

# **Exploring the misinformation landscape**

**John Silva, NBCT** Senior Director of Professional Learning February 22, 2022





John Silva, NBCT Senior Director of Professional Learning

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- My primary role is to design and facilitate professional learning for educators.
- I also teach news literacy concepts to adult audiences.
- I follow trends in misinformation and conspiracy theories.
- I was a MS & HS social studies teacher for 13 years in Chicago Public Schools.



Andria Chamberlin for the News Literacy



lews Q

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Upon Reflection: 14 lessons from our first 14 years

As a mom and NLP supporter, Wyoming woman values news literacy

LOS ANGELES

NLP experts took to airwaves for National News Literacy Week 2022

CTIVE CONVERSATIONS

## https://newslit.org

The News Literacy Project

#### Our mission:

The News Literacy Project, a nonpartisan national education nonprofit, provides programs and resources for educators and the public to teach, learn and share the abilities needed to be smart, active consumers of news and information and equal and engaged participants in a democracy.

### Our vision:

News literacy is embedded in the American education experience, and people of all ages and backgrounds know how to identify credible news and other information, empowering them to have an equal opportunity to participate in the civic life of their communities and the country.



https://newslit.org/about/



# Let's connect on social media!

Tag us with **#NewsLiteracy** on

Twitter, Instagram, Facebook:

@NewsLitProject

# Misinformation learning objectives

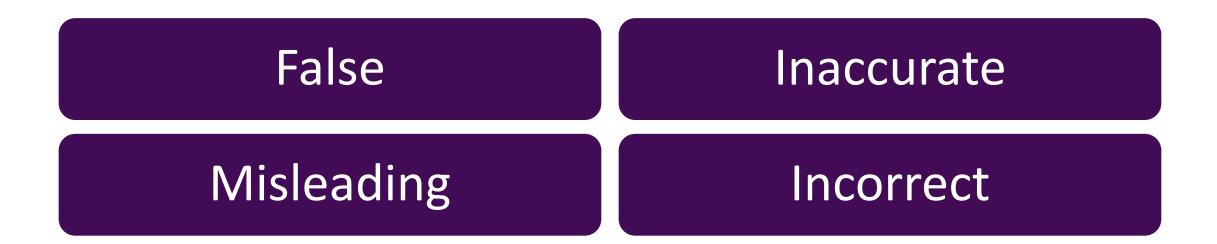
#### To understand and be less susceptible to misinformation, I can

- Define misinformation and differentiate common types.
- Describe the motivations of those who create and share misinformation.
- Classify types of propagators and relate them to motivations.
- Explain how misinformation exploits emotions and cognitive biases.

## What is misinformation?



### Misinformation is:



# "False or misleading information that is created and/or shared regardless of intent to deceive."

## Misinformation and "fake news"

- Have become "irredeemably polarized in our current political and media climate".
- Labeling information that does not support a position as "fake news" is a common political strategy.
- These terms have "lost all connection to the actual veracity of the information presented".
- We must teach a more accurate vocabulary and categorization for misinformation.

Soroush Vosoughi, Deb Roy and Sinan Aral, "The spread of true and false news online", Science, March 9, 2018

## Mis- vs Disinformation

#### **Misinformation**

False or misleading information that is created and/or shared regardless of intent to deceive.

#### Disinformation

False or misleading information that is <u>knowingly and</u> <u>intentionally</u> created and/or shared <u>in order</u> to deceive.



2012 image taken in Melbourne, Australia.





2018 image taken in South Carolina after Hurricane Florence.





- Whoever created this meme knew the images were unrelated.
- It started out as <u>dis</u>information.
- Once in the wild, it became <u>mis</u>information.







- Fake tweet created using an app or website.
- It started out as <u>dis</u>information.
- Retweeting without verifying is spreading <u>mis</u>information.
- If you know it's false, and you share it hoping people believe it, that's <u>dis</u>information.







#### Replying to

Birds fly south for the winter- unlike some senators who fly to Cancun, while leaving millions of their constituents to die in the cold.<u>#CancunCruz</u> #BigBird



Big Bird 🤣 @BigBird

**Fake tweet** 

Ted can't tell you how to get to Sesame Street but he can tell you you how to fly to Cancun.

🍘 Ted Cruz 🤣 @tedcruz · 41m

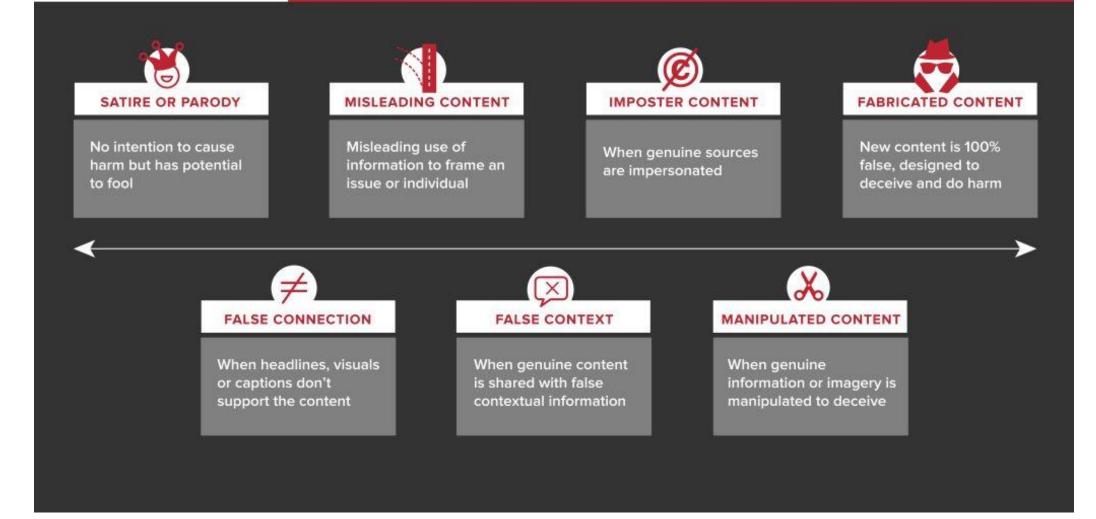
Government propaganda...for your 5 year old! twitter.com/bigbird/status...

5:48 PM · 06 Nov 21 · Twitter Web App

# What does misinformation look like?

• • • •

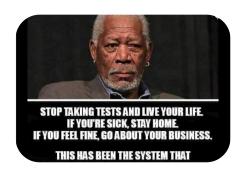
#### FIRSTDRAFT 7 TYPES OF MIS- AND DISINFORMATION



## NLP's five types of misinformation



# Manipulated content





Big Bird @ @BigBird

Ted can't tell you how to get to Sesame Street but he can tell you you how to fly to Cancun.

Ted Cruz @ @tedcruz · 41m Government propaganda...for your 5 year old! twitter.com/bigbird/status...

Imposter content



Fabricated content



Spirit Halloween Sets Up Shop In Abandoned U.S. Military Bases In Afghanistan





#### Welcome to the Word Wall

# **Manipulated Content**

Misinformation in which something is altered from the original, such as images that have had content added or removed using photo editing tools.



## **Original image**

#### Mobile Vaccination Clinics Continue at Gillette Stadium Events

Jul 31, 2021 at 11:09 AM



(f) 🕑 📼 🚯





The Washington Post Democracy Dies in Darkness

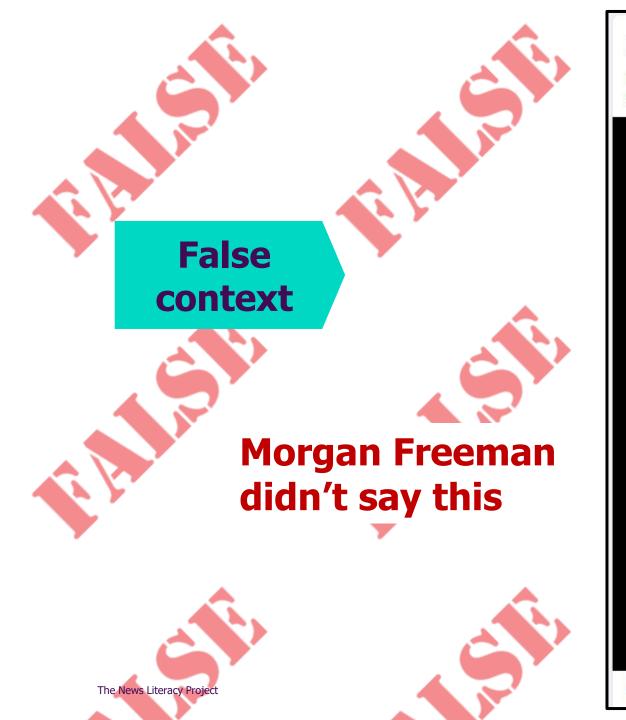
Technology

### Another fake video of Pelosi goes viral on Facebook

The social media giant attached a 'partly false' label to a clip manipulated to make the House speaker look drunk



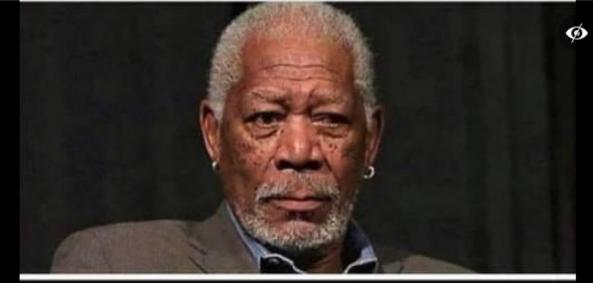
A manipulated video of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) was circulated across several social media platforms in early August. (The Washington Post)



January 18 at 8:50 AM · 🕄

(2) 43

Common Sense? Y'all have lost your minds to stand on line for hours for a test that has been deemed useless and meaningless! Listen to Morgan Freeman!!!!



