



GLOBAL
ACTIVISM
ANTHOLOGY

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS



COMPILED BY LUQMAN ALAWODE



ERADICATING THE SPREAD OF FAKE NEWS

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS

A COLLECTION OF POEMS, ESSAYS AND INTERVIEWS

**OVER SIXTY (60) AUTHORS, FOURTEEN (14) COUNTRIES AND TWENTY ONE (21)
INTERVIEWS**

ERADICATING THE SPREAD OF FAKE NEWS ACROSS THE GLOBE



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Humanity First Initiative**

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**First published, 2020
By
Humanity First Initiative
Email: humanityfirstinitiative@gmail.com
luqmanalawode@gmail.com
waragaistfakenews1@gmail.com**

Tel: +234(0)8062442573 or +234(0)9014432166

Humanity First Initiative

(HFI)

THE TEAM OF WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS

INITIATOR/EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

LUQMAN ALAWODE

EDITORIAL BOARD

ABDULLAHI ABAYOMI ABDULRAHEEM

NISHANT VAIDYA

XOLANI NTULI

OLONADE ONAOLAPO

MUSA TOYEEB

MEDIA TEAM

DR PREETHA C

ERIKANMI PETER

AJILEYE OLAOYE MOSES

ADESIGBIN ABDULHAMEED

SODIQ OPEYEMI IYANDA

DEDICATION

This anthology is dedicated to humanity

PREFACE

Information is part of life and it is often said that anyone who is not informed will be deformed. Today, we are in a generation of overloaded information; we get information at the tips of our fingers without necessarily going through the conventional media houses. Most of these pieces of information are shared by different sources both verifiable and unverifiable.

Consequently, almost every dick and harry has turned into a daylight journalist without necessarily passing through the rigors of journalism training and this has posed a lot of challenges to journalism as a profession. This is a slap in the face of the profession and it has to be challenged one way or the other.

Fake news is gradually becoming a norm in this generation, people share misleading piece of information because they are misinformed and as a result of their gullibility and blindness to realities. Disinformation is now trending, the peddlers sit at the comfort of their rooms and pass information across to the people via any means possible and within a very short period, such information becomes the “talk of the town”.

Fake News has caused a lot of damages which affect our social lives, politics, religion, ethnicity, homes etc. Having realize the damages and negative effects of fake news in our society, it is important to wage absolute war against the menace in order to curb its spread and mentally alert the people globally.

This anthology is a global book written by over sixty (60) writers across fourteen (14) countries. It is sectionalized into three categories which are: **Section I: Essays/Articles, Section II: Poems and Section III: Interviews.** These three sections contain views of different authors and requires your attention to get the message in detail. I hope you are able to come out changed and reformed after reading through the pages of this book, it really worth your time and will alert you to what you should know and do before you spread news.

Sincere appreciation to all the writers and our interviewees for their cooperation and contributions, without them this would not have been a success story.

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Luqman Alawode
Initiator/Editor-in-Chief

CONTRIBUTORS

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✓ FAKE NEWS	- KISHAN DAHAL	- INDIA
✓ WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS	- BAMIDELE AYOOLUWA	- NIGERIA
✓ WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS	- ADESINA SHERIF KAYODE	- NIGERIA
✓ FAKE NEWS	- MOHAMMED REZUWAN KHAN	- MYANMAR
✓ WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS	- ESTHER F. UBI	- NIGERIA
✓ FAKE NEWS	- TEMIDAYO OYINLADE	- NIGERIA
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- UTHMAN BALOGUN
- AFOLABI KEHINDE HASSAN
- FATAI ISMAIL OMOBOLAJI
- DR HANA FUOZI AL-ZEIN
- LUQMAN ALAWODE
- ALI AL-SHALAH
- EMMANUEL DOUGLAS M.
- BELLO BAYO
- MUSA TOYEED

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SECTION 1

ESSAYS/ ARTICLES

SOCIAL MEDIA AND FAKE NEWS BY LUQMAN ALAWODE

NIGERIA

Since the late 20th century, media has been growing at a very fast rate, unlike in the past when conventional media which comprises of radio, television and newspapers were the only available means of getting information and passing information across to the people. This had been the case until the late twentieth century, up to early twenty first century, when the technological advancement shifted human attention from older means to a newer means, that is, social media.

While one cannot dispute the fact that the old form of passing and receiving information (radio, television and newspapers) were/are not perfect sources of information, they were more genuine, credible and accurate, compared to what we have today as a result of the use of social media. Social media has, since, turned to one of the major sources of information and news making since its introduction, even the conventional media are employing the services of this development in order to reach out to their target audience. This is actually not a bad idea, since information can be circulated easily and people can be informed immediately without necessarily waiting till the following day when the newspapers will be ready or the next time to cast news on radio or television.

Considering the advancement in technology one will boldly say that the world has advanced and another means of communication and/or passing information, which is easier than usual, has been discovered. It actually sounds and looks great in this modern day of technological advancement where people can have access to information at their finger tip. Unfortunately, this does not only give birth to formal FAKE NEWS but also moved the existing fake news under old fashion to the next level.

Succinctly put, the word social refers to interaction between people while media means ways of communicating with people. This could be newspapers (for readers), radio (for listeners), television (for viewers) and the late twentieth century borne mode "internet" which is now the most widely use.

Social media are computer mediated technologies that facilitate the creation and sharing of information, ideas, career interest and other forms of expression via virtual communities and networks (Wikipedia).

