Fake News

When fake news is repeated, it becomes difficult for the public to discern what's real.
Jimmy Gomez

Fake news is false or misleading information presented as news. It often has the aim of damaging the reputation of a person or entity or making money through advertising revenue. Fake news has increased with the rise of social media, especially the Facebook News Feed.

Where Does Fake News Come From?
- Fake news is nothing new. But what is new is how easy it's become to share information – both true and false – on a massive scale.
- Social media platforms allow almost anyone to publish their thoughts or share stories to the world. The trouble is, most people don't check the source of the material that they view online before they share it, which can lead to fake news spreading quickly or even "going viral."
- At the same time, it's become harder to identify the original source of news stories, which can make it difficult to assess their accuracy.

This has led to a flood of fake news. In fact, one study found that more than 25 percent of Americans visited a fake news website in a six-week period during the 2016 U.S. presidential election.
But not all fake news stories are found online. Co-workers who gossip by the water cooler or while browsing print publications that fail to check their facts, for example, are also guilty of spreading misinformation, even if inadvertently.

Key Points
Fake news refers to deliberate untruths, or stories that contain some truth, but which aren't completely accurate, by accident or design.
Some people also claim that truthful stories are "fake news," just because they don't agree with them. This can lead to the dangerous ignoring of vital advice.
Fake news can have a negative impact on workplace behaviour. For example, by damaging learning culture, and causing rumour and mistrust to spread. So, it's vital to know how to separate the real from the fake.

You can do this by following these six steps:
1. Develop a critical mindset.
2. Check the source.
3. See who else is reporting the story.
4. Examine the evidence.
5. Don't take images at face value.
6. Check that it Sounds right.

The use of anonymously-hosted fake news websites has made it difficult to prosecute sources of fake news for libel. In some definitions, fake news includes satirical articles misinterpreted as genuine, and articles that employ sensationalist or clickbait headlines that are not supported in the text.

Below are stories spawned by fake news……………….

Drake
Fans of the Canadian rapper panicked when, on Nov. 14, 2020, they saw #RIPDrake trending on Twitter.
But as it turned out, the four-time Grammy-winner was the victim of a hoax. Clicking on a (supposed) L.A. Times headline reading "Drake Canadian Songwriter And Rapper Dies At 34" takes you to a video of British singer Rick Astley singing "Never Gonna Give You Up." Beneath it reads: "You got Rick rolled in 2020."

Paul McCartney
Conspiracy-loving Beatles fans believe that McCartney died in 1966 and everything that's happened to "him" since then is courtesy of a look-alike and sound-alike. Not only that, they believe clues to McCartney's fate were revealed in songs written by fellow musicians George Harrison and John Lennon. Like, Lennon's "A Day in the Life," where the lyrics "Paul is dead, miss him, miss him"… are said to be heard only when the song is played backward.

Covid 19 Pandemic fake news
Rumours and conspiracy theories can contribute to vaccine hesitancy. Monitoring online data related to COVID-19 vaccine candidates can track vaccine misinformation in real-time and assist in negating its impact. This study aimed to examine COVID-19 vaccine rumours and conspiracy theories circulating on online platforms, understand their context, and then review interventions to manage this misinformation and increase vaccine acceptance.

Rumours and conspiracy theories may lead to mistrust contributing to vaccine hesitancy. Tracking COVID-19 vaccine misinformation in real-time and engaging with social media to disseminate correct information could help safeguard the public against misinformation.

Children see viral fake news about Covid and vaccines on Tik Tok.

TikTok was used to serve up Covid-19 misinformation videos to children as young as nine, an investigation into the popular social media app found.

News Guard, a news verification business, reported that children were exposed to fake news about vaccines and Covid conspiracy theories on TikTok despite not searching for the information.

