

# COVID, Climate and the Politics of Gender

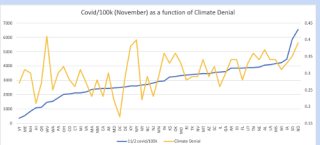
Kailee Atkinson and Dork Sahagian  
Lehigh University



Note anti-correlation: States with greater climate denial (orange) eschewed Female leadership (red) in 2016 presidential election.



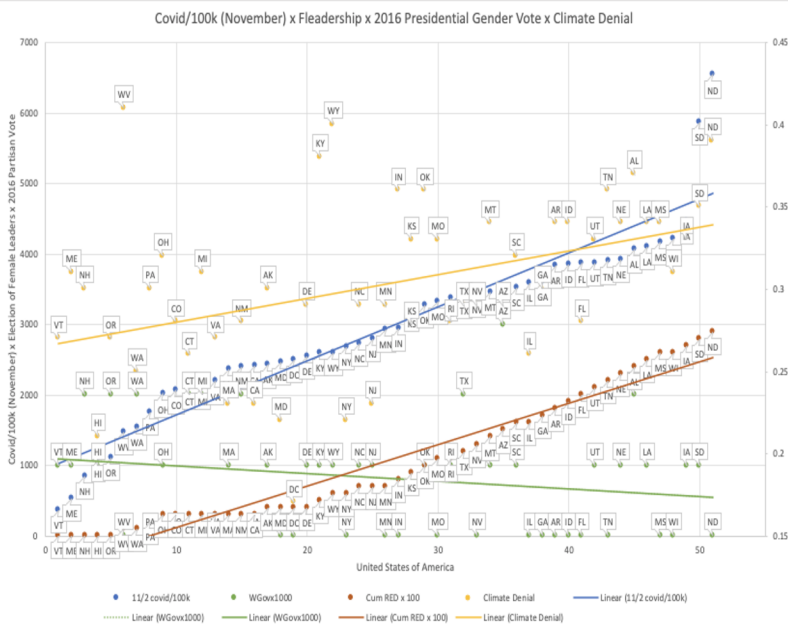
Weak but inverse correlation. Higher rates of climate denial, correlates with less leadership. (Includes all previous and current female governors.)



Strong correlation. Higher rates of climate denial, higher COVID/100k (as of Nov 2, 2020).



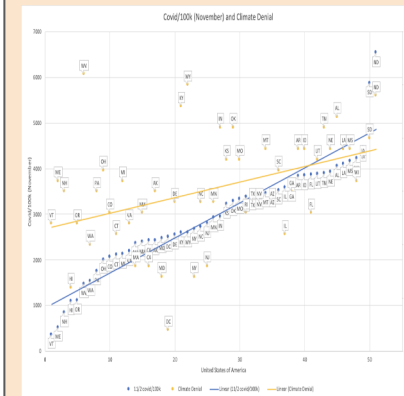
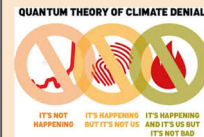
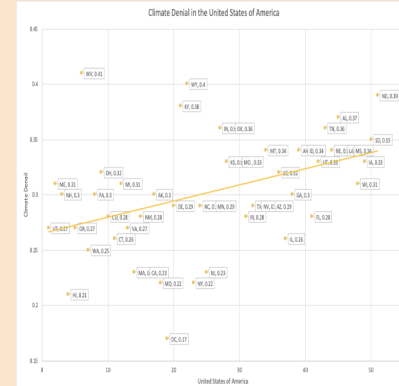
At the state level, populations who elect female governors are also more likely to understand or respect scientific results, and thus respond behaviorally with precautions to avoid COVID-19.



The red line indicates the 2016 Presidential gender vote, incrementing sequentially by 1 for each state that voted to reject female leadership and by 0 for each state that embraced it. There is a strong correlation between states that rejected female leadership in 2016, the highest rates of climate denial, and the greatest COVID/100k. Additionally, these states have generally elected less female governors. Thus raising the question; what matters most? Gender or party? Science or tribalism?

\*\*\* For all graphs, states are ordered on the x-axis with lowest COVID/100k on the left increasingly sequentially to highest COVID/100k on the right.

