

## Civics for Adults - Resources for Misinformation and Propaganda – Telling Truth from Fiction Workshop

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### **Factchecking**

**Factcheck.org** <http://www.factcheck.org>

**Politifact** <http://www.politifact.org>

**How to Spot Fake News.** From Politifact. Short video. Old but still good.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AkwWcHekMdo>

**Snopes** <http://www.snopes.com>

**NewsGuard's Reality Check** <https://www.newsguardrealitycheck.com/>

**AFP's Fact-checker** [AFP is Agence France Press; note dates are European style] <https://factcheck.afp.com/>

**Media Smarts.** Canada's Center for Digital Media Literacy. A search engine that just delivers results from fact-checking websites: <https://mediasmarts.ca/fact-checker#gsc.tab=0>

### **VE R I F Y I T ! ™: The Premier Civics, Voting, News Literacy Game**

<https://playverifyit.org/>

### **On getting Your Personal Information that has been collected by Facebook**

**Facebook Download Option** Download your Facebook full info: <https://www.facebook.com/help/212802592074644>

**Conspiracy Theory Handbook.** Lewandowsky et al. Center for Climate Change Communication. 2023

<https://www.climatechangecommunication.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/ConspiracyTheoryHandbook.pdf>

**Why do Americans share so much fake news? One big reason is they aren't paying attention, new research suggests.** Ordway. 3/17/2021. <https://journalistsresource.org/media/share-fake-news-social-media/>

**News Literacy Project** Resources for teaching news literacy to students. <https://newslit.org/>

**Viral Rumor Rundown** from The News Literacy Project. In which they take a tweet with video and track, step-by-step, how to determine whether it is true or false. Shows various verification techniques.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ALjwUWxzYCY&feature=youtu.be&emci=9c20e9fa-6a99-ea11-86e9-00155d03b5dd&emdi=097c2177-7299-ea11-86e9-00155d03b5dd&ceid=7505250>

**These 6 tips will help you spot misinformation online.** Mahadevan. Poynter Institute. 12/22/21 [By the way, Poynter is a reputable org that tracks what is happening with the media environment and journalism]

<https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/2021/these-6-tips-will-help-you-spot-misinformation-online/>

### **Deepfakes and AI - Verifying visual messages**

**A Beginner's Guide to Social Media Verification.** Bellingcat. November 1, 2021

<https://www.bellingcat.com/resources/2021/11/01/a-beginners-guide-to-social-media-verification/>

### **Sudanese Child Soldiers Going Viral on TikTok**

Bellingcat is an organization that validates video online and also pursues those platforms which allow unethical content. This video shows both how they fulfill both goals. Bellingcat. 3/10/26.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8wf-hJAjR4>

### **A visual verification tax comes due**

"You either invest in visual verification capabilities now or pay the price in credibility later."

<https://www.niemanlab.org/2025/12/a-visual-verification-tax-comes-due/>

### **When just showing the video isn't enough: Minneapolis shooting puts news organizations to the test**

Owen. Nieman Labs. Jan 8, 2026.

<https://www.niemanlab.org/2026/01/when-just-showing-the-video-isnt-enough-minneapolis-shooting-puts-news-orgs-visual-forensics-chops-to-the-test/>

Includes links to good verification analyses of the shooting of Renee Good; by New York Times, Washington Post, and Bellingcat.

### **Can you tell the difference? Jake Tapper uses his own deepfake to show how powerful AI is**

CNN. 10/4/24. *This is a good report showing several deepfake political ads.*  
<https://www.cnn.com/2024/10/04/politics/video/ai-elections-jake-tapper-lead-digvid>

**SB 1571 Oregon's law about AI and political ads.** Passed in 2024.  
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2024R1/Measures/Overview/SB1571>

**Oregon Attorney General issues AI Guidance for businesses.**

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete, LLP. Feb 17, 2025. AI and the Oregon Unlawful Trade Practices Act, the Oregon Consumer Privacy Act, Oregon's data breach notification statute, and the Oregon Equality Act.  
<https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/oregon-attorney-general-issues-ai-4724632/>

