



- Is **Fake News** news?
- Is **Alt-facts** new?
- What is '**post-truth**'?
- Why are these '**anything new**'?
- What are the roles and responsibilities of libraries and librarians?

SCIENTISTS: EARTH ENDANGERED BY NEW STRAIN OF FACT-RESISTANT HUMANS

MINNEAPOLIS (The Borowitz Report)

—Scientists have discovered a powerful new strain of fact-resistant humans who are threatening the ability of Earth to sustain life, a sobering new study reports.

The research, conducted by the University of Minnesota, identifies a virulent strain of humans who are virtually immune to any form of verifiable knowledge, leaving scientists at a loss as to how to combat them.

“These humans appear to have all the faculties necessary to receive and process information,” Davis Logsdon, one of the scientists who contributed to the study, said. “And yet, somehow, they have developed defenses that, for all intents and purposes, have rendered those faculties totally inactive.”

More worryingly, Logsdon said, “As facts have multiplied, their defenses against those facts have only grown more powerful.”



Scientists have discovered a powerful new strain of fact-resistant humans who are threatening life on Earth.

PHOTOGRAPH BY NASA
EO/REX/FEATURES VIA AP

'Fake news' named Collins Dictionary's official Word of the Year

Orwellian coinage popularised by US President Donald Trump and his team during the presidential election campaign defines its moment, according to leading lexicographers

Tech Giants, Once Seen as Saviors, Are Now Viewed as Threats

By DAVID STREITFELD OCT. 12, 2017



Facebook, Google and others positioned themselves as bettering the world. But their systems and tools have also been used to undermine democracy. Ali Asaei for The New York Times

Facebook and Google are struggling to put the fake news genie back in the bottle



John McDuling

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As news of the horrific gun attack in Las Vegas unfolded earlier this week, millions of internet users flocked to Google and Facebook to find out what happened.

But in the immediate aftermath of the event – the worst mass shooting in modern United States history – widespread confusion was apparent online.



Facebook and Google have been slammed for not doing enough to stem the flood of fake news. Is it actually possible? Photo: AP

“Google and Facebook's algorithms and business models have helped amplify misinformation on an unprecedented, industrial scale. For that they must shoulder the blame.”

A Peek Inside the Strange World of Fake Academia



Kevin Carey DEC. 29, 2016



Fake academia, predatory journals, predatory conferences, research data fraud!



The challenge facing libraries in an era of fake news

January 5, 2017 12:40pm AEDT

How can students think critically about information in today's age? UBC Library Communications/flickr, CC BY-NC-ND

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368

1.9K

216

Imagine, for a moment, the technology of 2017 had existed on Jan. 11, 1964 – the day Luther Terry, surgeon general of the United States, released [“Smoking and Health: Report of the Advisory Committee to the Surgeon General of the United States.”](#)

What would be some likely scenarios?

The social media noise machine explodes; conservative websites immediately paint the report as a nanny-government attack on personal freedom and masculinity; the report’s findings are hit with a flood of satirical memes, outraged Facebook posts, attack videos and click-bait fake news stories; Big Tobacco’s publicity machine begins pumping out disinformation via both popular social media and pseudoscientific [predatory journals](#) willing to print anything for a price; Republican presidential candidate Barry Goldwater characterizes “Smoking and Health” as a “communist-inspired hoax.”

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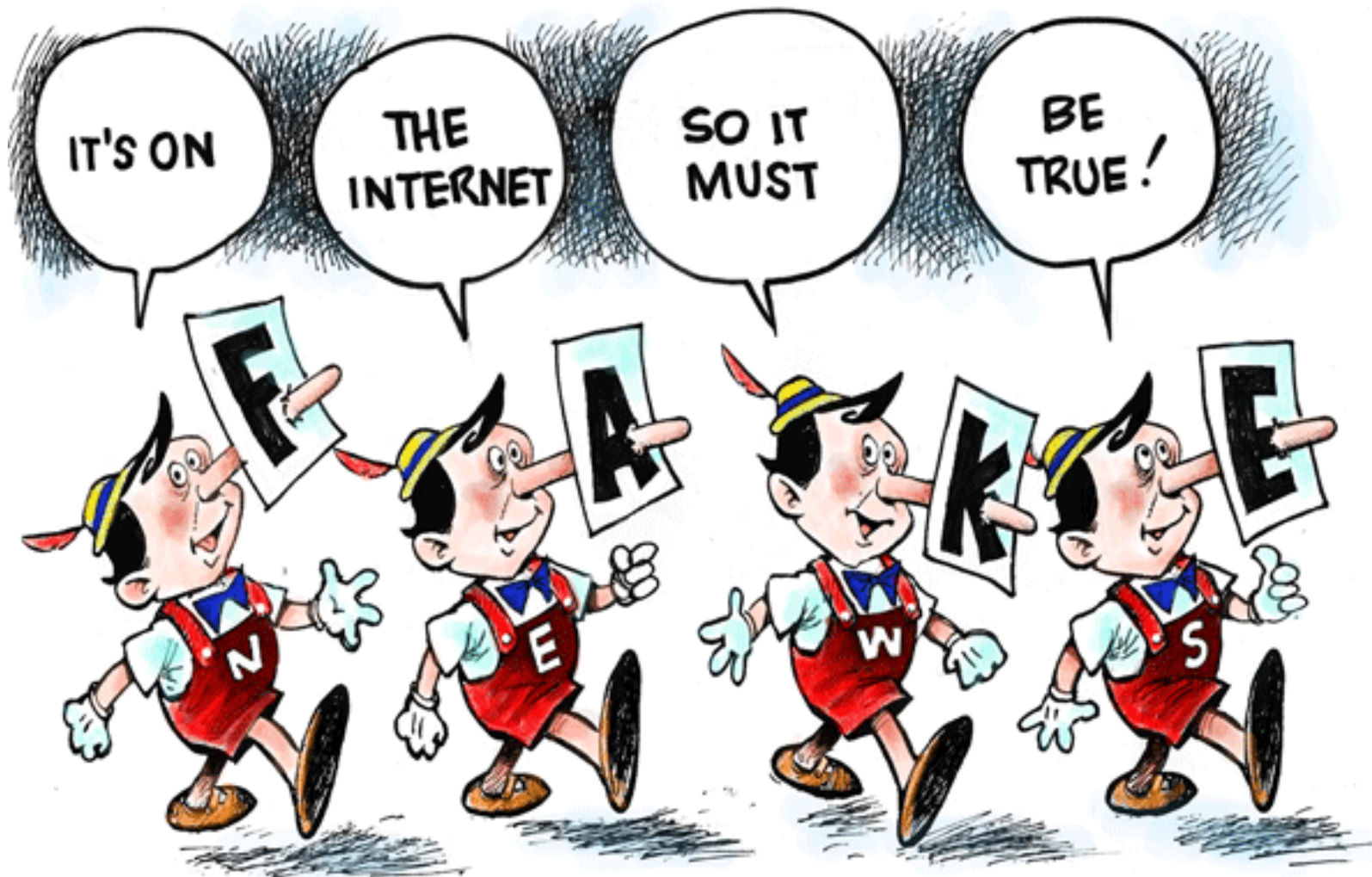
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Questions

- Is **Fake News** news?
- Should libraries collect and curate 'fake news'?

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