When we talk of social media, what immediately comes to the mind of majority, is the use of facebook, whatsapp, twitter, instagram, linkedin etc to make new friends, connect with old friends, share feelings, publicize achievements, flaunt progresses and other personal things that one may wish to bring to the knowledge of friends and associates who are probably at a distance. However, social media has graduated from what it used to be or what it seemed to be, to a more advanced way of indirectly controlling the mind of the people. This happens mostly when the political class decides to turn it to a tool. For example, in a democratic settings; social media is a powerful tool that may be employed by politicians to pilot their fake news in form of propaganda against their opponents.

Propaganda has been in existence since time immemorial but with the use of social media like twitter, facebook etc, propaganda (fake news) spreads faster on social media than it used to be with conventional ways of news making, and this makes it easier for peddlers to circulate fake information as fast as possible. Unfortunately, we now live in a generation of people with education but without intelligence. People now take information hook, line and sinker without thinking of "what ifs"

What if the news is not genuine?
What if it is manipulative?
What if it is to tarnish other people's image?
What if it is to divert attention?
What if its source is damaged?

These key questions are no longer asked, and to make it worst, everybody wants to be the first to have information. Consequently, they spread information as received without a second thought. For instance, in 2019, there was a news making round in Nigeria. I also received the news through my social media platform - the news stated that Donald Trump (the President of United States of America) released the names of prominent Nigeria politicians who looted the nation's wealth. The broadcast mentioned the names, the amount looted and even the bank where the looted funds were kept abroad. This news nearly caused social unrest as the citizens felt they have been duped. Alas! The said news was totally fake with no iota of truth. This is just one of the many propaganda circulated with the aide of social media.

One may wish to ask, is there a way or ways of identifying fake news or separating fakes news from genuine news. The answer to this is yes. One can differentiate between both, by employing these simple methods:

1. What purpose is the news out to serve?: This is the first question to ask once any news is received, either breaking news or just the normal news that comes at interval. Ask yourself: 'what is the purpose of this news?'
2. Where is it coming from?: The source of news you receive is very important. So, before you take it to heart, check the source. Sometimes, some messages will come quoting a certain government agency or using government logo, that is not enough to substantiate such news. Do yourself a favour of checking through official website or wait till it is officially reported.
3. Common sense: this is where most people get it wrong. Application of common sense is key at detecting fake news. Do not just fall for news because it sounds good, mocks your enemy or feeds your sentiment. Apply your sense, and let go of sentiment.

Finally, fake news is a menace that has eaten deep into our system. It is very difficult to identify, because we no longer pay attention to detail. We are rather quick to spread. Every reasonable human being should be cautious of what he reads and shares.

THE UNDERRATED PANDEMIC CEDRICK IRAKOZE

BURUNDI

The novel coronavirus period has shown the world many other things that people barely knew or just ignored. Among other things, another pandemic which has been underrated was unveiled: Fake news. Unfortunately, this disease, not treated in labs or medical room, was not that very much known. Due to the global pandemic, his company, infodemic, also spread around the world. Some people came to take it more seriously, at least, not just in some parts of the world. There is, therefore, a shared responsibility to feed the world with healthy information.

A virus unveiled his elder kin

Some wars don't get enough attention until when those who cry do it louder, louder enough to get to everyone's ears in the remote milieus. Is it always because the fights are less worrying that they don't get enough attention? Not necessarily. Oftentimes, we need the wind to intensify the turbine to finally realize that it was there. From Wuhan, a city in the Hubei province of China, a new virus outbreak was announced and it later spread all over the world and after less than 6 months, it is almost everywhere in the world. The world Health Organization later declared it a global health threat.

The world order was shaken

So many things have changed in a so short time throughout the globe. Most countries have shut down many businesses which made some great economies shrink. Others have closed their airports and borders. Schools have been closed and where possible, people have opted for the online learning system. However, digital learning is not a global solution. How will millions of students in the developing world or in remote places where facilities like high-speed internet, electricity, and technological infrastructure access is impossible, as it is in the cities?

No one, at least a sport follower, can ignore how the world of sports has been affected. Stadiums are closed and now that some countries try to allow their championships to resume, strict measures have been taken. No fans on the pitches. Strange enough, but better since people will be able to sit in front of their TV sets and enjoy their M10's and Cr7's incredible football skills. Health first, business and entertainment after. We can all agree that safety and good health are of utmost importance. Right!

Fake news got attention

But what about the other pandemic we barely hear about? I am not trying to claim its novelty because it was there a long time ago. The seemingly pandemic that everyone is worried about is just unveiling the underrated one: Fake News. The latter kills as well. It has been killing before COVID-19, it is killing now and making the novel virus worse. Not talking because the ongoing global health crisis, but we can all agree that verified and right news is so expensive to find now because much cheap access to news sharing that became available to everyone even without the right qualification and goodwill to use that for the benefit of the community. Due to the rapid spread of false information

amidst the coronavirus era, the United Nations put the "infodemic" and the cybercrime in the same basket.

Fact-checking showed its worth

During this pandemic time, a lot of falsehoods have been circulating. As some of these scams are prepared and sophisticated that not everyone can know they are not true, a need for fact-checking and data journalism grew faster. The world Health Organization Director General announced that we're not just fighting the pandemic, but an infodemic. We saw so many of the made-up stories being debunked and this effort saves lives that were at risk. May be we've heard of popular rumors like ginger and garlic can heal the virus, 'the virus cannot survive the hot weather', 'taking a high dose of chloroquine medication can protect', 'President Putin has revealed a WHO conspiracy against African people', 'the US and China bribed President Rajoelina to poison the COVID-Organics', youth immunity, and many more. A very big shout out to fact-checkers who were able to debunk them and save lives

This digital age has made people's lives easier and cheaper, but also dangerous at the same time. The use of social media and online resource of information can be a unique bridge to information in a very short time and to a big number of individuals. However, it is sad that some people having financial abilities don't have the required technical experience or will to research and spread information based on facts and contributing to the community level decision making. My experience in communications to an international and intercultural level taught me that disinformation can be worse than ignorance and the absence of information. There is, therefore, a global urge to fight misinformation together or we shall all bear the consequences.

