



RFK Jr:

**Conspiracy Theorist, Extremist,
Republican Stooge**

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**CONGRESSIONAL
INTEGRITY** 
PROJECT 

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Introduction

MAGA Republicans are so desperate to find evidence for their so-called investigations built on debunked conspiracy theories that they have invited Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to their latest hearing this week. The only reason Kennedy has been asked to testify is to give a national platform to someone Republicans see as an asset for inflicting political damage on President Biden.

Kennedy embraces virtually every conspiracy theory in existence. His horrific antisemitic and xenophobic views are simply beyond the pale, and he has frequently met with and promoted antisemitic conspiracy theorists. Kennedy's anti-vaccine conspiracies go back decades and have had deadly real world consequences. He pushed dangerous conspiracy theories about Covid-19, vaccines, and medical misinformation so rampantly on social media that he has generated death threats against prominent scientists and built an “anti-vaccine juggernaut” opposing Covid-19 vaccines with dangerous misinformation. Named a “super-spreader-in-chief” of medical misinformation, Kennedy is considered among the most influential anti-vaxx conspiracy theorists. Before he was temporarily banned from Instagram, one study found his influence exceeded even former President Trump’s posts featuring medical misinformation.

Kennedy holds a wealth of extreme, far-right views in addition to espousing conspiracy theories. He opposes common sense gun control, echos far-right talking points about immigration and border security and embraces Russian propaganda. Kennedy is a regular on right-wing media and at far-right events; he has embraced both former President Trump and Ron DeSantis and, in turn, far-right Trump allies have embraced Kennedy’s candidacy.

Providing Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. with a platform at a Congressional hearing is dangerous, inappropriate, and insulting, and shows just how far the MAGA House GOP is willing to go to push partisan stunts to further their extreme agenda.

RFK Jr. Is A Dangerous Conspiracy Theorist And Extremist

Antisemitism And Racist Conspiracy Theories

July 2023: Kennedy Spread A Xenophobic And Antisemitic Conspiracy Theory About Covid-19 Being “Ethnically Targeted” To Spare Jewish And Chinese People.

At a July 2023 dinner in Manhattan, Kennedy [proposed](#) that the Covid-19 virus may have been ethnically targeted to spare Jewish and Chinese people. “There’s an argument that it is ethnically

targeted,” Kennedy said. “COVID-19 is targeted to attack Caucasians and Black people. The people who are most immune are Ashkenazi Jews and Chinese.”

- **Neo-Nazis, Holocaust Deniers, And Antisemites Celebrated Kennedy’s Conspiracy Theory As “100% Correct.”** Although Jewish and Asian groups and [multiple members](#) of the Kennedy family were swift to [condemn](#) Kennedy’s theory that Covid-19 was “ethnically targeted” to exclude Jewish and Chinese people, a report from [Media Matters](#) found antisemitic and neo-Nazi commentators rushing to praise and amplify his conspiracy theory. Neo-Nazi Andrew Anglin said he “totally supports” Kennedy’s theory, Holocaust denier Henrik Palmgren tweeted that “#RFK is 100% correct,” and praise for Kennedy was widespread on the far-right social media platform Gab.

Kennedy Has Frequently Met With And Promoted Antisemitic Conspiracy Theorists. The July 2023 dinner was not Kennedy’s first foray into antisemitic and racist conspiracy theories. In the summer of 2023 alone, Kennedy [touted](#) meeting with the rapper Ice Cube, who has a [long history](#) of bizarre conspiratorial antisemitic tweets, and he [publicly defended](#) musician Roger Waters, who was embroiled in [antisemitism controversies](#) after, among other things, donning a costume intended to evoke Nazi attire at a concert in Germany. Kennedy has also [repeatedly promoted and praised](#) fringe online broadcaster James Corbett, a Sandy Hook and 9/11 conspiracy theorist who has claimed that “Hitler and the Nazis were one hundred percent completely and utterly set up.”

