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Face the fake facts: The roles of academic librarians in advancing critical engagement with information

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Virtual Librarian Summit 2020: Library & Technology – Summit Part 1 9 September 2020

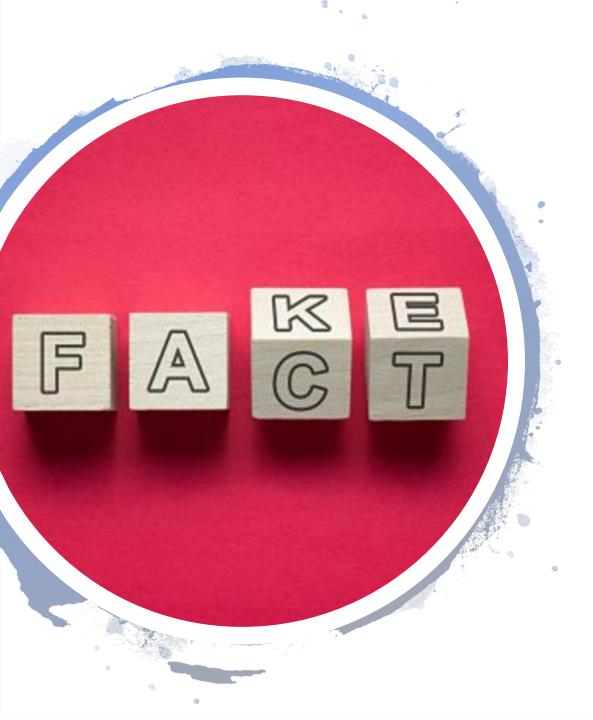
Face the Fake Facts: The Roles of Academic Librarians in Advancing Critical Engagement with Information

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Today

- Definition, dangers, examples
- Sophistication of fake news
- Positioning academic libraries
 - Strategies for advancing critical engagement with information
 - Challenging fake news
- Further development and opportunities

Definition and dangers

Fake news

Definition – Fake news

"Fabricated information that mimics news media content in form but not in organizational process or intent."

Lazer, D. M. J., Baum, M. A., Benkler, Y., Berinsky, A. J., Greenhill, K. M., Menczer, F., Metzger, M. J., Nyhan, B., Pennycook, G., Rothschild, D., Schudson, M., Sloman, S. A., Sunstein, C. R., Thorson, E. A., Watts, D. J., & Zittrain, J. L. (2018). The science of fake news. *Science*, *359* (6380), 1094–1096. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aao2998

Dangers

- Distrust in reliable, reputable journalism
- Confusion and misinformation
 - Important political, economic, social issues
- Distraction from significant issues
- Violence
- Physical harm
- National security
- Academic performance
 - Poor scholarship, coursework, inadequate engagement

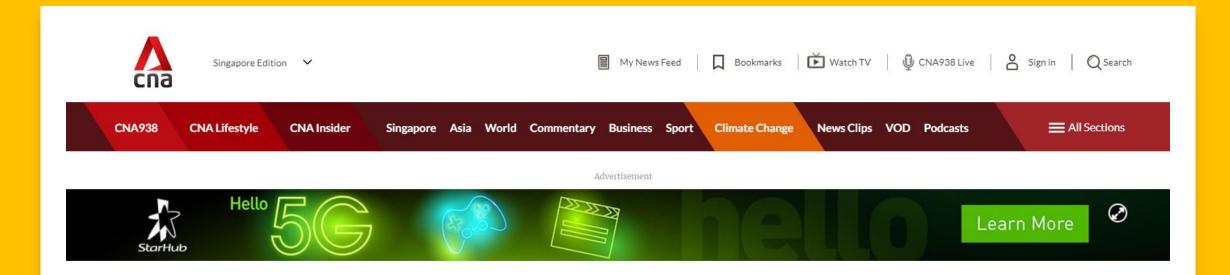
Consider: Complexity of dangers and implications



Where Exposure To Fake News Is Highest

% who say they were exposed to completely made-up news in the past week*







21 May 2020 06:50 PM

Bookmark

(Updated: 21 May 2020 07:02PM)

in

 \times

Singapore

6 in 10 people in Singapore have received fake COVID-19 news, likely on social media: Survey



Chew, H.W. (2020, May 21). 6 in 10 people in Singapore have received fake COVID-19 news, likely on social media: Survey CNA, Retrieved from https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/fake-covid-19-news-study-ncid-messaging-platforms-whatsapp-12756084

Methanol, ethanol, and bleach are poisons. Drinking them can lead to disability and death. Methanol, ethanol and bleach are sometimes used in cleaning products to kill the virus on surfaces - however you should never drink them. They will not kill the virus in your body and they will harm your internal organs.

To protect yourself against COVID-19, disinfect objects and surfaces, especially the ones you touch regularly. You can use diluted bleach or alcohol for that. Make sure you clean your hands frequently and thoroughly and avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.

World Health #COVID19

#coronavirus

FACT: Drinking methanol, ethanol or bleach **DOES NOT prevent** or cure COVID-19 and can be extremely dangerous

5 April 2020

Download and share

World Health Organization. (2020). COVID-19 Mythbusters. Retrieved from https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters

Hot peppers in your food, though very The best way to protect yourself against the new coronavirus is to keep at least 1 metre away from others and to wash your hands frequently and thoroughly. It is also beneficial for your general health to maintain a balanced diet, stay well hydrated, exercise regularly and sleep well.

FACT: Adding pepper to your soup or other meals **DOES NOT prevent or** cure COVID-19



World Health #Coronavirus #COVID19

To date, there is no evidence or information to suggest that the COVID-19 virus is transmitted through houseflies.

