LIFE ORIENTATION GRADE 12 PROJECT

SUBMITTED BY

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## **Question 1: Fake News and Disinformation**

## **Question 1.1**

Drawing from source A of the concerned article. The writer explains that the spread of fake news on social media platforms is far deadlier than the virus itself. Hence the statement is affirmed by the following quotation:

“Misinformation and fake news, including content shared through social media, compromise the efficacy of evidence-based policy interventions and undermine the credibility of scientific expertise with potentially longer-term consequences.’’

According to source B of the article, the writer assert that World Health Organization (WHO) has cautioned people against the spread of false information as far as Covid-19 was concerned. Moreover, Africa was said to be one of the continents that was greatly impacted by infodemic, even from authorities of developed countries namely Donald Trump. To evidence, the above statement the article highlighted the following;

‘’ Despite Donald Trump conviction that the corona virus wouldn’t be able to survive warmer spring time temperature, the illness has made to Africa.’’

In addition, the article explains that Youtube further confirmed that as a social media platform they have taken a responsibility to counter disinformation pertaining Covid-19. Moreover, they further identified top 10 myths covering Covid-19, namely:

1. Transmission via Mosquito
2. Plausible and useless remedies
3. Temperature as a cure
4. Far-fetched remedies
5. Transmission via parcels from China
6. Youthful immunity
7. A conspiracy brought to you by big pharmaceutical
8. Biological weapon[bioweapon] rumours
9. Digital contagion
10. Choose your own conspiracy

All of the above mentioned, was proved to be all myths that were labelled as infodemic that countries were faced with, particularly the African continent the most disadvantaged.

## **Question 1.2**

According to the mentioned quote, one may follow the following tips:

1. Be updated through following the World Health Organisation (WHO) website. It stands as the most up-to-date and accurate website, as far as Covid-19 is concerned.
2. Have access to television, internet, radio and other broadcasting platforms that broadcast daily news. For example, SABC News, uKhozi FM, ENCA, DSTV news etc. The mentioned broadcasting platforms have been ranked as one of the many other broadcasting platforms that provide accurate news and as far as Covid-19, they have been timeously accurate.

## **Question 1.3**

1. It is important to always refrain from spreading false-news, particularly if that information may cause harm to people. I would first advice that:

People must always be vigilant and ensure that they verify every information they share to public.

1. People should always avoid sharing fake-news, particularly on their social media platforms as they may damage their digital footprints and have them being prosecuted for misinforming people.

## **Question 2: Cultivating True Dialogue.**

## **Question 2.1**

1. According to Crawford & Brandt (2020), prejudice is defined as an active feeling towards a person or group. It is defined as a pre-thought that individuals may have about people they have never met or spoken to. The preconceived feeling normally consists of negative Behavior and attitudes, which results in discrimination of people. According to Source C, prejudice manifests through an individual or a group of people who have pre-conceived feelings about people based on their cultural background, beliefs, values and perspectives. Hence, they cultivate prejudice that excludes people.
2. DeVito & Goldacre (2019), explains Bias as an act that is against the betterment of people. The authors explain bias as a behaviour where one may selectively choose one over the other with no concrete reason, hence may lead to negative and positive attitudes and results in unfair treatment. According to Source C, bias is presented in a form of unfair treatment in classrooms due to race and ethnicity.

## **Question 2.2**

2.2.1. Fraser, Papaioannou & Lemon (2018), explains unhealthy dialogue as a conversation between two or more people who do understand one another or share the same ideas about a particular thing. In addition, the authors explain unhealthy dialogues as engagements that do not promote growth, positivity and any educational related ideas between people.

Drawing from source C, unhealthy dialogue may occur;

1. When a learner and a teacher are not seeing eye-to-eye. This may lead to the learner back chatting when the teacher offers to show guidance or explain certain things.
2. Between friends, where there is a friend who feels or behaves superior than others by dismissing their expressions.
3. When there is a talk or an act of prejudice which is a judgement based on one’s race or ethnicity in the classroom
4. Between a teacher and a learner, where there is a lack of communication between the teacher and his/her learners. This may be due to language barrier, favouritism or from learners undermining the teacher’s authority because of not sharing the same ideas.
5. During lunch breaks and learners eat different meals and one may tease or ridicule the other one’s choices of food, this may be because in feels their lunch is better than the other learners or fails to understand the sensitivity of one’s background or financial means
   * 1. Being a catalyst for positive change, means that you are able to differentiate between what is right and wrong. In addition, you able to do good and enhance the Behavior of those who are around you to do good and treat others well. In reference to Source D, one may be a catalyst of positive change by doing the following;
6. Practice humility, kindness, respect and love towards people, whether family, friends or strangers.
7. Be willing to be realistic when communicating and always seek to speak facts before talking or sharing information.
8. Be aware of your surroundings, the good and the bad and be willing to be the change you want to see around you by harnessing power to change and promote change.
9. Refrain from mobilizing or instigation violence or any form of hate speech.
10. You must be willing to initiate dramatic social change, either in person or through social media platforms.