Kennedy Has Repeatedly Made Offensive Comments Comparing Vaccine Mandates To Nazi Germany. At a 2022 rally against vaccine mandates in Washington, DC, Kennedy [compared](#) vaccine mandates in the US to Nazi Germany, outlandishly claiming that Anne Frank was better off when she was hiding from the Nazis than life in the US as an unvaccinated person. “Even in Hitler’s Germany, you could cross the Alps into Switzerland. You could hide in an attic, like Anne Frank did,” said Kennedy. Kennedy’s comments at the rally were [condemned](#) by numerous Jewish organizations and he was forced to apologize to “the extent my remarks caused hurt,” but he had actually invoked comparisons between Nazis and vaccines [numerous times](#) previously, including posting images of Anthony Fauci with a Hitler mustache on social media during the Covid-19 pandemic and using the word “[holocaust](#)” to describe children he believes were hurt by vaccines in 2015.

Kennedy Has Had A Long Partnership With Virulent Antisemite Louis Farrakhan. Kennedy has often allied himself with National of Islam leader [Louis Farrakhan](#), who regularly launches into tirades about alleged Jewish control of media and government. Kennedy [met with](#) Farrakhan at his Chicago home in 2015, with Farrakhan later [tweeting](#) that they discussed “a vaccine that is designed to affect Black males.” At a protest at the CDC in Atlanta later that year, Kennedy [praised](#) Farrakhan, calling him “a truly great partner in this battle” and claimed that African American children were particularly at risk for “vaccine injury.” Kennedy’s [partnership](#) with the Nation of Islam has continued until at least 2021 when Kennedy premiered a documentary targeting African Americans with anti-vaccine propaganda called *Medical Racism* at an NOI conference in Chicago. In a [speech](#) at the event, Farrakhan praised the film and told the audience, “You need to follow Robert Kennedy.”

Kennedy Has Targeted Dangerous And Disproven Anti-Vaccine Propaganda At The Black Community. For years, Kennedy has targeted a particularly dangerous form of vaccine denial at the Black community. In 2021 at the height of the Covid-19 vaccination campaign, Kennedy [released](#) a film called *Medical Racism*, which promoted [disproven](#) claims about the dangers of vaccines and explicitly warned communities of color to be suspicious of “sinister” vaccination campaigns. Several doctors and experts who participated in the film later [denounced](#) it and said they felt used and misled about the message of the documentary, Richard Allen Williams, founder of the Association of Black Cardiologists and former president of the National Medical Association [called](#) Kennedy’s Children’s Health Defense “absolutely a racist operation” that is particularly dangerous to the Black community.

- **Kennedy Pushes Vaccine Denial In The Black Community By Claiming “People With African Blood” Respond “Completely Differently” To Vaccines Than Other Groups.** In 2017, in the midst of a measles outbreak that was devastating Minnesota’s Somali-American community due to low vaccination rates, Kennedy continued to [push](#) his false claims that “science and anecdotal evidence suggest that Africans and African Americans may be particularly vulnerable to vaccine injuries including autism.” In 2021 while the Covid-19 pandemic was [devastating](#) the Black community, Kennedy recorded a [webinar](#) encouraging Black people to be skeptical of vaccines claiming, “There has been abundant evidence... beyond any dispute that Blacks are disproportionately harmed by vaccine injury,” and adding, “Blacks react completely differently to vaccines... we now know it’s just one huge experiment on Black Americans, and they know what is happening and they are doing nothing.” In a 2020 [interview](#), Kennedy also asserted without evidence that “People with African blood react differently to vaccines than people with Caucasian blood. They’re much more sensitive.”

