

How much fake news impact our lives



According to a poll conducted across countries in January 2020, 38% of people said they trust most news most of the time - a fall of four percentage points from 2019, and less than half said they trust the news they use themselves.

Why do people share fake news?

Many Americans share fake news on social media because they're simply not paying attention to whether the content is accurate — not necessarily because they can't tell real from made-up news, a new study in Nature suggests.



Fake news and politics

Misinformation can decrease the chances that people are voting in their real interests, or what the literature refers to as "correct voting." One recent example of possible incorrect voting was the propensity of uninsured conservative Americans to oppose candidates who supported the Affordable Care Act due to misinformation about its policies and use of "death panels."



Because a democracy relies on voting, the entire apparatus of government may lose legitimacy as a result of too many voters being fooled into supporting candidates, parties, or policies that do not actually benefit them.



How to spot fake news

- Always consider whether the information has a named, reliable source.
- Develop a critical mindset when reading news stories.
- Think about what might be missing from the story. Fake news often leaves information out of the story



- Double check whether quotes attributed to a particular person or group have been represented accurately
- Look for fake images. If it is a fake news story it maybe includes a fake image or images that might not be relevant to the story. If you believe it is fake, check the image on Google reverse