There is a price to pay

There are some actions that people can take to fight against the spread of fake news. While not everyone is spreading it, not doing something about it doesn't help much either. People feeding their social media should not abuse the fact that sharing is not monitored and intensify this vague of rumors destroying the world. Double-checking the source of information and getting a deep investigation on the trusted sources can help a lot. In case of doubt, letting it down is wiser. Another action is that everyone should get themselves busy with a necessary work. No one should watch passively because doing something bad may be closer to not doing anything at all while you watch evil taking place. People should check data and be fact-driven while they share what they didn't author themselves.

Staying indoors or being restricted to mass gathering are becoming new norms. This time should be taken seriously and used as wisely as possible. Instead of spending hours sharing unverified news, one can take some time to think. Thinking time is one of the treasures that are disappearing. People get overwhelmed with a lot of things going on around them and forget about themselves. This is the best opportunity to sit

down and try it out. After taking care of our families, getting a quality time with oneself is a deal. The lonely time should include time for reading more books, watching and listening to more educative recordings, more spiritual exercise, and picking up a new language or a skill that may add some value to what we will be doing after this pandemic period. This is a time everyone should get out of it stronger, more performant, and wiser.

Social media facilities should be well exploited to benefit the society. While the information was so far away and hard to access decades ago, nowadays' people have a chance living an internet era. Social and digital media can do better and avail the news faster to information consumers. We should not abuse the fact that one can sit on his sofa at home and share information that will soon be watched by millions and get too lazy to document and make some investigation on the veracity of the piece of information we want to share. Doing so, it would help the communities access some vital information that is credible in a faster and cheaper way.

All in all, the coronavirus pandemic lit a candle before us. We had fake news and so much misinformation going on without seeing it directly and indirectly having global negative impact on human lives. Now that we know how dangerous it can be, let's encourage fact-based journalism and share information only when the sources are trustworthy. Getting ourselves busy with things that matter can also prevent us from sharing and consuming unverified information. The world should be alert and act together fighting against fake news as it is when it come to terrorism, poverty, health crises because it was proven that rumors can also take people's lives. We deserve a world where information is at the same time healthy, cheaply, and constructive.

NIGERIA AND FAKE NEWS

BY RIDWAN OLANREWAJU ADEDEJI

NIGERIA

Fake news constitutes a non-negligible menace in the contemporary world. It is an ubiquitous threat to all races of the world: be they Africans, Europeans, Asians or Americans. My country, Nigeria—arguably the most populated black nation in the world with a whopping population of about 180 million people and a constituent of Africa—is grossly affected by the scourge of fake news (more than any country of the world). Reason(s) for which I promise to address in the subsequent paragraphs of this article

“Fake news” as an expanding phrase, which from the definitive angle, refers to any news item that is neither genuine nor authentic disseminated on purpose to manipulate the minds of the general public. This should not however be confused with the word “misinformation” which more often than not is not deliberate and circulated out of lack of proper knowledge. Fake news, by extension, may also include the practice of yellow journalism which before the inception of social media had been in print only to be perpetuated further by social media to a wider and global audience.

Nigeria, before its amalgamation into a conglomerate of kingdoms, chiefdoms, caliphates and emirates, and precisely before and during the stay of Europeans, had its peculiar ways of communication. These include but not limited to smoke signals, whistling, gun shots, symbolic messages, town crying and drum beating. These were channels for conveying information when the need arose. In all honesty, the system had no basis for fake news since no one would just wake up one day and weave an appealing basket of lies for public consumption knowing well that they would be severely punished if found out. This in view, a rational question that pops up in one's mind and seeks a response is: “how did Nigeria become an epicentre of fake news?”

While I may not have to delve into the history of modern journalism in Nigeria, it is worth highlighting that there were (and still are) several news censor boards in the country fostered with the responsibility of checking for the authenticity of news items. These boards also regulate the news transmission on paper publications and broadcast media. However, the vast world of social media and all its liberties seem to have eluded and driven these media regulators to the edge. The dissemination of news on this incorporeal miniature of our world appears to be out of their control. The backwardness of Nigeria in the sphere of technology and its reserved consumer title in a world of advancing technology does not help matters either.

So, the dissemination of fake news boils down to the social media where everyone is a potential journalist. In other words, the social media has become a fecund ground for fake news and their unscrupulous bearers. There, anyone can report anything without restraint. That, perhaps, explains why the platform is abused by many Nigerian users.

Noteworthy, fake news is less taxing to come about. Someone somewhere within the walls of their room can just decide to cook a story of a dead president and a supposed

face lift Sudanese replacement. They can prompt the public of a 70 year old president's marriage to a very much younger girl in photoshopped pictures. They can effortlessly write false stories to be shared on some traffic-seeking blogs and later tossed around the walls of Facebook and WhatsApp. Some ill-intentioned person may dig up an old video of a soldier harassing civilians only to give it currency and provoke people into a bitter hatred of the security institution. It is understandable that Nigerians do not joke with any money making opportunities neither are they insensitive to religious and political matters. Therefore, the circulation of fake stories is all serving to the both ends.

However, more disturbing is its percolation into WhatsApp—every seven out of ten news items shared by one's contacts are unverified or unverifiable—I stand to be corrected if I am overstating. There's no denying the manipulative hold fake news has on the Nigerian society. It has transformed unsuspecting citizens into misinformed firebrands and guard down, the country may have to contend with problems from its citizenry which may include an uprising.