Covid-19, Vaccines, And Medical Misinformation

Kennedy’s Dangerously False Claims About The Covid-19 Pandemic Are Rampant On Social Media And He Has Generated Death Threats Against Prominent Scientists. From the earliest days of the Covid-19 pandemic, Kennedy was a vocal critic and conspiracist about almost every government-funded or endorsed mitigation approach, from masking to social distancing to vaccines and mandates. Kennedy has been particularly vehement in his attacks on Anthony Fauci, who he has [called](#) “an absolute dictator,” authoring a 2021 book entitled *The Real Anthony Fauci: Bill Gates, Big Pharma, and the Global War on Democracy and Public Health*, in which he [accuses](#) Dr. Fauci of helping “orchestrate and execute 2020’s historic coup d’etat against Western democracy.” Conspiratorial attacks from Kennedy and his allies resulted in a [deluge](#) of death threats against Dr. Fauci and his family, including one [so serious](#) that a West Virginia man was sentenced to three years in federal prison for sending threatening emails. After podcaster Joe Rogan and Twitter owner Elon Musk tried to goad him into “debating” Kennedy about vaccine safety in June 2023, pediatrician and scientist Peter Hotez also found himself [inundated](#) with death threats, including a man “stalking” his home in Houston.

- **Kennedy Has Built An “Anti-Vaccine Juggernaut” Opposing Covid-19 Vaccines With Dangerous Misinformation.** From the earliest days of Operation Warp Speed, Kennedy has built “[an anti-vaccine juggernaut](#)” around opposition to

Covid-19 vaccinations, which he has [called](#) “the deadliest vaccine ever made.” Kennedy posits that Covid vaccines are an elaborate conspiracy to enrich the medical establishment and big pharmaceutical companies. In a YouTube video, Kennedy [accused](#) Bill Gates of developing an “injectable chip” to enable the tracking of human movements and attempting to “genetically modify” humanity to “the flow of global information.” Kennedy has even accused his former anti-vaccine ally, Donald Trump, of [selling out](#) to Pfizer by developing vaccines.

- **Kennedy Promoted Treatments For Covid That Have Been Repeatedly Found To Ineffective.** In his 2021 book, Kennedy pushes thoroughly disproven Covid-19 treatments such as [ivermectin](#), which is meant to treat parasites, and the anti-malaria drug [hydroxychloroquine](#). Kennedy [continued](#) to promote these useless medications as Covid treatments as recently as June 2023 when he told Joe Rogan that pharmaceutical companies and mainstream media discredited ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine because they threatened a billion-dollar “vaccine enterprise.”

Kennedy’s Anti-Vaccine Conspiracies Go Back Decades And Have Had Deadly Real World Consequences. Kennedy’s anti-vaccine [conspiracy theories](#) date back decades before the Covid-19 pandemic. In 2005 Kennedy [wrote](#) an article for *Rolling Stone* magazine and Salon.com asserting that the government was conspiring to cover up the connections between autism and vaccines. Salon.com later retracted the article because of factual errors, and Rolling Stone deleted it. In 2016, he became the chair of Children’s Health Defense, a group considered one of the [main sources](#) of misinformation about the supposed dangers of vaccines of all kinds. He is the originator of a [debunked](#) conspiracy theory that the Gates Foundation had paralyzed 496,000 children in India during a polio vaccine trial and after Kennedy [visited](#) American Samoa to spread anti-vaccine paranoia, a measles outbreak in the US territory sickened thousands and killed at least 32, mostly children. In 2019, three of RFK Jr’s notable Kennedy relatives wrote an [op-ed](#) in Politico condemning his anti-vaccine advocacy, which they held partially responsible for an American measles outbreak, and writing that he “has helped to spread dangerous misinformation over social media and is complicit in sowing distrust of the science behind vaccines.” Kennedy even [falsely claims](#) that a flu shot caused his spasmodic dysphonia, a neurological disorder that caused changes in his voice in his 40s.

- **Kennedy Would Bring His Dangerous Anti-Vaccine Crusade To The White House.** Kennedy is [campaigning](#) to bring his anti-vaccine crusade to the White House, pledging to gut the Food and Drug Administration and other health agencies and to order the Justice Department to investigate the editors and publishers of medical journals for “lying to the public.” He has also [claimed](#) that Donald Trump wanted to name him to “chair a commission on vaccine safety and scientific integrity” in 2017 and that he would have accepted such an appointment.

