About half of Americans disapprove of the way President Obama is handling foreign policy, according to the latest New York Times/CBS News poll. (Unofficial mirror of http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/799183-sep13b-final-foreignrelease-1-trn.html)

The New York Times rolled out its infamous election needle again on Tuesday night, with a competing needle available for election watchers on Fox News. But depending on which you were looking at, you’d have a very different impression of how the night is going for your preferred candidate:

Either NYT or Fox News is getting this very wrong right now pic.twitter.com/Rj6rSwZQf9

— Will Oremus (@WillOremus) November 4, 2020

Let’s, uhh, take a closer look at that:

A tale of two needles in North Carolina.

Needle, needle, on the wall, who’s the fairest candidate of all? Turns out, it totally depends on which needle you’re asking. The New York Times rolled out its infamous election needle again on Tuesday night, with a competing needle available for election watchers on Fox News.

The target population for the CBS News/New York Times Battleground Tracker is registered voters for 2014 midterm elections in the U.S., excluding D.C. Oversamples of (a) 66 competitive congressional districts, and (b) 15 smaller states where there are Senate or Governor’s races which, if sampled proportionately, would have few interviews.

Current Population Survey (CPS) November 2012 Registration and Voting Supplement provides data on voter registration and turnout in the November 2012 U.S. Presidential election. These data were imputed onto the partial frame created in steps 1 and 2 using multinomial logit models.