

FINDING THE
TRUTH: BEYOND
FAKE NEWS AND
MEDIA

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F A

C T
K E

A hand is shown from the top right, holding two wooden blocks. The top faces of these blocks show the letters 'C' and 'T'. The front faces show the letters 'K' and 'E'. These blocks are positioned above the 'FAKE' blocks, suggesting they are about to be placed to complete the word.



WHY SHOULD WE CARE?

**Living in a world surrounded
by misinformation we must
advocate, demand, and fight
for the truth to preserve our
democracy now, and for our
future.**

WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?

False news stories, often of a sensational nature, created to be widely shared or distributed for the purpose of generating revenue, or promoting or discrediting a public figure, political movement, company, etc. (dictionary.com)

FAKE NEWS FATIGUE

“Everything is fake
and nothing is true,
so why even bother?”



Tim Dickinson
@7im



"Fake news" is lazy language.
Be specific. Do you mean:
A) Propaganda
B) Disinformation
C) Conspiracy theory
D) Clickbait

RETWEETS 11,792
LIKES 17,548



10:05 PM - 4 Dec 2016

↩ 478 ↻ 12K ❤ 18K

LET'S TAKE A LOOK

Take a minute or two and look over these two images focusing on these two questions:

1. What emotions do you feel when looking at the images?
2. How do the images reflect the current climate in America?



CRAZY TOWN

Seattle helpless as armed guards patrol anarchists' 'autonomous zone,' shake down businesses: cops

Seattle police union chief: City leaders have 'lost all political will to enforce the rule of law'

Mainstream media downplays 'insanity in Seattle' as critics point out bias, hypocrisy

Seattle autonomous zone 'leader' denies acting like 'warlord' in 'no cop, co-op'

What do the Seattle protesters who have seized their own 'autonomous zone' want?

JOHN YOO: Does Trump have the power to intervene in Seattle?

Trump rips 'Radical Left Democrats' in Seattle, urges leaders to 'take back' city from domestic terrorists

WHY DO WE GIVE IN?

Confirmation Bias

Brains naturally seek out information that confirms what we already believe to be true

Implicit Bias

Existing biases/stereotypes affect our understanding, actions, and decisions in an unconscious manner

POST-TRUTH WORLD

Relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief.



HOW DO WE SUPPORT?

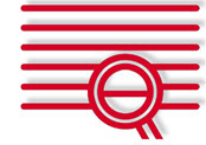
- Be aware of your own biases
- Technology builds empathy
- Provide students with language to challenge ideas, not people
- Model positive behavior in digital interactions
- Care more for the author, not who shared
- Encourage students to scrutinize first, share later

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.

CRAAP TEST

- **C**urrency: timeliness of information
- **R**elevance: importance of the information
- **A**uthority: source of information
- **A**ccuracy: reliability, truthfulness, correctness, etc.
- **P**urpose: reason the information exists



LET'S TAKE ANOTHER LOOK

Using the articles on the Seattle protest let's discuss the following:

- Which of these articles gives you the best information?
- What problems can occur now that the police abandoned their precinct, and civilians hold the zone?

CLOSING QUESTIONS

1. Do our own biases take a role in our own teaching?
2. How can we control our biases?