Supplementary Appendix

Abandoning the Dead Donor Rule: A National Survey of Public Views on Death and Organ Donation

Order effects

To account for possible order effects, the vignette, general questions, and attitude scales modules were counterbalanced. In each case, the fact-check questions were presented two modules after the vignette, resulting in the following six conditions.

Table 1. Table of conditions

Condition 1	Condition 2	Condition 3	Condition 4	Condition 5	Condition 6
Vignette	Vignette	General	General	Scales	Scales
General	Scales	Scales	Vignette	Vignette	General
Scales	General	Vignette	Scales	General	Vignette
Fact-check	Fact-check	Open-ended	Open-ended	Open-ended	Open-ended
Open-ended	Open-ended	Demographics	Fact-check	Fact-check	Demographics
Demographics	Demographics	Fact-check	Demographics	Demographics	Fact-check

Order effects were first measured using ANOVA for all six conditions. Significant main effects were found in six of the nine outcome variables, the strongest of which were found in outcomes in the general questions module.

Table 2. Main effect of order

Vignette Questions	*F* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	2.28 (5, 1089)	.04[*]
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	0.92 (5, 1088)	.46
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	1.70 (5, 1089)	.13
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	2.71 (5, 1085)	.02[†]
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	0.87 (5, 1086)	.50
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	2.77 (5, 1089)	.02[†]
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	3.11 (5, 1085)	.009[†]
General Questions	***F* (df)**	***p***
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	14.20 (5, 1088)	<.001[‡]
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	14.76 (5, 1085)	<.001[‡]

*Tukey's post-hoc: no significant differences between conditions

†Tukey's post-hoc: significant differences only present between condition one and condition six (see table above)

‡Tukey's post-hoc: significant differences between most (but not all) condition pairings.

To further clarify the source of order effects, we collapsed the conditions into subgroups based on the order of the vignette, general questions, and attitude scales modules. This created six unique groups:

> *Order of Vignette and General Questions*
> Group A (Vignette before General Questions) = Conditions 1, 2, 5
> Group B (General Questions before Vignette) = Conditions 3, 4, 6
>
> *Order of Vignette and Scales*
> Group C (Vignette before Scales) = Conditions 1, 2, 4
> Group D (Scales before Vignette) = Conditions 3, 5, 6
>
> *Order of Scales and General Questions*
> Group E (Scales before General Questions) = Conditions 2, 5, 6
> Group F (General Questions before Scales) = Conditions 1, 3, 4

Independent-samples *t*-tests were run for each subset (*viz.*, Group A vs. B, C vs. D, and E vs. F). Significant differences were found in the subsets that evaluated the order of presentation of the vignette in relation to either of the other two modules. When the vignette was presented earlier, participants were more in favor of organ removal in the vignette and general questions modules, with a larger difference in responses to the general questions. No significant differences were found based on order of scales and general questions (Groups E and F), indicating that the placement of the vignette was the strongest driver of order effects.

Table 3. *t*-tests on order of vignette and general questions

Vignette Questions	*n* (A) *n* (B)	Mean Difference (SE)[*]	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	541 554	0.195 (.068)	0.169	2.87 (1093)	.004
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	540 554	-0.110 (.076)	-0.081	1.45 (1092)	.15
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	541 554	0.177 (.072)	0.138	2.47 (1093)	.01
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	539 552	-0.185 (.077)	-0.142	2.41 (1089)	.02
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	539 553	0.099 (.075)	0.081	1.32 (1090)	.19
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	542 553	0.209 (.068)	0.187	3.07 (1093)	.002
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	541 550	0.240 (.074)	0.222	3.25 (1089)	.001
General Questions	*n* (A) *n* (B)	Mean Difference (SE)[*]	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	542 552	.604 (.078)	0.471	7.71 (1092)	<.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	540 551	0.628 (.079)	0.482	7.92 (1089)	<.001

[*]M(vignette before general) – M(general before vignette)

Table 4. *t*-tests on order of vignette and scales

Vignette Questions	*n* (C) *n* (D)	Mean Difference (SE)*	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	548 547	0.134 (.068)	0.115	1.96 (1093)	.05
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	546 548	-0.147 (.076)	-0.119	1.93 (1092)	.05
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	547 548	0.149 (.072)	0.127	2.08 (1093)	.04
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	546 545	-0.190 (.077)	-0.150	2.48 (1089)	.01
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	546 546	0.020 (.075)	0.016	0.27 (1090)	.79
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	548 547	0.135 (.068)	0.115	1.99 (1093)	.05
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	547 544	0.194 (.074)	0.157	2.62 (1089)	.009
General Questions	***n* (C) *n* (D)**	**Mean Difference (SE)***	**Cohen's *d***	***t* (df)**	***p***
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	546 548	0.334 (.080)	0.258	4.18 (1092)	<.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	545 546	0.400 (.081)	0.301	4.97 (1089)	<.001