Laurel Ann
February 24 at 8:36 PM · 🌐

From a post on FB:

The Chinese were all given mandatory vaccines last fall. The vaccine contained replicating, DIGITIZED (controllable) RNA which were activated by 60Ghz mm 5G waves that were just turned on in Wuhan (as well as all other Countries using 60Ghz 5G) with the "smart dust" that everyone on the globe has been inhaling through chemtrails. That's why when they say someone is "cured", the "virus" can be "digitally" reactivated at any time and the person can literally drop dead. The Diamond Princess Cruise ship was SPECIFICALLY equipped with 60Ghz 5G. It's basically remote assassination. Americans are currently breathing in this "smart" dust through chemtrails. Think of it like this..... add the combination of vaccines, chemtrails (smart dust) and 5G and your body becomes internally digitized and can be remotely controlled. A person's organ functions can be stopped remotely if one is deemed non-compliant. Wuhan was a test run for ID2020. The elite call this 60Ghz mm 5G wave the "V" wave (Virus) to mock us. Trump has created a space force in part to combat this weaponized technology. We need to vehemently REJECT the attempted "mandatory vaccine" issue because our lives depend on it.

👍😮😡 117   68 Comments 130 Shares

5G Corona is the #truth There is no damn virus, we all got sick at the same time they rolled out 5G. The other factor is the Chemtrail metallic dust they use to strengthen the signal and bounce it downwards.

ⓘ Get the facts about COVID-19

Keri Hilson ✔
@KeriHilson

People have been trying to warn us about 5G for YEARS. Petitions, organizations, studies...what we're going thru is the affects of radiation.

5G launched in CHINA. Nov 1, 2019. People dropped dead. See attached & go to my IG stories for more. TURN OFF 5G by disabling LTE!!!

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS

CONSIDER THE SOURCE
Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.

READ BEYOND
Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?

CHECK THE AUTHOR
Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?

SUPPORTING SOURCES?
Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.

CHECK THE DATE
Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.

IS IT A JOKE?
If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.

CHECK YOUR BIASES
Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.

ASK THE EXPERTS
Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

Fake news has always been around, in 2017, 'fake news' became Collins Dictionary's word of the year and it's remained in the headlines ever since. Although the phrase might appear to be a modern invention, examples of it can be found throughout history even from ancient Rome up to the present day.

Choosing trusted sources of information Always ensure information is from a reputable company or website such as well-known news, organisations, official government sites, or the police. Trusted sources of information can also sit outside these organisations.

Fake news at school and educating

The Commission on Fake News and Critical Literacy in Schools found that only 2% of children and young people in the UK have the critical literacy skills they need to tell whether a news story is real or fake. Fake news is driving a culture of fear and uncertainty among young people. Half of children (49.9%) are worried about not being able to spot fake news and almost two-thirds of teachers (60.9%) believe fake news is having a harmful effect on children's well-being by increasing levels of anxiety, damaging self-esteem, and skewing their world view.

As many commentators have noted, fake news has been with us throughout history. Misinformation, propaganda, and rumour have long surrounded major political events. However, in recent times, technological developments have allowed modern forms of fake news to be created, targeted, consumed and spread with unprecedented ease and speed. The impact of such stories on the democratic process has recently become a focus again, with the US presidential election and the UK referendum on membership of the European Union, both in 2016.

At the same time, these technological developments which have allowed fake news to spread more easily have also caused a considerable change in how we access news. Research indicates that, globally, while older generations continue to source news through more traditional, regulated media sources such as TV, radio and print, younger generations are now more likely to access news through digital and social media (Newman et al., 2017). In the UK, more than half (54%) of 12 to 15-year-olds use social media to access online news and almost half (46%) of those who source news in this way say they find it difficult to tell whether or not a social media news story is true.

Teachers gave numerous examples of why they are concerned about the impact of fake news on their pupils, most often citing how it increases pupils' anxieties and fears, but also how it causes confusion and mistrust and how it allows skewed or exaggerated views to be spread. These can be seen in the following word cloud. In our focus groups, teachers also raised concerns about pupils' tendency to "believe everything without questioning it" and that fake news is affecting pupils' body image and self-esteem.

In response to the commission's recommendations, the National Literacy Trust has produced a suite of teaching resources, lesson ideas and activities for primary and secondary schools, as well as directories signposting schools to key organisations and additional fake news and critical literacy resources. The charity has also produced advice for parents and carers.

 These can all be downloaded for free from the National Literacy Trust and Education hub websites :

literacytrust.org.uk/fake-news-resources.

https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/tag/fake-news/