Thus, measures should be put in place by the government and well-meaning stakeholders in curtailing the spread of fake news. The general public should be educated about markers of fake news and sensitized on the harmful effect of sharing unverified or unverifiable news on social media. Citizenry should in particular look out to genuine sources for news on sensitive matters. Government should also impose sensible sanctions to deter people from concocting stories or sharing for widespread unconfirmed news conspired by unscrupulous people.

The fight against fake news is a fight for all. Together we can and will stem the tide of fake news.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS BY MANZUMA MAHMUD ALHAJI

NIGERIA

Fake news has been a big problem. globally. which is yet to be fully controlled by stopping it.

WHAT IS FAKE NEWS?

Fake news means the way by which individual or group of people deliberately disseminate false information and thereby misleading the public.

Fake news is a form of news consisting of deliberate disinformation spread via local or online social media. This news is created to misinform or deceive readers.

SOURCES OF FAKE NEWS

Social media, such as Facebook, twitter, whatsapp and instagram, that are commonly being used by public are the main sources where people drop their fake news that can easily draw the attention of the readers to react on and at the same time forward and share to others, thinking they are helping, not knowing they are disseminating false information.

Fake news spreads through various channels, but social media provides the cheapest and fastest ways to access millions within some minutes. Through Whatsapp, Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, people share fake videos, made up quotes and fabricated articles, made to look like they are from authentic sources, likes of the BBC, CNN, Al-Jazeera and other media channels.

People who have access to all this pages with their phones and other internet gadgets, pass it to those who don't have access to the internet and they believe, and as well spread to their people believing the information is useful. In 2015, Nigeria had 76 million internet subscribers, while by 2019, it had increased to 122 million.

The issue of FAKE NEWS has been in existence for a long period of time, which we are yet not find solution to, because of lack of full monitoring and absence of punishment for the rumour carriers. An individual or group of people created a websites with the sole aim of misleading the public with false news that can, at times, lead to loss of life and properties. Some open an official page in the name of an organization or a well popular known person, using their names in dropping fake news for people to believe that the information is real.

ANALYSIS FROM SOCIAL MEDIA AND NEWS PRINT

Below are the analysis of some fake news from social media and newsprints that have misled many people;

Health misinformation is nothing new to Nigerians. At the height of the Ebola epidemic in 2014, different fake news was passed around the country. These include an advice allegedly from the Atta of Igala, that bathing and drinking of salt water could stop you from contracting the Ebola diseases. This false information led to two deaths.

This pattern re-emerged during the COVID-19 outbreak. According to Lagos health officials, three people have been hospitalized after overdosing on chloroquine because it was rumoured, publicly endorsed by US President Donald Trump, that the drug could treat the corona virus, in which many have fallen victims, globally, of using chloroquine to prevent themselves from the disease.

Another fake news is that of the controversial blogger Kemi Olunloyo tweeted that President Muhammadu Buhari was sick with a persistent cough and that a makeshift ICU had been set up to treat him. Within hours, the tweet had been liked 3,300 times and retweeted more than 2,000 times, all because no one was ready to find out the truth of the news but rather spread it all over the social media.

On the 23rd of March, for example, an audio clip emerged on WhatsApp of an alleged World Health Organization (WHO) official predicting that at least 45 million Nigerians would die in the pandemic. The audio provoked so much attention that the NCDC issued a rebuttal. Other so-called experts have proffered cures such as constant sex or sitting in the sun, or have claimed that African blood is immune to the corona virus. None of these had any medical basis.

Political apologists who have been trying to exploit the pandemic to influence public opinion, Supporters of the opposition People's Democratic Party (PDP) have sought to create a narrative that it handled the Ebola crisis far better than the current government in dealing with COVID-19. The recent confirmation that Abba Kyari, the President's Chief of Staff, tested positive had given the opposition new ammunition. Though, this was been complemented with unsubstantiated rumours that ventilators had been moved from the isolation centre in Abuja to Aso Rock for Kyari's personal use.

It went viral when fake news are broadcast that eating of garlic, onion and ginger can prevent someone from catching the corona virus disease. Many were misled and people consumed these things at high rate, believing that taking it will truly protect them from the disease.

On April 23, 2020, another fake news published on The Punch Newspapers stating that 72 Nigerians, 111 other Africans in China were tested positive for corona virus. A Nigerian man who's resident in China saw this headline on The Punch Newspaper and called the online Editor to prove himself where he got the news from. Because he resides in China and there was nothing like any Nigerian tested positive for the disease, but the online Editor was unable to say anything rather all he could say was he's going to give the man number to their reporter so he could speak with him.

THE IMPLICATION OF FAKE NEWS

The dissemination of fake news has the implications it brings to the people which can cause problem as the case maybe.

With all this that we have been hearing, people in the country, at the rate with which fake news are being spread, find it difficult to believe any information that's been passed again, be it the truth or falsehood. It's very important that we find out the real truth of information been passed to us from the right and strong sources, before believing it, so as to be on a safer side.

SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO ERADICATE FAKE NEWS

The following are suggested steps that could be followed in averting the dissemination of fake news:

Government should seek the help of the network providers in blocking and erasing websites that are found creating or spreading fake news. It is very easy for the network providers to have access to these websites, block and deprive them from creating new ones.

Government should set up a committee that will be in charge of disciplining anyone tracked disseminating fake news without finding out how true it is. This will instill fear in people from disseminating unverified news.

