegal drugs. Last year, the amount of fentanyl crossing the border doubled, and the number of overdose deaths in the country went up 30%. Drug crimes are going up because the border crisis has unleashed a torrent of illegal drugs on American city streets, and that produces not just overdoses but murders, and carjackings, and robberies, and shootings and all sorts of different crime. That is a direct result of the failed border policy.

FACT: While there is a relationship between illicit drugs and the southern border, it is far more complicated than Fox News makes it out to be. Illegal fentanyl products are often shipped directly to the United States from manufacturers in China, and Chinese suppliers are [increasingly sending](#) fentanyl ingredients directly to Mexican cartels, who smuggle the drugs “across the border in trucks.” The rate of fentanyl [interdiction](#) at the southern border [spiked during the Trump administration](#) and is not being driven by the [unrelated migrant crisis](#) or the Biden administration’s supposedly permissive border policies.

February 7

FALSE: Fox Business reporter Lauren Simonetti [likened](#) comments made by House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) about the free speech of American Olympic athletes to an ESPN guest’s comments that she described as “propaganda” and “exactly what [Chinese President] Xi Jinping wants to hear.” Host Stuart Varney noted that Pelosi “was running interference for the Chinese Communist Party,” and Simonetti agreed.

LAUREN SIMONETTI (FOX BUSINESS REPORTER): He’s spewing propaganda, if you ask me, and I think those comments are exactly what Xi Jinping wants to hear. Right? In a way, you could say this is similar to what Nancy Pelosi said last week: “Don’t speak out against the persecution of an entire people, forced sterilization, forced assimilation, while you’re there. Be quiet while you’re there.” It’s eerily similar to that.

STUART VARNEY (HOST): Yes. The speaker was running interference for the Chinese Communist Party.

SIMONETTI: Yeah. And so is he.

FACT: Speaker Pelosi openly criticized China's rampant human rights abuses. During a February 3 [meeting](#) of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China, Pelosi roundly criticized the extensive human rights abuses perpetrated by the Chinese government and [called out](#) the International Olympic Committee for "[turning] a blind eye ... just to bolster their bottom lines." She said, "If we do not speak out against human rights violations in China because of commercial interest, we lose all moral authority to speak out against human rights violations anywhere." Later, Pelosi warned U.S. athletes to "not risk incurring the anger of the Chinese government, because they are ruthless." The next morning, Pelosi reiterated the intent of her comments, [saying](#) at a press conference that she does "not encourage [athletes] to speak out against the Chinese government there because I fear for their safety if they do. I want to remove all doubt about why I said they shouldn't speak out." The Chinese government had explicitly [threatened](#) foreign athletes with repercussions if they speak out against its "laws and regulations."

February 8

FALSE: Fox News anchor John Roberts [claimed](#) the Biden administration is "funding crack pipes for equity."

SANDRA SMITH (CO-ANCHOR): We begin now at 2 with what critics are calling legalized drug dens, thanks to President Biden's DOJ.

JOHN ROBERTS (CO-ANCHOR): You bring the drugs, Uncle Sam provides the needles. And if you need help, friendly federal agents are on hand to make sure you safely get high.

SMITH: Yeah, John, the Biden Justice Department is exploring a plan to do exactly that, using so-called "safe injection centers" where addicts can do drugs out in the open without fear of arrest or even shame.

ROBERTS: And if that's not enough to get your attention, wait until you hear the report of the Biden administration funding crack pipes for equity, a program making sure racial minorities and LGBTQ folks are first in line for help when it comes to getting high.

FACT: Fox's reporting on the Biden administration funding free "crack pipes" is sensationalized. The Department of Health and Human Services [confirmed](#) that it's not providing crack pipes in safe smoking kits through the administration's Harm Reduction

Program for drug users. Right-wing critics of the administration continued [promoting misinformation](#) about this program [even after it was disproven](#).

February 9

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bret Baier [defended](#) Fox’s false reporting that the Biden administration was going to “pay for safer pipes to smoke crack or meth.”

BRET BAIER (ANCHOR): The Biden administration is denying that a grant program to help prevent additional harm to people who use illicit drugs will pay for safer pipes to smoke crack or meth. White House press secretary Jen Psaki blames what she calls “inaccurate reporting.” But the original requests for funding proposals to get a share of the \$30 million in federal money listed quote “safe smoking kits/supplies” among the items that could be purchased with taxpayer money. The grant solicitation did not specifically mention pipes, although they can be part of safe smoking kits.

FACT: Fox’s reporting on the Biden administration funding free “crack pipes” is sensationalized. The Department of Health and Human Services [confirmed](#) that it’s not providing crack pipes in safe smoking kits through the administration’s Harm Reduction Program for drug users. Right-wing critics of the administration continued [promoting misinformation](#) about this program [even after it was disproven](#).

February 10

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bill Hemmer [claimed](#) singer Adele was “sparking serious backlash” after she said that she “is proud to be a woman” at the BRIT Awards ceremony.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): Well, Adele sparking serious backlash after that comment. She won the BRIT Awards’ newly created Artist of the Year award; it merges male and female categories and creates one top gender neutral prize. Well, the critics are lobbing attacks at the musician for saying that she is proud to be a woman. Some people have her back including Maureen Callahan of the New York Post. Nice to see you, Maureen. It’s been some time. Here’s your quote: “Adele is a grown woman singing about her experiences as a woman. Why should she be expected to diffuse or deny what essentially is her super power?” End quote. Not a lot of disagreement. What’s going on here?

MAUREEN CALLAHAN (EDITOR, NEW YORK POST): You know, I think we’re in a real state of overcorrection as a society at large. But I do think what’s fascinating is we’re seeing that you really have to be sort of a bullet-proof brand and institution like an Adele, like a Chappelle, to even begin to sort of puncture a little air into this sort of liberal orthodoxy. And to open up the conversation, really, and I think that her being termed a

TERF, which is an acronym for trans-exclusionary radical feminist, you know, is just the height of hyperbole.

FACT: There was virtually no “backlash” to Adele’s statement. This manufactured outrage, which Fox News participated in, had zero evidence behind it [besides five tweets purportedly attacking](#) Adele. At least one of the tweets has since been deleted and another came from an account that has [espoused anti-trans rhetoric](#).

February 11

FALSE: Fox News anchor Martha MacCallum [claimed](#) the U.S. gave up “energy independence by shutting down” the Keystone XL Pipeline and “dialing back our drilling around the country” because of the Biden administration.

MARTHA MACCALLUM (ANCHOR): Why did we give up our energy independence by shutting down Keystone Pipeline, other forms of exploration, dialing back our drilling around the country and offshore, and put ourselves in a situation where we no longer are the biggest energy provider to the world. It was a huge geopolitical shift when that happened at the beginning of the Biden administration, and it has caused an empowerment, no doubt, to Vladimir Putin in terms of his own dominance in the energy field, able to supply Europe, able to make deals with China, all of which has bolstered his position at this point.

FACT: Oil production in the U.S. is near record highs, and the country has been “energy independent” and net-exporter of oil under President Biden. The U.S. was a [net exporter](#) of energy in 2021 and produced more energy than it consumed during Biden’s first year as president, fitting a widely accepted definition of “energy independence.” But whether or not a country is a net exporter of energy, gas prices are [shaped](#) by global supply and demand, not the actions of a single government and therefore the idea that we can isolate ourselves from the volatility of global energy markets caused by geopolitical instability by drilling more is untrue. Furthermore, the Keystone XL Pipeline, which was [only 8% complete](#) when President Joe Biden scrapped approval for it, would not have contributed to current demand [nor would the oil necessarily be sold to U.S. consumers](#). Notably, the Biden administration has so far issued drilling permits on public lands [at even higher rates](#) than Trump did, however the oil and gas industry has indicated that it has no intention of increasing oil production because [companies would rather return high profits to shareholders than invest in new drilling](#).

February 14

FALSE: Fox News host Brian Kilmeade [downplayed](#) the usefulness of COVID-19 vaccines amid the initial omicron variant wave, claiming they don’t “prevent you from getting this variant.”

BRIAN KILMEADE (FOX HOST): If you keep locking down — like those kids in California, where you're from and are, are going to school with masks, while Matt Damon, who's a very good actor, can go to a football game with 85,000 strangers and he doesn't need masks. So that type of outrageousness gets those truckers in their trucks. And 4,000 people in New York about to lose their jobs because of a variant that the vaccine does not prevent you from getting this variant, but we're supposed to get that vaccine and then don't make it a personal choice. When things like that take place, I think in America, we got three weeks to — or two weeks to straighten out our act, or the truckers are going to have a lot of momentum to come down and ring the Capitol.

FACT: The approved COVID-19 vaccines do provide protection against variants, reducing infections, hospitalizations, and deaths. Data and reports [reviewed by fact-checkers](#) showed that while the vaccines were less effective at preventing infection from the omicron variant than other variants, they do provide some protection, and [booster shots provide protection as well](#). A [CDC report](#) showed that the Pfizer vaccine provided 33% protection against infection by the omicron variant in South Africa. [Medical experts say](#) unvaccinated people are more at risk of being infected by the omicron variant than people who are fully vaccinated. In addition, the main protection of vaccines is from [hospitalization and death](#), rather than infection.

February 15

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bill Hemmer [claimed](#) a filing by special counsel John Durham alleged that “the Clinton campaign paid a tech company to infiltrate servers at both Trump Tower and the White House” and that mainstream news organizations were refusing to cover it.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): So meantime, breaking news on this: Special counsel John Durham's investigation on the origins of the Russia probe picking up steam. According to a source close to the investigation telling Fox News the following — quote: “Durham does this right and keeps it a secret. There has been much more activity that's been visible in the public.” End quote. After all this, that bombshell court filing from late on Friday alleging the Clinton campaign paid a tech company to infiltrate servers at both Trump Tower and the White House. You would not know it from watching the news, though.

FACT: Durham's findings never used the word “infiltrate,” and there's no evidence the tech company in question was ever hired by the Clintons. The Trump Tower computer [in question](#) was “not owned or operated by the Trump Organization” and had been “administered by a mass marketing email company that sent advertisements for Trump hotels and hundreds of other clients,” [according to Durham's filing](#). Additionally, the investigation's data [covered](#) only President Barack Obama's tenure, years before Trump even occupied the White House. And mainstream news outlets [did cover](#) some of the developments months prior to Fox's coverage, also [reporting on](#) how right-wing media like Fox were [getting the facts wrong](#).

February 16

FALSE: Fox Business anchor Maria Bartiromo [claimed](#) the Russian threat to invade Ukraine was a hoax from the Biden administration to distract from a right-wing conspiracy theory.