*M(vignette before scales) – M(scales before vignette)

Table 5. *t*-tests on order of scales and general questions

Vignette Questions	n (E) n (F)	Mean Difference (SE)*	Cohen's d	t (df)	p
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	543 552	-0.026 (.068)	-0.027	0.38 (1093)	.70
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	544 550	-0.011 (.076)	-0.008	0.14 (1092)	.89
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	544 551	-0.021 (.072)	-0.017	0.30 (1093)	.77
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	541 550	0.082 (.077)	0.063	1.06 (1089)	.29
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	540 552	-0.004 (.075)	0	0.06 (1090)	.95
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	543 552	-0.050 (.068)	-0.044	0.73 (1093)	.46
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	542 549	-0.063 (.074)	-0.057	0.85 (1089)	.39
General Questions	**n (E)** **n (F)**	**Mean Difference (SE)***	**Cohen's d**	**t (df)**	**p**
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	544 550	-0.056 (.080)	-0.045	0.69 (1092)	.49
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	541 550	-0.008 (.081)	0	0.10 (1089)	.92

*M(scales before general) – M(general before scales)

Attitudes toward euthanasia and organ donation; relations to demographic variables

The Attitudes toward Euthanasia scale[1] (ATE) is a 10-item validated scale that assessed attitudes toward euthanasia. Participants indicate their agreement using a 5-point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree to 5 = strongly agree, where 3 = undecided). None of the statements use the word "euthanasia." Conceptually, the scale reflects three dimensions: the active/passive distinction (i.e., "killing vs. letting die"), the reason for the termination of life (severe pain, no possibility of recovery), and locus of decision-making (patient request, doctor's decision). Sample statements include: "It is okay for a doctor to administer enough medicine to end a patient's life if the doctor does not believe that they will recover," "It is okay for a doctor to remove a patient's life-support and let them die if the doctor thinks that the patient's pain is too severe," and "Even if a doctor does not think that a patient will recover, it would be wrong for the doctor to end the life of a patient" (reverse scored). Higher scores indicate a more positive attitude toward euthanasia (scale range of 10-50).

The Organ Donation Attitude Scale[2] (ODAS) is an 18-item validated scale that assessed attitudes toward organ donation, described as occurring after death. Participants responded to each statement with a 4-point Likert-type scale (e.g., "I support organ donation", "I am willing to have my organs donated after my death", and "I believe that organ donation is mutilation to the body" (reverse scored)). Higher scores indicated more positive attitudes toward organ donation (scale range of 18-72).

Descriptive statistics on the ATE and ODAS scales are reported below. Pearson correlations were calculated to examine relations among ATE, ODAS, and demographic variables. Pearson correlations were also computed to assess relations between scores on the attitude scales and responses to vignette and general questions.

Education was assessed using the following categories of highest education achieved, which were converted to a numerical scale from 1-6:

> 1 = Never attended school or only attended kindergarten
>
> 2 = Grades 1 through 8 (elementary)
>
> 3 = Grades 9 through 11 (some high school)
>
> 4 = Grade 12 or GED (high school graduate)
>
> 5 = College 1 year to 3 years (some college or technical school)
>
> 6 = College 4 years or more (college graduate)

Religiousness and political views were measured with the following items, both on 10-point scales:

> I view myself as …… 1 (not religious)… 10 (very religious).
>
> Politically, I would describe myself as 1 (very conservative) … 5 (neither conservative nor liberal)... 10 (very liberal).