Kennedy Espouses Other Wild Health Conspiracy Theories – Fluoridated Water Is “Drugging” Our Children, HIV Doesn’t Cause AIDS, And Chemicals In The Water Are Making People Gay Or Transgender. Kennedy has a long history of indulging in a wide variety of health conspiracy theories. He has [repeatedly](#) shared [unfounded](#) conspiracies that man-made chemicals in the environment could be making children gay or transgender and causing the feminization of boys and masculinization of girls. He has also opposed the

fluoridation of water for dental health, [calling](#) for “an end to artificial water fluoridation so that all Americans can have access to clean ‘un-drugged’ water, which is a basic human right.” And on multiple occasions he has suggested that AIDS may not be caused by HIV, an established scientific fact for decades, [claiming](#) instead that, “There are much better candidates than HIV for what causes AIDS.”

Technophobia, Paranoia, And Election Denial

Kennedy Promotes Nonsensical Conspiracy Theories About Wi-Fi And 5G Cellular Networks. RFK Jr. has also circulated the bogus notion that 5G cellular networks are suspicious and dangerous. According to Kennedy, [5G](#) “causes cancer. It causes DNA dysfunction. It penetrates the blood brain barrier. It’s making our children stupider and sicker.” Kennedy also [claims](#) that 5G networks are part of a sinister plot “to harvest our data and control our behavior.” Overheated rhetoric about the supposed dangers of 5G has led to a series of attacks on [telecommunications workers](#) and [infrastructure](#) in the UK and beyond. Kennedy’s technological conspiracy theories extend to Wi-Fi, which he [believes](#) also causes cancer and “leaky brain,” saying it “opens your blood-brain barrier.

RFK Jr. Believes The CIA Assassinated His Father And Uncle And Thinks He Might Be Next. Kennedy does not believe that Lee Harvey Oswald assassinated his uncle, John F. Kennedy, instead [blaming](#) the CIA and proclaiming it “beyond a reasonable doubt.” He also believes that Sirhan Sirhan is innocent of killing his father, Robert F. Kennedy, and [advocates](#) for his release from prison, instead [pinning](#) the murder on a supposed “CIA asset” working at the Ambassador Hotel when the assassination occurred. Kennedy Jr. has even [incorrectly claimed](#) that the very phrase “conspiracy theory” was invented by the CIA after his uncle’s assassination as part of an effort to discredit anyone who claimed that Lee Harvey Oswald, hadn’t acted alone. Kennedy Jr. is [paranoid](#) that the CIA may assassinate him as well, stating that he is “aware” of the “danger” he is in by running for office.

Kennedy Developed An Elaborate Conspiracy Theory About George W. Bush Stealing The 2004 Election Using Diebold Voting Machines And Will Only Say That He “Thinks” Joe Biden Won The 2020 Election. In 2006, Kennedy wrote a lengthy story for [Rolling Stone](#) claiming the Republican Party had “mounted a massive, coordinated campaign to subvert the will of the people in 2004,” stealing the election in Ohio via Diebold voting machines. Kennedy remains doubtful about the integrity of US elections, recently [equivocating](#) to a *Washington Post* reporter about the 2020 election, saying, “I don’t know. I think that Biden won.”

Far-Right Views

Kennedy Opposes Common Sense Gun Control, Believes Antidepressants Are Causing School Shootings. When asked at a town hall what he would do to halt the proliferation of semi-automatic weapons, Kennedy [said](#), “I’m not going to take people’s guns away” and that there is nothing policymakers can “meaningfully” do through gun control to reduce the gun violence epidemic in America. In a Twitter Spaces appearance with Elon Musk, Kennedy [blamed](#) antidepressants and pharmaceutical drugs for school shootings, claiming that, “Prior to the introduction of Prozac, we had almost none of these events in our country and

we've never seen them in human history, where people walk into a schoolroom of children or strangers and start shooting people.”

Kennedy Echoes Extreme Right-Wing Rhetoric About “Sealing” The “Dystopian” Border Between The US And Mexico. Kennedy’s extreme positions on immigration and foreign policy make him sound more like a candidate in the Republican primary. He [says](#) he would “seal the [U.S.-Mexico] border permanently” and [make](#) it “impervious” to immigration. and In [interviews](#) with the right-wing outlet [NewsNation](#), Kennedy said the border is a “dystopian nightmare” and that no immigration reform can happen until the border is sealed. In another [interview](#) on a Republican radio show, Kennedy slammed Joe Biden’s immigration policy and said the United States “should have closed borders.”

