


Task 2: Procedures Used for Labelling Tweets

My Definition of Misinformation

- Misinformation is false or inaccurate information, including:
 - Events that **did not happen**
 - Things that **do not exist**
 - **Untrue** or **misleading** details on real events, occurrences or interactions (i.e., false information on the 5 W's and H: Who, What, When, Where, Why, How). This includes:
 - Content that misinforms on who was involved in an event/interaction, what happened, and when it happened
 - Content that misleads people on the reasons behind occurrences/events (i.e., misleading “Why” something happened)
 - Example: <https://twitter.com/i/web/status/1521296227291312133>
 - Content that misleads people on how something came to be
 - Example: <https://twitter.com/i/web/status/1521328439759761408>
 - Fake quotes – attributing words to people’s mouths that they did not say, or putting them in a misleading context
 - Example: <https://twitter.com/i/web/status/1522330619618996225>
 - Exaggerations on events and people’s responses

How I identified misinformation in tweets:

- Do some of my own searching online on the subjects in the tweet
 - E.g., For the tweet regarding the [abortion protest in Mexico](#), I found a Reuters Fact Check site that clarified the series of events: <https://www.reuters.com/article/factcheck-mexico-photo-abortion-idUSL2N2WW2CW>
- A pop-up under the tweet that says: “Readers added context they thought people might want to know”
 - Example: <https://twitter.com/i/web/status/1521296227291312133>



Readers added context they thought people might want to know

The barricades around the U.S. Supreme Court building have been up since at least April 26, 2022, likely in response to the self-immolation of an environmental activist on Earth Day.

[gettyimages.com/detail/news-ph...](#)

[gettyimages.com/detail/news-ph...](#)

[nytimes.com/2022/04/24/us/...](#)

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- Scan comments under the tweet for any comments pointing out misinformation. Use common sense and judgement on whether the comments may hold some truth
 - o E.g., comments that provide facts (not opinion) that counter/challenge the info in the tweet, comments that point towards the tweet being misleading



My Definitions of News vs. Opinion

I labelled tweets as “News” or “Opinion” based on the content of the tweets. If a tweet contained both fact and opinion in its content, I labelled it as opinion.

- News Definition:
 - o Contains and informs purely on event facts. Event facts include:
 - Who, what, when where, why, how
 - Includes news about a person’s response (e.g., a celebrity’s statement on a topic (this could be the celebrity’s opinion))
- Opinion Definition:
 - o Contains **any** content beyond facts on things, events, and other people’s actions/responses
 - Contains words such as “my thoughts”, “my opinion”, “I think/believe/feel”, “should”
 - Contains sentiment or emotionally loaded words (e.g. “heartbroken”, “ravages”)
 - Note: Opinion tweets are about the tweeter’s own thoughts and beliefs

A different way to label tweets as “news” or “opinion” is by the intended purpose of the tweet. If the tweet’s purpose is to share information/keep people informed, then it is labelled as “news”. If the tweet’s purpose is to share the tweeter’s opinion and/or influence the opinion of others, then it is

labelled as “opinion.” However, I chose to define “news” and “opinion” based on the content of the tweet as it may be more objective and easier to program.

How I labelled Tweets as Breaking news vs Normal news

- Breaking News
 - Look for the words “Breaking” or “Breaking News” at the beginning of the tweet
 - Look at the tweet’s time stamp and see how close it is to the time of the event
 - If the tweet was posted on the same day within a couple of hours of the event’s occurrence, I considered it as “Breaking News”
- Normal News
 - Anything that is not breaking news, I labelled as Normal News
- If the tweet is labelled as “Opinion”, I put “N/A” under the “Breaking News” and “Normal News” columns

How I labelled Tweets as Pro-life vs Pro-choice

- Pro-life
 - Against abortion
- Pro-choice
 - Supports abortion
- If the tweet is labelled as “News”, I put “N/A” under the “Pro-life” and “Pro-choice” columns

Cropped Excel Version of Labelled Dataset:

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	TweetID	is_misinfo	category	Breaking News	Normal News	Pro-life	Pro-Choice
2	1540348242960846849	No	News	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
3	1540345715616006148	No	Opinion	N/A	N/A	No	Yes
4	1540341761658085376	No	News	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
5	1540338100521603074	No	Opinion	N/A	N/A	Yes	No
6	1521296227291312133	Yes	News	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
7	1540343622486327296	No	Opinion	N/A	N/A	Yes	No
8	1521328439759761408	Yes	News	No	Yes	N/A	N/A
9	1540337296473526272	No	News	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
10	1540405941094326272	No	News	Yes	No	N/A	N/A
11	1522330619618996225	Yes	Opinion	N/A	N/A	Yes	No