STOP TAKING TESTS AND LIVE YOUR LIFE. IF YOU'RE SICK, STAY HOME. IF YOU FEEL FINE, GO ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS.

#### THIS HAS BEEN THE SYSTEM THAT WORKED FOR ALL OF HUMAN HISTORY UNTIL THE LAST TWO YEARS. TIME TO GO BACK TO IT.

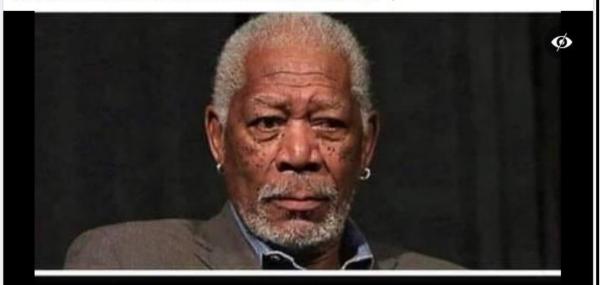
3 Comments 297 Shares

January 18

Common Sense?

#### **FALSE CONTEXT**

deemed useless and meaningless! Listen to Morgan Freeman!!!! 👇



#### **STOP TAKING TESTS AND LIVE YOUR LIFE.** IF YOU'RE SICK, STAY HOME. IF YOU FEEL FINE, GO ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS.

#### THIS HAS BEEN THE SYSTEM THAT WORKED FOR ALL OF HUMAN HISTORY UNTIL THE LAST TWO YEARS. TIME TO GO BACK TO IT.

(2) 43

3 Comments 297 Shares



6.387 Retweets 247 Quote Tweets 32.9K Likes





Matt Walsh 🕗 @MattWalshBlog

## **ORIGINAL**<sup>---</sup>

Stop taking tests and live your life. If you're sick, stay home. If you feel fine, go about your business. That had been the system for all of human history until the last two years. Time to go back to it.

7:32 PM · Jan 3, 2022 · Twitter Web App

# False Context

Misinformation that takes an image, quote or other piece of content and puts it into a new, false context to change its meaning. Especially common during viral, breaking news events.



Joe Biden also left behind military service dogs at the airport in Afghanistan.



10:23 PM · Aug 30, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

799 Retweets 212 Quote Tweets 1,324 Likes



The **@JoeBiden** Administration must get abandoned working dogs & other animals—& their caretakers—out of Afghanistan.

Join PETA in urging @POTUS to evacuate the dogs & cats, & their caretakers, who were left behind! peta.vg/37vl #NoPawsLeftBehind





10:23 PM - Aug 30, 2021 - Twitter for iPhone

799 Retweets 212 Quote Tweets 1,324 Likes

BIDEN: Evacuate animals & théir caretakers from Afghanistan!

1:02 PM · Aug 31, 2021 · Sprout Social





#### Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction

...



#### realrawnews.com

Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction - Real Raw News Throughout the Plandemic Real Raw News has written about incidents of vaccinated pilots either falling ill or outright dropping dead midflight, ...

3:07 AM · Jan 30, 2022 · Twitter for Android

317 Retweets 19 Quote Tweets 279 Likes

WW Welcome to the Word Wall

# **Fabricated Content**

Misinformation that is entirely made up and is designed to deceive you into thinking that it's real.

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Headline is from a legitimate news article from Crow River Media

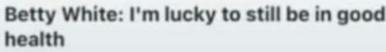
Someone took a screenshot, fabricated a quote (that does not appear in the original article) added a partial link and shared to social media.

Image goes viral, falsely connecting White's death to a Covid booster shot.

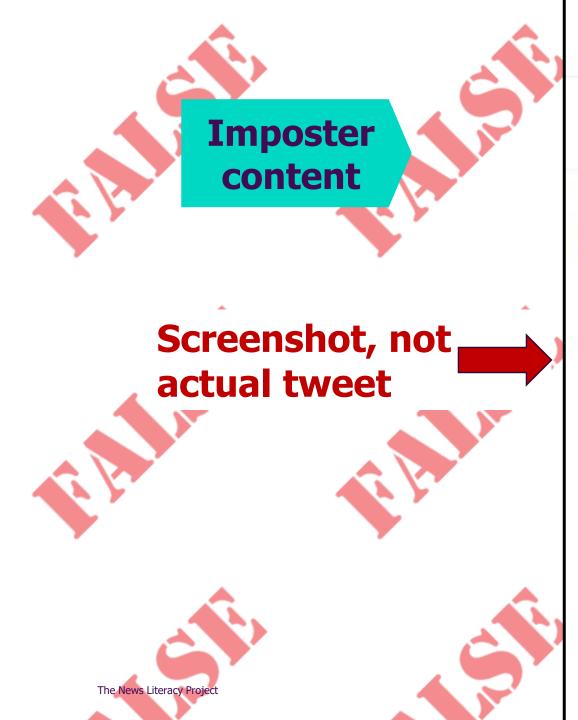




December 31, 2021 · 🚱 She got her booster on my birthday. 😔 😔 😔 "Eat healthy and get all your vaccines. I just got boosted today." -Betty White, Dec 28th, 2021 crowrivermedia.com/national/entertainment/ bet... Betty White: I'm lucky to still be in good







Tweet



←

@BigBird

Ted can't tell you how to get to Sesame Street but he can tell you you how to fly to Cancun.

Ted Cruz @ @tedcruz · 41m
Government propaganda...for your 5 year old!
twitter.com/bigbird/status...

5:48 PM · 06 Nov 21 · Twitter Web App

♥ Q ₹ 5,296 likes



:

#### WW Welcome to the Word Wall

# **Imposter Content**

Misinformation that falsely uses a well-known name, brand or logo to fool people into believing that it is authentic content.





Betty White throwing down.



Betty White @BettyMWhite

As someone who had a 20 year relationship with the PBS star playing Big Bird, he never gave two shits what anyone thought about his feathery ass. #GoBiggie bat's what we've been soving this





Chicago Police @Chicago\_Police

#### We are all Derek Chauvin.

...



Satire PM · Nov 7, 2021 · Faith Back Rub

These are both fake tweets

....

...

3,232 Retweets 210 Quote Tweets 18.5K Likes



6:33 PM · Nov 7, 2021 · Twitter Web App

6:46 AM · Apr 24, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

50K Retweets 1,393 Quote Tweets 231.3K Likes



thebabylonbee 🥺



Spirit Halloween Sets Up Shop In Abandoned U.S. Military Bases In Afghanistan



#### WW Welcome to the Word Wall

## Satire

A piece of information that uses humor or exaggeration to critique or mock a person, organization or policy.

\*Note: Satire is often used as a defense of other types of misinformation.

## Some satire is recognizable



In Abandoned U.S. Military Bases In Afghanistan





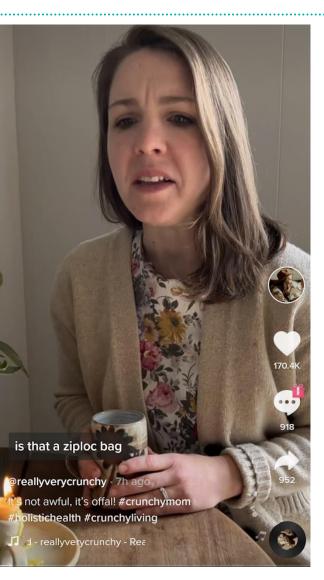
Final U.S. Soldiers In Afghanistan Do Some Last-Second Nation-Building On Way To Plane



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#### People don't always recognize satire/parody





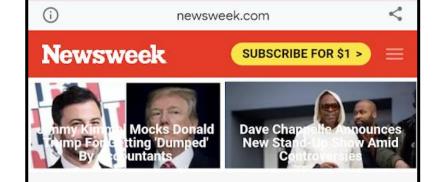
blaire erskine @blaireerskine

Statement from Director of Communications for Sen. Ted Cruz

...