The government should ban the websites that are not basically for press from disseminating any news content. Any social media that is banned from disseminating information and allow the users of their social media to disseminate any information will lead to loss of license. This will allow them to view any post been posted by this customers before showing it to the public.

Media like TV channels, radios and newspapers should be the primary sources of disseminating and getting any information. Any other source that disseminates information should face a great consequence.

With the contributions and solutions highlighted above, government could be largely successful in stopping the spread of fake news.

FAKE NEWS ARE NEVER UNINTENTIONAL, IT IS DELIBERATELY PRODUCED
BY: SUCHISMITA GHOSHAL INDIA
STORYTELLERSUCHISMITA

News is a very important part of our lives. We come to know what is happening in our surroundings, in our nation or even in the world in today's date only through the news. News holds the power to connect the world in a thread. The mediums used to broadcast all the news are either online social media or offline media houses.

Worrisomely, one becomes concern about the misuse of the power of journalism. Fake news, widely called as junk news, pseudo news, alternative facts or hoax news, preach misinformation deliberately to confuse or mislead the viewers or readers and create a situation of utter mayhem. The traditional media portals or online social media somehow get engaged to distort information for the purpose of their publicity or profit. And even, the yellow journalism has increased after social media has been introduced in the world of journalism, to promote the news. It is observable that the misinformation gets one to the limelight or popularity more, because they are made of the spices people wait to eat without giving a second thought.

THE INTENTION BEHIND MAKING A FAKE NEWS :

Fake news is usually written and published by any of the media portals with an intention to promote vague conception among masses, to mislead or in order to damage any agency, other media houses, or person, any political leader or party, to gain financial profit etc. They are more often used in support of a party which portrays itself as a biased source working against other parties. These fake news use sensational, dishonest or over-decorated headlines to increase readership. Sometimes, they are paid for such activities from higher authorities.

TYPES AND EXAMPLES OF FAKE NEWS :

The type of news found in traditional news or social media or fake news websites has no basis, in fact, but is presented as being actually accurate.

There are apparently seven types of fake news:

- 1) Satire or parody: When the fake news fools people without the intention to harm.
- 2) False Connection: When headlines, visuals or captions do not match with the content.
- 3) Misleading Content : When the content of the fake news is used to misguide people and to create an issue or an individual.
- 4) False Context : When the true news or a genuine content is shared with a false contextual information.
- 5) Imposter Content : When genuine content is imitated and shared with false sources.

6) Manipulated Content : When the genuine information is manipulated to deceive.

7) Fabricated Content : When the news produced content is false, designed to mislead and fabricated to bring peril.

With the inadequate news, there are also 3 types of information we find to mislead us :

1) Mis-information : The false information that is circulated without any intent to harm.

2) Dis-information : The extremely distorted information that is shared to do harm.

3) Mal-information : The circulation of 'genuine' information with the intent to cause harm.

The fake news that leads the social media has some definite examples. As per their views, they are defined as:

a) Clickbait : They are the contents which are made to attract attention and excite visitors to click on a link to a particular web page.

b) Propaganda : It is one kind of an advertisement or information which is biased in nature and promotes misleading information in order to support a political party or issue or a point of view.

c) Satire/Parody : A satire is a form of literature or performing arts that is usually used to hold up vices, follies, abuses, and shortcomings to ridicule or criticize with the intent of shaming individuals, governments, political parties, any authorities or society for its betterment. The form of satire is humorous but the intention is social criticism. A parody is in general an imitative work that uses the skeleton or base of an original work in order to add its own comedic elements that thrives towards either emphasizing the flaws of the original work or trivializing it, and in some cases both.

d) Sloppy Journalism: Sloppy means messy, slushy, imprecise or incomplete. As per the name, sloppy journalism circulates incomplete or imperfect information about the news content.

e) Misleading Headings : A misleading heading or a misleading headline is something that is absolutely different from the content of a news or information. The differences can be either subtle or obvious.

f) Biased or Slanted news : Social media, being the major platform of biased news, circulates some news which support a definite party or authority or any religion and discriminate the opposition to prove the liability of its source. Some traditional media houses are even paid to spread biased or slanted news.

HOW FAKE NEWS CREATE PANDEMONIUM :

- 1) Fake news creates confusion among the masses.
- 2) It provides wrong information and misleads us.
- 3) It is the reason behind many unnecessary debates.
- 4) Some politically influenced news creates social media war among people.
- 5) Fake news containing religious facts create bigger issues sometimes.
- 6) Fake news distorts the aura of genuine contents.
- 7) It doesn't have any liable contents in it.
- 8) Fake news is one kind of crime as it also prevents the growth of a nation.
- 9) Circulating fake news in order to gain popularity proves how much we are losing our civility.
- 10) It is no doubt a threat to the citizens of a country.

STEPS TO BE TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF FAKE NEWS :

- 1) We need to consider the source to understand its purpose.
- 2) We need to read beyond the headline to know the entire story.
- 3) We need to check the author to check their reliability and credibility.
- 4) We need to assess the supporting sources.
- 5) We need to check the date of publication to prove if the story is proper and up to date.
- 6) We need to ask if it is a joke to come into a conclusion if the content is a satire.
- 7) We need to review our own biases.
- 8) We need to ask experts to get confirmation from any of the knowledgeable and independent people.

CONCLUSION

Fake news, be it anything, is never acceptable to protect the reliability and loyalty of the broadcast media. The mis-information which get spread in the social media are responsible to create issues and catalyse vague thoughts in our mind. Our mission should always be to protest against the spread of fake news, and this is not a job of a single person. We all are equally responsible to protect the transparency of the media to maintain the strength of our nation. This journey will keep on going until and unless we wash away all the injustice and win the war against the fake news. Let's take an oath for a trustable news source and build a nation free of any malice.