MARIA BARTIROMO (ANCHOR): Let's start on Russia, and your reaction to this changing course. Look, over the weekend, the State Department was hyping everything up, telling us to get out of Ukraine immediately. The leakers actually gave us a specific date that Russia would be invading Ukraine — today. And of course, yesterday we see that Russia started pulling troops back. Your thoughts?

ARNOLD PUNARO (RETIRED MARINE GENERAL): Well, Maria, it's always a privilege to be with you. And I would say in the military we look at capabilities, not intentions. And Putin has put a massive invasion force at a razor's edge, encircling Ukraine on three flanks — the northern flank through Belarus, the eastern flank through mother Russia, and the southern flank through Crimea with a naval armada, with naval gunfire and cruise missiles. And they're at a razor's edge and with a snap of his finger Putin could have them go immediately into Ukraine. So, we have to look at that as the capability that's still there, no matter what they say. And should he invade, it's a lose-lose-lose situation for everybody involved.

...

PUNARO: This is a reckless individual. I'm certainly not an expert on how Putin thinks and operates but, again, you've got to look at the capabilities he's had there, and you've got to look at the fact that he's amassing huge surpluses because he's driven the price of oil up, and gas up. And so, I think, you know, that military, the Russian military remains at the ready, and Putin is playing us to a certain extent and it's having an effect.

BARTIROMO: Yeah, well, I mean, he's playing us. The State Department may also be playing us, because this hysteria over the weekend was obviously an opportunity to take the conversation away from Hillary Clinton paying an outside technology company to spy on President Trump, which is an incredible national security issue in and of itself.

FACT: The looming Russian invasion of Ukraine was not a hoax. [Russia invaded Ukraine](#) approximately a week later, and the war has cost [thousands](#) of lives on [both sides](#) so far. Additionally, there was [no effort](#) to “spy on President Trump” by Clinton.

February 17

FALSE: Fox Business anchor Maria Bartiromo [claimed](#) that passing the Build Back Better legislation “would only stoke inflation.”

MARIA BARTIROMO (FOX BUSINESS ANCHOR): Yesterday, we saw the president tweet out something about the Build Back Better agenda. He said, “Look, Build Back Better, my agenda is going to be positive. Let's do it, let's get to it.” I mean, that tells you right now the administration and the Democrats are continuing to push through more spending even in the face of 40-year-high inflation. That would only stoke inflation. So there's a debate on why this administration continues to push through this agenda when all of the spending has resulted in higher prices for the American families.

FACT: Build Back Better likely would have helped tackle inflation. [Reputable economists](#) and top ratings agencies said that the original Build Back Better legislation, if passed, would ease inflation in the long term. The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities [explained](#) that many pandemic relief measures that boosted consumption have ended, which will “dwarf any inflationary pressure BBB would cause by increasing demand for goods and services in 2022.” And the Penn Wharton Budget Model [found](#) that the inflationary impact of the legislation would be almost negligible in the long term.

February 18

FALSE: Fox Business anchor [David Asman](#) and Fox News senior strategic analyst [Jack Keane](#) both blamed Russia's invasion of Ukraine on Biden withdrawing U.S. military forces from Afghanistan in 2021.

DAVID ASMAN (FOX BUSINESS ANCHOR): You wonder whether the Russians were really listening. They're going to do what they're going to do. They're proving it right now in Ukraine. And frankly after — this was before, this meeting with Putin was before Afghanistan happened, so I think Putin feels like he has even more of a free hand now after seeing how this administration behaved in Afghanistan, than he did back in the spring of 2021.

JACK KEANE (FOX NEWS SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST): But why now? I believe this is taking place largely because he perceives an opportunity here based on U.S. and European weakness, political and social divisions inside European and America. And also testing Biden back in March when he moved 70,000 troops on the border — no reaction, just rhetorical condemnation, no increase of assistance to Ukraine. He — after Afghanistan, I think it became an accelerant, Charles. This was U.S. and NATO failure. We turned a country over to our adversary. Putin looked at that and saw what? He saw poor judgment and also weakness. And that is why we're here. He sees the opportunity to accomplish, politically, what has been his objective, and that is to bring Ukraine underneath his orbit and move it away from the West. And he believes, based on the perceived weakness, he's going to get away with it. That's why this is happening.

FACT: Russia first invaded Ukraine in 2014, years before the Biden administration, and the recent build-up of forces also pre-dated the Afghanistan withdrawal. Russia [partially](#)

[invaded](#) Ukraine in 2014, occupying and annexing parts of the country. Russia [began](#) its troop build-up on Ukraine's borders for the current phase of the war in early March 2021, a month [prior](#) to Biden's announcement of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, which was not [completed](#) until August. And as Cato Institute senior fellow Doug Bandow [argued](#) in Responsible Statecraft, Russia would likely have had an easier time invading Ukraine if the U.S. were still militarily entangled in and distracted with Afghanistan. Russia's [aggressive 2008 war](#) with Georgia during the final months of the George W. Bush administration, around the time when then-Democratic Party presidential nominee Barack Obama named U.S. combat in Afghanistan as a [priority](#) over Iraq, likewise predated the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan.

February 21

FALSE: Fox News contributor Monica Crowley [claimed](#) defunding police and the elimination of cash bail caused spikes in crime.

MONICA CROWLEY (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): All of this is a perfectly logical and direct result of radical left-wing policing policies. None of this is a big mystery here. You are seeing skyrocketing crime as a direct result of the abolition of cash bail in many of these places, and sweeping cuts to policing budgets as a direct result of the "Defund the Police" movement. So, when you do these things, obviously you are going to get more crime.

FACT: Police were not "defunded" and bail reform is not associated with increased crime rates. According to reporting from [The New York Times](#), most police departments that faced budget cut proposals saw those initiatives reversed the following year. Furthermore, the elimination of cash bail [hasn't resulted in a jump in crime](#), and USA Today [fact checked](#) the faulty narrative that proposed cuts to police budgets were to blame for homicide increases in 2021. Despite the available evidence, [bail reform](#) is frequently blamed for increased crime.

February 22

FALSE: Fox News contributor Keith Kellogg [blamed](#) Russian aggression toward Ukraine on the Biden administration's shuttering of the Keystone XL project.

KEITH KELLOGG (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): What we have done to ourselves is absolutely insane, when we stopped the Keystone pipeline, as an example. You know, people don't realize, we actually import Russian gas, Russian petroleum products to the United States. Over 100,000 barrels a day. That's insane. We were energy independent, we should have been energy independent. And cutting that out just puts another arrow in the quiver of Putin.

FACT: The Keystone XL pipeline project would have had little to no impact on Russian foreign policy. The Keystone XL pipeline was a proposed expansion of an existing pipeline that transports oil from Canada to the U.S.. Even without the expanded pipeline, crude oil from

Canada has [doubled](#) since 2008, and imports of oil products have increased by 80%. Keystone XL would have taken years to construct and [wouldn't have offset](#) the demand created by Biden's ban on Russian oil. Meanwhile, [domestic oil production](#) in the U.S. is at near-record levels during the Biden administration, on [par with records set under Trump](#), and [projected to reach new heights](#) in coming years.

February 23

FALSE: Fox News anchor John Roberts [claimed](#) “for all intents and purposes” there continues to be an “open border.”

JOHN ROBERTS (CO-ANCHOR): Texas state troopers confronting a rapid surge of smuggling as cartels keep coming up with new ways to move humans, drugs, and guns across the southern border. Bill Melugin, live in La Joya, Texas, with the latest on all of this. And, Bill, it continues to be, for all intents and purposes, an open border.

FACT: At no point has the United States had an “open border” under President Biden.

The United States [has never had](#) an “open” border. Politifact has [debunked](#) the lie that the U.S. border is “open” as a result of Biden administration policies. Even the right-leaning [Cato Institute](#) admits the border is not “open” under President Biden, who they described as having “far more vigorously enforced immigration prohibition than the law requires.” Most migrants trying to cross the southern border are [turned away](#) or expelled under [Title 42](#), a public health order that denies migrants a chance to have their asylum claims heard. Despite these efforts at robust immigration enforcement, [the administration’s critics](#) continue [promoting the lie](#) that the border is open.

February 24

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [claimed](#) the U.S. is no longer “energy independent,” like it was under Trump.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Those nations that chose to have most of their energy coming from, you know, an enemy of NATO, Germany getting 60%, the rest of Europe getting 40% of its energy from Russia. This is beyond a wake-up call. But we're getting a big chunk, too. I mean, we were energy independent. That has got to be everybody's goal, at this point, with those actors and China and others on the move.

FACT: The United States is just as “energy independent” under Biden as it was under Trump, and was a net-exporter of oil in 2020 and 2021. The United States [relied](#) on foreign energy imports under Trump and never stopped importing Russian energy during his presidency — American purchases of Russian oil actually [increased](#) under Trump. The claim that the United States was “[energy independent](#)” under Trump is misleading, as net-imports fluctuate month-to-month based on market conditions, but the economy is just as [energy independent under President Biden](#) as it was in Trump's last year in office. The United States [exported more oil than it imported](#) in 2020 and 2021.

February 25

FALSE: Fox Business senior correspondent Charlie Gasparino [falsely claimed](#) that “far left environmentalists” are responsible for a U.S. reliance on Russian oil.

CHARLIE GASPARINO (FOX BUSINESS SENIOR CORRESPONDENT): I don't understand what the Biden administration is doing. Whether they are just, you know, pounding the table, making it sound like we're doing something. But if you know anything about this stuff, it's pretty transparent that [Russian dictator Vladimir Putin] has got us over the barrel, so to speak. And a lot of it comes down to the fact that we don't drill, because environmentalists run the Biden administration — far left environmentalists — not environmentalists that at least want to care about the environment, but we need to transition to a carbon neutral economy, not do it overnight. And that has made Russia a real key player.

FACT: The United States is not reliant on Russian oil. American imports of Russian and petroleum products [represented just 8%](#) of total crude oil imports and [less than 2%](#) of the United States' supply, hardly making it reliant. It's also disingenuous to blame environmentalists for forcing oil refineries to purchase Russian crude because the oil industry currently has [9,000 domestic drilling permits](#) on federal lands that remain unused.

February 28

FALSE: Fox Business anchor Dagen McDowell [claimed](#) the Biden administration is pushing for the Green New Deal.

