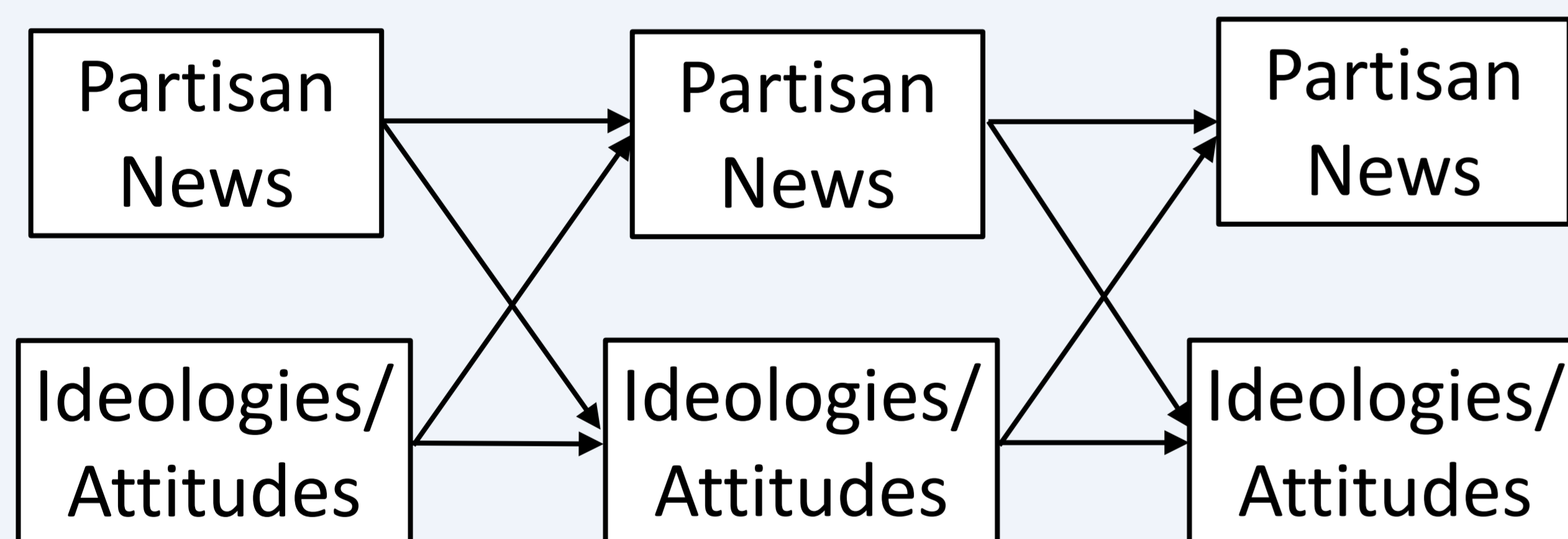


# Partisan News Consumption and Culture War Positioning: A Three-Wave Longitudinal Analysis

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## Introduction

- News media becoming increasingly partisan (e.g., Gentzkow & Shapiro, 2006; Jamieson & Cappella, 2008; Gasper, 2009)
- Mixed evidence regarding impact of partisan news on culture war positions (vs. self-selection for media that suits pre-existing preferences)
- Goal:** examine effects of partisan news consumption on culture war positions, and vice versa, over time

