

**PEW RESEARCH CENTER**  
**December 1-4, 2016 OMNIBUS**  
**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**ASK ALL:**

PEW1. How often do you come across news stories about politics and government online that you think are not fully accurate – often, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Often
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Hardly ever **[OR]**
- 4 Never
- 9 **[VOL. DO NOT READ]** Don't know/Refused

**ASK ALL:**

PEW2. And how about political news stories online that you think are almost completely MADE UP? Do you come across those often, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Often
- 2 Sometimes
- 3 Hardly ever **[OR]**
- 4 Never
- 9 **[VOL. DO NOT READ]** Don't know/Refused

**ASK ALL:**

PEW3. Have you ever shared a political news story online that you later found out was made up?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

**ASK ALL:**

PEW4. And have you ever shared a political news story online that you thought AT THE TIME was made up?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Yes
- 2 No

**ASK ALL:**

PEW5. As you may have heard, there have recently been some instances of so called “fake news stories” circulating widely online. How much responsibility does each of the following have in trying to prevent made up stories from gaining attention? First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** Do they have a great deal of responsibility, a fair amount of responsibility, not much responsibility, or no responsibility at all? ... How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

- a) Members of the public
- b) The government, politicians, and elected officials
- c) Social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, and search sites like Google

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 A great deal
- 2 A fair amount
- 3 Not much **[OR]**
- 4 None at all
- 9 **[VOL. DO NOT READ]** Don’t know/Refused

**ASK ALL:**

PEW6. How confident are you in your own ability to recognize news that is made up? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not at all confident?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 Very
- 2 Somewhat
- 3 Not very
- 4 Not at all

**ASK ALL:**

PEW7. How much do you think these kinds of news stories leave Americans confused about the basic facts of current issues and events – a great deal, some, not much, or not at all?

**RESPONSE CATEGORIES:**

- 1 A great deal
- 2 Some
- 3 Not much
- 4 Not at all