DAGEN MCDOWELL (FOX BUSINESS ANCHOR): What the United States needs to do is maximize the amount of supply that we have in oil and natural gas, and Jen Psaki has made it clear — “Ah, we're still full steam ahead with the Green New Deal,” which, again, you're essentially saying, the Biden White House, we're gonna embolden and enrich Vladimir Putin by not pumping as much oil as we possibly can here in the United States.

FACT: The climate provisions included in Build Back Better are not the Green New Deal. The Biden administration's Build Back Better agenda includes measures to address climate change, but it differs in policy from the congressional resolution known as the [Green New Deal](#), which the administration has [not expressed intent to implement](#). While similar in some regards, the two plans [differ in scope and scale](#). The Build Back Better agenda aims to reduce carbon emissions to net zero by 2050, as opposed to the Green New Deal's 2035, does not implement universal health care, does not include provisions for student loan debt, and does not include increases to Social Security. Fox has [regularly misled](#) its audience regarding the purpose and effect of policy proposals in the Build Back Better agenda by cherry-picking and misrepresenting individual aspects of the plan.

March 1

FALSE: Fox News White House correspondent Jacqui Heinrich [said](#) Biden is unwilling to ramp up oil drilling domestically.

JACQUI HEINRICH (CORRESPONDENT): Biden claiming Europeans are protesting, having seen their energy prices spike 365% in the last year. But at home, prices are high too, and so far Biden's been unwilling to break with his base and ramp up production.

FACT: President Biden has specifically urged American oil companies to produce more. The Biden administration has been [urging](#) oil companies to ramp up drilling to increase supply to drive prices down, but oil companies are electing not to do so. [Domestic oil production](#) in the U.S. is at near-record levels during the Biden administration and is [projected](#) to [increase](#) again next year.

March 2

FALSE: Fox News contributor Newt Gingrich [implied](#) that the Seattle Police Department has been to some degree defunded by the city government.

NEWT GINGRICH (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): I was the speaker when Bill Clinton came in and announced the era of big government is over. So, you know, it's great. Now in Clinton's case, we held him to it. So probably Kevin McCarthy and Mitch McConnell ought to introduce a bill Monday to radically fund the police and challenge places like Seattle, Portland, to actually hire enough police and then see whether or not Biden is for it.

FACT: Seattle has actually increased funding for its police department. The Seattle City Council passed a [budget](#) for 2022 that cuts no positions or salaries for officers, and the police department plans to hire 125 new officers for the year.

March 3

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [claimed](#) oil companies are not drilling in untapped oil leases because they're worried about future regulation from the Biden administration.

SANDRA SMITH (ANCHOR): To Jen Psaki's point, back to Jacqui's question, when Jen Psaki and many Democrats in this White House like to say there's 9,000 untapped oil leases on federal lands in this country right now that are not being used, ask them why they're not. I have and the answer is the uncertainty under this administration and they don't wanna take on that responsibility, not knowing if the rules of the game will change midway, knowing that this administration has launched an all-out war on fossil fuels.

FACT: Oil companies are not holding back on investments because of President Biden. A [survey](#) of publicly traded oil producers conducted by the Dallas Federal Reserve shows that a majority of producers' restraint toward increased production stems from "investor pressure to maintain capital discipline." Essentially, companies are choosing to bring in high profits as opposed to increasing the supply of oil.

March 4

FALSE: Fox News contributor Stephen Moore [implied](#) that the only way corporations would be able to lower prices for consumers would be to conduct large-scale layoffs.

STEPHEN MOORE (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): [Biden] basically said, you know, we're gonna continue to try to restrict American oil and gas, and ... when he was asked, "What are you gonna do about inflation?" he said, "Well companies are gonna have to cut their cost," but, Bill, how are you gonna cut your cost when you have higher labor costs, you have higher materials cost, you have higher cost for energy. All these things are rising. You know, that means, you know, what are companies gonna do, fire their workers to lower their cost? We need to have an all-in American energy policy.

FACT: American corporations are enjoying record profits while increasing consumer prices. [An analysis](#) of data from the Securities and Exchange Commission shows that U.S. corporations are enjoying [record](#) profit margins and executing stock buybacks while increasing prices for consumers. According to [data](#) from the Commerce Department, in 2021, corporate pretax profit climbed 25%, outpacing the 7% increase in consumer prices.

March 7

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [said](#) that the United States has "broken" its previous example of what "energy independence" looks like.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Our friends in NATO, you mentioned Germany, is there enough time, at this point, for them to get off the teat of Russian oil? And you know what, let's throw Iran in here too, since we're maybe looking in their direction to buy some of their oil. These countries need to be energy independent, and maybe we're the ones to set the example of that. Again. Because we've already done it, but now it's broken.

FACT: The United States is just as "energy independent" today as it was under Trump. So-called "energy independence" is largely [a myth](#) and does not actually mean relying only on energy produced in the United States. Contrary to Faulkner's claim, the U.S. did still [rely](#) on foreign oil under President Trump. Energy independence usually refers to "the fact that, on net, the country either produced more energy than it consumed, exported more energy than it imported, or, more specifically, had a greater number of exports than imports of petroleum," and that means the U.S. is [still](#) "energy independent" under Biden.

March 8

FALSE: Fox News anchors Neil Cavuto and Martha MacCallum [repeatedly claimed](#) that canceling the Keystone XL pipeline had immediate effects on the price of oil.

NEIL CAVUTO (FOX NEWS ANCHOR): This notion that, when [the Biden administration] turned down Keystone, that it really was not the reason that set in motion all of these higher prices – You and I both know, Martha, I mean, that oil trades on the open markets. The perception was, when the president did that, and he was stopping Keystone production, it's quite true all of that oil was still years away from hitting the market. But the market trades on future anticipation. How many times have we seen a company that reports lousy earnings but gives good guidance? It's the guidance that Wall Street seizes on. Oil is traded like stocks. So, if the guidance here and the message was on January 20 of last year that this president was going to work on curtailing U.S. production, that's all the markets had to hear. Now to be fair, bouncing out of the whole pandemic and the comeback of the economy and then of course the Ukraine situation, made a rough thing even rougher. But the fact is the markets would respond positively to another area [of] supply that still might be quite some time off to make good on these leases and everything else. They're years in the making.

...

MARTHA MACCALLUM (ANCHOR): It's such a great point, Neil. And all you have to do to prove that point is to go back and look at exactly what happened to oil prices right when that decision was made. The day that he announced that the Keystone pipeline was not going to go through, the development of it, those prices started to creep up.

FACT: The Keystone XL pipeline would have had a negligible impact on global oil supply and prices. Experts have noted that while the Keystone XL pipeline may have had a very small effect on prices and that most of the cost of oil is out of Biden's control, including Russia's war in Ukraine and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. When the pandemic first hit and restrictions were put in place, the [demand](#) for oil went down, as did prices, so the U.S. and other countries decreased their output in response. As restrictions were loosened, demand vastly outweighed supply. Additionally, when Biden canceled the pipeline, only 8% of it had [been built](#) and even the Trump administration [admitted](#) the pipeline's impact would have been minimal. Oil prices have increased since Biden's [cancellation](#) of the Keystone XL pipeline on January, 20, 2021, but there is no obvious connection between the date of the announcement and [overall price volatility](#). Furthermore, [domestic oil production](#) in the U.S. is at near-record levels during the Biden administration, on [par with production levels under Trump](#).

March 9

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bill Hemmer [said](#) Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (D-NY) was asked “what are you going to do” about rising gas prices during a press conference, and Jeffries said the issue “hasn’t come up” among House Democrats.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): So, Russia is responsible, that was the comment we heard from the president yesterday –

DANA PERINO (CO-ANCHOR): You’re going to hear that a lot.

HEMMER: That’s right. Hakeem Jeffries, Democrat, was asked about “what are you going to do?” It went like this.

(VIDEO BEGINS)

REPORTER: We’re going to see gas prices likely increase. What is the thinking within your caucus about how to deal with that issue, specifically?

REP. HAKEEM JEFFRIES (D-NY): Yeah, that issue hasn’t come up.

(VIDEO ENDS)

DANA PERINO (CO-ANCHOR): OK, the issue didn’t come up in the caucus. So, there was a meeting with all the Democrats yesterday and he’s saying it didn’t come up.

FACT: Fox News aired a deceptively edited clip in this segment, which cut off both the reporter’s question and Jeffries’ answer. In actuality, the GOP’s own YouTube [clip](#) of the House Democrats’ press conference shows the full extent of the question. The reporter asked, “On another Russian oil ban question, obviously if this happens we’re going to see gas prices likely increase. What is the thinking within your caucus about how to deal with that issue, specifically? And what has been the reaction of your colleagues to, you know, things like diplomatic outreach to countries like Venezuela and Saudi Arabia in terms of, like increasing the global oil supply?” Jeffries answered “that issue hasn’t come up,” adding that “increasing the global oil supply, at the moment,” especially in Europe, “is an important discussion.” Jeffries seemed to be answering the second part of that question and not, as Fox claimed, implying that Democrats in Congress had simply neglected to discuss the ban of Russian oil entirely.

March 10

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bret Baier [claimed](#) that Vice President Kamala Harris refused to answer questions about a disagreement between the Polish and U.S. governments over transferring MiG-29 fighter jets to Ukraine.

BRET BAIER (ANCHOR): Now, she's not answering questions on that dust-up with the MiGs, and she's not talking about it. And broadly in this news conference, it was that we're all on the same page and we're trying to provide for Ukraine.

FACT: Harris directly answered the question about military assistance. During a March 10 [press conference](#), the vice president was asked to explain plans to continue supporting Ukraine after [rejecting](#) a [Polish proposal](#) to transfer ownership of MiG-29 jets to the United States and [route them through Germany](#) to Ukraine. Harris did answer the question, [saying](#) that the U.S. had already “given military, humanitarian, and security assistance” as part of “an ongoing process” to provide more than \$13 billion in aid, including “\$240 million in security assistance delivered to Ukraine.” “We’re making deliveries every day,” the vice president added. “That is an ongoing process, and that’s not going to stop to the extent that there is a need.”

March 11

FALSE: Fox News contributor Byron York [downplayed](#) the role Russia’s invasion of Ukraine had in driving inflation.

BYRON YORK (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): You know, I just don’t think it’s going to work. The whole Putin’s price-hike thing is not going to work because it conflicts with people’s everyday experiences. First of all, anybody who has been to the grocery store or tried to buy a car knows that inflation is not just the price of gas.