THE FALSE NEWS IN THE TIMES OF THE CORONAVIRUS MARLENE PASINI

MEXICO

It was the month of February 2020 when I went to Egypt to present my literary work and give some lectures; in those days it was already known that China was facing a new epidemic, that of the coronavirus, also known as Covid-19. I left Mexico City for Egypt, passing through the London airport to make the layover. Everything seemed normal, there was no warning sign regarding the coronavirus, people were normal through airports; After a few hours I finally arrived in Cairo and my stay during those days was wonderful, very little was said about the coronavirus then, until it was close to February 20, an Egyptian friend told me that she had detected the first case of coronavirus in Egypt almost at the same time I found out that the virus-eating shadow was also arriving in my country, Mexico.

Still, no one was aware of what this would mean for humanity later on. Even taking a tour of the ancient ruins and archaeological sites, several huge groups of tourists toured the sites without any concern. On March 6 I returned again to Mexico, following the same route and passing through London. But at that time the panorama began to change and people were already seen wearing mouth covers, however, so far there was no restriction on the part of the authorities. Upon arrival in Mexico in a few days, everything changed dramatically, from China the virus moved like the waves of the sea towards Iran, Italy, Spain that saw an escalation in the number of infections and deaths, in a few days hundreds of countries were infected and the mandatory quarantines and confinements began, the famous lockdown. Very soon the only news around the world was related to the coronavirus.

But together with the fear of the spread of the virus and the fear, despair and uncertainty that already prevailed, another silent virus also began to circulate through videos, memes, propaganda and other media sources, it is the FAKE NEWS virus. Yes, the news that brings us information, mainly through social networks, but which often has no truthful basis. Why are we suddenly invaded by all this news? With what intention do they circulate? And how does it affect us? None of this is new and after each global or national event there is the manipulation of information, which is really nothing but disinformation. UNESCO (The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) had already been warning about the impact that the rapid and continuous political, technological, economic and social transformation has had in recent years, especially in the way in which we exchange information and especially the contamination caused by some disinformation campaigns that seek to manipulate but above all create fear, uncertainty and confusion.

Many questions and doubts reign in these times of this year 2020, a year in which we were surprised at the beginning by large forest fires in Australia and then this terrible pandemic, an event that as humanity we would never have thought we would live. The last great pandemic was between the years 1918 and 1920, the well-known Spanish Flu, today we are once again facing a world-wide health crisis and it is when we most need really truthful and accurate information to help us find a possibility to get ahead. Above

all, we need to cultivate resilience in ourselves, that is, the capacity we have through patience, maturity, personal strength to confront crisis and difficult situations. However, this ability to overcome complicated life events, in this case of the coronavirus issue that has completely changed life for humanity, can be affected by the bombardment of all that false information that circulates through the networks; social and internet. These are moments of great fear and unknowns, they are fertile grounds for all that world of disinformation to flourish and grow perhaps because behind there are other political or economic ends.

Fake News may be promoted by people who simply have nothing positive to share to others. Therefore, it is very important to develop our critical vision and apt for a judgment capable of discerning and contrasting the information that comes to us, and it is very important to be aware of the type of source from which such information has been generated so as not to fall into data that come from people without judgment.

On the other hand, if our state of mind is not adequate to be able to make these judgments, the best thing is that we stay away for a moment from all the news to which we are exposed because they hinder us and do not allow us to think with a more reflective and positive mind. The best attitude to confront this is to keep our mind engaged in activities such as writing, reading a good book, doing meditation, experimenting with our creative side, whether it be painting, singing, doing simple exercises at home, cooking our favourite dishes, spending more time with family, etc. These times, despite the emergency, crisis and all the deaths, it is also a wonderful time to rethink our lives and proactively think about how we will restore our economies. It is a time of change to find our personal and spiritual transcendence and above all to reflect as humanity what it is that we want to live collectively on this planet which is our Mother and is lending us her body as a place to develop and evolve along with other animal species who are also our brothers.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS

BY: OLONADE O.A

NIGERIA

Information as regard current events are given through news in order to increase the awareness of people in the society. This before now is carried out through traditional media which include print media (newspapers and magazines) and broadcast media (television and radio) respectively. Over time, with advancement in technology and globalization, information were published and disseminated through internet and social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Telegram and so on.

Generally speaking, the significant of News cannot be overemphasized. Aside from getting the public informed, it also allows the people to gain a sense of national perspective and knowledge about the way of life of people, especially when the country is densely populated with diverse ethnicity. However, the significance to which news was created had been neglected by excessive spread of fake news which had damaged the integrity of people, institutions, government and the country at large.

FAKE NEWS is broadly defined as pseudo or misleading information. It is the act of masquerading or clowning the legitimate news.

ETYMOLOGY OR GENESIS OF FAKE NEWS: The fundamental problem lying behind the genesis of fake news and widespread of pseudo news is as a result of freedom of expression which is one of the essential fundamental human rights of nearly all countries in the world, as critically stated in Universal Declaration of Human Right. The Article of the African Charter on Human and People Rights as well as Section 39 subsection 1 of Nigeria 1999 Constitution. This allows people to freely raise and express their opinions, ideas and information in the society. Through the invention and introduction of mobile phones in Nigeria and easy access to internet, the rate at which people freely express their opinions, ideas and thoughts had increased without measure.

This gives people the opportunity to create websites and blogs and distribute information without any strict restriction by government agencies. In light of this, fake news were generated and distributed at the expense of legitimate and true news, due to the benefits that shall be derived from it and the purpose to which it was created to achieve.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF FALSE OR FAKE NEWS

Propaganda

Misleading headline

Parody

Biased news, among others

WHY IS FAKE NEWS SPREAD?

