

Name:

Date:

Period:

Fake News / 2017 Edition

"A healthy news diet consists of multiple sources of information" (guides.library.cornell.edu)

"The ideal goals of journalism is *to challenge, inform and hold accountable. NOT to pander, enrage or exacerbate.* (PBS, Idea Channel)

Instructions: Do some research and answer the following questions in your own words using complete sentences.

1. What is "**Fake News**"?
2. How can you tell real news from fake news?
3. Why might Fake News be a problem in a society?
4. What is the most common source for most of your news? (Examples: Internet / computers, TV, radio, newspapers, social media, magazine, etc.)
5. What responsibility do you have to be an "**aware**" consumer of information?
6. What are three simple steps can you take to make sure your news information is accurate?
7. Make a list of news sources which you believe are generally are more reliable and balanced.

The Task

Find two news stories – make them related in some way to the Eastern Hemisphere if you can. (The stranger the better)

- One seemingly plausible news story that you know is actually fake and prove it.

Write the Headline Here:

What is the Source?

1. Why might some people believe this story to be true?
2. What evidence do you have that proves that it is in fact Fake News?
3. Who might have something to gain by publishing this fake news story?

- One really crazy news story that you know is actually real and prove it.

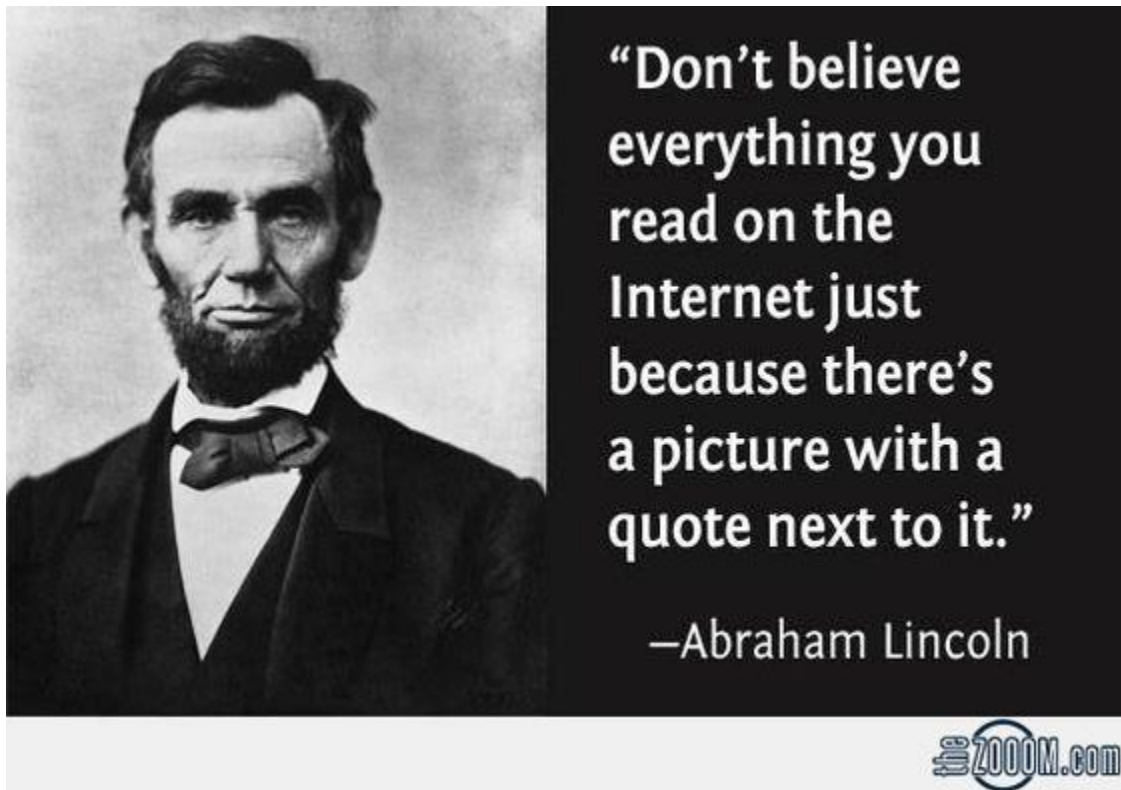
Write the Headline Here:

What is the Source?