FACT: The Russian invasion of Ukraine destabilized the global economy and exacerbated inflation. While inflation in the United States and other developed economies was increasing prior to the invasion, investors and economists [warned](#) that an imminent Russian attack “could threaten production” and “send prices surging” around the world. Days after the invasion began, the Atlantic Council [declared](#) that Russia’s actions were “rattling the global economy and markets” and driving “a wide range of supply chain implications — and consequently higher inflation.” And as the war entered its third month, both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund [blamed](#) “the economic fallout from the conflict” for causing “supply shocks to intensify, and for commodity prices — of which Russia and Ukraine are major suppliers — to rise dramatically.”

March 14

FALSE: Fox News co-anchor Bill Hemmer [claimed](#) that gas prices were rising in the U.S. because “we’re cornered” by U.S. energy policies.

PHIL FLYNN (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): [Americans] know that the price of oil was going up long before the Russian-Ukraine war. If [Democrats] want to blame Vladimir Putin for the rise in oil prices, maybe they should blame their energy policies, which in some ways, inspired Vladimir Putin to move on Ukraine. We know it was the Paris Climate Accord that made Europe become more dependent on Russia for oil and gas and Putin saw that as an opportunity, and I think he moved on it.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): It seems that we're cornered by our own policies, Phil, when you think about what the priorities were for this administration. Elizabeth Warren on Sunday sent this tweet: "Big oil raked in \$174 billion in profits last year and as Putin's invasion of Ukraine drives up gas prices, they're on track to make even more. We need a Windfall Profit Tax to curb profiteering, invest in clean energy, and provide relief to Americans getting gouged at the pump." What is the way out of that when you think about the Democratic governor in Michigan, Gretchen Whitmer, threatening to block a pipeline there and the Democratic senator from West Virginia, Joe Manchin, trying to get a 300-mile pipeline reopened in his state?

FACT: The Biden administration did not cause gas prices to increase. A New York Times [fact check](#) found that claims that the Biden administration's policies, such as the cancellation of the Keystone XL pipeline, led gas prices to increase were misleading. Instead, the Times found that the COVID-19 pandemic and related disruptions to the global supply and demand instead fueled those price increases.

March 15

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [claimed](#) the White House "doesn't have any specific solutions" for lowering the price of gas.

JACKIE DEANGELIS (FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT): The second piece of [rising gas prices] is that it's about the administration's policies. Again, you and I have discussed this. One to three years investment to explore and find new land, build a rig, and drill on it, right. Companies sat back and they said, "Why should we do that if you are trying to exterminate the fossil fuel industry?" That doesn't make sense from an investment standpoint. Why would that do it? So you have got an administration that's taking no responsibility for their part in this and now trying to blame their inflation crisis on Big Oil. It does not make sense.

SANDRA SMITH (CO-ANCHOR): And still the White House isn't offering any specific solutions or even what they are considering because they continue to say they are considering all options on the table to lower gas prices.

FACT: The Biden administration attempted to offset gas prices by increasing the supply of oil. On March 1, the White House [announced](#) that it would release 30 million barrels of oil as a means to suppress increased gas prices. Additionally, U.S. officials [met](#) with members of the Venezuelan government to discuss the possibility of easing sanctions of oil imports from the South American country to [replace Russian oil and gas](#).

March 16

FALSE: Fox News contributor Joey Jones [said](#) that the U.S. war in Afghanistan “really did not affect anybody at home.”

JOEY JONES (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Just like Greg Gutfeld said on this network yesterday, it's easy for politicians and pundits to imagine war and talk about war, romanticize war, and even call for war. But at some point somebody has to go fight it. I think that's what the American people have to remember. We spent 20 years fighting a war that sounded a lot like this one does on the airwaves and in the newspapers. But it really did not affect anybody at home in the perspective of 330 million Americans. And we just simply can't allow a government I don't trust to get us through another conflict or even into one, to do so without answering some hard questions and understanding what we're getting in for.

FACT: It is absurd to claim America's two-decade commitment in Afghanistan was not felt domestically. The U.S. war in Afghanistan cost the United States an estimated [\\$2.26 trillion](#). According to the [Department of Defense](#), Operation Enduring Freedom resulted in 2,218 American casualties and at least 20,093 Americans wounded in action in Afghanistan alone between October 2001 and December 2014. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics also [reports](#) there to be 980,000 U.S. Afghanistan war veterans.

March 17

FALSE: Fox News anchor Bill Hemmer [asserted](#) Jake Sullivan is involved in the alleged collusion of high-profile Democrats with Russia to infiltrate and smear Donald Trump's 2016 presidential campaign.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): I mentioned the Biden team. Sullivan was involved in this Russia thing back in 2016. Seems pretty clear, would you agree with that?

BILL BARR: Well I don't want to comment on the evidence even though I haven't been there and I don't know what's going on in the Durham investigation. You know, that's clearly some of the stuff that he's been looking at.

HEMMER: Let me push you on this then, we went to El Salvador a few years back and at the time you were wondering whether or not any crime had been committed. At the time I think you were a little bit on the edge. You weren't quite sure. Have you changed your mind since then?

BARR: There clearly have been crimes indicted by Durham — lying and the activity of the Russian informant that was the basis of the dossier, but I don't want to prejudge the matter by accusing other people.

HEMMER: Do you think it goes deeper than just lying?

BARR: It may. Again, I just can't comment on it.

FACT: Hysteria ginned up by conservative media was found to be a combination of “mostly wrong or old news.” [Fox](#) and [other conservative outlets](#) incessantly covered the “[bombshell](#)” [Durham filing](#) after Trump sued more than a dozen people, including Clinton and White House national security adviser Jake Sullivan, for allegedly spying on his 2016 presidential campaign in a [misguided](#) and “[fully unhinged](#)” lawsuit.

March 18

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [suggested](#) that the lifting of Title 42, an immigration-restriction law implemented due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will lead to increased human trafficking.

SANDRA SMITH (CO-ANCHOR): Meanwhile behind the scenes, Axios reporting – and you can obviously add to this — that there are internal discussions and alarms raising that human trafficking networks throughout Mexico and Central America will exploit this situation to, quote, “generate a mass migration event.”

FACT: Ending Title 42 provisions at the border will not increase human trafficking. Claims that lifting Title 42 will lead to increased human trafficking [ignore findings](#) that violent attacks of individuals blocked in or expelled to Mexico (kidnappings, torture, rape, etc.) reached new record highs due to Title 42.

March 21

FALSE: Fox Business host Cheryl Casone [suggested](#) House Democrats were blaming oil companies for price hikes just because they want to “beat up on” them in committee hearings. Casone then quoted a Big Oil executive’s claim that individual gas station owners are just as much to blame.

DANA PERINO (CO-ANCHOR): The chair of the House Progressive Caucus [Rep. Pramila Jayapal (D-WA)] pointing the finger squarely at oil companies for the pain at the pump. ... Let's bring in Cheryl Casone, host of Fox Business' *American Dream Home*. Some might say that's the market at work, [Jayapal] might say it's because she was warning those oil companies.

CHERYL CASONE (FOX BUSINESS HOST): Well, because they want to bring them in front of their committees in April – I think April 5 is the date to, of course, beat up on the oil company execs and the refiners, and it's a very simplistic and frankly wrong way to describe the oil market and how we pay for gasoline and how it gets to our pump and how it gets into our cars. Look, there is a whole supply chain here when it comes to the oil industry. But basically what people are paying right now at the pump is what the refiners paid for oil three weeks ago. It's called futures contracts. These are energy

markets. So what she said, actually, in a way is correct. It is the energy market that dictates the price. Now, [I] talked to a couple of analysts and a professor out in California, which as you know is paying horrific prices. But they say, look, gasoline prices will follow oil prices slower down than they do up, that's just the way that the market works. That happens in a lot of businesses across the country. But if you talk to Andy Lipow, he made a really good point, and I'm just going to give him credit on this. He says, "The American people's anger is misplaced. Congress's anger is misplaced. The oil companies own less than 5% of the service stations, even though the brands are on the monikers. They should be mad at their local gasoline service station owner." I know that that's a little controversial.

FACT: Democrats were grilling executives because oil companies made record [profits](#) even as the price of oil increased, engaging in business practices that would maximize shareholder revenue without consideration for the consumer. As Politico [reported](#), in the committee hearing, "Rep. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.) complained that companies were sending billions of dollars to shareholders in the form of dividends and stock buybacks even as fuel prices rose." In addition, "Rep. Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.) sought to rebuff the idea that the firms are "just helpless participants in the global market," and pointed out that their current profit margins were large."

March 22

FALSE: One of the [main promoters](#) of conspiracy theories about the Biden family's alleged wrongdoings, [Peter Schweizer](#), pushed his largely debunked narrative on Fox – with anchor Martha MacCallum essentially endorsing his work.

PETER SCHWEIZER (CONSERVATIVE AUTHOR): I think the thing that we have to keep in mind is, regards to what is going on in the Ukraine, the Biden family has received funds from three countries principally involved. They received millions of dollars from pro-Putin oligarchs. That was spelled out by the U.S. Senate, in their investigation. They've received money from Ukraine, particularly from a company owned by an oligarch who helped put [Ukrainian President Volodymyr] Zelensky into power. And you have the relationship with China. And my view is quite simple. Washington, D.C., is about "follow the money." If politicians are getting campaign contributions from Wall Street or Big Oil, that's a story. We're talking here about tens of millions of dollars that the Biden family has personally received. That absolutely needs to be part of the conversation and discussion. Because I don't think you can separate their personal, financial, commercial interests from the decisions that he has to make in this situation.

MARTHA MACCALLUM (ANCHOR): Yeah, and we now know thanks to the cover of the New York Post and your reporting as well that the 50-plus intelligence agency officials from current and past – who said that the laptop was highly likely to be Russian disinformation – now are completely mum on this topic.

FACT: Joe Biden's personal connections to Ukraine are not nearly that extensive, and the right-wing conspiracy theories about them [have been](#) debunked [several times](#). Hunter Biden's activities in Ukraine were not connected to the work of his father, who engaged in diplomatic relations with the country during the Obama administration as part of U.S. anti-corruption efforts. While a GOP-led Senate investigation [expressed concern](#) over the appearance of a potential conflict of interest around Hunter Biden's position on the board of a Ukrainian natural gas company, it found no wrongdoing on the president's part.

March 23

FALSE: Fox Business anchor Dagen McDowell [blamed](#) Biden for slowing the issue of oil and gas permits, which she says led to price hikes.

DANA PERINO (CO-ANCHOR): As Americans get increasingly frustrated with high gas prices, Republicans, they see an opportunity – setting up voter registration drives at gas stations.

...

TRACE GALLAGHER (CO-ANCHOR): I think it has kind of a weird vibe you're sending at this thing – we're registering voters, we're – hey, we're applauding high gas prices because it's going to benefit us, and people are thinking, "Why are you doing that?"