Kennedy Has Fully Embraced Russian Propaganda About The War In Ukraine. Kennedy has [called](#) US support for Ukraine’s resistance to Russian invasion a “proxy war” between the United States and Russia that is “terrible for the Ukrainian people.” Kennedy [blames](#) Ukrainian President Zelensky for Russia’s invasion, and in a SiriusXM radio interview with Steve Scully, he [claimed](#) that the Russians were acting “in good faith” in Ukraine while America supposedly wants to prolong the war. Kennedy has been [quoted approvingly](#) by Russian outlet RT for saying that the US “should have listened to Putin over many years” and that the US is “sacrificing” Ukrainian lives by supporting their fight against Russian invasion. Kennedy is now boosting the [right-wing conspiracy theory](#) that President Biden’s standard call up of reserve troops to participate in Operation Atlantic Resolve – a rotational deployment of US troops to Europe that has been happening since 2014 – is actually preparation for a “ground war with Russia.”

RFK Jr. Is A Republican Stooge, Embraced By The Far-Right In An Attempt To Damage Joe Biden

Kennedy Is A Regular On Right-Wing Media And At Far-Right Events. Kennedy has become a regular on Fox News and other right-wing outlets, including a [warm family portrait](#) on Fox Nation and softball interviews with [Laura Ingraham](#) and [Sean Hannity](#). An anonymous Fox producer told [Rolling Stone](#) that “Management loves RFK [Jr.] coverage because it makes Biden look weak.” Kennedy was one of Tucker Carlson’s [final guests](#) on Fox News and after Carlson’s firing, Kennedy [defended](#) his “courageous” stand against vaccines and claimed that Carlson was fired because he “crosse[d] the red line by acknowledging that the TV networks pushed a deadly and ineffective vaccine to please their Pharma advertisers.” Kennedy has done a [flurry](#) of appearances on right-wing, libertarian, and conspiratorial podcasts, from The Joe Rogan Experience to shows hosted by Jordan Peterson, Megyn Kelly, actor Russell Brand and venture capitalists David Sacks, Jason Calacanis, Chamath Palihapitiya, and David Friedberg. In June, Kennedy was a featured speaker at the Porcupine Freedom Festival, an annual [far-right libertarian festival](#) in New Hampshire and he was originally scheduled to appear alongside several GOP presidential candidates, including Donald Trump at the conference for the right-wing book-banning organization, Moms for Liberty, before [dropping out](#) at the last minute.

Kennedy Is “Proud That President Trump Likes Me,” Describes His Relationship With Ron DeSantis As “Extremely Friendly,” And Refuses To Commit To Supporting Joe Biden If He Is The Nominee Of The Democratic Party. Although Kennedy is running in the Democratic primary he has [refused to commit](#) to supporting Joe Biden if he is the nominee of the party. When a writer for *The Atlantic* [asked](#) Kennedy what he thought would be more harmful to the country: four more years of Biden or another term for Trump, he responded “I can’t answer that” and suggested that Joe Biden would start a nuclear war with Russia. Kennedy has long been friendly with Donald Trump and according to a report in *Time* magazine once “flew his family on Trump’s private jet.” Kennedy met with Trump shortly after his 2016 election to discuss the danger of vaccines, though he now says Trump has “sold out to Pfizer.” During Kennedy’s 2023 presidential campaign, Trump praised him as a “smart” and “common sense guy” and Kennedy [responded](#) that he was “proud that President Trump likes me.” Kennedy also [describes](#) his relationship with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis as “extremely friendly.” The two recently had [breakfast](#) and Kennedy expressed support for DeSantis’s plan to “burn” the NIH “to the ground” if elected president.