Table 6. Descriptive statistics and Cronbach's alpha for ATE and ODAS

	Cronbach's α	Mean (SD)	Range of scores	Scale range
ATE	.91	30.0 (8.78)	10-50	10-50
ODAS	.91	58.3 (8.87)	29-72	18-72

Table 7. Pearson correlations for ATE, ODAS, and demographic variables

	ATE, r (p)	ODAS, r (p)
ATE		.17 (<.001)
ODAS	.17 (<.001)	
Religiousness	-.19 (<.001)	-.12 (<.001)
Political Views	.17 (<.001)	.07 (.03)
Age	.10 (.001)	.18 (<.001)
Education	-.01 (.64)	.08 (.01)

Table 8. Pearson correlations for ATE, ODAS, and outcome variables

Vignette Questions	ATE, r (p)	ODAS, r (p)
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	.39 (<.001)	.39 (<.001)
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	-.28 (<.001)	-.32 (<.001)
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	.37 (<.001)	.36 (<.001)
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	-.26 (<.001)	-.39 (<.001)
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	.42 (<.001)	.32 (<.001)
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	.35 (<.001)	.42 (<.001)
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	.33 (<.001)	.49 (<.001)
General Questions	**ATE, r (p)**	**ODAS, r (p)**
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	.41 (<.001)	.31 (<.001)
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	.39 (<.001)	.42 (<.001)

ANOVA was used to assess differences on ATE and ODAS scores by race/ethnicity and by geographic region. No significant effects were found by geographic region (data not shown). Where main effects were found by race/ethnicity, Tukey's post hoc analyses were computed to further explore differences in attitudes toward organ donation and toward euthanasia by race/ethnicity.

Table 9. Main effect of race/ethnicity on ATE and ODAS

	F (df)	*p*
ATE	5.16 (6, 1073)	<.001
ODAS	13.64 (6, 1044)	<.001

Table 10. Post hoc analyses: Differences in ATE and ODAS by race/ethnicity

ATE		
Race/Ethnicity	**Mean Difference**	*p*
Black – White	-3.98	<.001
Black – Hispanic	-3.53	.05
Black – Asian/Pacific Islander	-5.12	.03
ODAS		
Race/Ethnicity	**Mean Difference**	*p*
White – Black	5.95	<.001
White – Hispanic	4.26	<.001
White – Asian/Pacific Islander	6.73	<.001

Relations between demographic variables and outcome variables

Pearson correlations were calculated to assess relations between selected demographic and outcome variables.

Table 11. Pearson correlations between selected demographic and outcome variables

Vignette Questions	Religiousness, r (p)	Political Views, r (p)	Age, r (p)	Education, r (p)
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	-.10 (.001)	.10 (.001)	.08 (.006)	.03 (.33)
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	.17 (<.001)	-.05 (.07)	-.11 (<.001)	-.03 (.36)
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	-.12 (<.001)	.14 (<.001)	.03 (.37)	.04 (.19)
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	.17 (<.001)	-.06 (.06)	-.12 (<.001)	-.05 (.12)
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	-.07 (.01)	.14 (<.001)	.08 (.01)	.01 (.73)
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	-.09 (.002)	.13 (<.001)	.05 (.07)	.04 (.15)
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	-.08 (.01)	.11 (<.001)	.07 (.03)	.01 (.65)
General Questions	**Religiousness, r (p)**	**Political Views, r (p)**	**Age, r (p)**	**Education, r (p)**
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	-.09 (.003)	.14 (<.001)	.03 (.26)	.05 (.08)
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	-.09 (.002)	.12 (<.001)	.05 (.08)	.06 (.03)

Analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used to assess differences by race/ethnicity and by geographic region on the following outcome variables. No significant effects were found by geographic region (data not shown). Where significant main effects were found, Tukey's post-hoc analyses were computed to further explore differences by race/ethnicity.

Table 12. Main effects of race/ethnicity on outcome variables

Vignette Questions		
	F (df)	p
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	2.40 (6, 1085)	.03
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	6.92 (6,1084)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	0.88 (6, 1085)	.51
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	6.19 (6, 1081)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	1.47 (6, 1082)	.19
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	1.64 (6, 1085)	.13
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	1.29 (6, 1081)	.26
General Questions		
	F (df)	p
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious, will never wake up again, and need a machine to keep them breathing.	1.21 (6, 1084)	.30
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	2.01 (6, 1081)	.06

Table 13. Post-hoc analyses: Differences in outcome variables by race/ethnicity

Outcome Variable	Race/Ethnicity	Mean Difference	p
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario[a]			
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason	White – Black	-0.66	<.001
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	White – Black	-0.58	<.001

[a]No significant differences between race/ethnicity groups

Relationship between willingness to donate organs after death and willingness to donate organs in irreversible coma

Pearson correlations were calculated between two individual items from the ODAS and selected outcome variables as a measure of the relation between willingness to donate after death and willingness to donate in irreversible coma (Table 14). Further, the 4-point Likert-type scale used on the ODAS was collapsed into two categories of "agree" and "disagree" for the same two items. The five-point Likert scale used on selected outcome variables was similarly collapsed into three categories of "agree", "unsure", and "disagree". The collapsed responses were then cross-tabulated as an additional measure of the relation between willingness to donate after death and willingness to donate in irreversible coma (Table 15).