DAGEN MCDOWELL (FOX BUSINESS HOST): Well, if you are subtle about it, you just say, "Here is why gas prices have gotten to where they are. It's not because of Putin." National average is still up about 50% from a year ago. All you have to say is, "The Biden administration slow-rolled gas and natural gas and oil permits, halted lease sales on federal lands and water."

FACT: President Biden's policies aren't responsible for gas price fluctuations. U.S. presidents don't control gas prices, which are set by a [global market](#) that is currently dealing with widespread sanctions on Russia, already slowed production overseas due to the coronavirus pandemic, and ramped up demand from every country's economy trying to recover at once. Additionally, U.S. drilling has actually increased under Biden – the slowing of permits was an [unintentional side effect](#) of a court blocking the administration from using climate change as a factor when considering permits.

March 24

FALSE: Discussing the end of Title 42, Fox News anchor [Harris Faulkner](#) said that "COVID-19 was not cured because the administration doesn't want to deal with the border crisis."

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Let me get to this. Republican Congressman Tony Gonzalez of Texas, which I just mentioned, tweeted images of illegal immigrants

being released because of overcrowding at a detention facility. This is mind-boggling. He wrote this, “It is the consequence of a broken immigration system and failed policies.” And the crisis could get even worse. The Biden administration reportedly planning to lift COVID-era restrictions in Title 42 which allow agents to bypass standard procedures and immediately deport most migrants. But that’s set to come to an end in April, which means they’ll just stay here. Preliminary Border Patrol data obtained by The Washington Post show authorities are on pace to make more than 200,000 detentions along the Mexican border in one month – this month.

...

TAMMY BRUCE (FOX NATION HOST): I have to say for the left and the Democrats, this is not a broken system. This is what they want. This is why it will get worse. In 2021, at least 14 known associated terrorists on the terror watch list who had concrete relationships with terrorism were captured at the border, and all those numbers you stated, Harris, those are just the ones that we know of that were caught. We don't know about the volume that has gone beyond that, and that should be the concern.

FAULKNER: Wow. I mean just put your mind around 200,000 [migrants detained at the border]. That is unbelievable. And will we break, in the process, those border states? Their economies are being affected by this, their health systems are with COVID at the border. It is odd. COVID was not cured because the administration doesn't want to deal with the border crisis.

FACT: COVID-19 has several [vaccines](#) and [treatments approved](#) for use in the United States, which does not appear to have been influenced by migrants at the U.S.-Mexico border and occurred during both the Biden and Trump administrations. Faulkner was discussing the end of Title 42, a Trump-era order that allows for the quick expulsion of migrants in an effort to stop the spread of the coronavirus into the United States. However, the “scientifically baseless and politically motivated” policy of kicking out people crossing the border and forcing them into Mexican border towns [doesn’t protect the United States from COVID-19](#) and succeeds only in making life more dangerous for asylum-seekers. (The Department of Homeland Security has been [criticized](#) for placing migrants in unsafe conditions that put them at risk and allow the virus to spread unchecked.) In reality, there’s [no evidence](#) that migrants are significant carriers of COVID-19 any more than people already living in the United States, and claims implying migrants are somehow [more significant disease carriers](#) echo [longstanding racist](#) and [false narratives](#) used to oppose immigration.

March 25

FALSE: Fox News contributor [Sean Duffy](#) claimed that the American military is weak because it is “woke,” focused on climate change and diversity instead of strength.

SEAN DUFFY (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Because I think the American people see that these are not just new bad actors, Dana. China has been a bad actor

and a Communist Party for a long time, and so has North Korea. And so I think that China and North Korea and the American people see that the American military has taken their eye off the ball. The DOD is focused on climate change. They've lowered the standards for physical fitness in the military. We're focused in the military on diversity, equity, and inclusion, not serious about a war-fighting machine. On top of that, we have an economy that could be roaring back but instead we have woke leaders who won't pursue American energy. We have more energy than anyone in the world, and the fact that we won't pursue it but look to Venezuela and Iran make us look weak, and when we behave weakly, or project weakness, bad actors do bad things.

FACT: The Department of Defense's focus on climate change and diversity issues will make the military stronger and more capable. Climate change is a [massive national security issue](#), as countries around the world struggle to cope with the impacts, rising tensions over resources, and warming climates force mass migrations. Also, increasing the types of people who can serve is [actually strengthening](#) the American military. In fact, narratives around the military weakening due to "wokeness" spread widely [on conservative media](#) in response to the military's effort to root out far-right extremism.

March 28

FALSE: Fox News guest and law enforcement consultant Deon Joseph [claimed](#) progressive district attorneys ending cash bail encourages violence because "criminals know they pretty much have a free pass and they have a good friend" in the district attorneys' offices.

DEON JOSEPH (LAW ENFORCEMENT CONSULTANT): It's a pretty sad day where people basically have to sacrifice their civil liberties and law enforcement agencies have to tell people that hey, you can't do the things you normally can do, or advise them that you can't drive home because somebody's going to follow you and hurt you, or you can't count your money in public, or you're going to get robbed for your jewelry. We had an officer lose his life over some jewelry, and that's how bad it's gotten because the criminals know they pretty much have a free pass and they have a good friend in DA's offices across this country and that desperately needs to change.

TRACE GALLAGHER (CO-HOST): Yeah, that really is kind of what happens when the DAs -- we have a lot of these in California -- Chesa Boudin up in San Francisco, [George] Gascón here in Los Angeles -- they believe that criminals are the real victims.

...

JOSEPH: Yeah, it's really, really a shame. They can't put their ideas down, their ideals, and their wild ideals are more important than the very people they've been hired to protect -- and that's the general public. And they've literally -- and this is not even

figuratively anymore -- they have chosen criminals over the rest of us, and it doesn't matter whether you live in Compton, Watts, South LA, or you live in the Palisades -- we are all suffering right now.

GALLAGHER: What has it been like being a police officer in southern California over the past two, two and a half years?

JOSEPH: It has been extremely frustrating. I came on this job to save lives and protect people and I want to know that when I go out there and I stop a violent criminal that if the law says they do three years, I know that that's three years that the community has relief from the activities of these individuals. That's not happening now. With no cash bail, once again, they are best friends in the DA's office. They know that there is no teeth in the law, there's no consequences, so they have free rein to not only attack people in inner city communities, which they've been doing, because in their mindsets, oh, nobody cares about them, and that's their mindset. But now with no cash bail they have upped the ante and said, "Wow, we can go after everybody without any repercussions or minimal, if that."

FACT: There is no evidence that ending cash bail leads to an increase in crime. The majority of cities that have seen increases in violent crime [have not ended](#) cash bail. There is [no evidence](#) that ending cash bail increases crime, and ending cash bail [does not](#) mean a greater risk to public safety. Cash bail [penalizes](#) people who are too poor to pay, and it increases the [already disproportionate](#) share of Black and Latino people who are held pretrial, often causing people to [lose jobs](#), housing, or even custody of their [children](#). There is also no [evidence](#) that progressive DAs are to [blame](#) for increases in violence.

March 29

FALSE: Fox News guest and former Congressional Budget Office Director Doug Holtz-Eakin [said](#) Biden's proposed billionaire wealth tax is bad because "they are pretending [it] carves out five or six people" but it is actually "taxing all of the economy."

DOUG HOLTZ-EAKIN (FORMER CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE DIRECTOR): The lifting up of the economy is happening. That's why we are getting the reduction in the deficit. That happens automatically. And I think Jared, I have known a long time, he talks a good game, but there is no real evidence that somehow they generated the growth that produced this revenue. That's the private sector, the vitality of the private sector. It's time to get out of all these government interventions, let the private sector do its job -- go grow. Stay out of the way. They got in the way with the inflation. That needs to be tamed. And, certainly, I think, if you look at the tax proposals in here, they are not the right thing for this time, they are not what they are advertised to be, and they are not particularly good tax policy.

So this billionaire tax -- they are pretending we can just carve out five or six people, make them pay a ton of taxes, and it's not going to affect the economy. Why are we looking at those five or six people? Because they have a large amount of investable capital -- that's capital that is all through the economy. They are taxing all of the economy, not just those five people.

FACT: The White House's proposed Billionaire Minimum Income Tax would target only around 700 Americans. The tax is [aimed](#) at households worth [more than \\$100 million](#) and targets "unrealized gains," which is "the increase in an unsold investment's value." Many of these very wealthy people currently pay lower [tax rates](#) than average earners, and they have gotten even [richer](#) during the pandemic. Such a tax would help raise money for programs that benefit working-class and middle-income families. [Giving money](#) to low-income [families](#) and improving the social safety net can [boost](#) the economy.

March 30

FALSE: Fox News contributor Sean Duffy [claimed](#) that Disney wants to "sexualize our children" and "indoctrinate them" by introducing more LGBTQ representation.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): People who live in Florida are fed up with the wokeness of Disney World. Here's some leaked video posted on Twitter yesterday -- it appears to show multiple Disney leadership members pushing a progressive LGBT agenda onto their employees. And on the list of changes, ditching the company's all gender terms in their theme parks. The speakers also criticized Florida's new parental rights law.

...

SEAN DUFFY (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): I think this is an American realization that Disney is not the Disney of our childhood, right? They've gone very progressive, very woke. I mean, the fact that they want to sexualize our children and our children's childhoods for their own political agenda is incredibly disturbing. And again, you would hope that Disney would be about making money and making then films that kids want to watch. Instead of making films that kids want to watch, they're actually making films that will indoctrinate them. And so, I think what you're going to see is parents who say, "Listen, I don't want my kids to be part of Disney. I don't want them to be woke-ified from Disney product. And I'll look somewhere else for movies and videos that fit the values that I raise my kids within my home."

FACT: Disney is not trying to indoctrinate or sexualize children. The [false accusation](#) that there is an effort to sexualize or groom children has been used as an anti-LGBTQ [talking point](#) for [decades](#) and has made a [comeback](#) as conservatives [push anti-trans](#) and "[Don't Say Gay](#)" legislation. The existence of LGBTQ [characters](#) in children's media is not inherently sexual, and

seeing themselves reflected in children's media is [important](#) for [LGBTQ youth](#). LGBTQ people are barely [represented](#) at all in Disney media.

March 31

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [lied](#) that a Disney executive said she “wants 50% of all the characters to be gay or they will be underrepresented,” adding, “You will have to ask yourself if you believe that represents the American public.”