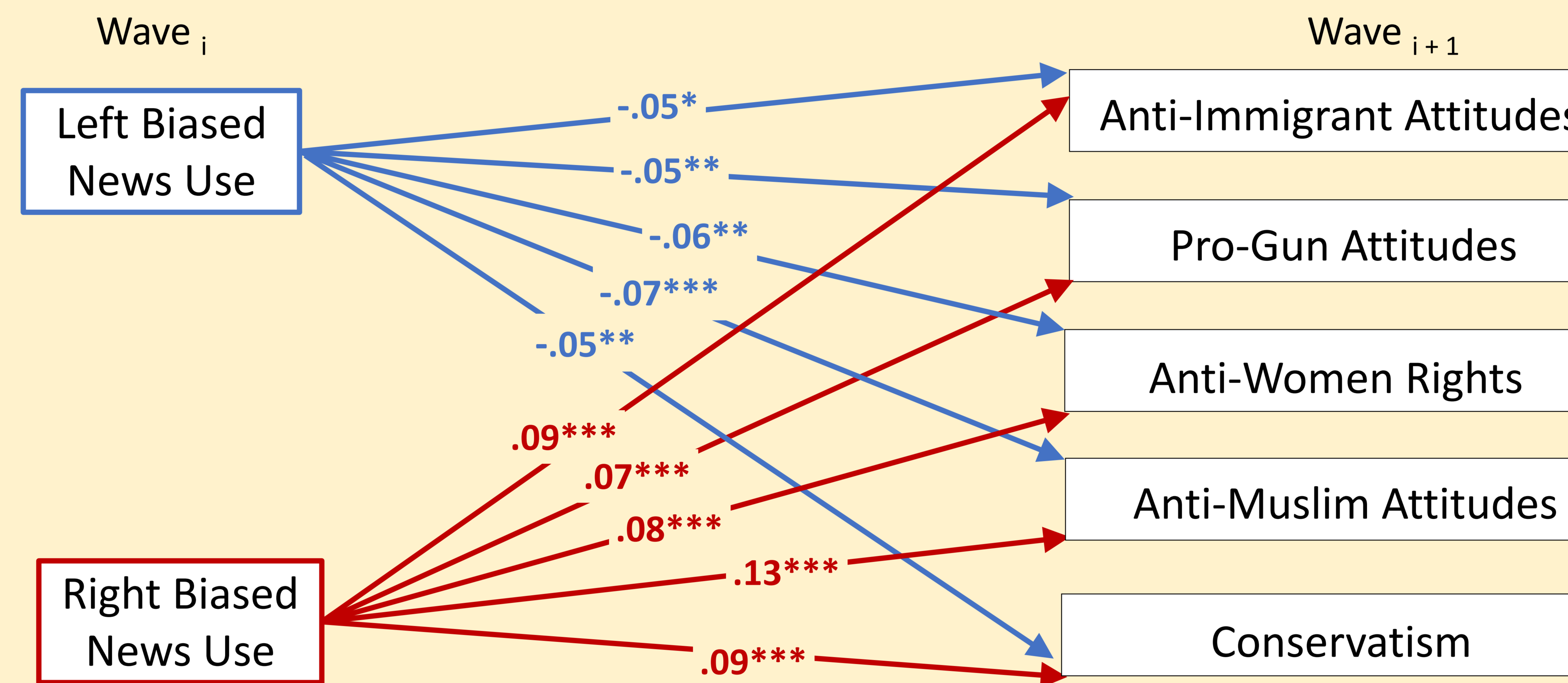


## Method

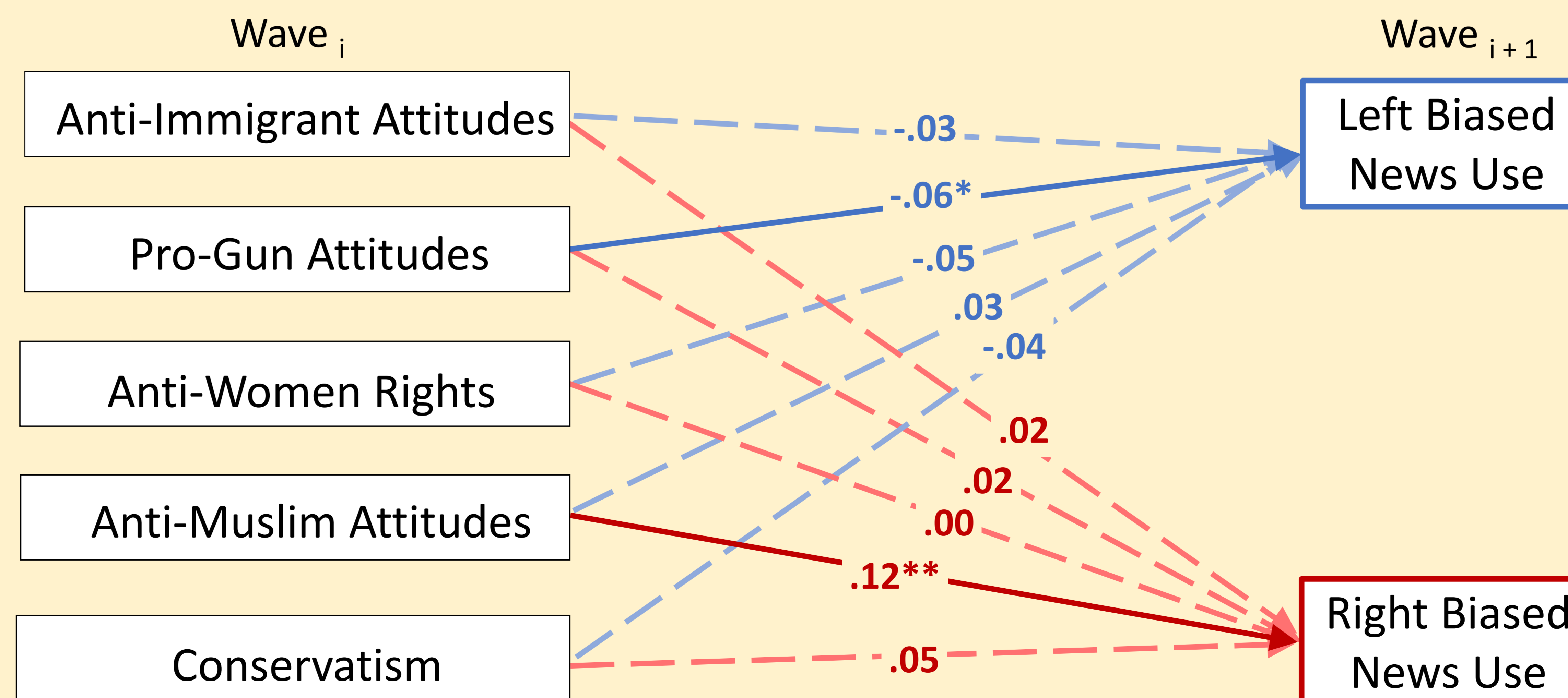
**Measures:** left-biased news use, right-biased news use, political ideology, anti-Muslim attitudes, anti-immigrant attitudes, terrorism imminence beliefs, attitudes toward women's rights activists, gun control attitudes