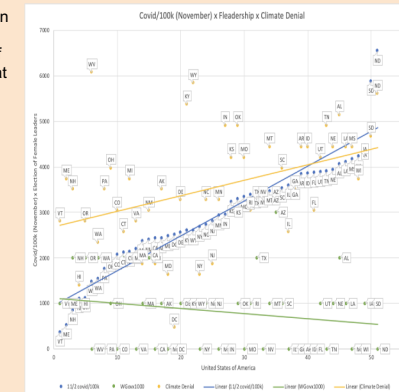
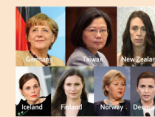
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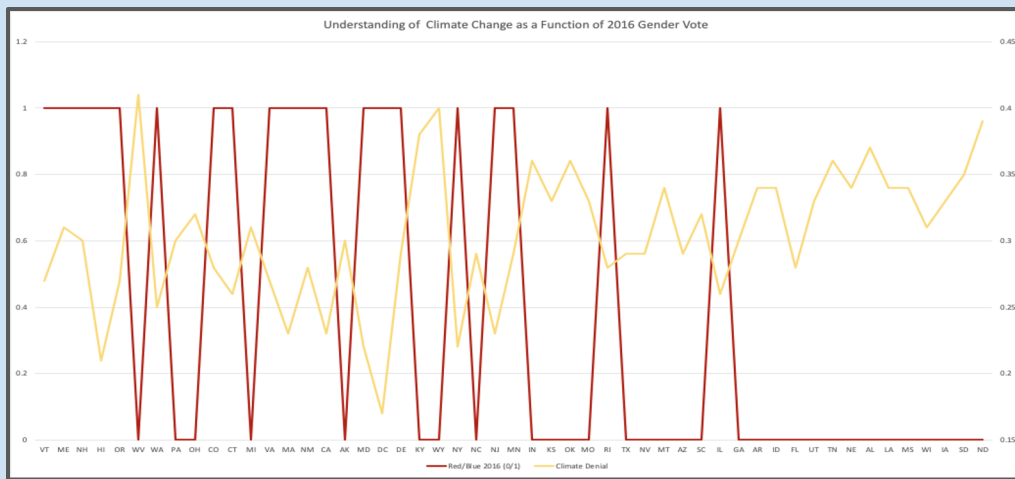


COVID/100k data points added for visual effect. There is a clear correlation here. I find the states that have the highest rates of covid/100k also see a trend in higher rates of climate denial.



Slight anticorrelation between high rates of COVID/100k, climate denial, and counts of female governors. States that have higher rates of covid, also have higher rates of climate denial and have elected less female governors.





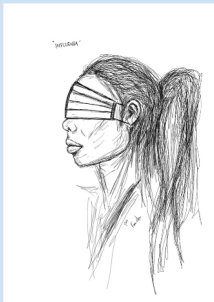
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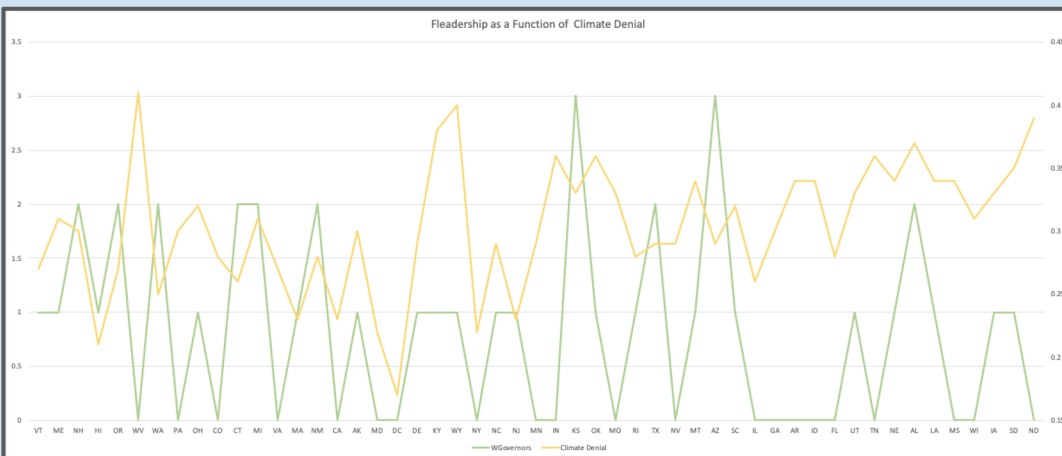
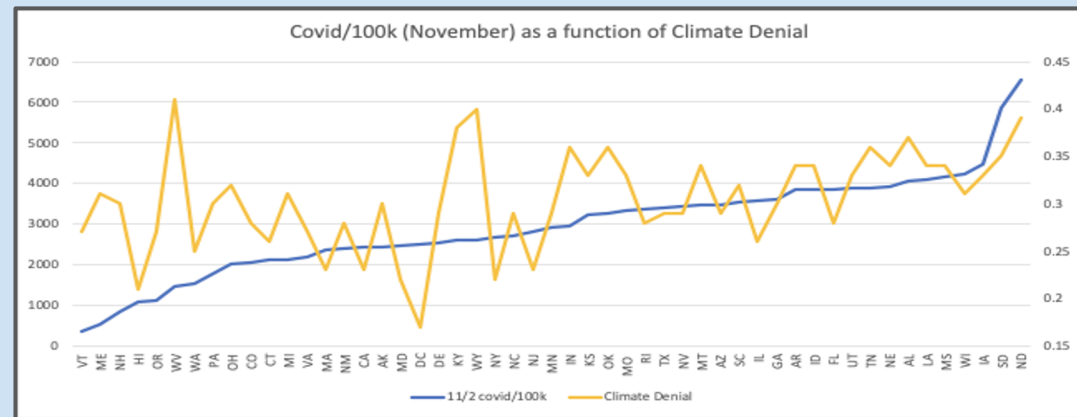