SANDRA SMITH (GUEST ANCHOR): I'll put this up on the screen, David, for you. A Washington Examiner op-ed argues that “Of course Disney wants to indoctrinate your children,” saying, “They believe that indoctrinating children with these ideas early on is not only good but necessary, which is why they're turning their own company into a vehicle for this ideology. ... But unfortunately for Disney, few parents would agree that telling a young child she is pansexual or asexual or that there are multiple genders is either good or necessary.” Where do you stand on this, David?

DAVID CARLUCCI (FORMER NEW YORK STATE SENATOR): Well look, I think Disney is not following a woke agenda or the left agenda. They are just doing the right thing. What they are saying is, “Look, our characters should match the reality of the American public.” And I think that's perfectly fine. I think that they are doing the right thing by saying look, we need to be inclusive, and that's what we need to remember. And look, President Biden is absolutely right to attack these laws that are being passed because they are doing nothing more than securing political points on the right while damaging the future of our children.

SMITH: The Disney executive wants 50% of all the characters to be gay or they will be underrepresented. You'll have to ask yourself if you believe that represents the American public.

FACT: Disney has made a [commitment](#) to greater representation of marginalized groups in its media content, and 42% of the U.S. population is nonwhite, while [LGBTQ people of all races make up 6% of the population](#). The piece Smith cited contained tweets from a right-wing activist who stated that the president of Disney General Entertainment, Karey Burke, had said she wants the company to commit to making 50% of its characters from underrepresented communities, including LGBTQ people and/or people of color. [However, the linked video in the tweet did not contain the statement.] As it stands, [people of color](#) and [LGBTQ people](#) are underrepresented in Disney media.

April 1

FALSE: In a discussion of Disney’s decision to oppose Florida’s “Don’t Say Gay” law, Fox contributor Tammy Bruce [said](#) young children such as 5-year-olds cannot understand gender as “a concept” because “the brain isn’t developed enough to understand concepts.” She also claimed that there are no gay or straight children.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): What we're seeing is a ramp up on this topic. And it has to do with the fact that kindergarten to third grade, our youngest school-age kids, are caught up in politics and everything else. And you have some definite thoughts on our kids.

TAMMY BRUCE (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): Well, you know, there is a simple thing that all of us can relate to across the board. This transcends politics, partisanship, who you are -- gay, straight, whatever -- is let children be children, right? This is really an effort to project and to put onto children adult issues ruining the innocence of that period of time. You are looking at toddlers to some degree, somebody becoming 5 years old, finally becoming aware of the world, and they are hearing things that don't make sense or that they just don't -- look, the idea of gender, it's a concept. The brain is not even developed enough to understand concepts. That's a high brain functioning dynamic, which doesn't happen for years. There's no hormones moving through them. This is about the innocence of childhood, where there are no gay or straight children, there are just children.

FACT: Young children — even those ages 6 and under — can [understand](#) the idea of gender. Most cis and trans [children grasp](#) gender categories by 18-24 months and recognize their own gender by 3 years old. Research shows trans youth sometimes [know](#) their gender by ages 3-5 and most trans adults [report](#) first experiencing gender dysphoria by the age of 7. One [survey](#) found that over one-tenth of gay and bisexual college students knew they were queer as early as grade school.

April 4

FALSE: Fox Business correspondent Kelly O’Grady [falsely claimed](#) pandemic unemployment benefits and stimulus checks created a “worker shortage.”

KELLY O’GRADY (FOX BUSINESS CORRESPONDENT): One big critique of UBI [universal basic income] is whether guaranteeing a degree of security will shrink the labor force, slow economic output, and potentially fossilize inequality with less incentive to work. Many point to the pandemic stimulus checks and our current worker shortage as an example of how UBI could damage our economy. Now I spoke with a restaurant owner here and he said he’s already struggling to find people to fill those entry-level positions, and he thinks this could make it worse.

...

O'GRADY: And Carlos [Roman, owner of Bread & Barley] shared with me, he's already had to hike wages amidst this current labor shortage, something that he would have to do if this program were to become widespread. And what does that mean? That means he will also be hiking the costs of a burger and fries, which is certainly not what we want out here, I can tell you that.

FACT: Temporary pandemic assistance did not create a worker shortage in the United States. Several studies on the impact of emergency unemployment benefits on the labor force found [no evidence](#) of people declining to work en masse. In fact, a federal study found states that ended the pandemic benefits early [compared](#) to states that continued the assistance programs saw similar job growth over a similar period of time. In addition, the [pilot program](#) Fox News discussed here being rolled out for Los Angeles County [had positive impacts](#) on "participants' job prospects, financial stability and overall well-being" when a similar program was introduced in 2019-2020 in Stockton, California.

April 5

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [exaggerated](#) Elon Musk's role in providing SpaceX satellite internet services to Ukraine without the aid of the U.S. government.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): It is because of American citizens, one in particular, there are satellites over Ukraine right now so that social media and images like this can get out. Elon Musk. I don't want to put too fine a point on him or any other single American, but what we are doing, the White House is not even in concert with. They can't even keep up with the technology to help them.

FACT: The U.S. government paid over \$3 million for the Starlink terminals to be sent to Ukraine. While SpaceX did donate some Starlink devices and three months of "unlimited data," at least 5,000 terminals were in fact sent to Ukraine [in collaboration with](#) the American government, including more than 1,500 terminals the U.S. purchased directly. Faulkner's claim that the White House was "not even in concert with" Musk is untrue.

April 6

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [claimed](#) President Joe Biden's energy policies have had a "chilling" effect on oil production.

SANDRA SMITH (ANCHOR): Here is an exchange with the ExxonMobil executives on the chilling effect the rhetoric from the Biden administration has on their ability to produce more oil.

...

SMITH: It has been an incredibly difficult environment for these energy companies. On one hand, you've got campaign Joe Biden saying, "I'm going to kill the

fossil fuel industry,” then become the president. Day one, [he] shuts down Keystone XL pipeline, and now that we’ve got sky-high prices, he’s telling them they’ve got to produce more energy.

FACT: Biden’s policies have not had a significant impact on oil production. The [president’s policies](#) have little to do with gas prices, which are set by a [worldwide market](#), and prices have gone up [globally](#) as economies have recovered from COVID-19 disruptions. In fact, U.S. [oil production](#) under Biden has been roughly similar or higher than during former President Donald Trump’s time in office.

April 7

FALSE: Fox Business host Larry Kudlow claimed Title 42 [is protecting](#) the U.S. from migrants with COVID-19.

LARRY KUDLOW (FOX BUSINESS HOST): The fundamental issue here is why don't the Bidens want to protect our border and stop another 2 million illegals from coming in and bringing with them, frankly, crime and drugs and COVID and lord knows what. What is their agenda except a far-left agenda?

Fact: Immigrants and asylum seekers are not vectors for disease. There is little [evidence](#) that [migrants](#) are any more of a disease vector for COVID-19 than U.S. residents. This has been reiterated by former Centers for Disease Control and Prevention epidemiologist [Dr. Ron Waldman](#). A letter from Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health explained “that community transmission within the US, and not introduction of the virus from Mexico, is driving the spread of COVID-19, and that public health authorities need to focus on mitigation measures that are known to work. Title 42 is not among these measures and, if anything, makes matters worse.”

April 8

FALSE: Fox Nation host Tammy Bruce [claimed](#) the Department of Justice is labeling parents with “dissenting views” as terrorists.

TAMMY BRUCE (FOX NATION HOST): National Security Agency, the CIA, all of our intelligence is meant to focus on the outside, at threats to this nation. The fact that it is now a structural turning-in to looking at the American people should shock and frighten everyone. That's what this is. It is using this broad-based framework of accusations – Americans who voted for President Trump have been called terrorists. It is vague, it's amorphous –

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Parents.

BRUCE: Parents obviously, but that's – these are the arms of this kind of an attitude that parents can suddenly be looked at by the DOJ as terrorists. It is not normal. It is not acceptable. It has not happened before. And if they had tried it before, they tried to hide it because it is so obscene.

FAULKNER: Interesting. And we should say parents with dissenting views. Which, by the way, means anyone in America with dissenting views can get added to the list.

FACT: The Department of Justice has repeatedly made clear that it does not consider parents protesting school boards as domestic terrorists, nor does it plan to enforce any anti-terror laws to clamp down on such opinions. Fox's [claim](#) is based on a [letter](#) sent by the National School Boards Association that asked for action on threats and aggression being made against school board members across the country over COVID masking policies and supposed "critical race theory." On October 4, the Justice Department released a [memo](#) stating that Attorney General Merrick Garland would meet with federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement to discuss how to address the alleged threats against school boards. The memo never used the word "terrorism." Garland added in [testimony](#), "I can't imagine any circumstance in which the Patriot Act would be used in the circumstances of parents complaining about their children, nor can I imagine a circumstance where they would be labeled as domestic terrorism."

April 11

FALSE: Fox News correspondent Nate Foy [claimed](#) that teachers will force 6-year-olds to talk about genitals.

BILL HEMMER (FOX NEWS ANCHOR): So, from New Jersey there, the new sex education curriculum ... is outraging some parents. The plan requires first- and second-graders to learn about gender identity this coming fall. That includes instructions for teachers that tell students their gender identity is up to them. Nate Foy, Westfield, New Jersey, live now. Nate, what's happening? Good morning.

NATE FOY (FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT): Bill, good morning to you. Starting in September, kids as young as 6 years old, in first grade here in New Jersey, will be having conversations about their genitalia and how it relates to their gender identity. Now, the parents that we talked to say that's too young to be having these discussions, and when those talks do happen, they want to be the ones leading those talks, not teachers. So, I want to show you the changes to these state guidelines. They were passed back in 2020, but this is the first year that they'll be implemented in the classroom. Here in Westfield, New Jersey, where we are right now, the school board released a lesson plan that's in accordance with the state guidelines called "Pink, Blue and Purple." It teaches first-graders, quote, "being a boy or a girl doesn't have to mean you have to have those parts, but for most people this is how their bodies are." A

spokesperson for Westfield Public Schools told Fox News Digital this material is not the school district's plan but a sample list of resources. The parents we spoke with still say it is not right.

FACT: Fox News is [lying about](#) a [lesson plan](#) from [one school district](#) in New Jersey.

The school [clarified](#) to Fox that the plan is only included on a list of resources and not the lesson plan it is implementing; parents also have the option to opt their children out of any plans. This is part of a larger trend of Fox News creating a moral panic about gender identity without merit. Although the school plan does mention the word "genitals," [medical experts](#) say it is [normal](#) and [healthy](#) to teach children about anatomy. For instance, the Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children [noted](#) that kids who "know the proper names for their genitalia are less likely to suffer sexual abuse."

