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Tables

Table 1. Attitudes towards China and the United States in Kenya and South Africa (0 to 4 scale)

	Kenya $n = 970$		South Africa $n = 991$	
	China	US	China	US
X is competently and honestly governed.	1.79	2.35	1.44	1.67
X respects the rights of its citizens and treats them with fairness.	1.65	2.83	1.44	2.07
X behaves responsibly to protect the environment.	1.59	2.66	1.33	1.88
The media in X are free and objective.	1.42	3.00	1.26	2.20
X has a positive economic and political influence on Africa	2.53	2.88	2.14	2.23
X is a country where I would like to live and work.	1.10	2.97	1.03	2.26

Table 2. Kenyans' and South Africans' assessment of government responses to COVID-19 (0 to 4 scale)

	Kenya $n = 970$	South Africa $n = 991$
Chinese government response	2.38	2.07
US government response	1.89	1.51
WHO response	2.87	2.61
Own country's government response	2.22	2.77

Table 3. COVID-19 related attitudes in Kenya and South Africa (0 to 4 scale)

	Kenya $n = 970$	South Africa $n = 991$
I am extra cautious around Asian people to protect against COVID-19	1.74	1.52
One of the best ways to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is to stop immigration into our country	2.94	2.82
Because of COVID-19, my country should reduce its interactions with China	2.01	2.19
I find it racist when people refer to coronavirus as 'Chinese coronavirus' or 'Wuhan disease'	2.58	2.44
The global spread of COVID-19 was planned and orchestrated	2.23	2.10
COVID-19 emerged from natural conditions	1.61	1.84
COVID-19 was engineered in a laboratory	2.48	2.26
The scientific community is spreading fake news about COVID-19	1.33	1.68

Table 4. Motivations for sharing hoaxes related to China and COVID-19 by type of social media post (in percentages)

	Arrest of scientist		5G and COVID		Vaccine trials		Racism in China	
	KE	SA	KE	SA	KE	SA	KE	SA
One's Civic Duty	39.6	44.1	51.7	48.4	58.6	46.4	48.3	38.0
A form of social currency	1.3	2.1	0.7	0.9	0.0	1.0	1.3	0.9
Just for fun	1.3	4.8	2.2	2.8	0.7	2.4	8.1	9.0
Just in case it is true	7.8	4.3	10.3	12.4	6.5	8.6	4.4	8.6
Make a statement	2.2	6.4	3.7	4.6	17.3	17.2	22.5	23.1
Information should be free	3.9	5.3	3.0	10.1	4.3	8.1	3.0	3.6
Warn others post is fake	6.5	6.9	3.3	1.8	4.3	2.9	1.0	1.4
It is the truth	9.6	10.6	4.4	3.7	5.4	2.4	3.4	4.5
Generate discussion	40.9	30.3	42.4	27.6	29.1	28.2	29.2	17.2
Other motivations	13.5	9.0	10.3	11.1	6.5	12.0	7.4	13.6

Table 5. OLS Regression results for different motivations to share misinformation

| Predictor	Civic/Moral Duty b	Spark discussion b	Make a Statement b	Just in case b	Just for fun b	Warn it is fake b
(Intercept)	0.06	0.97**	-0.05	0.07	0.05	0.17**
Gender (0 = Female)	0.02	-0.14**	0.08**	-0.07**	0.04*	0.02
Age	0.00	-0.01**	0.00**	-0.00	0.00	-0.00
Country (0 = Kenya)	-0.12**	-0.16**	-0.00	0.02	0.02	-0.01
Attitudes towards China	0.03	-0.03	-0.02	0.01	-0.02*	-0.00
China's government response	0.04**	0.03	-0.03**	0.00	0.00	0.00
Xenophobic attitudes	0.04	-0.06**	0.00	0.02*	0.01	-0.02
Views on origins of virus	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.00
Perceived accuracy of posts	0.23**	-0.05*	0.10**	-0.01	-0.01	-0.04**
R^2	0.107**	0.050**	0.082**	0.018**	0.019**	0.035**
			$N = 1,278$			

$* p < .05. ** p < .01.$

Figures

a. Arrest of a Chinese scientist

b. Links between 5G towers and COVID-19
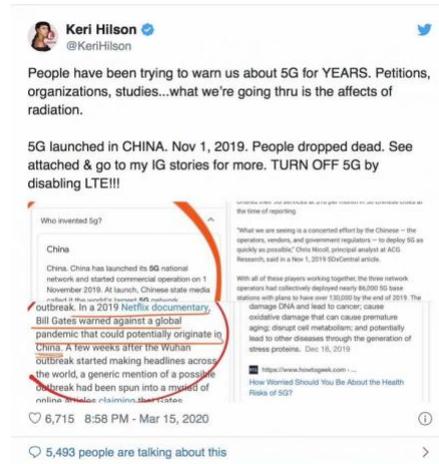
c. Racial tensions between Chinese and Africans

d. Chinese vaccine trials in Africa

Figure 1. Social media posts collected from AFP Fact Check that were used in the survey
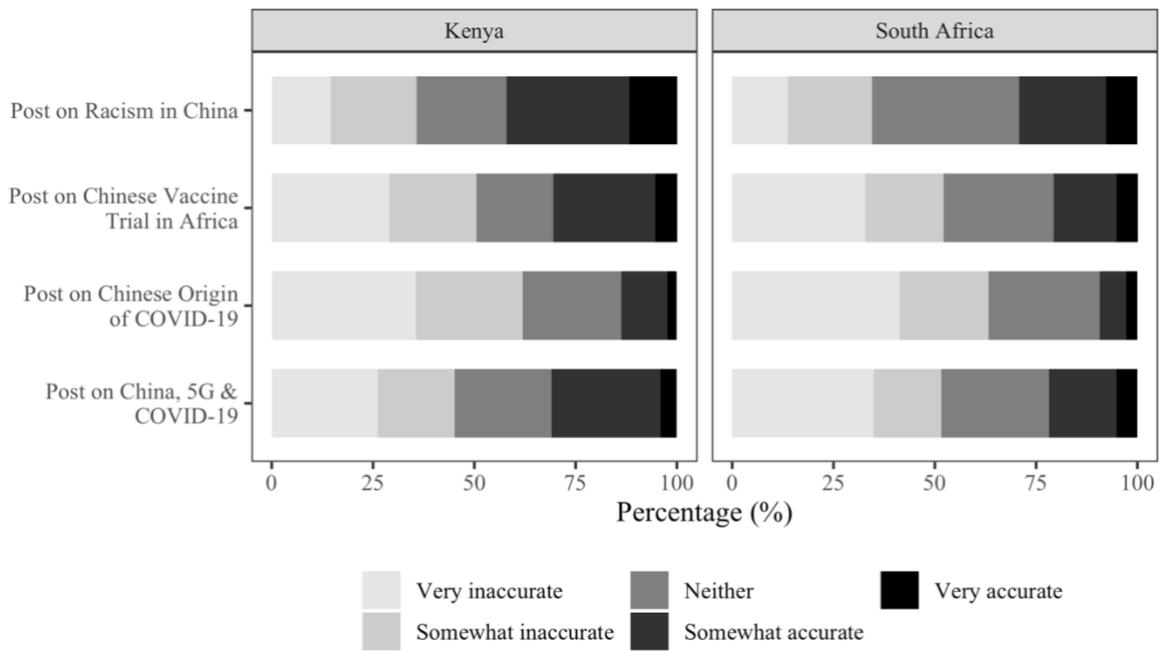
Figure 2. Perceived accuracy of hoaxes on social media about China and COVID-19 among Kenyans and South Africans