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#### CULTURE

#### **Comedian Brent Terhune** Hopes You Know His Rants About NASCAR and the **Confederate Flag Are** Satire

BY JAMES CROWLEY ON 6/12/20 AT 2:24 PM EDT f 💙 🖓 in 🖗 🖂 SHARE VIRAL CULTURE COMEDY VIDEO TWITTER

n the current sociopolitical climate, it's easy to roll your eyes as soon as you see a bearded white guy tweeting a

≡	BuzzFeed News
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Sign In

#### The "Crunchy Mom" **Conspiracy Has Been Revealed. She's Just A Crunchy Mom.**

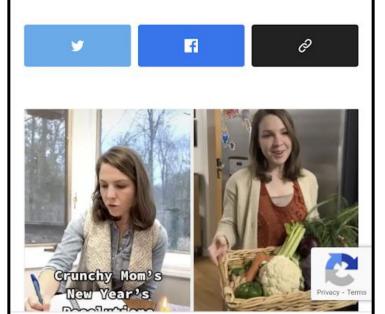
"But the thing about my crunchiness is that I'm also pragmatic."



by Katie Notopoulos BuzzFeed News Reporter

Posted 4 hours ago

View 9 comments





COMEDY ()

#### Meet Blaire Erskine, the MAGA-Spoofing Comedian Who Duped Michael Moore



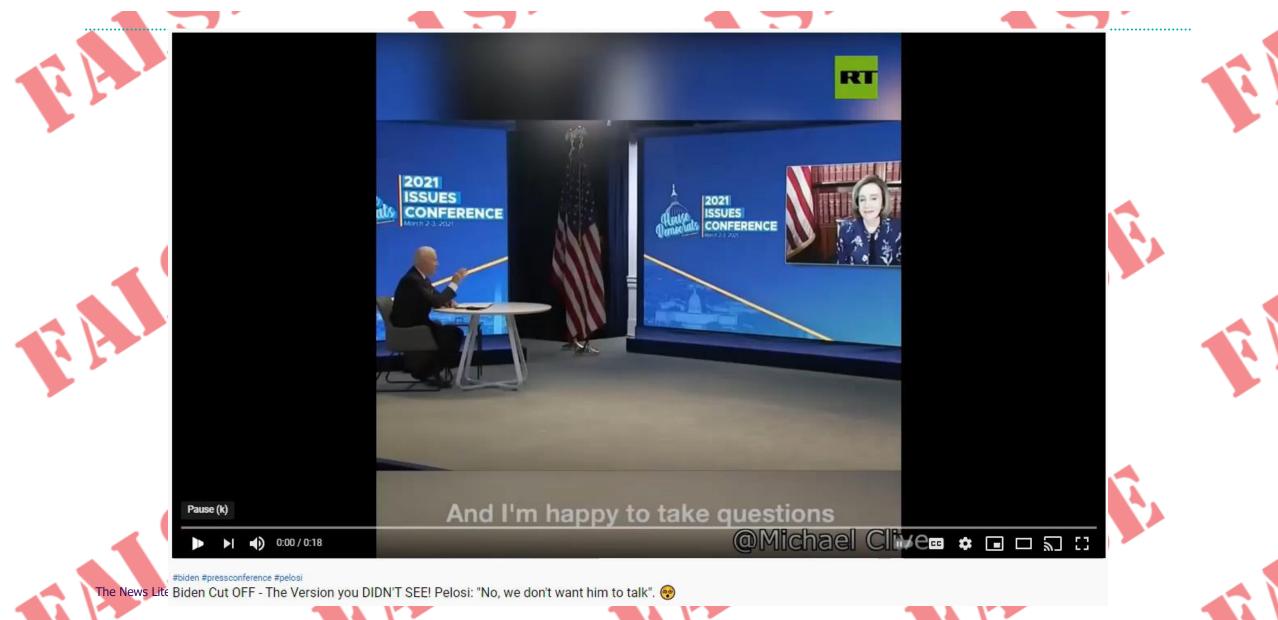


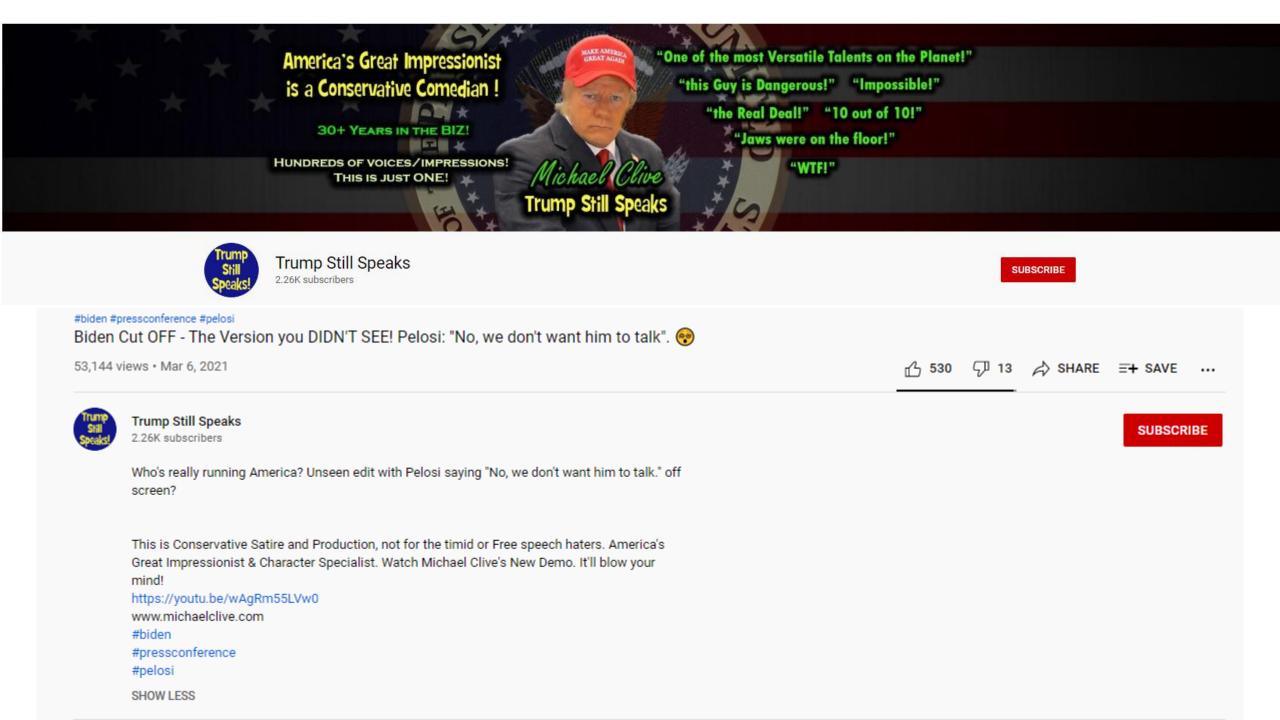


Denote Illustration by The Daily Beast/handout

Blaire Erskine has pretended to be a stranded MAGA supporter, Jerry Falwell's daughter, and the wife of a notorious antimaakan Tha gag. Haw many falka think han

#### Satire can become false context misinformation









The Real Dawn Star @dawnstar1776

Nancy Pelosi caught on hot mic saying, "We don't want [Biden] to talk."



New version false context misinformation



#### Questions so far?

### **Motivations:** Why do people create & share misinformation?

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#### Questioning intent

- Determining intent accurately is difficult and usually different for creators and sharers.
- Distinguishes disinformation and other types of false or misleading information.
- Differentiates motivations and types of propagators.
- Discussions of intent can lead to a deeper understanding of misinformation.

#### Motivations for creating misinformation



## Political/social divisions

#### Undermine trust

#### Four types of propagators

Self-interest	<ul> <li>Scams, clickbait farming, companies</li> </ul>
Group interest	<ul> <li>Partisans, governments, candidates</li> </ul>
Altruistic	<ul> <li>Ordinary people</li> </ul>
Malicious	<ul> <li>Trolls, extremists, conspiracy theorists</li> </ul>

## **Note:** These are not always cleanly categorized





The first randomized controlled trial of more than 6,000 individuals to assess the effectiveness of surgical face masks against SARS-CoV-2 infection found masks did not statistically significantly reduce the incidence of infection. Follow



The so-called "Danmask-19 Trial," published November 18, 2020, in the Annals of Internal Medicine, included 3,030 individuals assigned to wear a surgical face mask and 2,994 unmasked controls.