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Sources:  
NYT - Covid Data, sourced Nov 2, 2020  
CNN - 2016 Presidential Election Results  
Yale Climate Opinion Maps 2020



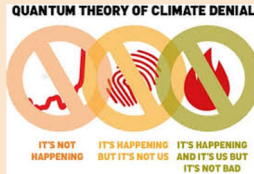
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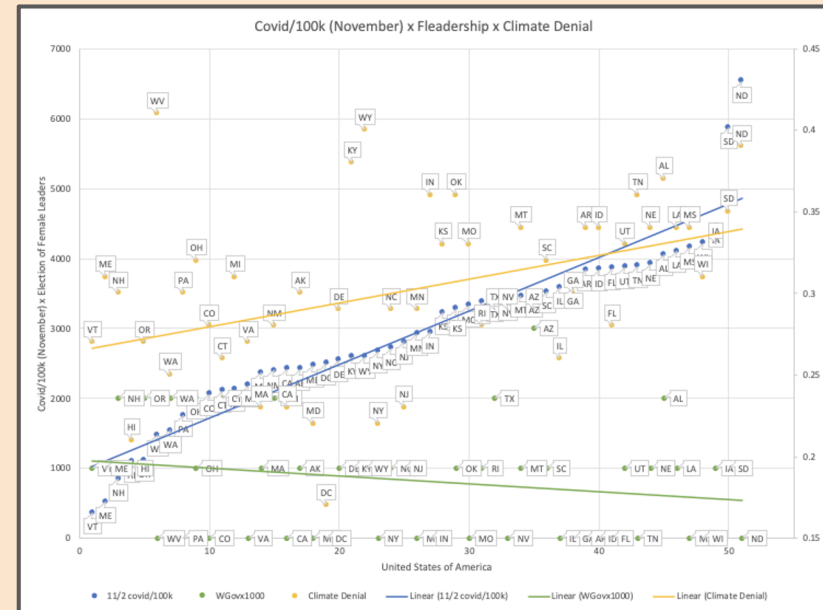
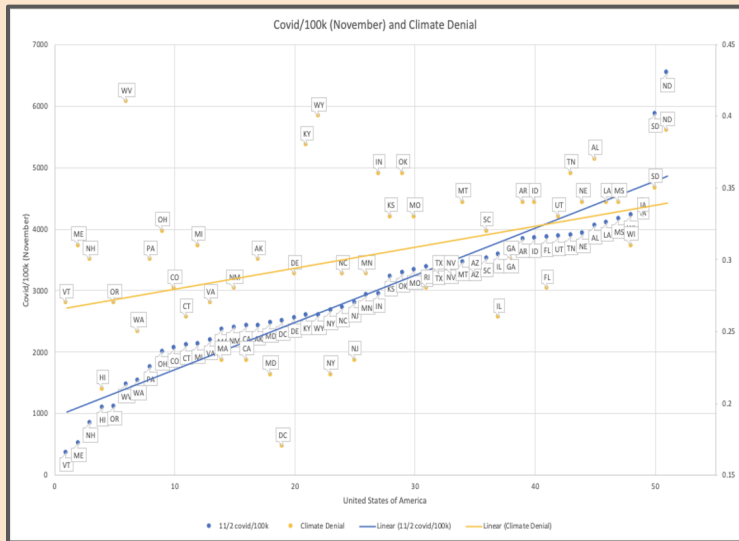