April 12

FALSE: Fox News guest erroneously [claimed](#) crime is up "80%" in New York City subways after the April 12 Brooklyn subway attack

DANA PERINO (ANCHOR): Let's bring in Hannah Meyer. She is at the Manhattan Institute, director of policing and public safety. And, Hannah, let's give you a chance, just for your initial reactions here, as the news has just broken this morning at 8:38 a.m.

HANNAH MEYERS (MANHATTAN INSTITUTE DIRECTOR OF POLICING AND PUBLIC SAFETY): It is so horrible, and it certainly seems like this is someone who intended to cause terror, who intended to create a lot of casualties, and really disrupt the system, as opposed to maybe some of the other fires that were just alluded to that have happened recently. Or the crime that, you know, is still up 80% in New York City subways but isn't on this scale and with this kind of purpose. I think we've had the luxury the last couple of years in New York City of not seeing a large-scale attack like this. But, of course, they are being planned all the time.

FACT: The Washington Post [reported](#) that crime in New York City's transportation system is up 65% from last year, not 80%. And New York City subway crime is a more complicated matter than Fox would have you believe. While there are valid concerns about safety on the subways, John Jay College of Criminal Justice professor Christopher Herrmann [points out](#) that the subways are still safe and some crime can be attributed to low ridership. An article in The Atlantic explaining the relationship between subway ridership and crime pointed out that there are still "fewer than two felonies for every 1 million people on the train," while noting that low ridership, driven in part by concerns about crime, may actually induce more criminal behavior.

April 13

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [claimed](#) migrants coming over the border don't want to be vaccinated.

BRAD HOWARD (GUEST): The Biden administration has a policy that is vaccinating migrants who are coming in at the border. But, again, a lot of moderate Democrats think that rescinding Title 42 at this time is too soon. They want to see a comprehensive plan in place that shows that we can balance the national security risk with the public health risk, while also upholding the values and ideals that make America the greatest country on earth.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Yeah, we need a new list — I'm sure it's short — of those moderate Democrats who want all of that who are not in areas where they have reelection. By the way, they can say they are vaccinating people. I am reading a lot of them don't want the vaccines.

FACT: Nearly 70% of migrants held at ICE facilities have accepted COVID-19 vaccination. Vaccine hesitancy among immigrant populations — and [non-immigrant populations](#) — is [nothing new](#), and it pre-dates the COVID-19 pandemic. According to reporting from [Axios](#), roughly 30% of migrants held in ICE custody declined to take COVID-19 vaccines made available to them, but most migrants accepted as the Biden administration [significantly expanded vaccination efforts](#) in ICE facilities. The government [initially did not compel](#) migrants to receive vaccines against their will, but it has [begun implementing](#) a policy of requiring vaccinations for adults before their release from custody. The issue with migrants not receiving the COVID-19 vaccination has [much more](#) to do with them not having access to it than not wanting it.

April 14

FALSE: Fox News host Pete Hegseth [claimed](#) people who wear masks suffer from “a psychosis.”

AINSLEY EARHARDT (CO-HOST): How about this? You are through with it. If she is not through with it, or other Americans want to wear a mask —

BRIAN KILMEADE (CO-HOST): Wear your mask.

EARHARDT: — wear it. Make your own decisions.

PETE HEGSETH (CO-HOST): It's a psychosis. And I feel like the most dangerous preexisting condition you could have for this psychosis is if you had Trump derangement syndrome at one point, you are very likely to be deranged by the masks at this point.

FACT: It's not psychotic to wear masks during a respiratory pandemic, but a study found an overlap between "antisocial traits" and skipping masks. Conservative commentators have promoted the unsubstantiated claim popularized by [anti-vaccine scientist](#) and [conspiracy theorist](#) Dr. Robert Malone that continuing to wear masks during the COVID-19 pandemic is a sign of "mass formation psychosis." Actual [psychologists](#) have debunked this claim, which is based on [outdated theories](#) that have "been totally discredited by contemporary work." Furthermore researchers at Brazil's [State University of Londrina](#) "found that people who reported 'antisocial traits,' such as low levels of empathy and high levels of callousness and risk-taking, were less-likely to comply with Covid-19 prevention measures, such as wearing a mask and social distancing."

April 15

FALSE: Fox News anchor [exploited](#) the April 12 subway shooting in Brooklyn, New York, to smear "bail reform laws that are a mess."

MATT SCHLAPP (AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION CHAIRMAN): Look, we've had this war on the idea that cops keep us safe ever since Black Lives Matter violence exploded across this country and this — with their top policy goal being defund the cops. And so, what you've seen in the big blue cities like New York, like Chicago, like Los Angeles, like San Francisco, I could go on and on, is that reducing the presence of police, it actually doesn't just make the city less safe, and more crime-ridden, it makes neighborhoods populated by people of color more unsafe. And it seems like this is an easy one for us to find a balance, where cops have the right training and we're actually keeping hardened criminals and violent criminals behind bars and not letting them out. The other thing here, Julie, really fast, is we've elected prosecutors in a lot of these cities that run on this idea that we don't lock up hardened criminals. And I just think that is a dangerous, dangerous deadly policy.

JULIE BANDERAS (GUEST ANCHOR): Totally. I mean — and if we lock them up, we let them out. Because that's the problem that we've got in this country. Bail reform laws that are a mess.

FACT: There is no connection between violent crime and bail reform, and the Brooklyn subway shooting had nothing to do with bail laws. According to a review from [PolitiFact](#), there is "no evidence" that progressive policy reforms, such as bail reform, were responsible for the Brooklyn subway shooter's crime. His prior criminal history and arrest record pre-date Democratic-led "justice reform efforts ... like ending cash bail" by nearly 15 years. Social justice initiatives such as [bail reform](#) are frequent targets by political opponents who blame the policies for increased crime. Ironically, after his arrest, the gunman was [held without bail](#) at his first court appearance.

April 18

FALSE: Fox News national correspondent Bill Melugin [fearmongered](#) that terrorists were crossing the U.S. southern border, citing names matched to the Terrorist Screening Database (TSDB).

BILL MELUGIN (FOX NEWS NATIONAL CORRESPONDENT): According to a CBP record I obtained through a Freedom of Information Act request, there were at least 23 known or suspected terrorists caught here at our southern border in 2021. Take a look at this graphic, we'll dive right into the numbers for you.

This shows that there were approximately 23 hits on TSDB, that is the Terrorist Screening Database. There were four in San Diego sector, four in El Centro, two in Yuma sector, two in Tucson sector, three in El Paso sector, four in Del Rio sector, and four in the Rio Grande Valley sector. And again, this is the FBI's Terrorist Screening Center who puts together this database. And keep in mind, these are only the ones they know about, only the ones they caught.

And as you take a look at some final video right here will explain why that's such a concern. Keep in mind, just in the last six months alone here at the border, there have been more than 300,000 known got-aways. Border Patrol can't be everywhere at once, people are getting through in major, major numbers. And that's one of the reasons why former ICE Director Tom Homan says these terrorist numbers, these guys caught at the border last year, are a major concern. And he says DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas has to start considering the border crisis as a national security issue.

FACT: Inclusion of a name on the Terrorist Screening Database is not actually an indicator of the person's terrorist ties, sympathies, or behavior. The database is [known](#) to be [deeply flawed](#), and a person's inclusion in the [vast system](#) does not on its own mean that they are a terrorist. Civil rights groups and attorneys have [voiced concerns](#) about the TSDB, which has "[vague](#)" placement requirements, including "beliefs and activities protected by the First Amendment" and even "study of the Arabic language." The FFI is allowed to [include](#) people on the list even if they have been acquitted of charges, potentially sweeping up innocent people. Judges have also [called into question](#) the constitutionality of the database, ruling in 2019 that it violated the civil rights of American citizens on the list.

April 19

FALSE: Fox News correspondent Mike Tobin [claimed](#) the so-called "Ferguson Effect" was responsible for increased murders of Black Americans.

BILL HEMMER (CO-ANCHOR): Has the defund movement led to more deaths of Black Americans? Now, we've been reporting on the soaring homicide rates since around the time of the murder of George Floyd about two years ago, especially among Black Americans. And now, criminal justice experts say at least

one of the factors in the surge is the “defund the police” movement, a top priority of the far left. Mike Tobin follows up on that in Chicago. What did you find, Mike?
Good morning.

MIKE TOBIN (FOX NEWS CORRESPONDENT): Well, Bill, experts say you can connect the dots when you see one of these high-profile police-involved deaths and then a rise in crime. And you can connect the dots to what the St. Louis police chief Sam Dotson first called the “Ferguson effect.” Police pulled back, they're reluctant to get involved. Criminals get away with small crimes and progress to bigger ones. And Black people pay the highest price. The year that Mike Brown was killed in Ferguson, Missouri, murders of Black people increased by 15%. The following year, Freddie Gray died in a prisoner transport van in Baltimore. Riots followed and the murders of Black men jumped by almost 12%. Then, in 2020, George Floyd was murdered under the knee of a Minneapolis police officer. Murders of Black people jumped 32% from the previous year, 43% over the 10-year average.

FACT: There is no such thing as a “Ferguson effect.” Back when conservatives were trying to spread the [myth](#) of the Ferguson effect, data already showed that violent crimes were [rising prior](#) to the police killing of Michael Brown. And a 2021 PolitiFact article [explained](#) that “a detailed study of the so-called Ferguson Effect found no connection between protests, policing and crime.”

April 20

FALSE: Fox News senior strategic analyst Jack Keane [claimed](#) Russia has been modernizing its nuclear weapons in the past 10 years, while the U.S. hasn't been.

JACK KEANE (FOX NEWS SENIOR STRATEGIC ANALYST): These are fairly standard procedures to test the equipment we have and certainly to test new modernized equipment as well. I mean, Russia has a strong strategic deterrence, as does the United States. It's made up of ICBMs, bombers, and also submarine-launched missiles. They have been modernizing theirs for the last 10 years. And we have not been. And ours are atrophying. And there's a down payment in this budget to put us on the right track. But a lot more is needed to do to get our systems back to where they should be.

FACT: President Barack Obama began a comprehensive nuclear modernization program more than a decade ago. Obama [began modernizing U.S. nuclear weapons](#) at least 10 years ago, including by making them far more accurate and giving them new features, while Congress had also funded a brand new nuclear cruise missile. The Obama administration confirmed its commitment to a multi-year and multi-billion dollar [modernization program](#) in 2010, and the administration's official [Nuclear Posture Review](#) that year suggested concerns “about China's current military modernization efforts, including its qualitative and quantitative modernization of its nuclear arsenal” as cause for continued U.S. investments in nuclear deterrence. The Obama

administration was involved in nuclear arms control negotiations but [never stopped investing](#) in American nuclear weapons capabilities. Arm control proponents [regularly criticized](#) the nearly \$1 trillion price-tag of Obama-era modernization efforts, which experts worried could induce a [renewed nuclear arms race](#).

