project p89 : prepare your project in writing: "you are a media expert talking to a class of American teens, define and give example of fake news, warn your audience, and give them some tips so they avoid being fooled."

Dear Teens, nowadays fake news is what enables some newspapers, social media, news channels, to attract people, but it is also a way to persuade, convey fake messages or bully somebody. It is way to punish, criticise or create toxic information. It is a way to discredit newspapers who don’t verify their sources. Let’s say there is a headline stating that a woman named her daughter after a supermarket. If you think about it, it’s fake news, so imagine that she’s looking for her child, and asks « have you seen Waitrose? ». This could lead to some strange misunderstandings.

Another example of fraudulent news on a website could be that Boris Johnson bought ten tons of meat for only ten pounds. This may seem suspicious and very surprising, but it is mainly fake. This could mean a lot of possibilities such as the meat had passed its sell by date.

Fortunately, there are now a wealth of new apps and software that can tell you if the website is legitimate or not. These add-ons, sometimes developed by well-known newspapers, will help you find your way through this whole jungle called online news. If you want a reliable add-on to your browser, you can use Décodex from *Le Monde*.

Unfortunately, websites such as *Twitter*, *Facebook*, *Tumblr*, *Instagram*, *Snapchat* can be just as toxic as newspapers because there are no add-ons or little apps that have crossed references for you. For example, a journalist could tweet that Donald Trump went partying in a nightclub near the White House. Unless you know that the author is reliable, you must ensure that you cross reference with other sources every time.

It can be truly tricky to realise what is fake news because if it is accompanied by a video or pictures it is harder to doubt and more believable.

Where the gutter press might require checking their sources to make sure that the information is legitimate, newspapers such as *Le monde* or *Science et vie Junior*, don’t need that background work. Another method to detect fake news is checking for spelling mistakes and the level of language.

TV channels such as 24-hour news ones might also require that you follow up on their sources because, providing non-stop news is difficult without risking that some of it will be fake. That’s why it is important to cross reference and if there is to much fake news, to stop watching it.

This is why watching reliable channels is just as important as reading respectable newspapers and blogs. Especially with the coronavirus going around, it is important to stay safe and well informed.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_8JqT2atxD8>

Fake news. The media lied.

1. **GamerGate**

We’ve written extensively about GamerGate here, and for good reason, as it was the first true victory against the cultural left in many years. Yet the whole movement sprung as a result of “fake news” trickling into gaming media. Gamers, justly tired of being harangued and shamed by the fake news media, revolted against social justice intrusion in their space, but the revolt was characterized as a “targeted harassment campaign,” and nothing but that, for months on end by the “real news” media. Laughably, cases of “harassment” were brought to the FBI, which were then closed due to lack of evidence.

The media failed to understand the actors involved in the revolt and that was a key reason why GamerGate eventually won.

The fake news media’s arrogance and condescension acted as a blinder that failed to give it proper intelligence about the revolt and also caused more people to join it. It was a prelude of things to come.

1. **The Rolling Stone Rape Hoax**

In late 2014, Rolling Stone released its infamous “A Rape on Campus” story. The “journalist,” Sabrina Rubin Erdely, went around campuses looking for a rape story that year. The University of Virginia tale spun by Jackie Coakley was the best she could find. While the outrage machine began after its publication, others quickly found discrepancies in the story and it unraveled. In the old days, any rookie journalist would have known not to publish this, but in the age of narrative spinning called real news, it went through. At least this time some justice has been done, as defamation lawsuits regarding the story have been successful.

Fake news. The media lied.

Stories like this unfortunately do damage beyond the parties immediately effected. They contribute to a culture of rape hysteria, which naturally puts men under unfair scrutiny and prevents meaningful relationships from forming, as an air of fear permeates.

And Obama has the gall to discuss “the problem of fake news” with this hoaxing outlet. Sometimes I wonder if they’re even trying to appear credible anymore.

1. **“Russian Hackers” And “Propaganda”**

While the fake news media constantly accuses its opponents of peddling conspiracy theories, they peddled a big and far more dangerous one this year, that Russia, under the auspices of a Vladimir Putin that seems to be the person responsible for everything they hate, would do whatever bad thing they imagined in their nightmares.

We’ve often heard stories about “Russian hackers,” particularly in regard to Podesta’s emails, but he was seriously lax on his security, and it wouldn’t take the Russian equivalent of the NSA to hack his accounts.

The so-called attacks by “Russian hackers” on DNC servers was ambiguously reported by intelligence agencies as being such, but there may be another story.

Regardless of the veracity of these accusations, the emails were legitimate, and the Russian narrative took precedence in the media over this simple question—“should our politicians be acting this way?” The media, in their zeal for Hillary Clinton, largely ignored the newsworthiness of the leaked emails throughout the campaign. Small wonder, since many of those emails showed outright collusion that went undisclosed.

And then there’s the latest focus on Russian propaganda in the “fake news” crusade by the media. Jeff Bezos’ blog created what was essentially a blacklist, yet it was based on the most faulty of premises, as stated even by another premier hoaxing site.

1. **The “Refugee” Crisis**

This was (and is) one of the most transparent hoaxes of all time and impressive in its sheer audacity. Peaking in 2015, the media went to Europe to focus the spotlight as brightly as it could on “refugees,” showing the sorrowful faces of women and children, while in the background lurked…something else.

immigration-greece-turkey-580138

Yeah, you guessed it. The vast majority of these refugees are military-aged men. Many, if not most of them, didn’t even come from Syria or any other conflict zone. If you asked any questions, you were “racist.”

Fake news. The media lied.