**Political deepfakes are spreading like wildfire thanks to GenAI.** Kyle Wiggers March 6, 2024  
<https://techcrunch.com/2024/03/06/political-deepfakes-are-spreading-like-wildfire-thanks-to-genai/>

**Can you tell AI-generated people from real ones?** University of Waterloo. 2024.  
<https://uwaterloo.ca/news/media/can-you-tell-ai-generated-people-real-ones>

**AI and Democracy.** Brennan Center. 3/26/2024.  
<https://www.brennancenter.org/series/ai-and-democracy>

**When seeing is no longer believing: Inside the Pentagon's race against deepfake videos.** Extensive examples of deep fakes. From 2019 but good content.  
[https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/01/business/pentagons-race-against-deepfakes/?ct=t\(EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_10\\_1\\_2018\\_17\\_21\\_COPY\\_01\)](https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/01/business/pentagons-race-against-deepfakes/?ct=t(EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_10_1_2018_17_21_COPY_01))

***Journalism – how to do it right***

**Train crash in Germany kills at least 10, injures 80,** Example of Good Reporting – No reporter judgements, no reporter analysis; just the facts, and quotes from authorities and first-person accounts:  
<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/ap/article-3438398/Train-crash-southern-Germany-causes-injuries.html>

**Society of Professional Journalists Code of Ethics**  
<https://www.spj.org/spj-code-of-ethics/>

**How to separate fact and fiction online.** Markham Nolan. [an excerpt of the video is shown in the workshop]  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sNV4ylyXXX0>

**The Data Doesn't Lie: How ProPublica Reports the Truth in an Era of False Claims**

Stephen Engelberg. ProPublica. December 6, 2025  
[https://www.propublica.org/article/propublica-reporters-data-immigration?fbclid=IwY2xjawOhM81leHRuA2FibQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxMzQ4MjAwODkyAAEelAsiuM3j78XmyVI2fIWR758Ru6EZbkPQTfb2P33o1cy9\\_Pe1MtqvP--4w1E\\_aem\\_6PVUox\\_ydMaid\\_Mn6WFF/tw](https://www.propublica.org/article/propublica-reporters-data-immigration?fbclid=IwY2xjawOhM81leHRuA2FibQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjIwMzIxMzQ4MjAwODkyAAEelAsiuM3j78XmyVI2fIWR758Ru6EZbkPQTfb2P33o1cy9_Pe1MtqvP--4w1E_aem_6PVUox_ydMaid_Mn6WFF/tw)

***Sites that classify media sources by political slant***

**Media Bias Fact Check**  
<https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>

**AllSides**  
<https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news>

***Journalism Resources ABOUT the Media***

**Columbia Journalism Review** [www.cjr.org](http://www.cjr.org)  
**Poynter** <https://www.poynter.org/>

**Pew Research Center:** Great public polling research on a variety of important topics, including news and social media!  
<https://www.pewresearch.org/>

**Assessing Oregon's Local News & Information Ecosystem 2025.**  
Lawrence and DeVigal. University of Oregon School of Journalism. March 2025.  
<https://agorajournalism.center/newsecosystem25/>

**U.S. Journalism Has Become More Subjective** [cited in the workshop]

Rand Corporation. May 14, 2019. <https://www.rand.org/news/press/2019/05/14.html>

**The Press's role as a watchdog on government.** Frontline. Opinions of the role of journalism in society. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/newswar/tags/watchdog.html>

**Journalism: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver.** Aug 7, 2016 [Very good if you don't mind swearing.] [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bq2\\_wSsDwkQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bq2_wSsDwkQ)

### **Argumentation/Logical Fallacies**

**Logical Fallacies Video** – a humorous, animated, look at how several different logical fallacies work [or don't!] [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wmlb2Jb-KC8&list=PL47349652D60D963E&index=1&feature=plpp\\_video](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wmlb2Jb-KC8&list=PL47349652D60D963E&index=1&feature=plpp_video)

