

Keepin' It Real

Tips & Strategies for Evaluating Fake News

<http://libguides.lmu.edu/fakenews>

Definitions

Fake News: Authentic material used in the wrong context or imposter news sites designed to look like brands we already know

Click Bait: Headlines that intentionally leave out crucial information to mislead user into clicking

Bias: A predisposition or tendency that distorts your ability to fairly weigh the evidence and prevents you from reaching a fair or accurate judgment

Confirmation Bias: Pursuing information that reassures or reflects a person's particular point of view

Verification: an investigative process by which one gathers, assesses, confirms, and weighs evidence to search for truth

Use RADAR* to evaluate your latest news:

Rationale. Who is the audience? Is there bias expressed? Do they have evidence?

Authority. Who is this? What is their history and education?

Date. When was this story made available? Are there newer stories on the same topic?

Accuracy. Was this reviewed by experts? Are there citations or links to other stories?

Relevance. Is this story addressing the topic? Does it add to your knowledge?

Resources

FactCheck.Org (<http://www.factcheck.org>): Founded in 2003, project of the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania. The APCC was established by publisher and philanthropist Walter Annenberg

PolitiFact (<http://www.politifact.com/>): run by editors and reporters from the Tampa Bay Times, an independent newspaper in Florida

Snopes (<http://www.snopes.com/>): Created in 1995 by David Mikkelson, a California based writer. Site is a independent, self-sufficient entity funded through advertising revenues.

Tin Eye (<https://www.tineye.com>) or **reverse Google image search:** check if images have been photo-shopped, falsely reused, or changed to fit a story's bias

Adapted from:

Mandalios, J. (2013). RADAR: An approach for helping students evaluate Internet sources. *Journal Of Information Science*, 39, 470-478. doi:10.1177/0165551513478889.

Meriam Library at California State University, Chico. (2010, September 17). *Evaluating information-Applying the CRAAP test*. Retrieved from http://www.csuchico.edu/lins/handouts/eval_websites.pdf

How Reliable is Your Media?

Reliability

Analytical/
Complex

Meets high
standards

Basically
Reliable

Sensational/
Clickbait

Fabricated

Platform for user content

Entertainment

Journalism

Other? _____

Type of Media Outlets