1. What other reliable news agencies are covering this story?
2. What evidence do you have that it is in-fact a true story?
3. What sets this story apart from the other one that you know is not true?

Please attach a copy of the articles or provide the URL or other Source here

Tips for checking the story / “Facts”



- First of all - watch out for anything that says “**Sponsored**” it is just a disguised advertisement for something.
- Be wary of headlines that grab you and make you feel some type of **emotion**.
- Check to see if the story checks out and is being **reported in several other places**.
- Be cognoscente of **biased** or slanted **media sources** that may lean far to the **left** or **right**.
- Be cautious about just skipping over information that you **don’t agree with**.

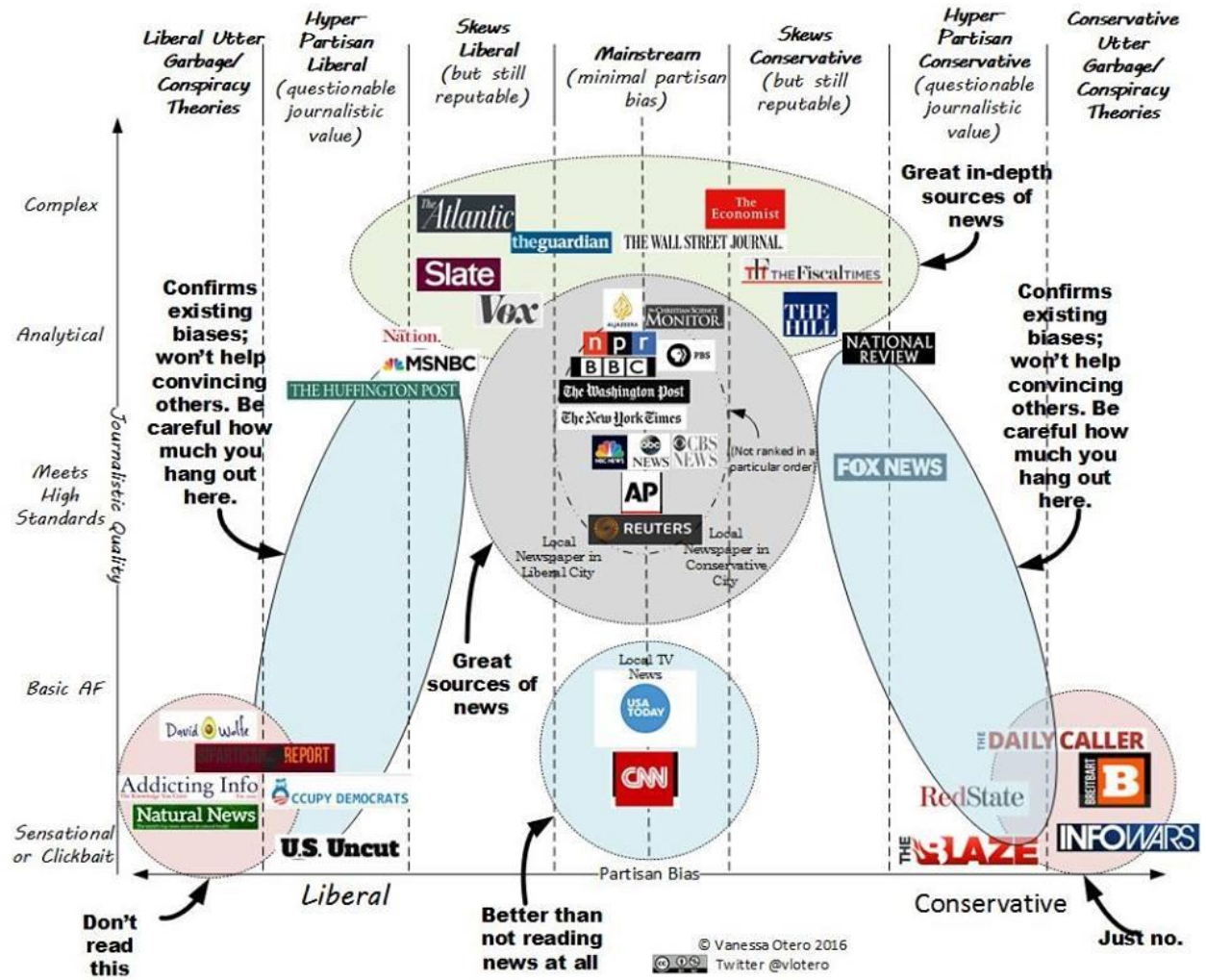
Some Vocabulary

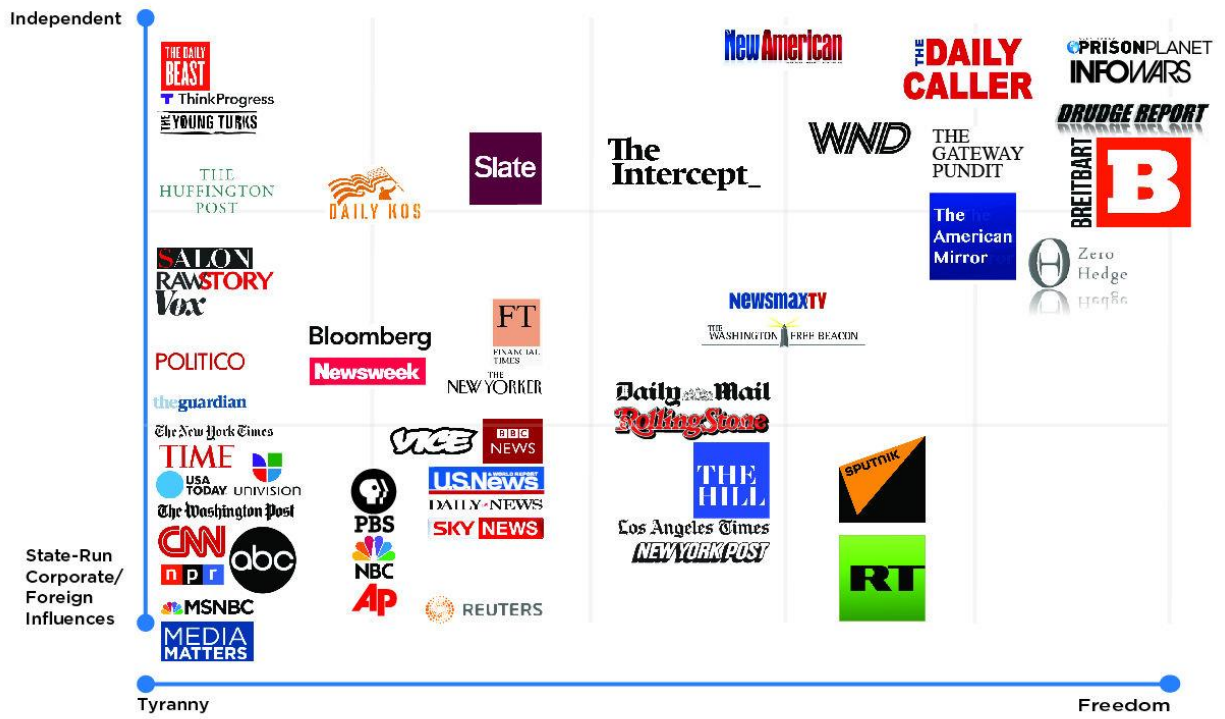
Sponsored	Conspiracy Theory
Blog	Rumor Mill
Fake News	State News
Satire	Junk Science
Extreme Bias	Hate News
Sources	Clickbait
Vetting	Gas-lighting
Neutral	Propaganda
Opinion	News
Alarmist	Fear
Algorithms	Lobbyist
News Aggregator	

List of Suppliers of Information from just One Day of Yahoo Headlines. Which should I trust?