The virus that causes COVID-19 spreads primarily through droplets generated when an infected person coughs, sneezes or speaks. You can also become infected by touching a contaminated surface and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth before washing your hands. To protect yourself, keep at least 1-metre distance from others and disinfect frequentlytouched surfaces. Clean your hands thoroughly and often and avoid touching your eyes, mouth and nose.

World Health #COVID19 #coronavirus

FACT: COVID-19 IS NOT transmitted through houseflies

8

Sophistication, skills, and habits

Evaluation and fake news

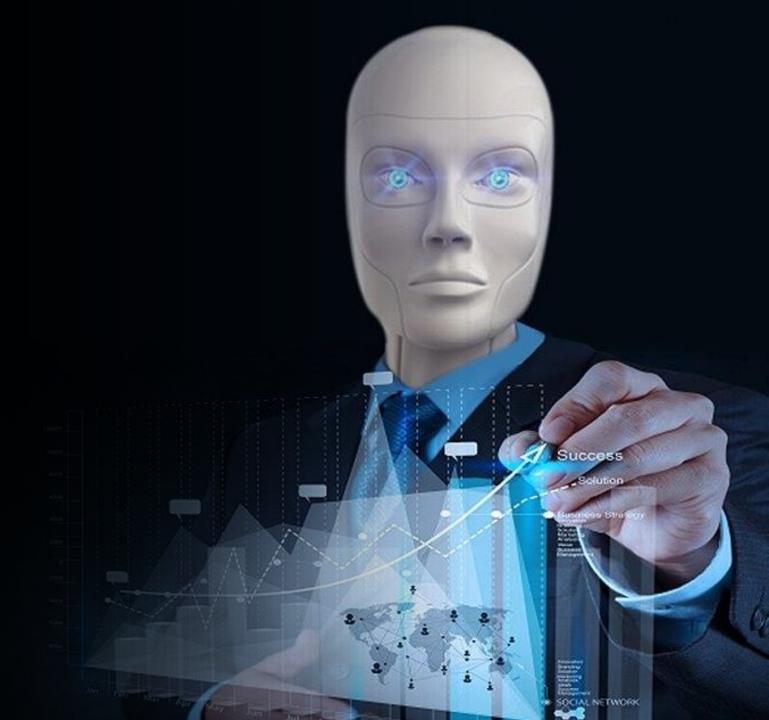
"You thought fake news was bad? Deep fakes are where truth goes to die"

Schwartz, O. (2018, November 12). You thought fake news was bad? Deep fakes are where truth goes to die. *The Guardian*. <u>https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/nov/12/deep-fakes-fake-news-truth</u>





Trolls, bots, deepfakes– Driving news? Driving us?



Which face is real?



B

Bergstrom, C. & West, J. (n.d.) *Which Face Is Real?*. https://www.whichfaceisreal.com/





Challenging fake news



AWARENESS

CRITICAL MINDSET

INVESTIGATIVE HABITS

TECHNOLOGY & TOOLS

Positioning academic libraries

Strategies for challenging fake news and advancing critical engagement with information



Overview

ABOUT PROGRAMMES SCHOOLS & INSTITUTES RESEARCH CAMPUS LIFE GLOBAL

Vision 2025 Facts Leadership History

Brand Identity Intern

International Advisory Council

VISION 2025

To be a world-renowned global city university, tackling the world's complexities, impacting humanity positively.

OUR STRATEGIES



SMU GRADUATE LEARNING OUTCOMES





Collaboration | Partnerships | Development



Advocacy & awareness

Events and exhibitions Marketing and communications Seminars and webinars Technologies and practices



Integration into teaching & learning

Advances in information literacy education Better ways to approach 'news' Disciplinary connections Self-directed learning opportunities

Collaboration | Partnerships | Development



Resources & reach

Integration into workflows

Curating content

Research

Partnerships Interdisciplinary research Immersion Deeper understanding



Technology

Inputs and outputs Advances Implications and opportunities



Resisting Disinfodemic: Media & Information Literacy for everyone & by everyone

2020 GLOBAL MEDIA & INFORMATION LITERACY WEEK 24-31 October 2020 Hosted by the Republic of Korea

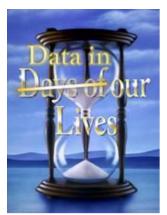


Thursday, 10 Sep | 4pm - 5pm

- What Makes a Good Infographic? Learn basic infographics tips and the importance of good visual storytelling.
- WTF: What The Fake?

Are you amused by the 'fake' out there? Were you duped? Are you discerning? You will learn how to identify examples of fake news and fake scholarly articles and learn some criteria for critical thinking in the digital world!





Dear SMU Community,

Get a balanced view while staying updated with the latest news and current affairs from the comfort of your home with these newspapers subscribed by SMU Libraries. Sit back, have a cuppa and start reading.

Financial Times

Read news, analysis and commentary with a special emphasis on business and economic news. App version also available. Registration is required using your SMU email address.

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Find breaking news, editorials, opinions, sports, arts, science, styles, home, travel, and other features. App version also available. *Registration is required using your SMU email address.*

Wall Street Journal

Read online coverage of breaking news and current headlines from the US and around the world. App version also available. Registration is required using your SMU email address.

Economist.com

The Economist is an international weekly newspaper printed in magazine-format and published digitally that focuses on current affairs, international business, politics, and technology.

Business Times

511055 111105

What you said?

- How often do you come across fake news?
- How confident are you in your ability to recognize fake news/articles?



 Did you share the news/articles later discovered to be false/fake?

Our Passion, Our Commitment, Your Advanta





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Q&A

For a copy of the deck, please get in touch with libaryapac@wiley.com

