## The SQUINTSTAGRAM™

Fighting COVID-19 Misinformation

## February 8, 2020—Part 1—Conspiracy Theories

As part of our SQUINT for fighting COVID-19 misinformation, we received a publicly available Facebook posting that is a veritable smorgasbord of misinformation. The five claims that we have identified in it are representative of the major misinformation themes and distortions that are currently prevalent on Social Media. This is Part 1 of a 2-part focus on three "conspiracy" issues. Part 2 will discuss two vaccine side effect claims.

Misinformation Claim 1: The COVID-19 variants are a result of starting widespread COVID-19 vaccinations. Facts: Source (https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/transmission/variant.html). Viruses such as the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 constantly change over time and multiple variants have been documented during this pandemic. Of the three best known variants, B.1.1.7 (United Kingdom Variant), B.351 (South Africa Variant), and P.1 (Brazil Variant), the B.1.1.7 variant was detected in the fall of 2020 and the B.351 variant was detected in early October 2020 before widespread vaccinations began.

**Misinformation Claim 2**: The United States will have mandatory vaccines and leverage Bill Gates' US PATENT 060606 (aka 666) to inject microchips as part of the vaccination. m.facebook.com/story/graphql\_permal...
nas anyone erse nonced that this virus
didn't start mutating until the vaccine
started to be distributed all around the

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started to be distributed all around the world. It mutated in the UK first where they first gave the vaccine to the public. Then after the USA started vaccinating , Americans who had the chinavirus was starting to have mutations in the virus strains too. This is just a few of the many things that make me go hmmm. Makes me want to ask all the questions no one is asking before they blindly take that vaccine. Especially if your a Trump supporter , never forget they have plans for us.

This is a new vaccine, that changes your RNA and DNA codes, and literally mutates them forever and can not be reversed. This is one of many vaccines coming down the pipeline.

If Biden has his way, it will be mandatory for all to get this vaccine in order to do anything in this country. If you wanna see where they are going with this vaccine just google US PATENT 060606, yeah i said (666) It was patented by none other than Bill Gates in April of 2020. Don't take my word for it. Google it, bing it, duck duck go it. It's there for all to see.

Not only was this chinavirus proven to be manmade, the mutations now happening are also manmade. Have you asked your representative who is gonna be held financially accountable if this vaccine is a disaster, as at least 50 people have died already and thousands have had pretty adverse side effects so far . All just from the first dose. The second dose has even worse side effects.

I wanna know why there is absolutely no transparency at all when it comes to this



Facts: Sources (https://fullfact.org/online/bill-gates-patent-microchips/,

https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/Pillars-of-Russia's-Disinformation-and-Propaganda-Ecosystem 08-04-20.pdf, and https://www.jhsph.edu/covid-19/articles/can-covid-19-vaccines-be-mandatory-in-the-u-s-and-who-decides.html). Multiple sources describe this as disinformation including the U.S. Department of State report referenced above which identifies the Russian Website *Geopolitca.ru* as publisher of this disinformation. While Microsoft did apply for a patent in 2019 under the identifier WO/2020/060606 (the patent has not yet been granted), it is for wearable technology such as smart watches and does not mention injecting microchips into people. As to the United States having a mandatory vaccine, Johns Hopkins School of Public Health published the article referenced above noting that the individual States and local governments have the authority to mandate "reasonable regulations as the safety of the general public may demand." Similar to mask wearing and other public health mandates, these are made at the State level and not at the federal level. Note that the recent Executive Order from President Biden is a requirement for Federal Buildings and Federal Lands only (https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/01/20/executive-order-protecting-the-federal-workforce-and-requiring-mask-wearing/) while encouraging State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials to issue similar mandates.

**Misinformation Claim 3**: The coronavirus that causes COVID-19 was manmade and the mutations are manmade.

Facts: Sources (https://apnews.com/article/9391149002 and

https://www.swtimes.com/story/news/2020/10/29/fact-check-coronavirus-not-man-made-orengineered-but-its-origin-remains-unclear/42908315/). Multiple news and scientific organizations have concluded that the coronavirus that causes COVID-19 was not manmade. Two news stories that reference these studies and that discredit the claims that the virus was manmade are referenced above.

To join SQUINT, help fight COVID-19 misinformation, and receive these updates, send an email to <u>squint@mitre.org</u>.