Table 14. Relationship between willingness to donate after death and willingness to donate in irreversible coma

	I am willing to have my organs donated after my death (ODAS item)	I have signed an organ donor card or the back of my driver's license (ODAS item)
Vignette Questions	*r (p)*	*r (p)*
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	.53 (<.001)	.43 (<.001)
Assuming I had never spoken to my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a situation like Jason's.	.35 (<.001)	.32 (<.001)
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a situation like Jason's.	.40 (<.001)	.32 (<.001)
General Question	*r (p)*	*r (p)*
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious, would never wake up again, and needed a machine to breathe, but was not yet biologically dead.	.47 (<.001)	.39 (<.001)

Table 15. Willingness to donate after death cross-tabulated with willingness to donate in irreversible coma

		I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's. (Vignette)			
		Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Total
I am willing to have my organs donated after my death (ODAS)	Agree	691	137	87	915
	Disagree	37	50	85	172
	Total	728	187	172	1087
I have signed an organ donor card or the back of my driver's license (ODAS)	Agree	530	67	56	653
	Disagree	195	120	116	431
	Total	725	187	172	1084
		I would want to donate my organs if I was irreversibly unconscious but was not yet biologically dead (General Questions)			
		Agree	Unsure	Disagree	Total
I am willing to have my organs donated after my death (ODAS)	Agree	569	172	172	913
	Disagree	13	60	100	173
	Total	582	232	272	1086
I have signed an organ donor card or the back of my driver's license (ODAS)	Agree	449	96	107	652
	Disagree	132	136	164	432
	Total	581	232	271	1084

Relations between fact-check questions and outcome variables
Participants were asked five questions about relevant facts stated in the vignette to verify that they were giving their opinion based on the information in the scenario. Fifty percent (*n*=548) correctly responded to all five fact-check questions, 26% (*n*=285) correctly responded to four of five, and 24% (*n*=263) correctly responded to three or fewer.

Descriptive statistics (percent) are reported for each question below.

Question (Correct/Incorrect/Unsure)
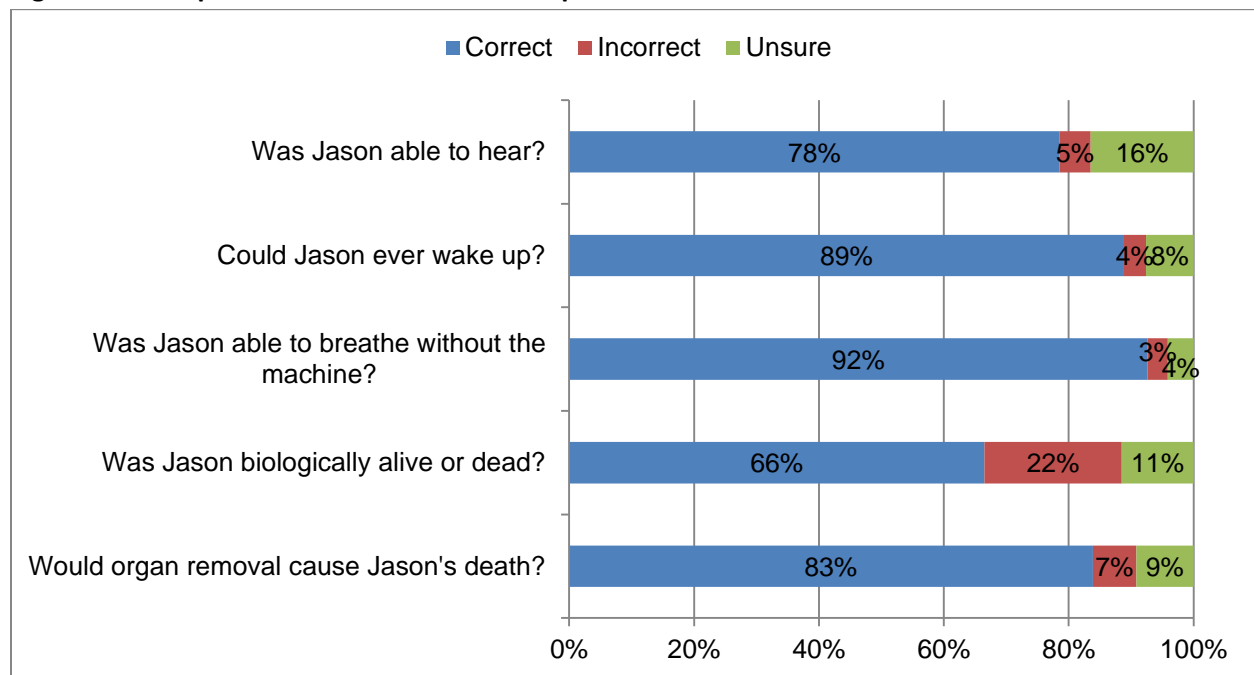
> Was Jason able to hear? (No/Yes/Unsure)
>
> Could Jason ever wake up? (No/Yes/Unsure)
>
> Was Jason able to breathe without the machine? (No/Yes/Unsure)
>
> Was Jason biologically alive or dead? (Alive/Dead/Unsure)
>
> Would organ removal cause Jason's death? (Organ removal would cause death/Organ removal would not cause death/Unsure)