## **Question 3: Challenges of A Healthy Constructive Dialogue**

## **Question 3.1**

Healthy dialogue means delivering more than a massage, it means being able to withstand critics in a civil way and be able to reach solutions. In addition, Sperandio, Malek-Zadeh, de Souza Arêas & Francisco (2019) explains, healthy dialogues as conversations that enables both parties to be able to get their ideas across the room and further be able to learn and educate one another.

## **Question 3.2**

Listed below are nine challenges that hinders healthy dialogues;

1. **Lack of trust.**

Where there is no trust, it is impossible engage and reach an understanding. Hence lack of trust hinders healthy dialogues, where friends and families can confide in one another without reserving information.

1. **Being open**

To initiate healthy dialogues, people should be open and transparent about their intentions. And where one is hurt, they should be open about their feelings, but if people fail to be open and transparent, then it is important to establish health dialogues.

1. **Comfortability**

Comfort zone is a very important aspect in one’s life. Where a person does not feel comfortable. They find it very hard to express themselves and get their point across.

1. **Different backgrounds**

Having different backgrounds have high chances of tempering with healthy dialogues. Where people feel that they are different and they cannot engage on certain issues because they come from different backgrounds can hinder healthy conversations.

1. **Being in new spaces**

There are people who take longer than expected to familiarize themselves with being in certain spaces. Hence they end up finding it hard to socialise and have healthy conversations with other people.

1. **Misunderstanding**

It is impossible to have healthy dialogues where there are misunderstandings. In order for people to have healthy dialogues, they need to critically observe and analyse matters and be able to express themselves and be fairly understood.

1. **Speech problems**

There are many reasons that may evidence speech problems, it can either be due to slow development. This therefore makes it hard to talk or clearly be expressive.

1. **Stuttering**

It is a problem that interferes with fluency and speech articulation. Talking to other people because of non-fluency is not easy because articulation is difficult.

1. **Not having a meditator**

Where two or more people are engaging and cannot reach an agreement, there should be a mediator that will facilitate their dialogue and in instances where there is no mediator, healthy dialogues are impossible to obtain.

The above may be eliminated through being able to easily express one’s self when they are not happy about certain events and always ensuring that respect is the key driver for all engagements.

## **Question 4: Problematic Current Societal Issue**

## **Question 4.1**

Definition: Vaccine is a substance used to stimulate the production of antibodies and provide immunity against one or several diseases, prepared from the causative agent of a disease, its product, or a synthetic substitute, treated to act as an antigen without inducing the disease and anti-vaccine opposes vaccination or vaccine.

Below are the captured reasons as to why people are against taking the Covid-19 vaccine;

1. People are against taking the Covid-19 vaccine because of false information that has been circulating pertaining the side effects of the vaccine.
2. Citizens lack knowledge as to what exactly is in the vaccine made of, hence believe it may be deadly.
3. There are many theoretical conspiracies pertaining Covid-19 and the vaccine at large. Hence people feel that whether they get vaccinated or not their lives are still at risk.
4. People assumes that the vaccine does not exist, it is a systematic approach to manage the population by the government.
5. Other people believe in homemade remedies, and are certain that the vaccine does not align with their cultural and traditional beliefs.

## **Question 4.2**

Anti-vaxxers are defined as a group of people who do not believe in the efficacy of the vaccine, hence refuse to get vaccinated. Anti-vaxxers, are also being discussed in social media platforms hence they face harsh scrutiny from people.

1. **Selfish**

Anti-vaxxers are labelled by social media groups as selfish individuals who are against the betterment of the country and posing back to normal.

1. **Cyber-Bullying**

Anti-vaxxers have created a movement that seeks to warn people against getting vaccinated. The movement has then been receiving threats that come in a form of cyber-bullying. This therefore means that they are being bullied by those who believe in the vaccine.

1. **Lack of knowledge**

Anti-vaxxers are results of lack of knowledge that they have been exposed to on social media platforms. Hence they are then labelled as mediocre people because they do not conform to the view of the majority.

1. **Violence**

Many people have been harmed because of sharing different ideas from the majority, hence anti-vaxxers have been exposed to brutal violence from members of the society and the online community who strongly believe in the efficacy of the vaccine. This has then set their lives in danger.

1. **Fear**

Social-media platforms have installed a lot of fear towards the ant-vaxxers. This is because they face many adversities that could ruin their lives in totality. Even to an extent of losing their jobs or credibility.

## **Question 4.3**

There is a greater need to ensure that people are well-informed by providing accurate news to them. Below are a few pointers that the government may follow with intentions of debunking ideologies supporting the anti-vaccine campaign.

1. The government may consider using influential people to promote the use of the vaccine. Many people idols and people they look up to, if the government may have celebrities forming part of the vaccine campaign , people will avail themselves when they see their beloved public figures.
2. The government should consider sending informative communiques and use different languages that people would be able to read and understand in order to get the point across.
3. People should also encourage themselves to research and verify information that they succumb to in order to share accurate information.
4. The government should have an open-door policy, where there is inclusivity and transparency as far as Covid-19statistics are concerned.
5. The officials should share messages that are encouraging to people. E.g. telling them about the success rates.

In conclusion, the anti-vaccine campaign may be debunked by always ensuring that there is enough attention paid to credible news shares by society and the government at large.

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