April 21

FALSE: Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [lied about](#) the Democratic Party leadership's opposition to the "defund the police" movement, claiming the leaders began opposing it only recently.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): It would help if Democrats were clearer on their messaging, your party's leader on down. They should have really been strong with no police defund. No police defund. But they weren't. Now they are. Politics are hard.

FACT: President Joe Biden has supported funding more police officers, not less, since his 2020 presidential campaign. A 2020 [CNN fact check](#) explained that "top congressional Democrats and Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden have not supported calls to 'defund the police.'" In late 2021, Biden [signed multiple pieces of legislation](#) into law to increase resources for police officers. In January 2022, Biden [said](#) at the annual United States Conference of Mayors winter meeting that "we shouldn't be cutting funding for police departments." And during Biden's 2022 State of the Union address, the president [said](#): "The answer is not to defund the police. It's to fund the police. Fund them. Fund them."

April 22

FALSE: Fox News contributor Charles Hurt [falsely claimed](#) that Florida Republicans' legislation targeting Disney "took away some serious tax breaks for that company."

CHARLIE HURT (FOX NEWS CONTRIBUTOR): I think it's very smart on the part of Gov. DeSantis, largely because this is a problem that -- not of his making, but one that was brought to him. And, you know, the original bill that caused all of this was a very basic bill. It has majority support among both Democrats and Republicans, and that is you're not going to push some weirdly sexualized agenda for kindergartners in school classrooms. And, of course, to have Disney come in and try to lobby against such a common sense bill, that is supported by Democrats and Republicans, it's just -- it's like a fat slow ball across the plate for a guy like Ron DeSantis. The real thing here that I think is so interesting, is that it really does define the new differences between today's Democrat Party and Republican Party. No longer is the Republican Party the party of corporations. You have a Republican governor, and a Republican legislature, who have stood up to one of the richest, the most powerful corporation in Florida, and said "butt out, mind your own business" and took away some serious tax breaks for that company. That's a huge thing.

FACT: The Florida GOP's proposal would actually give Disney a massive tax break.

Florida Republicans, led by Gov. Ron DeSantis, pushed new legislation intended to [dissolve the private government](#) created specifically for Walt Disney World. DeSantis claimed the legislation would increase taxes on Disney, not on area residents, but an investigation by Orlando ABC affiliate WFTV [reported](#) that the legislation effectively provides Disney with a \$163 million per year tax break and transfers additional bond debt to the local counties and residents, which may leave Orange and Osceola counties "staring at financial ruin." According to WFTV, "One of the biggest myths circulating on the internet is that [dissolving this government] will finally force Disney to pay its fair share of taxes. Not only is it wrong, it's the opposite that will take effect." Another tax break enjoyed by Disney, [worth \\$578 million](#), was untouched by DeSantis.

April 25

FALSE: Discussing Elon Musk's potential hostile takeover of Twitter, Fox News anchor Harris Faulkner [claimed](#) that conservatives are censored on social media.

HARRIS FAULKNER (ANCHOR): Elon Musk reportedly in talks now and nearing a deal with Twitter to buy the social media giant. As I said to you a few minutes ago as we went to commercial – who turns down billions of dollars? Tesla's CEO lined up more than \$46 billion to acquire the company. So he took his original offer north. Some looking to him to solve the free speech and censorship issues plaguing Twitter.

(VIDEO BEGINS)

REP. JIM JORDAN (R-OH): It's good for free speech. It's good for the First Amendment if this will go forward. We're tired of this throttling back and attacks and censorship of conservative posts and conservative thought [on] Twitter and some other social media platforms. That needs to end. Let's have a fair referee.

(VIDEO ENDS)

FAULKNER: You know, Joe, I was thinking about this. It's come down to one guy, and not the guy in the White House. I mean, this man puts up Starlink satellites to help out war in – war-torn Ukraine, and then tries to help our own free speech. Where is the White House on this?

...

FAULKNER: I mean, again, where is the president on this? But bigger issue is, can [Musk] save free speech on that platform, Twitter?

...

FAULKNER: But he wants all of it on the platform. Because he wouldn't shut down anybody at this point. Because that truly is free speech, unless it's threatening, obviously, unless, I would imagine, it's not protected speech.

FACT: The right-wing media claim that conservatives are censored on Twitter is a long-standing myth. Conservatives have used Twitter's enforcement of its [content policy](#) – including bans on [manipulated media](#) and [election interference](#) – to [accuse the platform](#) of censoring right-wing voices. In actuality, Twitter remains a significant platform for the dissemination of right-wing misinformation, recently acting as a sounding board for [QAnon conspiracy theories](#), [attacks on LGBTQ rights](#), and [baseless smears](#) about Supreme Court nominee Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson. The narrative around censorship of conservatives on social media has often been inaccurately [levied against Facebook](#) as well, despite being [resoundingly debunked time and again](#).

April 26

FALSE: Frequent Fox News guest Art Del Cueto [falsely claimed](#) the Biden administration “tell[s] people it’s OK to come into this country illegally.”

NEIL CAVUTO (HOST): To Art Del Cueto right now with the National Border Patrol Council. Art, very good to have you. The death of this National Guardsman is a reminder to Americans, as if they needed it, of how dangerous your job is and the men and women who track what's going on at the border. This brought it home, tragically. Didn't it?

ART DEL CUETO (VICE PRESIDENT, NATIONAL BORDER PATROL COUNCIL): No, definitely. And it's also a reminder to show that this current administration have created that – they've created the magnet. They've created that magnet to ... tell people it's OK to come into this country illegally. You're going to be alright. You won't get prosecuted. That's why it's happening.

FACT: President Joe Biden and Vice President Harris have both actively discouraged undocumented immigration to the United States. Since [early in his administration](#), Biden has told migrants not to come to the U.S. During a mid-March 2021 interview, Biden said: “I can say quite clearly: Don't come.” Also in March 2021, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said in an interview that his department is “sending an important message that now is not the time to come to the border.” During her July 2021 state visit to Guatemala, Vice President Kamala Harris had an [explicit message](#) for hundreds of thousands of prospective migrants hoping to enter the United States through Mexico, stating, “I want to be clear to folks in this region who are thinking about making that dangerous trek to the United States-Mexico border: Do not come. Do not come.”

April 27

FALSE: Fox Business host Charles Payne [attacked](#) student debt relief as “anti-American,” saying it would be unfair, “not fiscally responsible,” and inflationary.

CHARLES PAYNE (FOX BUSINESS HOST): Let's just talk about these poor college graduates, OK? In prisons, in total, in prisons right now, people who drop out of high school, 41% of prisoners. People who have gotten a GED, 23%. If you have a high school grad, you're 27%. Only 12% of folks in prison got to have college degrees. What about longevity? If you have a master's degree, you live 15 years longer than someone who dropped out of high school. You live eight years longer than someone who went to high school. By the way, over the course of that lifetime, you make \$2.7 million times – million dollars more than a person who dropped out of high school.

How the hell are we having – breaking out violins and having a sympathy party for people who went to college? They get it all, the most – they get everything from the American dream, they get it all. So what, they have to wait a little bit longer than their parents have to wait before they can have kids and buy the house? They're going to get it all. It is crazy, it is not fiscally responsible, it's not fair, it's anti-American. And by the way, we don't need any more stimulus. Has [Rep. Ilhan Omar [D-MN]] paid attention to inflation? That's why the Democrats sparked that. Imagine adding more free money to that thing.

FACT: Most economists argue that the impact on inflation with student loan repayments is likely “modest.” Center for Economic and Policy Research's Dean Baker [told](#) The New York Times' DealBook that “it would be really unfair to use student loan repayments as a way to control demand in the economy,” while DealBook reported that “most economists say the economic effects [on inflation] would be modest.” A [February 2018 report](#) from The Levy Economics Institute of Bard College also found that “the inflationary effects of canceling the debt are macroeconomically insignificant.” The same report found that “student debt cancellation results in positive macroeconomic feedback effects. ... In short, we find that debt cancellation lifts GDP, decreases the average unemployment rate, and results in little inflationary pressure.”

April 28

FALSE: Fox News anchor Sandra Smith [falsely suggested](#) COVID-19 relief funds were “spent pushing critical race theory.”

SANDRA SMITH (CO-ANCHOR): How would you like your hard-earned tax dollars to be spent pushing critical race theory? A bombshell new report shows that is happening, and it involves cash that was meant for COVID.

FACT: Some COVID relief money for schools was allocated to fund programs focused on diversity, equity, and inclusion, not critical race theory.” The relief money [allocated](#) by the American Rescue Plan required states to provide their reopening plans for schools and explain how those funds would be used to maintain equity. School districts also had to ensure “that essential resources are meeting the needs of students who have been subject to longstanding opportunity gaps in our education system.” States such as New York and Illinois noted their intention to use anti-racism training, social-emotional learning, and diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs to safely bring students back to schools amid the pandemic, which Fox [falsely framed](#) as core tenets of critical race theory.

April 29

FALSE: Fox News correspondent Trace Gallagher [claimed](#) the Department of Homeland Security’s Disinformation Governance Board was set up in response to Elon Musk’s bid to buy Twitter and “control the narrative on the left.”

TRACE GALLAGHER (GUEST ANCHOR): It seems like this whole Disinformation Governance Board is really kind of a reaction to this fear that Elon Musk is suddenly going to control the narrative on the left, and they're saying we need a government organization to try and combat that.

...

BRIAN KILMEADE (*FOX & FRIENDS* CO-HOST): It turns out this was in the works, this so-called disinformation committee, before Elon Musk decided to buy Twitter. Having said all that, this does seem to be some type of offense against, and defense against Elon Musk, who’s going to have this quest not to have right-wing point of view, but just to have a balanced point of view. He wants people to have the right to attack him on a regular basis, for Babylon Bee to be able to use their sense of humor and not get suspended.

FACT: The Biden administration’s program targeting online disinformation is a continuation of Trump-era policies. White House press secretary Jen Psaki [said](#) the board is “a continuation of the work of the former” administration, which took similar measures to combat online misinformation. The DHS [announcement](#) establishing the board mentions predominately Russian disinformation and disinformation from human smugglers aimed at migrants headed to the U.S.