Republican Donors Are Fueling Kennedy’s Campaign. Republican megadonors, including wealthy [Ron DeSantis supporters David Sacks](#) and [Omeed Malik](#), are fundraising for Kennedy. He has also been endorsed by the founder of Twitter, [Jack Dorsey](#), and implicitly supported by [Elon Musk](#). “Anti-woke” [hedge fund manager](#) Bill Ackman has also [contributed](#) the maximum amount to Kennedy’s campaign. A Politico [analysis](#) found that Republican donors are Kennedy’s “secret fundraising success” and that his campaign has raked in at least \$100,000 from donors who previously gave to Ron DeSantis or Donald Trump. Another analysis in the [Popular Info](#) newsletter found that through June 30, Kennedy’s campaign has collected the maximum, \$6,600, from 96 individuals. Of that group, 37 individuals have previously only donated to Republican candidates for federal office and only 19 have a history of consistently supporting Democratic candidates.

Far-Right Trump Allies Have Embraced Kennedy’s Candidacy And Suggested Him As A Running Mate For Donald Trump. Far-right provocateurs and Donald Trump allies Roger Stone, Steve Bannon, Alex Jones, and Michael Flynn have [heaped praise](#) on Kennedy. [Rudy Giuliani](#), [Ted Cruz](#), and far-right Congressmen [Chip Roy](#) and [Jim Banks](#) have also tweeted positive comments about Kennedy and his campaign. Kennedy’s MAGA fan club includes:

- **Steve Bannon:** Long before his 2024 campaign, Bannon has spent [years](#) promoting Kennedy and his crackpot vaccine conspiracy theories. “Bobby Kennedy would be, I think, an excellent choice for President Trump to consider” as a running mate, [Bannon said](#) recently on his “War Room” show.
- **Roger Stone:** Roger Stone, a [key promoter](#) of the violence at the Capitol on January 6 and one of Trump’s early political advisers who is currently back in [Trump’s close orbit](#), has also [called](#) Trump-Kennedy a “dream ticket.” Stone has also explicitly [stated](#) that he is supporting Kennedy because his candidacy “will help in the end soften Joe Biden up for his defeat by Donald Trump.”
- **Michael Flynn:** Michael Flynn, Trump’s former national security adviser and far-right [Christian nationalist](#) conspiracy theorist, has [tweeted](#), “I am really starting to like this

presidential candidate's attitude." Kennedy has also [appeared](#) as a "featured speaker" on Flynn's pro-Trump ReAwaken America tour.

- **Alex Jones:** Alex Jones [endorsed](#) Kennedy's candidacy on his InfoWars conspiracy show. Jones, who was recently [ordered](#) to pay more than \$1 billion in damages to families of the victims of the Sandy Hook massacre for his lies about the 2012 school shooting, has frequently promoted Kennedy and hosted him for several [interviews](#).
- **Sen. Ron Johnson:** Senator Ron Johnson of Wisconsin, one of the most extreme far-right members of the Senate, said that he [hopes](#) Kennedy "gains traction and wins the nomination." Johnson said Kennedy had "extraordinary political courage" and had earned his "respect."
- **James O'Keefe:** Far-right activist and Project Veritas founder James O'Keefe, who is notorious for [telling lies](#) and using deceptively edited videos to attack ACORN, Planned Parenthood, and other Democratic groups, calls Kennedy his "[friend](#)" and congratulated him on his presidential campaign announcement. Kennedy has returned the favor and [praised](#) O'Keefe's "reporting" and was the [first guest](#) on his new podcast this spring.
- **Charlie Kirk:** Influential right-wing group Turning Point USA head [Charlie Kirk](#) called Kennedy "one of the most articulate and thoughtful political activists going after the administrative state."
- **Steve Deace:** Conservative talk show host [Steve Deace](#) posted a picture with Kennedy on Twitter saying, "As long as he doesn't go trans, a man with high character and courage like RFK Jr will be tempting."

