

Teaching Through The Age Of Disinformation

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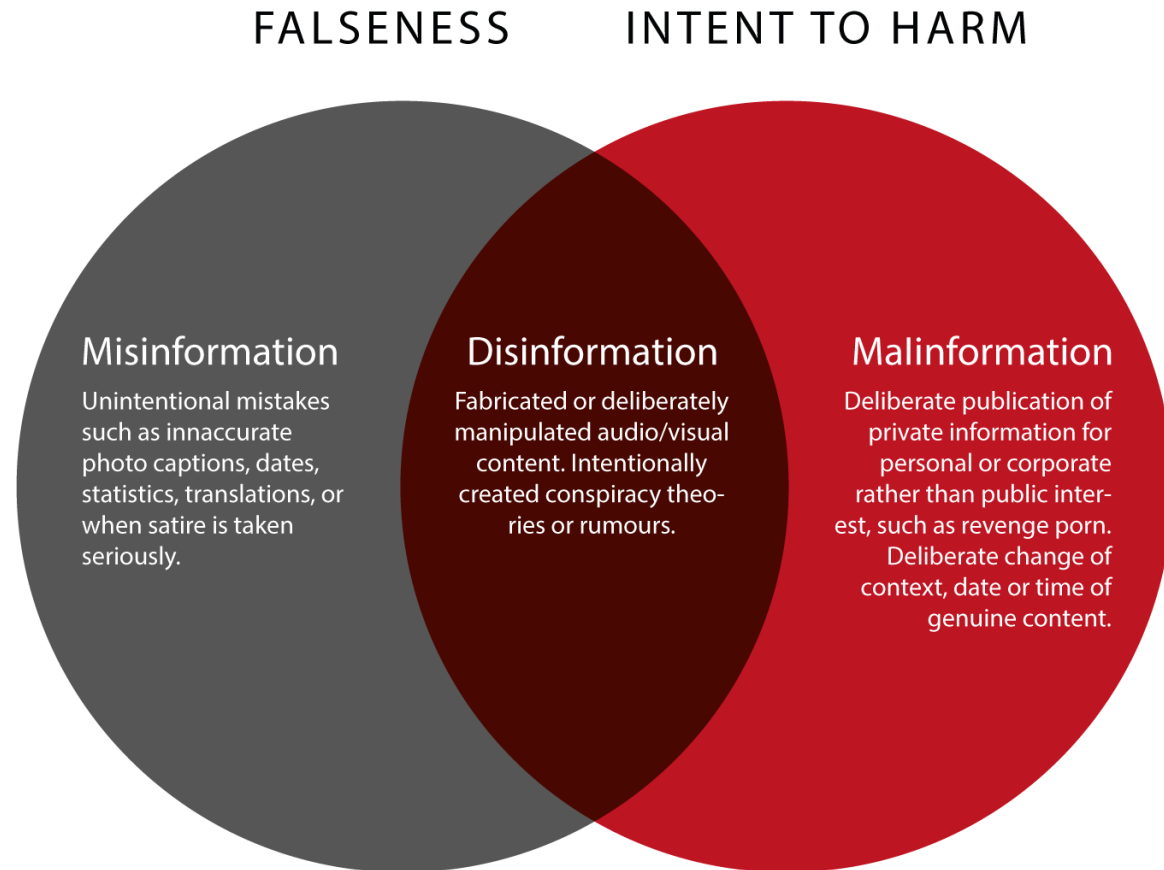
February 26, 2021



Definitions: misinformation, disinformation, malinformation

Source: [First Draft](#)

TYPES OF INFORMATION DISORDER



**SATIRE OR PARODY**

No intention to cause harm but has potential to fool

**MISLEADING CONTENT**

Misleading use of information to frame an issue or individual

**IMPOSTER CONTENT**

When genuine sources are impersonated

**FABRICATED CONTENT**

New content is 100% false, designed to deceive and do harm

**FALSE CONNECTION**

When headlines, visuals or captions don't support the content

**FALSE CONTEXT**

When genuine content is shared with false contextual information

**MANIPULATED CONTENT**

When genuine information or imagery is manipulated to deceive

Examples from journalism



NBC News  @NBCNews · Feb 14

4 people in Oregon have tested positive for the coronavirus after receiving both doses of the Covid-19 vaccine, health officials said.



I am [redacted] photographer, and writer for [redacted]. While doing my routine checks, I noticed your website was using one of my photos, the photo of the iced coffee on <https://pacechronicle.com/columnists/weeklybrew/2016/11/08/quick-and-cheap-at-home-coffee-hacks/>. Feel free to continue to use the image, all I am going to ask for is some credit. :)

If you could please add somewhere on the page "Image By [redacted] then link to the page [https://t.me/\[redacted\]](https://t.me/[redacted]) so people know where to find me!

Paul's examples

So the next time you order an espresso beverage at your local Dunkin' Donuts restaurant, give yourself a pat on the back for supporting Fair Trade and ensuring economic stability for the coffee farmers who bring us great tasting Fair Trade Certified™ espresso beans. Happy Fair Trade Month!

NIKE, Inc. Statement on Forced Labor, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery for Fiscal Year 2020



He responded to the claims saying they were "absolutely untrue." Per the *BBC* he said: "It has recently been suggested that I belong to a church which 'hates a certain group of people' and is 'infamously anti-LGBTQ.'" Nothing could be further from the truth.

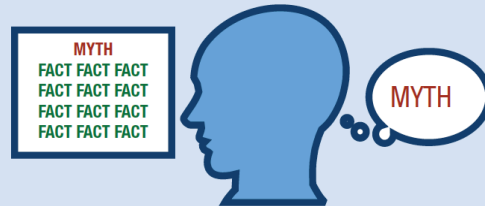
Techniques to counter misinformation

- Give warnings at time of initial exposure
- Repeat retraction more than myth
- Offer corrections that tell alternative story

Source: Lewandowsky, S., et al. (2012). Misinformation and its correction: Continued influence and successful debiasing. *Psychological science in the public interest*, 13(3), 106-131.

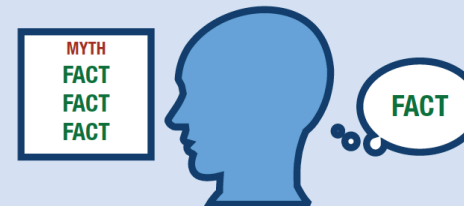
Overkill Backfire Effect

Simple myths are more cognitively attractive than complicated refutations



Simple, Brief Rebuttal

Use fewer arguments in refuting the myth — less is more



Foster Healthy Skepticism

Skepticism about information source reduces influence of misinformation



Other resources

- First Draft <https://firstdraftnews.org/>
- Calling Bullshit (U. of Washington): <https://www.callingbullshit.org/>
- Teaching activities (Temple U.): <https://guides.temple.edu/fakenews/teaching>
- News Literacy Project newsletter “The Sift”: <https://newslit.org/educators/sift/>
- Pace’s Instructional Services Librarians <https://libguides.pace.edu/c.php?g=664861&p=4685953>

Questions and comments