**Political Ads** [*The first two are very good guides to what to beware in political ads.*]

**These campaign ads may have misled you. Here's how to spot their tricks.** From The Fact Checker, Washington Post. Helpful guide to what to watch for in political ads. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p4ls--ko9gQ>

**The Campaign Killers** Strategies for making a candidate look bad. Good short video. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=1&v=9DDHqqfH-Lg](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=9DDHqqfH-Lg)

**Facebook Ad Archive** [when I tried this recently it didn't seem to be working]

[https://www.facebook.com/ads/archive/?active\\_status=all&ad\\_type=political\\_and\\_issue\\_ads&country=US](https://www.facebook.com/ads/archive/?active_status=all&ad_type=political_and_issue_ads&country=US)

**Google Political Ad Archive** <https://transparencyreport.google.com/political-ads/library?hl=en>

### **Propaganda**

**How Americans Got Sold on Cigarettes.** Video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSdy4bdpe-E>

**German Propaganda Archive** at Calvin College <http://research.calvin.edu/german-propaganda-archive/index.htm>

**Trump administration using rhetoric linked to extreme messaging**

PBS. 1/12/26. Regarding DHS recruitment efforts. <https://www.pbs.org/video/extreme-messages-1768253453/>

**Holocaust educator points to 'warning signs' in history when looking at ICE in Minnesota**

Kuznetsov. MPR. 1/22/26. <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2026/01/22/holocaust-educator-minnesota-trump-administration-ice-gestapo-nazi-germany>

**"Riots Raging": The Misleading Story Fox News Told About Portland Before Trump Sent Troops**

Rob Davis. ProPublica. November 12, 2025

[https://www.propublica.org/article/portland-protests-national-guard-fox-news-coverage?utm\\_campaign=propublica-sprout&utm\\_content=1764993605&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=twitter](https://www.propublica.org/article/portland-protests-national-guard-fox-news-coverage?utm_campaign=propublica-sprout&utm_content=1764993605&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter)

**City of Philadelphia v Burgum [Dept of Interior]**

The case that restored the slavery exhibit at the National Historic Park in Philadelphia after the National Park Service took it down. <https://storage.courtlistener.com/recap/gov.uscourts.paed.648842/gov.uscourts.paed.648842.53.0.pdf>

**When the White House Rewrites Jan 6** Why librarians can no longer treat official timelines as historical fact.

Elissa Elliott Malespina. The AI School Librarian Jan 08, 2026

[https://aischoollibrarian.substack.com/p/when-the-white-house-rewrites-jan?r=u0wmi&utm\\_medium=ios&shareImageVariant=overlay&fbclid=IwY2xjawQdu\\_pleHRuA2F1bQIxMQBicmlkETE5MkZiV0k0ME9pdEJVcU9jc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHgxmbkKkP4F0tgC6Ph4RHeJKfgh25vPNXHK62p3QmNUPJ27sDeiQCvNumQha\\_aem\\_cQzI\\_JHuTfSW7HEO0RZXRA&triedRedirect=true&src\\_ref=l.facebook.com](https://aischoollibrarian.substack.com/p/when-the-white-house-rewrites-jan?r=u0wmi&utm_medium=ios&shareImageVariant=overlay&fbclid=IwY2xjawQdu_pleHRuA2F1bQIxMQBicmlkETE5MkZiV0k0ME9pdEJVcU9jc3J0YwZhcHBfaWQQMjlyMDM5MTc4ODIwMDg5MgABHgxmbkKkP4F0tgC6Ph4RHeJKfgh25vPNXHK62p3QmNUPJ27sDeiQCvNumQha_aem_cQzI_JHuTfSW7HEO0RZXRA&triedRedirect=true&src_ref=l.facebook.com)

**Health care debate shows the lies I told for insurance companies about 'Medicare for All' worked**

Wendell Potter. NBC. Oct 16, 2019.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/health-care-debate-shows-lies-i-told-insurance-companies-about-ncna1067331>

**PolitiFact's Lie of the Year: 'A government takeover of health care'.** Politifact. Dec, 2009.

<https://www.politifact.com/article/2010/dec/17/lie-year-government-takeover-health-care/>