Kennedy Has Cultivated Donors And Allies Who Plotted And Participated In The January 6 Attack On The US Capitol. A report from the [Associated Press](#) found that "Kennedy's anti-vaccine message has brought him close to many leading figures who have attacked the nation's democratic norms and institutions." An Instagram [photo](#) from 2022 taken backstage at a Reawaken America event shows Kennedy alongside Roger Stone, [anti-vaccine profiteer Charlene Bollinger](#), and Michael Flynn, all of whom have pushed the lie that the 2020 election was stolen. Kennedy has appeared at multiple events with Bollinger and her husband, even after their United Medical Freedom super PAC sponsored a pro-Trump rally near the Capitol on January 6, when Bollinger [celebrated](#) the attack and her husband tried to enter the Capitol. Kennedy filmed a video conversation for their super PAC in the spring following the January 6 attack and the United Medical Freedom website [hosted](#) an interview between Bollinger and Kennedy as recently as February 2023.

A Pro-Kennedy Super PAC Is Organized By A Republican Firm That Has Previously Worked With Marjorie Taylor Greene And George Santos. An investigation in [Rolling Stone](#) found that a super PAC called "Heal the Divide" that is intended to support Kennedy's candidacy was created by a MAGA-aligned political consulting firm in Georgia. The Heal the Divide website's terms of service appeared to have been copied and pasted from MAGA PAC, a Trump Super PAC, and the terms incorrectly refers to the Heal the Divide site as MAGApac.com. RTA Strategies, the firm that created Heal the Divide has worked for MAGA superstar Rep.

Marjorie Taylor Greene, Trump ally Herschel Walker, and for scandal-plagued Republican Congressman George Santos.

Kennedy’s Anti-Vax Nonprofit Made An Illegal Contribution To The Republican Attorney Generals Association In 2021. Kennedy’s partnerships with Republicans began before his presidential campaign. In July 2021 Children’s Health Defense [illegally donated](#) \$50,000 to the Republican Attorneys General Association. Children’s Health Defense claimed at the time that the “fee” was in exchange for an opportunity “to educate attorneys general on health policy issues.” RAGA returned the donation in February 2022 after it was publicly reported by the Popular Information newsletter. In December 2021, a member of RAGA’s leadership, Louisiana Attorney General Jeff Landry, [invited](#) Kennedy to testify alongside him against school vaccine requirements. During his appearance, Kennedy told countless lies about vaccine safety and repeated his [“pants on fire”](#) claim that the Covid vaccine is the “deadliest vaccine ever made.”

Kennedy’s Polling Is Only Improving With Republicans. A *Washington Post* [analysis](#) on June 28 found that Kennedy “is surging only in polls among Republicans.” Tracking changes in Kennedy’s polling over time found that improvement in the percentage of respondents who say they view Kennedy favorably ticked up slightly was solely a function of improvement among non-Democrats. In YouGov polling in April 2023¹, Kennedy’s net favorability was at plus-20 overall and slightly lower among both Democrats and Republicans. By June, his net favorability among Republicans had jumped to plus-29, while it had fallen to plus-7 among Democrats.

RFK Jr’s Claims Of Being Censored By The Biden Administration Are False

Kennedy Is Only Using His Appearance Before The Weaponization Subcommittee To Score Political Points and Attack His Opponents. According to [Newsweek](#), Kennedy is expected to use his appearance at the select subcommittee hearing “to attack one of his political opponents — Joe Biden.” Further, committee chair Jim Jordan [said](#) the hearing would demonstrate that “the Biden administration is trying to censor their Democrat opponent,” and [suggested](#) that he texts regularly with a former Congressman managing Kennedy’s campaign.

RFK Jr.: Top Spreader of Dangerous Misinformation About Vaccines

Part of the ‘Disinformation Dozen’: Kennedy Was Named A Top Spreader Of Misinformation About Covid-19 Vaccines. Kennedy, who was named one of the [top spreaders of misinformation about COVID-19 vaccines](#) on social media in 2021, has used his online platform on various social media networks. The Center for Countering Digital Hate named him one of their “Disinformation Dozen,” a group of 12 influential figures responsible for producing [65 percent](#) of the shares of anti-vaccine misinformation on social media platforms.