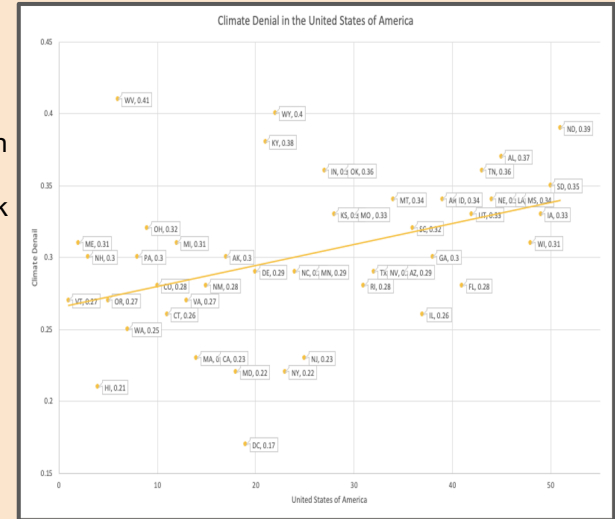
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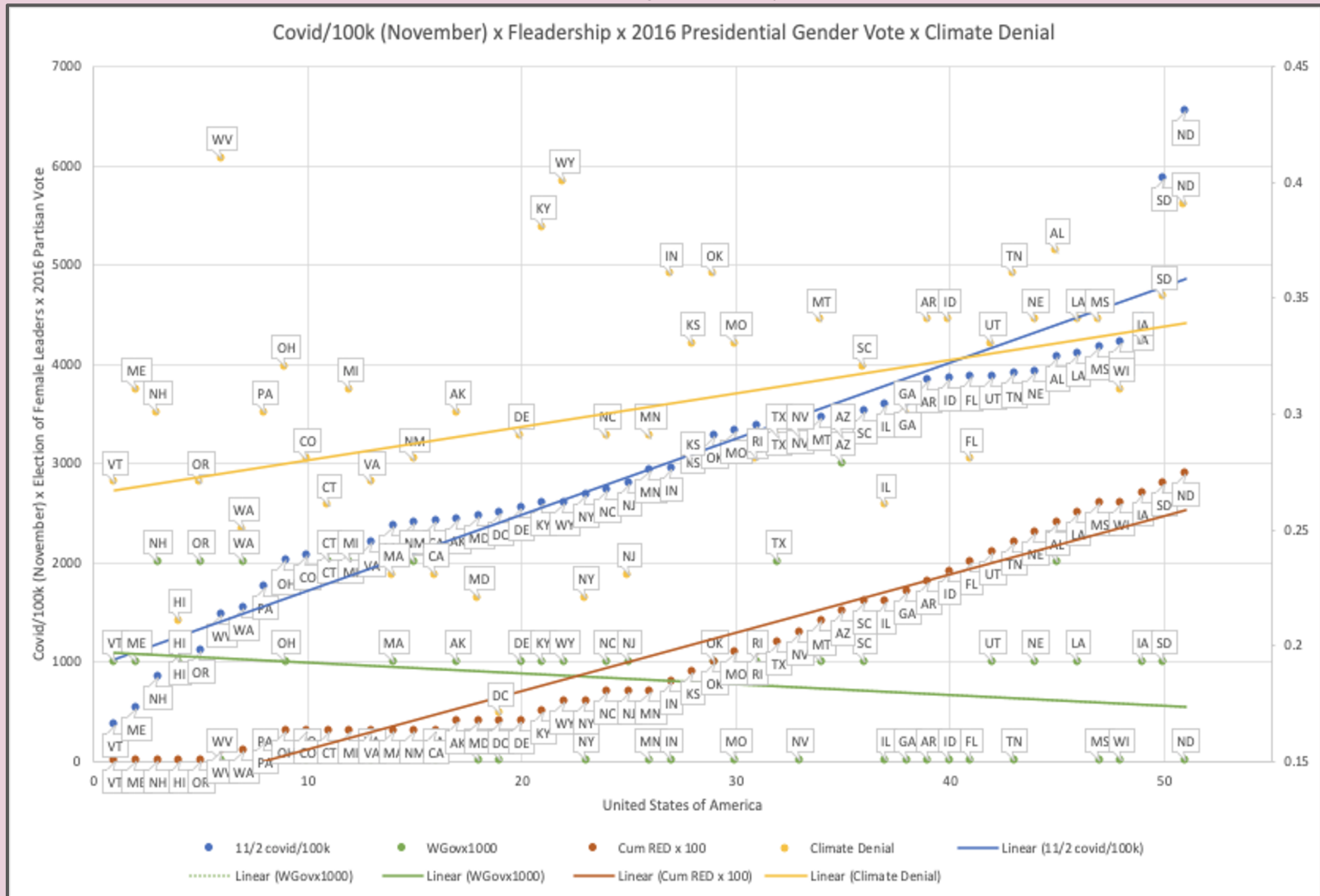
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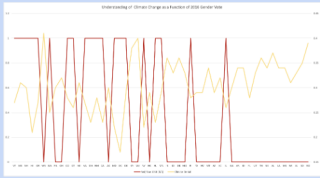
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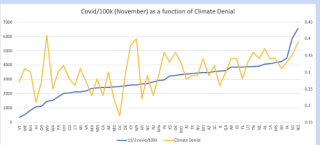
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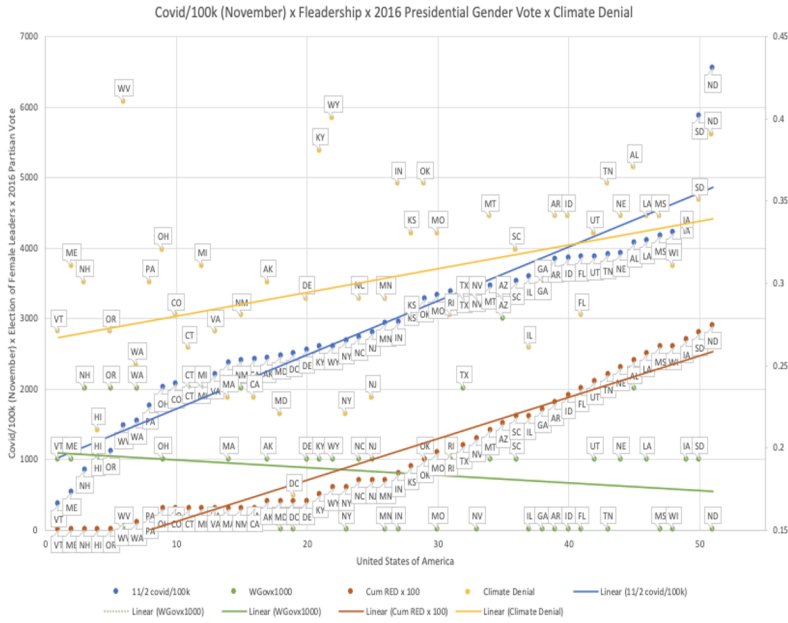
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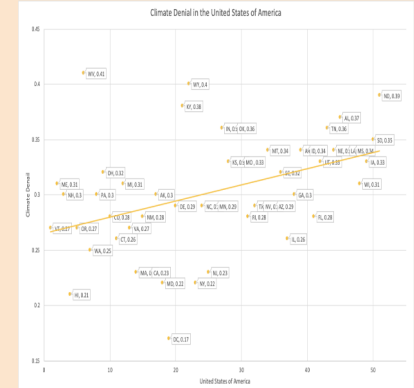
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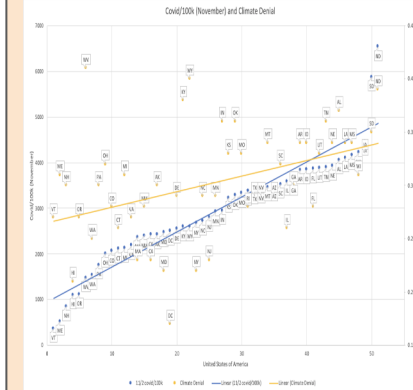
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## QUANTUM THEORY OF CLIMATE DENIAL



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