# Fake News on Social Media

Christopher De Silva / Nicole Cojuangco

#### Introduction

- The spread of misinformation, lies and dubious claims shared online, became affectionately known as 'Fake News'.
  - This idea of fake news really spread widely on social media as the post between real news and fake news looked so identical in syntax, that it was almost impossible to distinguish the differences.

### Many Countries Engage in Fake News

- Many dubious countries have been systematically organizing and spreading fake news to further divide America and sow discourse on social media.
- People who are behind this fake news are often there for monetary reasons and not truly there to spread misinformation.
- For many countries and smaller platforms misformation can be used to help increase the traffic to their site which can lead to an increased number of users.

#### Unethical to Spread Fake News

- According to the Council of Europe website, Coe.it, "Propaganda, misinformation and fake news have the potential to polarize public opinion, to promote violent extremism and hate speech and, ultimately, to undermine democracies and reduce trust in the democratic processes. It is vital for schools to provide students with a solid education on media and information literacy as part of the curriculum."
- It is often the job or responsibility of the teacher to distinguish between fake and real news in order to teach it to their students.

## Scratch Link- Coding Component

**Spread of Fake News** 

**Conditionals Sample**