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W

Click the link in my bio to read the full story

1w

3,473 likes

7 DAYS AGO

A Partly False Information. Reviewed by independent fact-checkers.

Μ

Add a comment...



Original video from comedy TikTok account.

Posted under "Amazing Physics" without context.





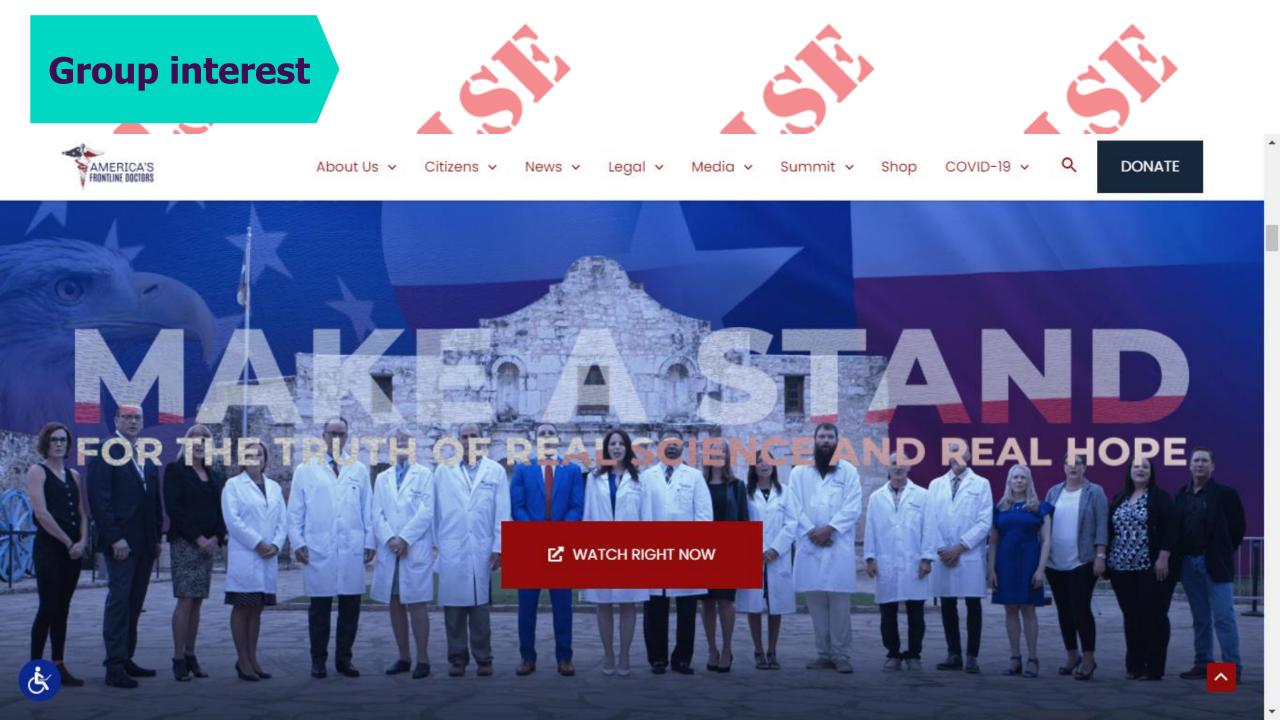


@amazing\_physics

#### Physics can be incredibly Satisfying



8:01 AM · Feb 17, 2022 · Buffer



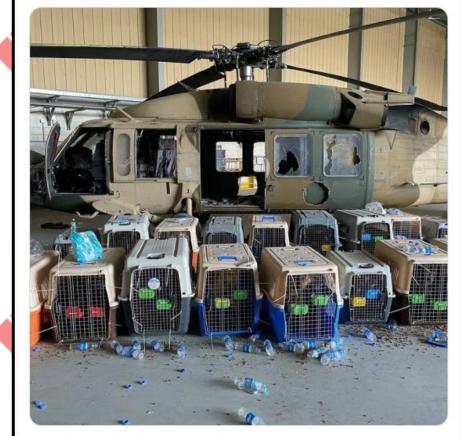


**Group interest** 





Joe Biden also left behind military service dogs at the airport in Afghanistan.



10:23 PM · Aug 30, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

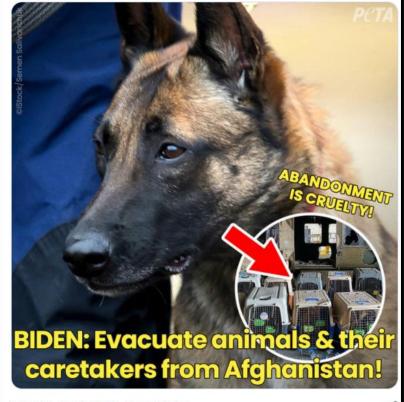
799 Retweets 212 Quote Tweets 1,324 Likes

PETA Ø

....

The **@JoeBiden** Administration must get abandoned working dogs & other animals—& their caretakers—out of Afghanistan.

Join PETA in urging @POTUS to evacuate the dogs & cats, & their caretakers, who were left behind! peta.vg/37vl #NoPawsLeftBehind



1:02 PM · Aug 31, 2021 · Sprout Social



#### The Disinformation Dozen Why platforms must act on twelve leading online anti-vaxxers

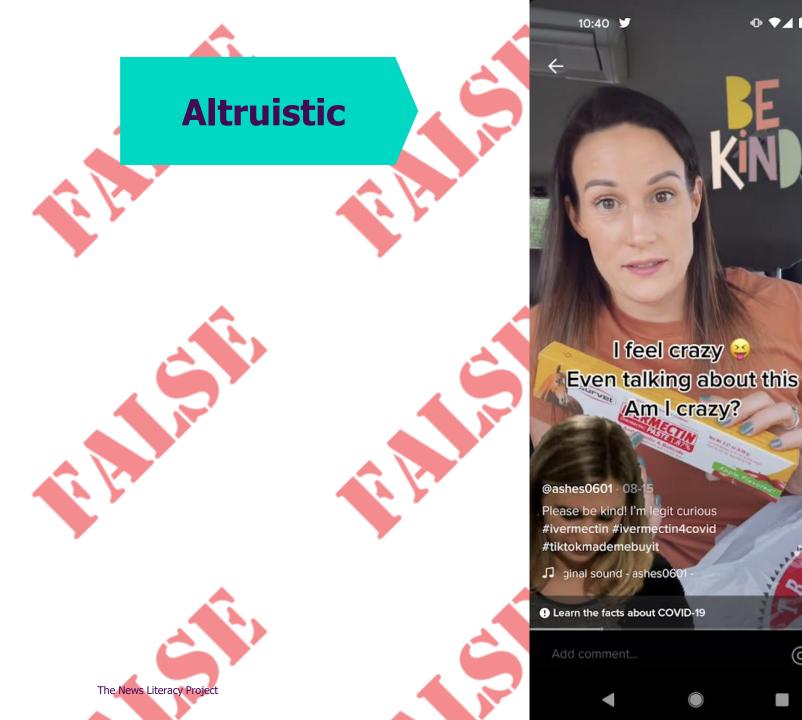
Just twelve anti-vaxxers are responsible for almost two-thirds of anti-vaccine content circulating on social media platforms. This new analysis of content posted or shared to social media over 812,000 times between February and March uncovers how a tiny group of determined anti-vaxxers is responsible for a tidal wave of disinformation - and shows how platforms can fix it by enforcing their standards.

Read the Report

**Executive Summary** 



#### https://www.counterhate.com





● ♥⊿ 🗋 100%

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1264

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... Lower keys and key west face mask **Altruistic** sewing group April 6 at 6:26 PM · 🚱 Those that use a fabric mask after wearing place in ziplock bag and microwave 2-3 minutes to sanitize. Do this after each wear. 0:014 11 Comments 53 Shares r∆ Like A Share The News Literacy Project

#### Don't microwave your masks btw...



Arlington Fire ② @ArlingtonVaFD · Apr 20 There are reports of masks being sanitized in microwaves, this is a major fire hazard, please DO NOT place masks in the microwave for any period of time. Instead, follow CDC mask cleaning guidance cdc.gov/coronavirus/20.... Thanks and stay safe.



1, 55 🔿 38







#### Intent determines motivation and type

- Altruistic misinformation Someone thinks it's real and shares it to make people feel better.
- Self-interest misinformation Someone thinks it's real and shares it for likes and engagement.
- Self-interest disinformation Someone shares it knowing it's false for likes and engagement.
- Group interest disinformation An account created to gain followers to monetize account.