News faked are well executed and the subject are designed to interest the readers. It is invented by unknown individual. Mischief makers of fake news do it for a number of

purpose:

Huge monetary attachment, that is, to make money

Out of hatred

For political benefit

To endanger a business competitor

To promote a particular product

Note: The most read headlines attract lots of revenue to the blogger. The more click on the page, the more the advertising on the page is seen and the more revenue is generated for the page administrator. However, fake news do more harm than good. It causes a negative impact on workplace behaviour - that is, damaging the image and integrity of an individual, government and its agencies. It also results in mistrust among individuals and corporate bodies.

STEPS IN IDENTIFYING FAKE NEWS

Have a critical mindset.

Check the source of the news.

See who else is reporting the story.

Examine the evidence.

Check if the content of the news sounds right.

CONCLUSION: The right to freedom of expression, like other fundamental rights, is not absolute. The enjoyment of freedom of expression must take into consideration, the right of other citizens, in order to protect their reputation, thereby taking the law of defamation seriously by the government. Social media should not be abused rather be used responsibly. In line with this, Information should be properly and seriously managed by tracing IP address of the mischief in order to curb the excesses.

In addition, FACT CHECKING UNIT should be created by Information Bureau which should be under the control of Ministry of Information, in order to monitor and regulate platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Telegram and even WhatsApp.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS BY AKEEM ALIM

NIGERIA

According to a Professor of Mass Communication and Multimedia Consultant, Ralph Akinleye, fake news is defined as a modified system of propaganda which has metamorphosed into falsehood. He went further by saying those involved in spreading fake news and hate speech are Information Traffickers.

False information phenomenon, colloquially termed fake news can be broken into Disinformation and Misinformation. It is more popular at the intersection of media and politics but in contemporary battles against viral infections like Ebola, Lassa and presently Covid-19, it has become a major problem for health authorities.

The surge in fake news over recent years has brought unprecedented effects on the national and international stages. This has brought heated debate among the public, government, the media and big techs regarding how best to handle this wave of misinformation and disinformation. Even though its credibility cannot last but its omnipresence can and will.

The term fake news has been bandied around a lot since around 2016, the spread of falsified information is by no means diminishing. Furthermore, those in positions of influence are doing little to stop fake news.

Whether it is a case of looking at the wrong identifiers of fake news, such as the same source rather than the content, or verifying claims using biased, out of data, or run un-evidenced data, our powers to stop fake news needs to be upgraded.

Fake news is seriously on the prowl especially in this season of coronavirus pandemic. To be honest, disinformation and misinformation in form of fake news are second war being fought aside Covid-19. Humans share news the same way they share viruses, sometimes unknowingly and sometimes knowingly.

The famous salt bath during Ebola crisis in Nigeria emanated from a traditional ruler in Igala Kingdom in Kogi State. The traditional ruler prescribed the solution for his people and the news travelled much farther than he might have imagined. At the end, two deaths were recorded as a result of such misinformation.

Now we are seeing technology firms, who have found themselves as the enablers now become the mediators. The owner of Facebook and Whatsapp has pledged to assist researchers with gathering information and responding to fake news. Whatsapp has been building its capability to deal with fake news in recent times. In 2018, it introduced the "Forwarded" label, to let users know a message did not originate from the sender. Recently this year, it has gone further by limiting the number of times a message can be forwarded.

Governments of nations too are trying to tackle the problem. Example of such can be seen in countries like Germany, Singapore, Malaysia, Australia, South Africa, European Union etc.

South Africa recently passed Disaster Management Act which stipulated six months prison sentence for those who spread fake news about Covid-19.

Singapore proposed laws last year to combat online fake news, under the draft law; those who spread online falsehood with malicious intent to harm public interest could

face jail terms of up to ten (10) years.

Malaysia has introduced law since 2018 called Anti Fake news law which stipulates imprisonment of up to six years or fine of RM500,000 (\$165,000).

Australia in April 2019 said social media and web hosting companies will be fined and executives will be imprisoned if violent content is not expeditiously removed.

Germany passed a law in January 2018 for social media companies to quickly remove illegal content such as hate speech, child pornography, terror-related items and false information from their sites. Such sites will be given 24 hours to remove the content or face fine of up to 50 million Euros.

European Union on April 8, 2019 voted on a new online terror content removal rules under which tech firms like Facebook, Twitter or Google could face fines if they fail to eliminate terror propaganda from their sites quickly enough.

France, Russia all have Anti fake news laws of their own.

Nigeria senate with the intent to curb the spread of fake news has also introduced Social Media bill. Though not without its controversies, it proposes heavy fines and jail terms for perpetrators.

WAYS OUT

Ultimately, the fight against fake news is in our hands. False information needs agents to gather velocity, if spread of viruses like coronavirus can be prevented by social distancing, then perhaps viral disinformation can be given the same treatment.

Disinformation and Misinformation during times of crisis require taking similarly extraordinary measures. Nigerians also need to practice social distancing from their main sources of false information. In other words, limit their trusts in close contacts and instead place their trusts in local and international media and relevant information from government agencies. Though not blindly because even media houses are not without their own blemishes.

The following measures can also be taken to curb fake news spread;

Public awareness through different media engagements, building people's capacity in spotting and calling out fake news, disinformation and misinformation.

Supporting the increase number of fact checkers.

Establishing traditional and social media monitoring operations to build hard data based records of incidents and profile perpetrators.

Proactive engagement with social media companies like Facebook, Twitter,Whatsapp to design and introduce more effective and fast acting systems to police fake news.