‘Super-Spreader-In-Chief’: Independent Analysts Have Found That Kennedy’s Misinformation Achieved A Greater Level Of Impact Than Other Top Spreaders. According to an [analysis](#) of more than 145,000 Facebook and Instagram posts featuring verified examples of misinformation, Kennedy’s posts “achieved a greater level of impact than anyone else’s,” prompting one news outlet to label him the [“super-spreader-in-chief”](#) of anti-vaxx conspiracy theories. As his social media following [tripled](#) during the pandemic, his engagement

exceeded even former President Trump’s posts featuring medical misinformation: “Among all the medical misinformation posts we gathered from Instagram since January, his account receives the highest number of mentions – 95 in total, more than President Donald Trump. [...] Fundamental to this conspiracy mindset is the idea of ‘censorship’, a term that was mentioned in more than 900 posts in our sample. It provides the ultimate defense. When one of Kennedy’s Instagram posts was marked as partly false by fact-checkers in May, a follower responded: ‘Who do they think they are to tell us what is false and what not? If the truth doesn’t fit into their narrative, they call it false and take it down. We shall not be silenced!’”

Social Media Companies – Not The Government – Have Removed Kennedy’s Content For Violating Rules About Vaccine Misinformation

Meta Banned Kennedy’s Nonprofit Organization From Facebook and Instagram For Spreading Disinformation About Covid-19. In February 2021, Meta [banned](#) Kenney from Instagram after he spread disinformation about Covid-19 vaccines. Just months later, RFK Jr.’s nonprofit was [banned](#) from Instagram and Facebook for peddling similar conspiracy theories as fact. Kennedy has wallowed in martyrdom, complaining that Big Tech is silencing him for “disagreeing.”

- **Twitter Flagged A Tweet From RFK Jr. Baselessly Raising Concerns About “Suspicious Deaths” Due To Vaccines.** Kennedy [used](#) the death of a famous baseball player to spread a conspiracy about “a wave of suspicious deaths among elderly closely following administration of #COVID #vaccines” – even though the player was [86 years old](#) and the medical examiner [made clear](#) that there was “no evidence of the coronavirus vaccine playing a role in Aaron’s demise.” Because the tweet was intended to discourage the elderly from getting vaccinated against Covid-19, a Biden administration staffer said he “wanted to flag” the tweet for violating company policy.

Kennedy’s Anti-Vaccine Rhetoric Was Removed From YouTube For Violating A Longstanding Ban on False Medical Information. In June 2023, YouTube [removed](#) a video of Kennedy spreading vaccine misinformation on a podcast. Though he decried the removal as so-called censorship by social media companies, his rhetoric violated long standing policies against false medical information: “We removed a video from the Jordan Peterson channel for violating YouTube’s general vaccine misinformation policy, which prohibits content that alleges that vaccines cause chronic side effects, outside of rare side effects that are recognized by health authorities.”

Kennedy Is Suing The Biden Administration & Numerous Top Media Outlets, Alleging Censorship Even Though His Dangerous Lies Violated Social Media Companies’ Terms and Conditions. In January 2023, Kennedy filed a [lawsuit](#) against the Biden administration and top media outlets for removing and debunking his dangerous lies: “He accuses the White House of orchestrating his de-platforming. He is suing the Biden administration and [media outlets](#) including The Associated Press, *The Washington Post*, the BBC, and Reuters for alleged censorship. For Kennedy, his conviction that he’s being censored is another example of the collusion between government agencies and corporations that he believes is the root of the United States’ problems. He was kicked off Instagram, along with his



organization, Children's Health Defense, which was also removed from Facebook (Instagram reinstated Kennedy after he announced his presidential bid).”

- **Kennedy Attempted To Join A MAGA Effort To Limit The Government’s Ability to Fight Misinformation.** In April 2023, Kennedy filed a motion attempting to [consolidate](#) his lawsuit with an existing [conspiratorial case](#) initiated by several far-right state attorneys general, spurred by the so-called Twitter Files, seeking to bar the federal government from efforts to fight misinformation. On Independence Day 2023, a Trump-appointed judge [ruled](#) in favor of the Republican plaintiffs.