Figure 1. Descriptive statistics for fact-check questions

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 due to rounding

Independent samples *t*-tests were used to assess differences in responses to outcome variables between those who responded correctly to fact-check questions and those who did not. All responses of "unsure" were scored as incorrect in the following analyses. In general, where differences were found, those who answered correctly were more likely to be in favor of organ removal in the vignette and general questions modules. Due to multiple comparisons, a conservative estimate of significance (Bonferroni's correction) would yield *p* = .05/9 = .006 for the following Tables 16-18.

Table 16. *t*-tests: Fact-check all correct vs. not

Vignette Questions	*n* (pass all) *n* (fail ≥1)	Mean Difference (SE)[*]	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	548 547	0.108 (.068)	0.097	1.58 (1093)	.11
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	548 546	-0.332 (.076)	-0.263	4.37 (1092)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	548 547	0.256 (.071)	0.212	3.59 (1093)	<.001
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	548 543	-0.488 (.075)	-0.393	6.47 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	546 546	0.002 (.075)	0	0.02 (1090)	.98
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	547 548	0.241 (.068)	0.213	3.54 (1093)	<.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	546 545	0.112 (.074)	0.090	1.51 (1089)	.13
General Questions	***n* (pass all) *n* (fail ≥1)**	**Mean Difference (SE)[*]**	**Cohen's *d***	***t* (df)**	***p***
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	547 547	0.110 (.080)	0.083	1.36 (1092)	.17
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	545 546	0.151 (.081)	0.119	1.86 (1089)	.06

[*] M(All pass) – M(fail one or more)

Table 17. *t*-tests: Fact-check 4 or more correct vs. 3 or less correct

Vignette Questions	n (pass ≥4) n (pass ≤3)	Mean Difference (SE)[*]	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	832 263	0.100 (.080)	0.090	1.25 (1093)	.21
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	833 261	-0.617 (.088)	-0.490	7.03 (1092)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	833 262	0.247 (.084)	0.202	2.95 (1093)	.003
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	832 259	-0.728 (.088)	-0.582	8.31 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	831 261	-0.070 (.088)	-0.057	0.80 (1090)	.43
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	832 263	0.259 (.080)	0.218	3.25 (1093)	.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	829 262	0.139 (.087)	0.117	1.60 (1089)	.11
General Questions	**n (pass ≥4)** **n (pass ≤3)**	**Mean Difference (SE)[*]**	**Cohen's *d***	***t* (df)**	***p***
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	831 263	0.047 (.094)	0.030	0.50 (1092)	.61
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	829 262	0.019 (.091)	0.008	0.19 (1089)	.84

*M(pass 4 or more) – M(pass 3 or less)

Table 18. *t*-tests: Outcome variables grouped by fact-check correct vs. not for each fact-check question