You want a positive picture? I present to you, Steve Irwin taking a picture with Mr. Rogers who is wearing a Bob Ross shirt while there is a rainbow in the background!

Game set match!



Photoshopped image

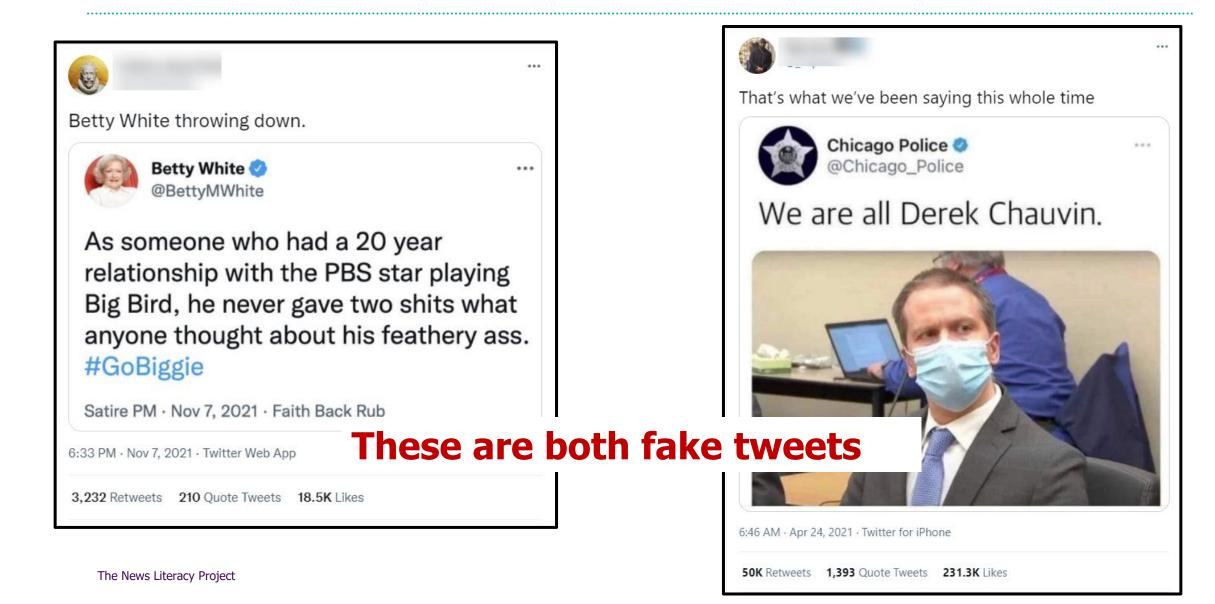
#### Role of emotion in spreading misinformation

- Misinformation is designed to elicit a strong emotional response.
- Our emotion centers override rational thought processes, and we react by sharing, amplifying.
- We especially respond to things that "feel" true.
- Teens and older adults are especially vulnerable.

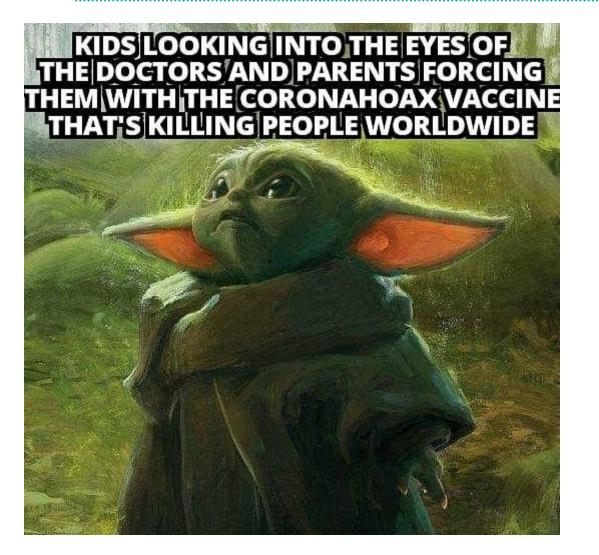
#### Emotional responses are varied



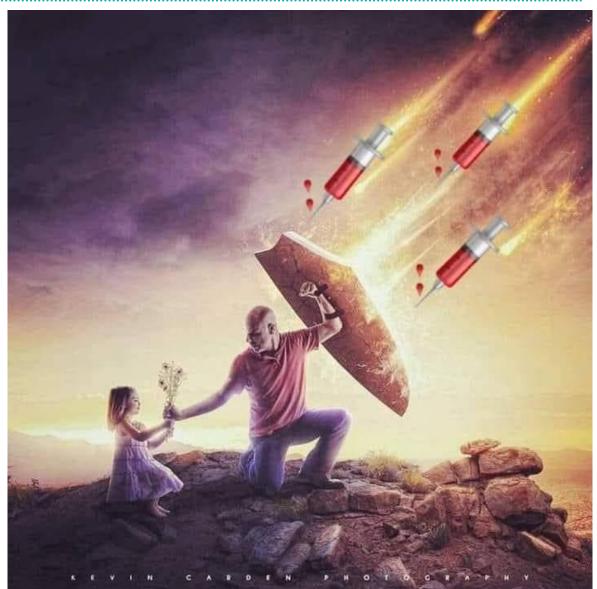
#### Your political/social beliefs affect your emotional response



#### Targeting parental fears and anxieties is very common



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#### Rumor theory and social media

- Humans are social by nature and sharing stories has always been part of how we interact.
- We have a deep-rooted desire to understand and make sense of the world.
- Combined this is called "shared sense making" and it fills an emotional need.
- Social media amplifies this with the ability to share with anyone and everyone.

# Misinformation exploits cognitive biases

#### Cognitive biases

#### A natural error in reasoning and thought processes that can cause people to misinterpret information, leading to distorted perceptions of events, irrational judgments and false beliefs.



#### Institutional Cynicism

The belief that institutions like governments and corporations are always acting in dishonest ways and cannot be trusted.

If you believe Pharmaceutical companies are on your side



REMEMBER THIS: Your staying sick is what keeps them in business.



More people are realizing how the CDC, FDA, Big Pharma, big government, & media allies manipulated & parroted faulty data to scare the hell out of people to empower lockdowns, mandates, fire people & gain farreaching control over people's lives. Some seriously sinister shit.

9:16 AM · Jan 10, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

950 Retweets 52 Quote Tweets 4,113 Likes

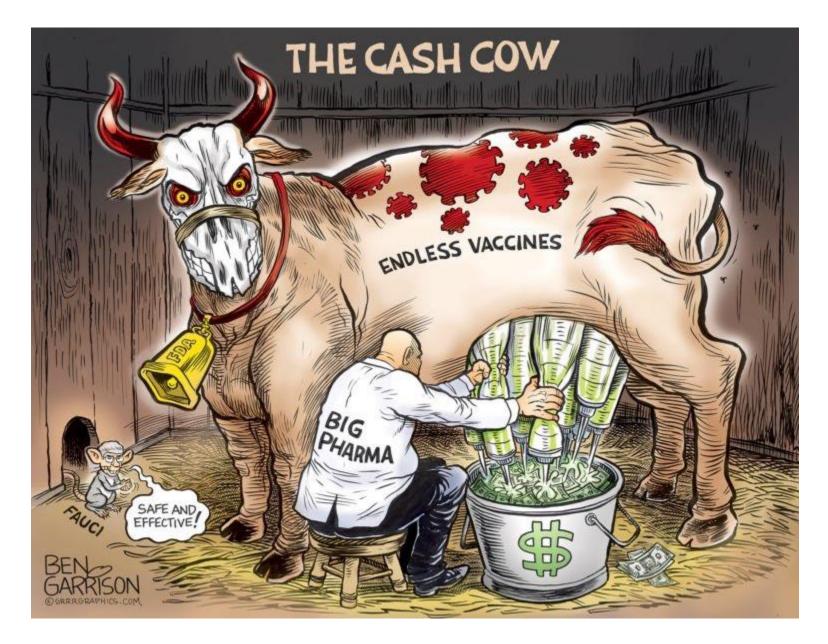




#### X=X=X=X=X

How medicine was hijacked by the Rockefellers and converted into the Big Pharma mafia that currently has all governments eating out of their hand.





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#### **Confirmation Bias**

The natural tendency of people to readily accept any information, even false, that agrees with or reinforces their existing beliefs.



🕽 December 31, 2021 · 🕄

She got her booster on my birthday. 😔 😔 😔

"Eat healthy and get all your vaccines. I just got boosted today." -Betty White, Dec 28th, 2021

crowrivermedia.com/national/entertainment/ bet...



