

Poll: 1 In 4 Americans Thinks Someone They Know May Have Died Due to COVID Shot

That the poll was even conducted indicates a sea change in attitudes toward the Covid shots. It's now finally acceptable to discuss fatal adverse events.

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The U.S. government has still not formally admitted to any deaths directly attributable to the fast-tracked, emergency-authorized mRNA [Covid shots](#), which comprise the vast majority of all doses administered, rolled out more than two years ago. Nevertheless, a new Rasmussen [poll](#) finds more than a quarter of adults think they "personally know someone whose death may have been caused by side effects of the COVID-19 vaccines."

Rasmussen's results are stunning, but the fact that Rasmussen decided to conduct this poll in the first place is perhaps more politically and culturally significant. It indicates a sea change in attitudes toward the jabs.

At the onset of mass vaccination, major platforms including [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [Twitter](#) put in place strict speech codes that proscribe framing the Covid shots as "dangerous." News outlets and pundits have often accused those who question the safety of the shots of spreading "dangerous misinformation" and promoting "vaccine hesitancy." Even right-leaning outlets such as Fox News largely refused to give credence to those warning that the shots may be far less safe than advertised. Yet now, in 2023, a major polling firm is reporting that a substantial minority (28 percent) of Americans suspect someone they know died from adverse events caused by Covid vaccination.

Suspicion, of course, is a far cry from proof. But the sheer prevalence of such suspicion should prompt serious inquiry from the Food and Drug Administration and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and public debate that isn't quashed or watered down by censors.

Other Polling Patterns

The poll also found younger people were more likely than older people to say someone they

know may have died due to side effects from the shot: 35 percent of adults under 40, compared to 28 percent of those aged 40 to 64, and only 14 percent of those over 65.

Most interestingly, *more* Democrats than Republicans think someone they know may have died from job side effects (33 percent to 26 percent). Democrats are more likely to have been vaccinated themselves, and thus more likely to associate with people who are also vaccinated. The more people one knows who have been vaccinated, the higher the likelihood of reporting a suspicion of vaccine-related death.

Additionally, as Covid-response skeptic Igor Chudov has pointed out, more married people than unmarried report knowing someone who may have died from an adverse event (33 percent to 23 percent). Not only do the social circles of married people tend to be larger, but Rasmussen reports that married people were more likely to be vaccinated.

Pollsters also found concerns about the shots' safety are higher among the unvaccinated. A full three-quarters of the un-jabbed think it's "at least somewhat likely that side effects of COVID-19 vaccines have caused a significant number of unexplained deaths." Many unvaccinated didn't take the jab due to concerns the shots weren't sufficiently proven to be safe, so this stands to reason. On the other hand, those who've taken the vaccine have far more incentive to believe the drug they willingly took is safe. (Some may have taken it due to employer mandates or other requirements, however.) People are not inclined to believe they risked their health unnecessarily. Even so, 38 percent of those who've taken the jab also believed the shot was "at least somewhat likely" to have caused "a significant number of unexplained deaths." That is a substantial minority.

Can a drug be considered "safe" if it's "somewhat likely" to have caused a "significant number" of deaths? Is it reasonable to conclude from these results that a substantial minority of people *who've taken the drug themselves* do not believe the shots to be safe? A belief they've possibly caused a "significant number of unexplained deaths" would certainly put the Covid shots well below the level of perceived safety that most childhood vaccines are widely considered to have.

Maybe booster uptake has been so low not due to doubts about adequate testing or [efficacy](#), but because more people are wary of it than before. A Rasmussen [report](#) from Dec. 7 found 57 percent of respondents were concerned about "major side effects," including 43 percent of Democrats who were "at least somewhat concerned." Seven percent of respondents reported "major side effects" from the shot.

Chudov discusses paywalled portions of the new poll [here](#), including a curious finding that those "other" than whites or blacks were significantly more likely to say they know someone who may have died from an adverse event.

More Investigation Needed

The findings of the new poll on beliefs about deaths post-vaccination come a full two years after the initial rollout of the shots, which were marketed at the time as being more than [90 percent effective](#) at preventing infection and almost [100 percent effective](#) at preventing death from illness caused by infection with the SARS-COV-2 virus. Rasmussen conducted a [poll](#) on concerns over vaccine side effects in November 2021, but if the firm had polled about suspicion of *deaths* caused by the shot multiple times since vaccine rollout, we would have a better idea of how beliefs about the safety of the Covid shots have shifted. As more

and more medical professionals and experts speak out, it is becoming more acceptable to ask questions that may yield frightening answers.

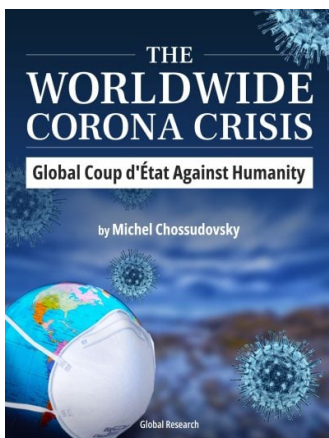
Our public health establishment has fallen prey to the sunk-cost fallacy. It is too terrible for them to imagine that the shots they pushed so aggressively could turn out to be unsafe, or at least a very poor risk-benefit tradeoff for many people. Because of this, honest, rigorous, and continuous investigation from both inside and outside public health agencies is all the more critical.

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