



Module 4: Digital Misinformation

Module 4 Tutorial: Awareness on Fake News

In this tutorial activity, students will learn the ways to identify fake news and understand the adverse consequence of fake news.

Intended Learning Outcomes

Number	Description
ILO-1	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Understand and uphold ethical principles in using, applying, and developing digital and online tools.
ILO-2	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Practice responsible use of online platforms and appropriate online behavior.
ILO-3	Digital Wellbeing & Ethics: Recognize common online threats and apply appropriate methods to protect oneself online and be able to identify and respond appropriately to cybersecurity threats.

Lesson Overview

In this week module 4 activities, the students will learn the ways to identify fake news, understand the adverse consequences of fake news, and the importance of fighting fake news. Upon completion of the lesson, students will be able to understand the importance of fact-checking to determine the authenticity of news in the digital world.

Activity 1: Importance of Fact-Checking

Each group to select any two online news or postings from the given lists and discuss on the following questions.

- Evaluate the selected online news/postings using fact-checking tools or any other methods for its authenticity – decide whether they are real news or fake news (misinformation or disinformation) or unable to confirm.
- If it is fake news, discuss on the following
 - Any motivations behind the news?
 - Consequences or impact on the society?
 - What is the source (real/actual news) from where this fake news might have originated?
 - Key learnings and any suggestions on fighting against this fake news.
 - Discuss possible digital solutions or leveraging digital strategies to contain the spread of this fake news.
- If it is real news, discuss on the following
 - When and where this news published?
 - Elaborate on the news



News 1:

Walt Disney Company was seeking a resort exemption to lower the drinking age to 18 years old, in Disney World, Florida.

On August 20, 2022, a TikTok video was posted, claiming that Disney World was going to lower the drinking age to 18. It was stated that Disney World was battling the Florida government in court to get a resort exemption, which would allow anyone 18 and older to drink on property. The TikTok video acquired millions of views in just a couple days. This story was also posted on facebook, instagram, and Twitter. Shortly after, the story made it on ABC 10 News.



The video originated from an article posted on a blog called Mouse Trap News. Small segment of the original article below. Full article can be found here: ["Drinking Age at Disney World May be Lowered to 18"](#).

News 2:

CDC reported that the majority of those infected with COVID-19 'always' wore masks.



February 16, 2023

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Home > Articles > New CDC Study Finds Majority Of Those Infected With COVID-19 'Always' Wore Masks



Mandatory face mask rules in some Californian cities now come with a fine. (Photo: Youtube)

New CDC Study Finds Majority of Those Infected with COVID-19 'Always' Wore Masks

California's BYD mask deal linked with mask data in question

By Katy Grimes, October 13, 2020 10:41 am

Once again it appears there are conflicting facts, data and plenty of opinions about the efficacy of wearing masks to prevent contracting the Coronavirus.

In addition to causing "maskne" and skin infections on the face and around the mouth, persistent coughing, "mask mouth," and respiratory illnesses including lung infections, it turns out that most everyone infected with COVID-19 "always" wore masks, according to a newly published study by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

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"The CIA version of khakis." - FORBES

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In October 2020, posts on social media and articles were published claiming that a new CDC study found the Majority of those infected with COVID-19 'always' wore Masks (examples of the articles below). This claim was further elevated on October 15, 2020, a town hall broadcast by NBC, interviewed U.S. President Donald Trump.

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Major Doctors' Organization Publicly Embraces Disembowing Babies Until Birth

CDC Study Finds Overwhelming Majority Of People Getting Coronavirus Wore Masks

BY: JOHNNY BOTO | OCTOBER 12, 2020 | 2 MIN READ



Over 70 percent of the case-patients who were



During this interview Trump stated, " But just the other day, they came out with a statement that 85% of the people that wear masks catch it." Trump's source for this claim was the new study published by the CDC. Full transcription of this interview can be found [here](#).

News 3:

An American anesthesiologist Scott S Reuben revolutionized the way physicians provide pain relief to patients undergoing orthopedic surgery for everything from torn ligaments to worn-out hips. Reuben's studies led to the sale of billions of dollars worth of the potentially dangerous drugs known as COX2 inhibitors, Pfizer's Celebrex (celecoxib) and Merck's Vioxx (rofecoxib).

News 4:

Penguins had been sighted on East Coast Beach many years ago: Stray penguins startle sunbathers with surprise landing at East Coast, Singapore.

News 5:

In mid-August 2016, after watching an out-of-context video, far-right bloggers began circulating conspiracy theories suggesting Hillary Clinton was covering up massive health problems. They suggested she was both physically weak and cognitively impaired, suffering from a range of issues including Parkinson's disease, dementia, and seizure attacks. Paul Joseph Watson, an influential conspiracy theorist and an editor for *Infowars*, promoted the theories in a video titled "The Truth About Hillary's Bizarre Behavior." Around this time, Trump began alluding to her health issues during his campaign rallies.



Activity 2: Reflection

Discuss the reflection by your group on this tutorial.



- a. What are some of the difficulties encountered in carrying out fact-checking in Activity 1? How might we overcome these difficulties?
- b. Why POFMA is needed to address potentially harmful misinformation in Singapore?
- c. Fake news that your group members may have encountered in recent years.

Activity 3: Presentation

Presentations by instructor selected groups to show their work on this tutorial.

Each group need to write your answers to all the activities (in case if your tutor ask your group to present 😊) in a word document or power point slides named as “TutorialNumber_GroupNumber_WeekNumber” and upload it in Discussion page of your tutorial site.

-----END OF TUTORIAL-----