Betty White: I'm lucky to still be in good health

# COV-19STAMP





#### Confirmation bias and believing satire is real





blaire erskine @blaireerskine

Statement from Director of Communications for Sen. Ted Cruz

...

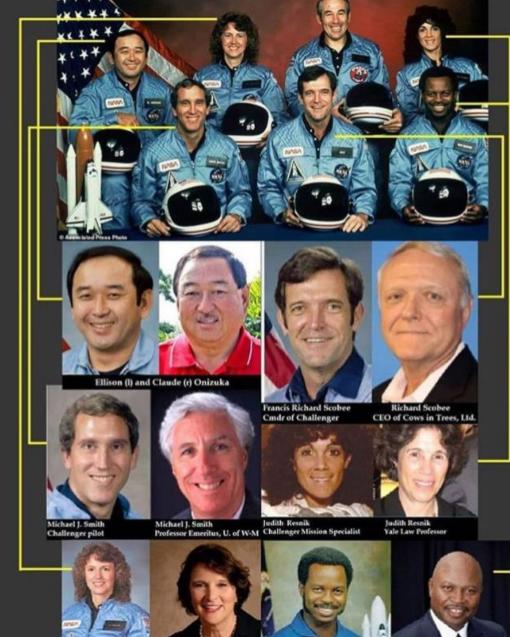


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#### **Motivated Reasoning**

To deliberately search for or interpret information in ways that confirm what you already want to believe and to invent reasons to dismiss anything that disproves these beliefs.

## Challenger Disaster Deception





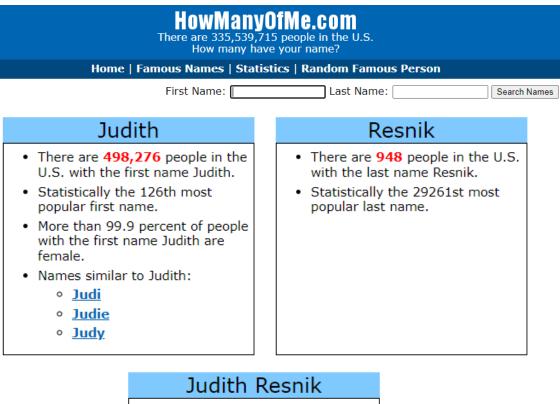
Judith Resnik. Judith Resnik, **Challenger Astronaut (1986)** Yale Law Professor (2020)

How many Americans are named "Judith Resnik?" Judith Resnik

There is **1** person in the U.S. named Judith Resnik.

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 There is 1 person in the U.S. named Judith Resnik.

To those who believe the Challenger disaster was a hoax, this is clear evidence. Motivated reasoning created this and confirmation bias reinforces it.



### **Proportionality Bias**

### The belief that major events must have major causes.

5G launched, COVID-19 2019. 4G launched, H1N1 2009. 3G launched, Influenza 1998. 2G launched, Cholera 1991. 1G launched, influenza 1979. The introduction of radio waves caused the Spanish flu of 1918.

Do you see a pattern ?

Every time the world gets an upgrade on its electromagnetic field it messes people breathing up clearly.





So, it becomes obvious that the concluded trial of Chauvin was just another major PSYOP to incite racial hatred and division, per the NWO Global Elites plans to federalize our local police forces. They didn't even have the right person on trial.





**Officer in video** 

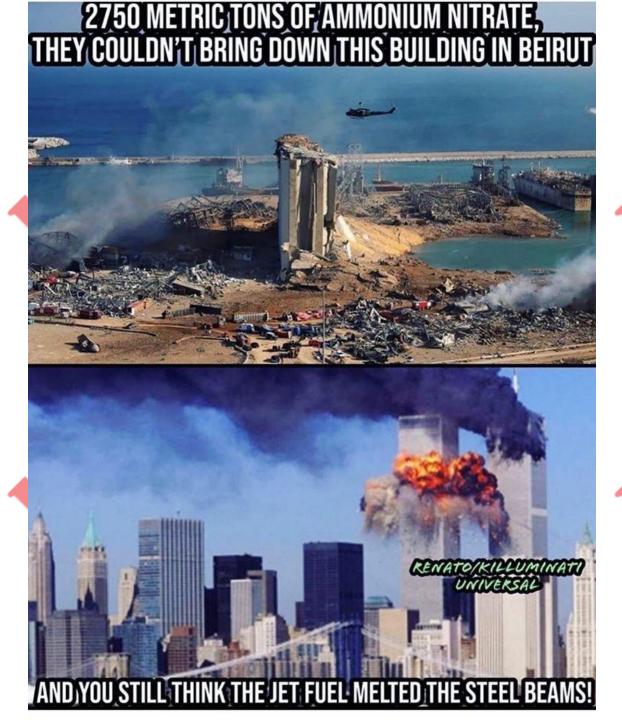
identified as

**Derek Chauvin** 

Derek Chauvîn mug shot

Benjamin Ray Bailey Free Mason Low Level Actor Star of Cash Cab







### **Intentionality Bias**

The belief that events don't simply happen by accident. Events unfold through intentional actions.



DeAnna Lorraine 
@DeAnna4Congress

I find it very interesting how the show "Masked Singer" hit America in January 2019, a little bit over a year before they started forcing us all into masks.

It's almost like they were beginning to condition the public that masks were "normal" and "cool".

The media is demonic. 19:01 · 25 Sep 20 · Twitter for iPhone







These are the PLANNED COVID-19 VARIANTS - just look at the dates when they will be "released" to the media.

#### DON'T BE STUPID, YOU ARE BEING PLAYED AND MANIPULATED

Cepa/variante		Lanzamiento	
Δ	Delta	jun 2021	
E	Epsilon	jul 2021	
Z	Zeta	ago 2021	
H	Eta	sep 2021	
Θ	Theta	oct 2021	
I	lota	nov 2021	
ĸ	Карра	dic 2021	
Λ	Lambda	ene 2022	
М	Mu	feb 2022	
N	Nu	mar 2022	
Ξ	Ksi	abr 2022	
0	Omicron	may 2022	
п	Pi	jun 2022	
Р	Rho	jul 2022	
Σ	Sigma	ago 2022	
T	Tau	sep 2022	
Y	Upsilon	oct 2022	
Φ	Phi	nov 2022	
X	Chi	dic 2022	
Ψ	Psi	ene 2023	
Ω	Omega	feb 2023	





bruh did nobody notice the creator of flappy bird said this before taking the game down??



Dong Nguyen 🤣 @dongatory

I am sorry 'Flappy Bird' users, 22 hours from now, I will take 'Flappy Bird' down. I cannot take this anymore.

### In 2020 a deadly virus will ravage the globe. This is your punishment.

4:02 PM · Feb 08, 2014 · Twitter for Mac

130K Retwe	ets <b>5.3K</b> Qu	uote Tweets	103K Likes
Q	€J	$\heartsuit$	Ť
♀ 95	1, 757	♡ 8,249	S

The Watson @TheWatson725 · 21h Derp just realized Asian creator, threat & COVID link... WELP #TC4C Thank China 4 COVID. I realize it's ridding us of the dumbest part of society (#antivaxxers) & or #SurvivalOfTheFittest? Initially suspected Chinese Population Control... Truly hope @FBI gonna look into this!

♀ 5 ℃ 8 ≪

## **Illusory Pattern Perception**

To perceive or create meaningful cause-andeffect patterns and other connections between unrelated events. Also known as "patternicity".

#### Joe Biden is Poseidon for 11/9 & WWIII AHCHSHEARYASHUB

The three red slashes allude to WWIII, a trident (for 11/9), & the Fleur-de-lis. The red/blue freemasonic color coding slashing was in Obama's CORONA logo.

What Would a Democratic 'Tsunami' in November Look Like?

VISION 2020 | JULY 9, 2020



 
 Massive 'Red Wave'

 Word or Phrase
 English Ordinal

The Red and Blue

Trump's "Red wave" is his WWIII declaration after the Democratic "Blue Wave" (11/9).

