



Bryan White &lt;zebrafactcheck@gmail.com&gt;

## Correction request: Duplicate fact check

1 message

Bryan White &lt;zebrafactcheck@gmail.com&gt;

Wed, Apr 17, 2024 at 10:09 AM

To: truthometer@politifact.com

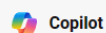
Dear Truth-O-Meter,

When I saw a new version of the PolitiFact Wisconsin fact check containing an error in need of correction (correction request documented here), I dared to hope PolitiFact had chosen a weird method for making a correction.

How wrong I was!

Upon investigation, it seems PolitiFact has re-published its April 1, 2024 fact check of Donald Trump with an April 16, 2024 version. I'd hoped that reaching out on X to Katie Sanders would adequately flag the problem, but apparently that's not the case.

I also had Bing Copilot review the two versions for differences. It found (as I did) that the only difference is the alleged source of the claim. The April 1 version looks at claims from a radio interview. The April 16 version says it looks at claims from a TV interview, at least on the deck. But the body of the fact check looks at statements from a radio interview.



I've reviewed the two fact checks you provided. Here's what I found:

- The fact check from **April 1, 2024** <sup>1</sup> states that Donald Trump made the claim during a **radio interview** on WISN-AM's Dan O'Donnell show <sup>1</sup>. The fact check refutes Trump's claim that he won Wisconsin in 2020 and performed better than in 2016 <sup>1</sup>.
- The fact check from **April 16, 2024** <sup>2</sup> also refutes the same claims made by Trump <sup>2</sup>. However, this fact check identifies the source of the claim as a **TV interview** <sup>2</sup>.

The content of both fact checks is very similar, with both debunking the same false claims made by Trump. The only difference, as you noted, is the alleged source of the fact-checked statement: one identifies it as a radio interview <sup>1</sup>, and the other as a TV interview <sup>2</sup>. Both fact checks, however, examine the claims made during a radio show interview <sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>. This could possibly be an error in the second fact check's identification of the source. It might be worth reaching out to PolitiFact for clarification.

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The present state of affairs has a number of potential implications, including the appearance of self-plagiarism or outright plagiarism.

Swift action seems in order.

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**LATEST PANTS ON FIRE! FACT-CHECKS ON DONALD TRUMP**



**Donald Trump**  
stated on Apr 1, 2024 in TV interview:

In 2020, Trump "did much better" in the Wisconsin election than 2016, and "after the wrongdoing was found, people said, 'Well, he actually did win.'"



By Hope Karmann - April 16, 2024



**Donald Trump**  
stated on Apr 1, 2024 in Radio interview:

In 2020, Trump "did much better" in the Wisconsin election than 2016, and "after the wrongdoing was found, people said, 'Well, he actually did win.'"



By Hope Karmann - April 1, 2024



**Donald Trump**

If the April 16, 2024 version is supposed to reflect a fact check of a television interview, obviously the text of the fact check should reflect that.

Best of luck with this one. Cheers.

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Sincerely,

Bryan W. White  
editor  
[zebrafactcheck.com](http://zebrafactcheck.com)