

# Political Polarization and Conspiracy Beliefs:

## A Dangerous Feedback Loop



How polarization fuels conspiracy thinking in divided societies

### Key Forces at Play



**Extremism and Ideological Rigidity**



**Populism and Distrust in Elites**



**Partisanship and Selective Mistrust**



**Radical Overconfidence**



**Emotional Drivers & Online Echo Chambers**



**Social Signaling and Group Identity**

### What This Means for Us

Fighting conspiracy beliefs requires more than fact-checking.  
We must address the emotional, social, and identity roots of belief.



**Bridge Ideological Divides**



**Foster Critical Thinking**



**Rebuild Trust & Dialogue**

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