Do they really believe this? Motivations for spreading misinformation and reactions to interventions

Jen Golbeck University of Maryland Rs and Ds believe and share fake political news about the other side at the same rate Sternisko, A., Cichocka, A., Cislak, A., & Van Bavel, J. J. (2020, May 21). Collective narcissism predicts the belief and dissemination of conspiracy theories during the COVID-19 pandemic. https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/4c6av

People with higher collective narcissism share more misinformation

Collective narcissism is a belief that one's own group (the in-group) is exceptional but not sufficiently recognized by others

Sternisko, A., Cichocka, A., Cislak, A., & Van Bavel, J. J. (2020, May 21). Collective narcissism predicts the belief and dissemination of conspiracy theories during the COVID-19 pandemic. https://doi.org/10.31234/osf.io/4c6av

Collective narcissism is connected to conspiracy theory beliefs

Bertin, Paul, et al. "Stand out of my Sunlight: The Mediating Role of Climate Change Conspiracy Beliefs in the Relationship between National Collective Narcissism and Acceptance of Climate Science." (2021). Correcting misinformation leads to poorer quality information sharing in the future

Mosleh, Mohsen, et al. "Perverse Downstream Consequences of Debunking: Being Corrected by Another User for Posting False Political News Increases Subsequent Sharing of Low Quality, Partisan, and Toxic Content in a Twitter Field Experiment." proceedings of the 2021 CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems. 2021.

Exposure to the opposing views can *increase* polarization

Pereira, Andrea, Jay J. Van Bavel, and Elizabeth Ann Harris. "Identity concerns drive belief: The impact of partisan identity on the belief and dissemination of true and false news." (2018).

Questions

- Can we automatically identify people with high collective narcissism?
- Can we automatically identify people susceptible to conspiracy theory belief?

If so...

- What interventions could be useful with these individuals?
- Could these interventions be automatically targeted?