Near

S

119

Word or Phrase	English Ordinal	Full Reduction	Reverse Ordinal	Reverse Full Reduction	English Sumerian
Joe Biden is Poseidon	189	90	297	99	1134
A Economic Dollar Crash	189	90		117	1134
A Phoenix Rises Code	189	90	270	90	1134
November Ninth Date	189	81	270	90	1134
The Red and Blue Waves	189	72	297	99	1134
A Democratic Tsunami	189	72	297	117	1134
Great Conjunction	189	72		90	1134
Trump Last Year	189			81	1134

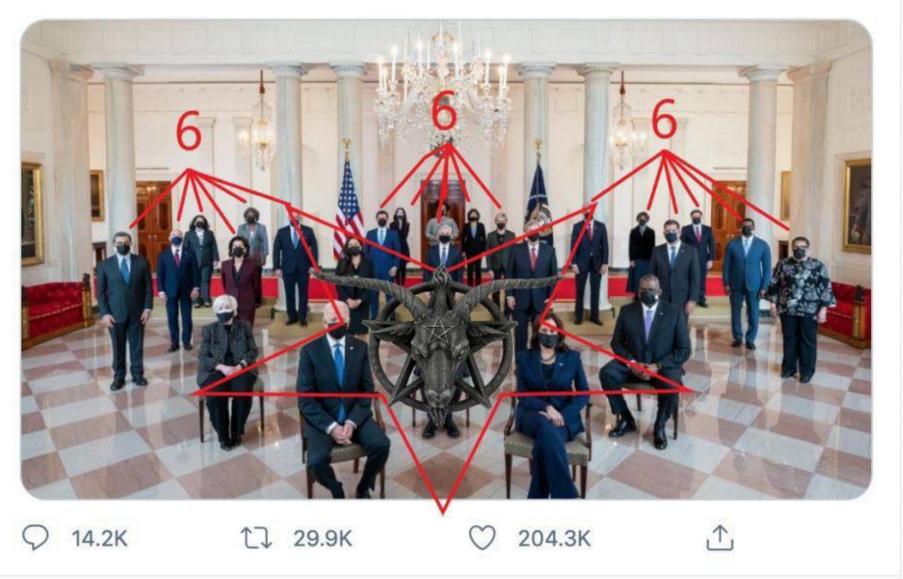




President Biden 🤣 @POTUS · 19h

United States government official

A Cabinet that looks like America.



...

The New

NOTE: Seeing patterns and connections in random things is totally normal.

*Creating* patterns to justify a belief or manufacture "evidence" is a key component of conspiratorial thinking.

# Red flag phrases that rely on emotional response

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### "Make this go viral"



Make this go viral!!!! RETWEET!!!

NURSES SPEAKING THE TRUTH...MASKS DONT WORK..THIS IS ALL A SHAM!!



• Aug 18

More and more nurses are speaking out, calling out the bulls\*\*t.





...

#### Replying to

Here's the link. I could not finish the video. Make this go viral please....



#### rumble.com

Worldwide Exclusive: Embalmers Find Veins & Arteries Filled with Never Before ... In this worldwide exclusive, Dr. Jane Ruby meets with board-certified Embalmer and funeral Director, Richard Hirschman who reveals, for the first time ever, ...

10:04 PM · Jan 27, 2022 · Twitter Web App

### "The media won't report this"



The media won't report on this but they go crazy over 6 blood clot issues from the J&J shot. We're being played

#### · Apr 18

REPORT: According To The @CDCgov's Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS);

OVER 57,000 Experimental #COVID19 Vaccine Injuries & 2300 Deaths In U.S. So Far! Greater Than ALL OTHER VACCINE INJURIES COMBINED OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS!

Search The Data: wonder.cdc.gov/vaers.html

6:03 PM · Apr 18, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone



...

@DawnEMcKenzie

Why are people who have gotten the vaccine, and now have gotten violently sick, are being censored and the media won't report it?

Why are these vaccines being forced on to people??? DOCTORS are saying DO NOT PUT THIS POISON IN YOUR BODY!! #vaccine

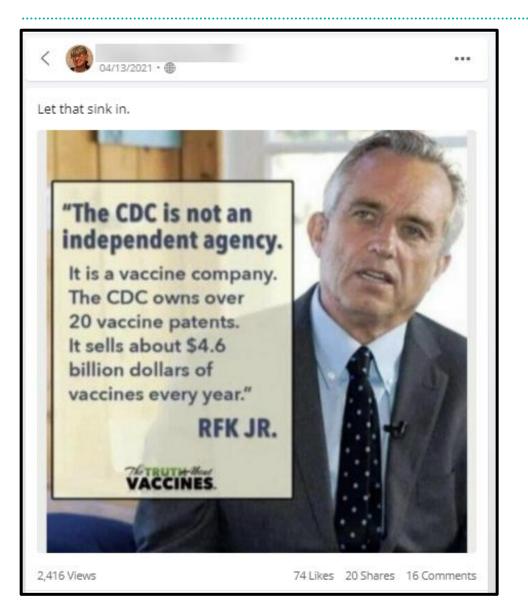


Spike protein is very dangerous, it's cytotoxic (Robert Malon... Spike protein is very dangerous, it's cytotoxic. Clip from DarkHorse podcast. Full livestream now CENSORED on ... & youtube.com

...

7:09 PM · Jun 19, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

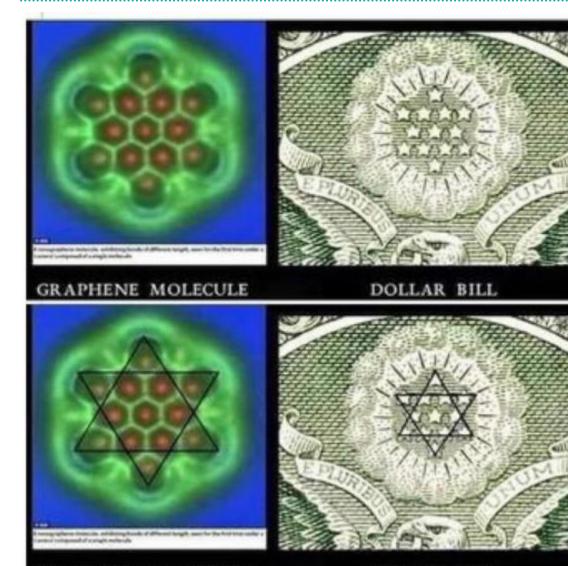
### "Let that sink in"





54 Comments 643 Shares

### "There are no coincidences"



GRAPHENE MOLECULE

DOLLAR BILL

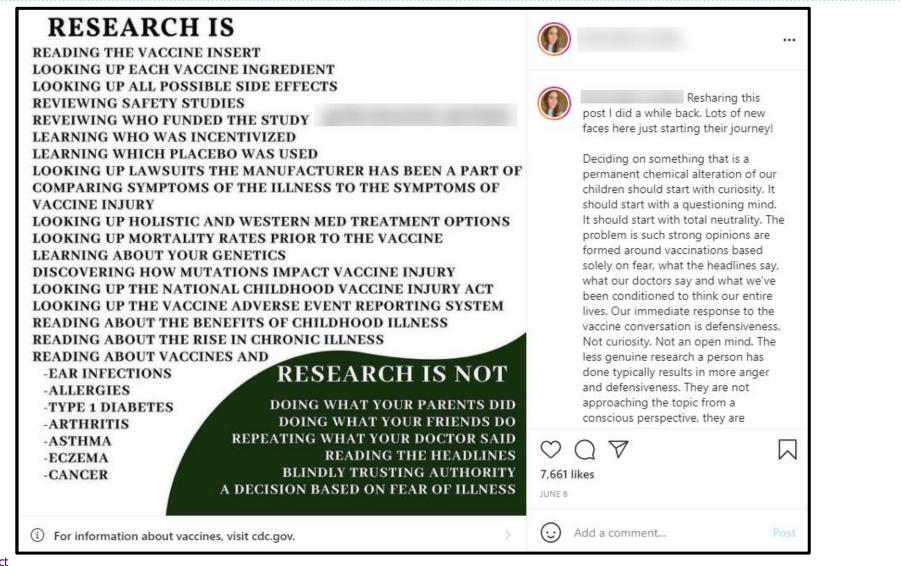
#### Gates Foundation Grants since 2010:

\$51m
\$750m+
\$194m
\$186m
\$ 39m
\$ 65m
£ 31m

Coincidence? Follow the money!

https://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/Quick-Links/Grants-Database/

### "Do your own research"



# Essential fact-checking and verification skills.

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### Three essential skills

# Critical observation

## Reverse image search

# Lateral reading

The News Literacy Project

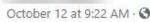
### **Observation:**

Is there any evidence or context provided for where/when these images were taken?



tober 12 at 9:22 AM · 🔇
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# Reverse image search:

We can search for these images to find other versions to verify where/when they were taken.



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		<b>BIDENS AMERIC</b>	
098	4.6K		4.7K Comments 78K Shares
	மீ Like	Comment	🖨 Share

#### October 12 at 9:22 AM · 🕄

п<sup>3</sup> Like

### **Internet search:**

Using details from the post, we can search for fact checks or additional context from other sources.







Comment

A Share

### Always exercise "click restraint"

- Don't simply click the first link in your search results.
- Review options and choose a source that seems relevant, credible.
- Fact-checking is a deliberate process for best results.







Stanford History Education Group Shocking headline. Seems like an important story. How should I check this without clicking the link?



Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction



realrawnews.com

Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction - Real Raw News Throughout the Plandemic Real Raw News has written about incidents of vaccinated pilots either falling ill or outright dropping dead midflight, ...

3:07 AM · Jan 30, 2022 · Twitter for Android

317 Retweets 19 Quote Tweets 279 Likes

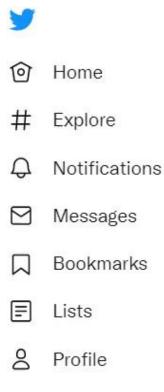
### Use "lateral reading" to verify information

Verify what you're reading while you are reading it:

- Open a browser tab to search for verifying information from other sources.
- Verify key details, the credibility of the source and learn additional context.
- By evaluating multiple sources, you become more confident in the credibility of what you are reading.

Note: The terms "Lateral Reading" and "Click Restraint" are derived from research conducted by Sam Wineburg and Sarah McGrew at the Stanford Graduate School of Education.

### Here's how I verified it was false









John C. Silva, NBCT @MrSilva

#### Tweet

-



#### Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction



#### realrawnews.com

Navy Pilot Crashes Plane, Ejects, After Vax Reaction - Real Raw News Throughout the Plandemic Real Raw News has written about incidents of vaccinated pilots either falling ill or outright dropping dead midflight, ...

#### 3:07 AM · Jan 30, 2022 · Twitter for Android

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#### What's happening

#### Music · LIVE

...

The following Tweets are part of a live conversation detected by an algorithm.



#### #Silverado 🖛

Setting the gold standard for today's trucks.
Promoted by Chevrolet

The News Literacy Project

### Is Heinz making "Mayoreo" sauce?



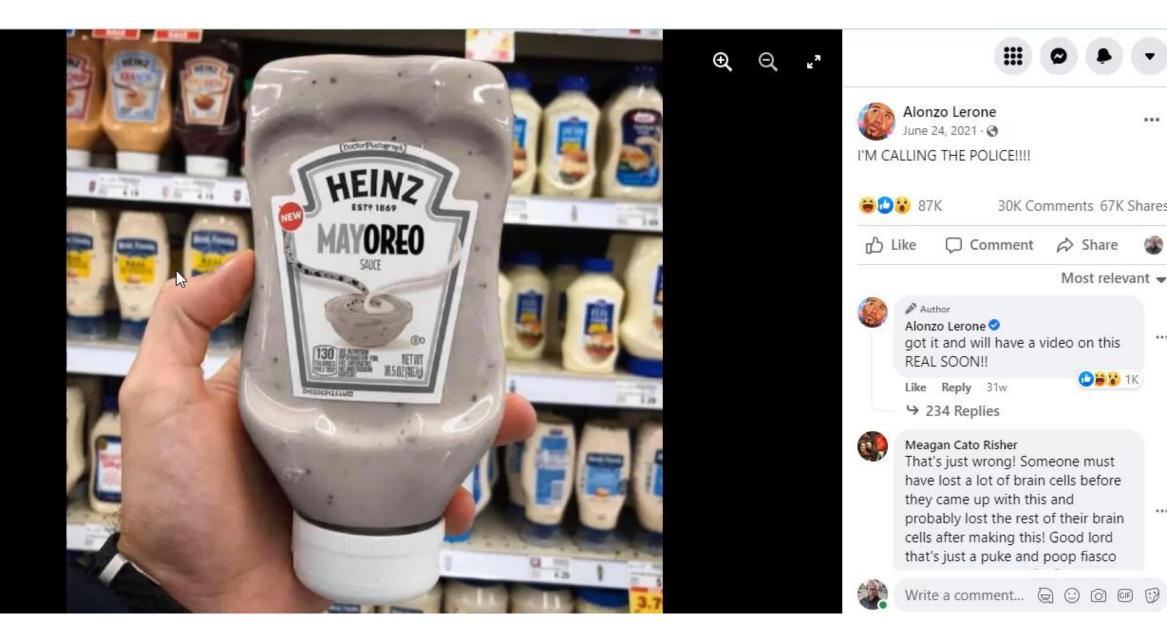


23K Comments 55K Shares

### Reverse image search to verify images

- Specialized search that matches pixel patterns.
- Matching and "similar" images in results.
- Multiple image search sites.
- Search from browser, image URL or upload an image file.
- Mobile apps also available.





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#### 8. Use - to exclude from results

To exclude particular terms or websites from your search, just type - (the minus sign) before it. For example, if you wanted to search Facebook groups for the term "cat videos" but wanted to exclude results with the phrase "Zoom filter" you would search:

site:facebook.com/groups "cat videos" - "Zoom filter"

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#### 7. Search one section of a specific website

You can also search for a specific **subdomain** or **subdirectory** on a particular website. For example, to quickly search Facebook (a website) for groups (a subdirectory) that use the exact phrase "cat videos" your search bar should look like this:

#### site:facebook.com/groups "cat videos"

# Eight Tips to Google Like a Pro

1. Use guotation marks

If you put quotation marks around your

webpages containing that exact phrase.

search terms, Google will search for

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Q "I'm not a cat"

Hint

Click these

search bars to see

the results

for each

example.

The internet is inconceivably large. In fact, it's essentially endless! Sometimes it's easy to find the information you need, but often trying to find something specific can feel like looking for a needle in a haystack. These eight tips can help you improve your search results and zero in on what you're looking for more quickly.



This infographic was developed by the News Literacy Project and Cindy Otis, author of True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News. A future founded on facts newslit.org

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#### 5. Narrow the time frame

When you get results for a search, click on "Tools" and then "Any time." In the dropdown box, you'll be able to choose from results in the past hour, past 24 hours, past week, past month, past year, or enter a custom date range.

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#### 2. Limit to news

If you are looking specifically for standardsbased news articles that contain your search term, narrow your initial search results by clicking on the tab labeled "News."

Q, AI 🕑 Videos 😭 Images 👩 News 🧷 Shopping I More

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#### 3. Use basic Boolean operators

Use **AND** (all uppercase) when you're searching to find results that contain more than one exact search term.

I'm not a cat" AND "Zoom call"

Use **OR** (all uppercase) when you're searching to find content containing only one of your search terms: "Search Term1" OR "Search Term2" OR "Search Term3"

C "I'm not a cat" OR "Zoom court hearing" OR "Rod Ponton"

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Settings Tools

Any time + All n

Any time

Past hour

Past 24 hours

Past week

Past year

Past month

Custom range...

#### 4. Use parentheses to group operators

You can use **parentheses** to order the search operations the way you would in a mathematical equation. For example, to search for only one of two search terms AND a third term, you would search: ("Search Term1" OR "Search Term2") AND "Search Term3"

("I'm not a cat" OR "cat filter") AND "Zoom court hearing"

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#### 6. Search a specific website

Limit your results to one specific website by adding "site:WEBSITENAME.com" to the search terms. For example, a search for the phrase "cat videos" on Facebook would be:

Q site:facebook.com "cat videos"

### About fact-checking organizations

- Responsible organizations "show their work".
- Links to evidence used in the fact-check are provided.
- Context and background information are included.
- Transparent about methodology, practices and criteria for ratings.
- Good practice to use multiple fact-checks when practical.

### A sample of reputable fact-checking organizations















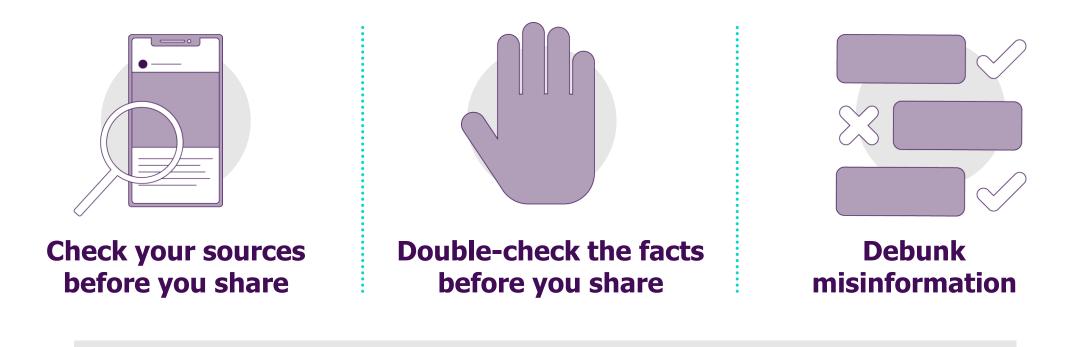




Note: All logos are hyperlinked.

## What you can do

### Practice news literacy skills



### **Stand up for facts!**

# Understanding news media bias session on March 17 at 2:00 p.m. ET



# Thank you for joining us!



newslit.org