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# **Bedtime Readings**

### **Books**

If you really want to get into how we got here, the history of information operations, what disinformation and propaganda are etc, these books were recommended by the team:

- SJ's 2018 book stack dated, but some good classics in here
- Thomas Rid's "Active Measures"
- PW Singer and Emerson Brooking's "<u>Like War</u>"
- Zeynap Tufeki's "Twitter and Tear Gas" (free version)
- Verification handbook: <a href="handbook">handbook</a>, <a href="investigative reporting">investigative reporting</a>
- Verification Handbook: homepage

# **Articles**

- Unpacking China's Viral Propaganda War
- Prevalence of Low-Credibility Information on Twitter During the COVID-19 Outbreak (5 pages)
- Media Manipulation and Disinformation Online (106 pages)
- Facebook's Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior An OSINT Analysis
- Naval Post Graduate Disinformation (many)
- Hate multiverse spreads malicious COVID-19 content online beyond individual platform control (9 pages)
- From Russia with Blogs (26 pages)
- The COVID-19 Social Media Infodemic (18 pages)
- We've Just Seen the First Use of Deepfakes in an Indian Election Campaign
- Facebook shut down commercial disinformation network based in Myanmar and Vietnam
- Facebook April 2020 Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior Report (26 pages)
  - o <u>Iran's Broadcaster: Inauthentic Behavior</u> (46 pages)
  - <u>Facebook's VDARE Takedown</u> (18 pages)
  - <u>Facebook Downs Inauthentic Cluster Inspired by QAnon</u> (19 pages)

- (Bellingcat) Uncovering A Pro-Chinese Government Information Operation On Twitter and Facebook: Analysis Of The #MilesGuo Bot Network
- Unmaking Democracy: How Corporate Influence Is Eroding Democratic Governance (Harvard International Review) - 4 May 2020 (6min read)
- Conspiracy Theory Handbook (12 Pages)
  - o Google Drive Location
- What if we've all been primed? (6 pages)
- (Bellingcat) Investigate TikTok Like a Pro (15min read)

## Podcasts and videos

- Motherboard's <u>Cyber Podcast Episode with Thomas Rid about Active Measures</u> and implications for modern disinformation
- <u>Lawfare's Arbiters of Truth</u> podcast series about disinformation
  - Especially <u>this episode with Camille Francoise</u> specifically about COVID-19 disinfo and the ABCs of Disinfo
- vOPCDE #2 Discussion: Disinformation about Disinformation (Grugg, SJ, Brian)

# **People to Follow**

#### Disinformation data science:

- Conspirador Norteno and Dr ZQ: [@conspirator0](https://twitter.com/conspirator0)
   [@ZellaQuixote](https://twitter.com/ZellaQuixote)
  - o always a great example on bot tracking
  - went looking at reopen etc
     [https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1252374902121721859?s=19](https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1252374902121721859?s=19)
  - Tools:
    - [https://makeadverbsgreatagain.org/allegedly](https://t.co/67lk3ewfRx?amp=1) and python/jupyter with libraries pandas, tweepy, bokeh, cytoscape
  - Looking at a botnet:
     [https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1265829648056954881?s=20](https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1265829648056954881?s=20)
- Andy Patel: [@r0zetta](<u>https://twitter.com/r0zetta</u>)
  - Infosec and misinformation data scientist
  - Tools: e.g. using TFIDF plus Louvain clustering to analyse twitter
    [https://twitter.com/r0zetta/status/1230786764413030400](https://twitter.com/r0ze
    tta/status/1230786764413030400)
    [https://twitter-clustering.web.app/](https://twitter-clustering.web.app/)
    - ([https://github.com/r0zetta/meta\\_embedding\\_clustering](https://github.com/r0zetta/meta\\_embedding\\_clustering)
  - (https://blog.f-secure.com/author/andrew-patelf-secure-com/page/2/)

- Elliot Alderson: [@fs0c131y](https://twitter.com/fs0c131y) ([fs0c131y.com](https://t.co/ntCiqAFatC?amp=1))
  - Infosec and misinformation data scientist

# Disinformation tracking:

- Erin Gallagher: [@3r1nG](https://twitter.com/3r1nG)
- @josh emerson
- [Kate Starbird: @katestarbird](<a href="https://twitter.com/katestarbird">https://twitter.com/katestarbird</a>)

# Examples of disinformation tracking

- "Distinguished Impersonator" Information Operation That Previously Impersonated U.S.
   Politicians and Journalists on Social Media Leverages Fabricated U.S. Liberal Personas to Promote Iranian Interests
- From Russia With Blogs
- Facebook shut down commercial disinformation network based in Myanmar and Vietnam
- Facebook's Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior An OSINT Analysis

# Disinfo data science (short investigations)

• <a href="https://onezero.medium.com/facebook-groups-and-youtube-enabled-viral-spread-of-plan-demic-misinformation-f1a279335e8c">https://onezero.medium.com/facebook-groups-and-youtube-enabled-viral-spread-of-plan-demic-misinformation-f1a279335e8c</a>

### Images and disinformation

Deepfakes by BJP in Indian Delhi Election Campaign

## **Disinformation Counters**

- Training end-users about disinformation
  - <a href="https://getbadnews.com/#intro">https://getbadnews.com/#intro</a> game to train people on how disinformation works
  - o <u>CrashCourse media literacy videos</u>