Was Jason able to hear? (Correct answer: no)	*n* (correct) *n* (else)	Mean difference (SE)*	Cohen's *d*	*t* (df)	*p*
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	857 238	0.112 (.083)	0.098	1.35 (1093)	.18
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	857 237	-0.415 (.092)	-0.332	4.51 (1092)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	858 237	0.259 (.087)	0.220	2.99 (1093)	.003
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	856 235	-0.633 (.096)	-0.494	6.92 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	855 237	0.009 (.091)	0	0.10 (1090)	.92
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	857 238	0.309 (.085)	0.272	3.76 (1093)	<.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	854 237	0.174 (.090)	0.140	1.94 (1089)	.05
In general, I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	856 238	0.013 (.097)	0.008	0.13 (1093)	.89
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	854 237	-0.050 (.095)	-0.038	0.51 (1089)	.61
Could Jason ever wake up? (Correct answer: no)	***n* (correct) *n* (else)**	**Mean difference (SE)***	**Cohen's *d***	***t* (df)**	***p***
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	969 126	0.577 (.112)	0.505	5.46 (1093)	<.001
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	968 126	-0.896 (.117)	-0.732	7.68 (1092)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	969 126	0.559 (.111)	0.465	5.03 (1093)	<.001
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	967 124	-1.081 (.117)	-0.912	9.28 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	968 124	0.351 (.118)	0.208	2.98 (1090)	.003
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	969 126	0.737 (.118)	0.629	7.04 (1093)	<.001
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	966 125	0.548 (.115)	0.460	4.76 (1089)	<.001
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	968 126	0.389 (.125)	0.295	3.10 (1092)	.002
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	966 125	0.334 (.122)	0.259	2.62 (1089)	.009

Was Jason able to breathe without the machine? (Correct answer: no)	n (correct) n (else)	Mean difference (SE)*	Cohen's d	t (df)	p
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	1009 86	-0.018 (.127)	-0.019	0.14 (1093)	.89
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	1009 85	-.802 (.141)	-0.648	5.70 (1092)	<.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	1010 85	0.255 (.134)	0.214	1.90 (1093)	.06
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	1007 84	-0.873 (.142)	-0.635	6.16 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	1006 86	-0.225 (.139)	-0.192	1.62 (1090)	.11
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	1009 86	0.132 (.127)	0.117	1.04 (1093)	.30
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	1006 85	0.010 (.138)	0.009	0.07 (1089)	.94
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	1008 86	-0.079 (.149)	-0.027	0.528 (1092)	.60
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	1005 86	-0.109 (.151)	-0.085	0.72 (1089)	.47
Was Jason biologically alive or dead? (Correct answer: alive)	**n (correct) n (else)**	**Mean difference (SE)***	**Cohen's d**	**t (df)**	**p**
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	722 373	0.044 (.072)	0.036	0.61 (1093)	.54
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	723 371	-0.279 (.080)	-0.224	3.47 (1092)	.001
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	723 372	0.152 (.076)	0.137	2.01 (1093)	.04
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	732 368	-0.369 (.081)	-0.296	4.58 (1089)	<.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	721 371	-0.067 (.077)	-0.057	0.85 (1090)	.40
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	722 373	0.152 (.072)	0.134	2.11 (1093)	.03
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	721 370	.054 (.078)	0.042	0.69 (1089)	.49
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	722 372	0.089 (.083)	0.067	1.04 (1092)	.30
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	720 371	0.095 (.084)	0.068	1.12 (1089)	.27

Continued on next page

Would organ removal cause Jason's death? (Correct answer: organ removal would cause death)	n (correct) n (else)	Mean difference (SE)*	Cohen's d	t (df)	p
It should be legal for patients such as Jason to donate organs in this kind of scenario.	915 180	-0.054 (.092)	-0.055	0.58 (1093)	.56
It should be illegal for doctors to remove organs from any patients that are not yet dead, including patients like Jason.	914 180	-0.285 (.103)	-0.220	2.78 (1092)	.006
Doctors should be legally allowed to remove organs from patients like Jason, assuming consent.	914 181	0.108 (.097)	0.093	1.12 (1093)	.26
Patients such as Jason should not be allowed to donate organs until after they have died.	913 178	-0.344 (.103)	-0.268	3.32 (1089)	.001
Assuming I had never spoken with my loved one about organ donation, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	912 180	-0.226 (.092)	-0.186	2.23 (1090)	.03
Assuming my loved one had expressed a desire to be an organ donor, I would agree to donate my closest loved one's organs in a scenario just like Jason's.	914 181	0.037 (.092)	0.036	0.40 (1093)	.69
I would want to donate my organs if I was in a scenario just like Jason's.	911 180	-0.065 (.090)	-0.060	0.65 (1089)	.47
I would be in favor of allowing doctors to remove organs, such as the heart and lungs, from patients are not yet biologically dead, if those patients are irreversibly unconscious…	913 181	-0.154 (.100)	-0.117	1.43 (1092)	.15
I would want to donate my organs if I was ever irreversibly unconscious… but was not yet biologically dead.	910 181	-0.031 (.100)	-0.031	0.28 (1089)	.78

*M(correct) – M(incorrect)

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