ARS Technica	ABC News	AFP
Business Insider	BGR News	Associated Press
Defense Update.com	Bloomberg	Entertainment
Digital Trends	CNBC	Weekly
Fox News	CNET	Hello Giggles
New York Post	CNN	List Verse
People	Good Morning	Mercury News.com
Reuters	America	Pop Sugar
The Motley Fool	Huffington Post	The Cheat Sheet
The National Interest	Los Angeles Times	The Federalist
The Verge	Market Watch	Vox.com
USA Today	The Telegraph	Yahoo Beauty and
		Style

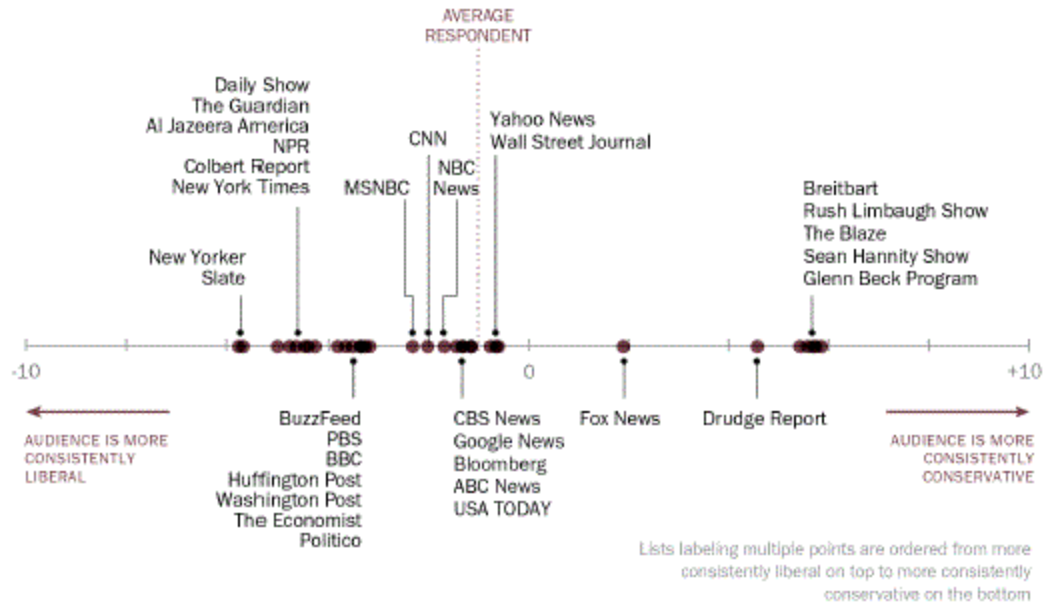
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Ideological Placement of Each Source's Audience

Average ideological placement on a 10-point scale of ideological consistency of those who got news from each source in the past week...

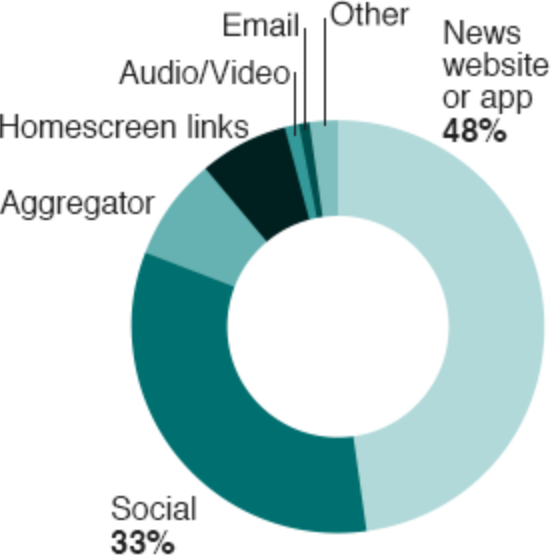


American Trends Panel (wave 1). Survey conducted March 19-April 29, 2014. Q22. Based on all web respondents. Ideological consistency based on a scale of 10 political values questions (see About the Survey for more details.) ThinkProgress, DailyKos, Mother Jones, and The Ed Schultz Show are not included in this graphic because audience sample sizes are too small to analyze.