**Luntz to GOP: Health reform is popular.** Great discussion of how to use language to influence people, in this case, to oppose the Affordable Care Act. Mike Allen. Politico. 05/05/2009

<https://www.politico.com/story/2009/05/luntz-to-gop-health-reform-is-popular-022155>

**Trapped in a hoax: survivors of conspiracy theories speak out.** Jan 2019.

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2019/jan/23/conspiracy-theories-internet-survivors-truth>

### **Media – Russian Propaganda**

**DOJ outlines Russia’s disinformation campaigns designed to interfere with U.S. election**

PBS Newshour. 9/4/2024. [Note: from this same day’s broadcast there is a segment on the use of AI by foreign entities to influence the public. You will find it on the page for the 9/4 broadcast.]

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/doj-outlines-russias-disinformation-campaigns-designed-to-interfere-with-u-s-election>

### **Economy**

**How the middle class was hollowed out.** Lichtenberg. Fortune Mag. 1/22/26.

<https://fortune.com/2026/01/22/middle-class-hollowed-out-1979-2022-congressional-budget-office-federal-data/>

**Americans Continue to View Several Economic Issues as Top National Problems.** Pew Center. Feb, 2025

<https://www.pewresearch.org/politics/2025/02/20/americans-continue-to-view-several-economic-issues-as-top-national-problems/>

**Voters Were Right About the Economy. The Data Was Wrong.**

Here’s why unemployment is higher, wages are lower and growth less robust than government statistics suggest.

Eugene Ludwig. Politico. 2/11/2025.

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2025/02/11/democrats-tricked-strong-economy-00203464>

**Ludwig Institute for Shared Prosperity** <https://www.lisep.org/>

**True Rate of Unemployment – TRU:** <https://www.lisep.org/tru>

**Beyond Survival: Analyzing the True Cost of Economic Well-Being: Minimal Quality of Life Index**

Ludwig Institute. May, 2025 Webpage for report: <https://lisep.org/mql>

Article about the report: **Most Americans don’t earn enough to afford basic costs of living, analysis finds**

Megan Cerullo. CBS News. May 16, 2025 <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cost-of-living-income-quality-of-life/>

**An economist’s vision of economic growth — with less destruction**

WBUR. 9/6/2024. <https://www.wbur.org/onpoint/2024/09/06/economic-growth-gdp-daniel-susskind-jobs>

**Cramer says the ‘bifurcated consumer’ is making this market hard to understand**

Julie Coleman. CNBC. Feb 5 2024.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2024/02/05/cramer-says-the-bifurcated-consumer-makes-market-hard-to-understand.html>

**Household Income: What It Is and How to Calculate It.** Scott et al. Investopedia. 7/31/2024.

Good discussion of differing ways to describe and measure income, including *difference between average and median*.

[https://www.investopedia.com/terms/h/household\\_income.asp](https://www.investopedia.com/terms/h/household_income.asp)

**The Problems With GDP, Unemployment Rates, And Other Official Economic Measures.** Erik Sherman. 7/7/2019.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/eriksherman/2019/07/07/the-problems-with-gdp-unemployment-rates-and-other-official-economic-measures/#4302fcb721c9>

**Income Inequality in the United States.** Inequality.org Factsheet. Eye-opening statistics with great graphics!

<https://inequality.org/facts/income-inequality/>

### **Censorship**

**The Librarians.** [Movie] Independent Lens. PBS documentary. 2025. About efforts to ban books in libraries.

<https://thelibrariansfilm.com/>

Trailer: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ykl4MWltsQ&embeds\\_referring\\_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fthelibrariansfilm.com%2F&source\\_ve\\_path=OTY3MTQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ykl4MWltsQ&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fthelibrariansfilm.com%2F&source_ve_path=OTY3MTQ)

### **Polling**

**Opinion Today** <https://opiniontoday.com/> - survey results from various sources.

### **Google Tricks**

Add these after keywords – find only educational sites: site:edu non-profits: site:org gov institutions: site:gov

Find only PDF files – add: filetype:pdf