- 3 time points, 3 months apart,  $N = 484$

## Partisan News Use → Culture War Positions



## Culture War Positions → Partisan News Use



Note: Dashed lines are non-significant. Standardized coefficients shown. Results control for autoregressive and reverse paths. \*  $p < .05$ , \*\*  $p < .01$ , \*\*\*  $p < .001$

## Discussion

- Partisan news bias can play a crucial role in fostering divergent ideologies and culture war positions
- Implications for political polarization and public policy

## Supplemental

- Participants: 484 US MTurkers (57.1% male, Mage = 36.98, 80.6% White)
- 69.4% completed W2, 65.1% completed all Waves (April 2018, July 2018, October 2018)
- Left-biased: CNN, NBC, MSNBC, PBS, BBC, New York Times, Huffington Post, Washington Post, NPR, Politico, Al Jazeera, New Yorker ( $\alpha = .90$  all waves)
- Right-biased: FOX News, Blaze, Rush Limbaugh, Glenn Beck, Drudge, Breitbart ( $\alpha = .83-.84$ )
- Autoregressive paths  $\beta = .64 - .87$

		$\beta$	SE	p	95% CI	
					Lower	Upper
Left-biased news	→ Anti-immigrant	-0.05	0.02	.012	-0.09	-0.02
Left-biased news	→ Pro-gun	-0.05	0.02	.004	-0.08	-0.02
Left-biased news	→ Anti-women	-0.06	0.02	.004	-0.09	-0.02
Left-biased news	→ Anti-Muslim	-0.07	0.02	<.001	-0.09	-0.04
Left-biased news	→ Terror imminence	-0.03	0.03	.253	-0.08	0.01
Left-biased news	→ Conservatism	-0.05	0.02	.003	-0.08	-0.02
Right-biased news	→ Anti-immigrant	0.09	0.02	<.001	0.05	0.13
Right-biased news	→ Pro-gun	0.07	0.02	<.001	0.04	0.10
Right-biased news	→ Anti-women	0.08	0.02	<.001	0.05	0.12
Right-biased news	→ Anti-Muslim	0.13	0.02	<.001	0.09	0.17
Right-biased news	→ Terror imminence	0.04	0.03	.160	-0.01	0.08
Right-biased news	→ Conservatism	0.09	0.02	<.001	0.05	0.13
Anti-immigrant	→ Left-biased news	-0.03	0.03	.342	-0.08	0.02
Pro-gun	→ Left-biased news	-0.06	0.03	.039	-0.10	-0.01
Anti-women	→ Left-biased news	-0.05	0.03	.065	-0.09	-0.01
Anti-Muslim	→ Left-biased news	0.03	0.03	.406	-0.03	0.08
Terror imminence	→ Left-biased news	0.01	0.02	.523	-0.02	0.05
Conservatism	→ Left-biased news	-0.04	0.03	.182	-0.09	0.01
Anti-immigrant	→ Right-biased news	0.02	0.03	.637	-0.04	0.07
Pro-gun	→ Right-biased news	0.02	0.02	.468	-0.02	0.06
Anti-women	→ Right-biased news	0.00	0.02	.978	-0.04	0.04
Anti-Muslim	→ Right-biased news	0.12	0.03	.001	0.06	0.17
Terror imminence	→ Right-biased news	-0.02	0.02	.487	-0.05	0.02
Conservatism	→ Right-biased news	0.05	0.03	.083	0.00	0.09