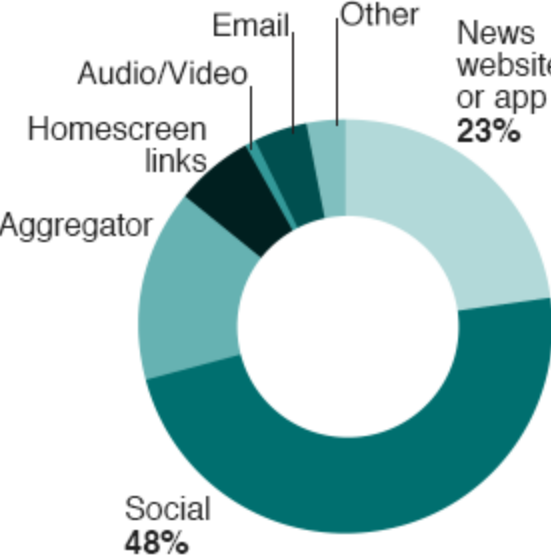
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

First news source when using a smartphone, UK and US

UK



US



Source: Reuters Institute/YouGov

HOW OTHER FORMS OF MISINFORMATION ARE WEAPONIZED INTO FAKE NEWS

satire

when deceptively
packaged as a legitimate
news story

clickbait

when containing
fabrications and
packaged as
a legitimate news
story

propaganda

when containing
fabrications and
packaged as
a legitimate
news story

fake news

conspiracy theory

when packaged
as a legitimate
news story

misleading or out-of-context information

when also serving
as support for
fabrications



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump



Following

Remember, don't believe "sources said" by the VERY dishonest media. If they don't name the sources, the sources don't exist.

RETWEETS
1,225

LIKES
2,852





Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump



Follow

An 'extremely credible source' has called my office and told me that @BarackObama's birth certificate is a fraud.

RETWEETS
2,495

FAVORITES
2,053



1:23 PM - 6 Aug 2012



Tech Chart of the Day

Fake News Is A Real Problem

Facebook engagement of the top five fake election stories*

Headline Publisher	Engagements
"Pope Francis Shocks World, Endorses Donald Trump for President, Releases Statement" <small>Ending the Fed</small>	960,000
"Wikileaks CONFIRMS Hillary Sold Weapons to ISIS...Then Drops Another BOMBHELL! Breaking News" <small>The Political Insider</small>	789,000
"IT'S OVER: Hillary's ISIS Email Just Leaked & It's Worse Than Anyone Could Have imagined" <small>Ending the Fed</small>	754,000
"Just Read The Law: Hillary Is Disqualified From Holding Any Federal Office" <small>Ending the Fed</small>	701,000
"FBI Agent Suspected in Hillary Email Leaks Found Dead in Apartment Murder-Suicide" <small>Denver Guardian</small>	567,000

Total Facebook engagement for top 20 election stories (August-election day)



* Engagement is measured as total number of shares, reactions and comments

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.

My Sources

The Verge.com

PBS News Hour Extra / Lesson Plan: How to teach your students about fake news

www.thenewsliteracyproject.org

ADL: Anti-Defamation League - Fake news and what we can do about it

AP - Survey: Young adults do consume news, in their own way

Business Insider: Teens are getting almost all of their news from Snapchat and Twitter these days

PEW Research Center: Journalism and Media

guides.library.cornell.edu

<https://www.facinghistory.org/calendar/web2017nat7-student-summit-viral-rumors-and-fact-checking>

<http://www.patheos.com/blogs/religionprof/2016/12/whats-your-source.html>

<https://www.theatlantic.com/entertainment/archive/2016/12/teen-vogue-politics/510374/>

<https://mobile.nytimes.com/2017/03/15/learning/lesson-plans/25-mini-films-for-exploring-race-bias-and-identity-with-students.html?smid=fb-share&referrer=http://m.facebook.com/>

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/how-does-your-favorite-news-source-rate-on-the-truthiness-scale-consult-this-chart-2016-12-15>

<https://qph.ec.quoracdn.net/main-qimg-dd12aa229fbf79c727c461733195d3b3>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-36528256>

<http://www.wou.edu/~scharnt/how-to-spot-fake-news.jpg>

<https://www.pinterest.com/sljournal/news-literacy/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xf8mjbVRqao&feature=youtu.be>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5ON3u5rrmI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCsp31ISQ2A>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrqBeNgLgEc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vSi6YoTPWLw>