Supporting capacity of those engaged in building counter-narratives to fake news, particularly where it affects trust in institutions that still retain same degrees of public trust

PEOPLE PASS INFORMATION THEY DO NOT KNOW (OR DO NOT CARE) IS FALSE

COPY AND PASTE BY LUQMAN ALAWODE

NIGERIA

The term copy and paste is a popular method of reproducing text or other data from one place to another. The term is a very popular one on social media which is used by almost every active user, another term that is close to it is "forward". This term is used instead of copying a text and pasting on another page, people rarely use the forwarded button which makes it clear that the message did not originate from the person rather it was moved from another source to the page or group.

Whatsapp is one of the most developed and key social media platforms where interaction on daily basis is easy and can be used by anyone and everyone regardless of age or sex, it does not discriminate locality and no difference between the rich and the poor, all it requires to use this platform is a browsing phone, sim card and internet connection. As long as all these are available anyone regardless of educational level can sign up and endlessly become a user.

Social media can be rated as one of the key platforms that breach the gaps between human from town to town, city to city, country to country and even continent to continents. Unlike phone calls where charges differ from country to country, on social media the same unit of data is consumed regardless of the distance. This is one of the most beautiful things that ever happened to human race in this generation, kudos to technologists for this advancement.

As brilliant as the ideas of social media platforms are, most of the users have fallen into the error of copy and paste, by error of copy and paste in this context I mean movement of data from one page to another and this is one of the major contributing factors to the promotion of fake news.

Let me at this point paint a beautiful scenario.

Henry is a blogger whose area of specialization is to capture news regardless of its source whether genuine or not and spread it across the world like fire in order to generate views and likes on his blog

Andrew is a busy person but friend of Henry, Andrew hardly read long messages on social media because of the nature of his schedule but as a friend of Henry, he loves to promote his blogging business so he forwards whatever emanates from Henry to his contacts

Roy and Lucas are graduates without job, they mingle with area boys but by the virtue of their education they read and interpret most of the things which area boys take hook line and sinker, whereas they also trust Andrew's source they believed that as a man of integrity he would not mislead them.

Consequently, Henry was contracted by a top class political gladiator to defame another from the same location whom he sees as a threat to his political ambition. He did the

bid of his contractor, published defaming news and send to his friend Andrew among others.

Andrew whose habit is to forward anything that comes from Henry forwarded the same message to Roy and Lucas

Roy and Lucas are jobless, they have enough time to read but are gullible, they read the defaming news, they were so angry to discover through the fake news that the defamed politician was the reason they could not secure job, was the reason their lives are miserable and the reason some area boys on the street were killed during past elections. Roy and Lucas interpreted the news to the area boys and the boys got angry, they determined to revenge.

Look at the above scenario, it is just a picture which I intend to paint to make a little analysis of what copy and paste could do to us, imagine what could be the consequence of the revenge by area boys, their fights are not usually boxing or wrestling rather they fight with bottles and axe, imagine in the process Andrew drive around and stock in the middle of the clash between area boys and political thugs or his kids fall victim of the face off. Directly or indirectly, the news which Andrew did not read or probably read but subscribe to the idea without given a second thought contributes to his doom.

Most of us including you and I are agents of copy and paste, many times we claim that we spread the news not because we believe it but because we want people to learn from it whereas such will not be indicated at the top of the message before forwarding or copying and pasting. Many times people forward messages without reading at all, as long as the headline capture their attention they spread in a hurry and many times because we want people to know that we see certain information before them, we are quick to spread without verifying its source.

Copy and Paste are as a result of four key factors

1. Gullibility: the category of people in this class are those without mind of themselves, it does not necessarily matter whether they are educated or illiterate, they take any information that comes their way without a second thought and since they found everything interesting they also copy and paste it to other people's page thinking that it may interest them.

2. Sentimentalism: the sentimentalists appear to be the most dangerous and dubious people in this category, in this era of democracy they are mostly found in political parties, they are either members of political parties or fans of political parties. These set of people without any regard are fond of posting any news as long as it tarnishes the image of the opposition parties, their aims are to nail the opposing political parties at all cost.

Sentimentalist exists not only in political arena but also in religious area, these people sees their religion as superior to the other, they believe that other religions are threat to theirs and as a result of this, they spread (copy and paste) whatever news they see without minding the source as long as it speaks bad of the other religion.

3. Pride: most of those in this category are educated, their only problem is that they always want to be the first to see any news so as a result they send news “as e dey hot”, once it gets to them, they spread it out, common headline can make these set of people forward messages for other people to see them as having access to first-hand information before it gets to others.

4. Laziness: this set of people sees information, read it and doubt the source but are too lazy to make further enquiries consequently they forward such information to others while waiting for someone with fact to either authenticate or debunk the news.

Effects of Indiscriminating Copy and Paste

1. It tarnishes integrity: Anyone regardless of position or educational level if caught in the habit of indiscriminating copy and paste on the social media or wherever is at risk of loss of integrity. Today, I know of some senior colleagues whose messages I no longer open on social media not to talk of reading them, even when they have genuine messages, I will rather prefer to read and get the information elsewhere. This is not because I do not respect these set of people but they are in the habit of indiscriminating copy and paste and I have read so many messages from them which turn out to be totally or partially false and mostly they send irrelevancies which have no contribution to my life.

2. Causes confusion: This is a known fact throughout the world, considering the nature of social media and the users, one will realize that some are out to confuse others. A good example is the recent information that the new 5G by China is responsible for corona virus world-wide, a very reasonable person should ask series of questions in this regard but to my surprise even the so-called elite were entrapped in the cage of the unreasonable fabrication of lies and those who sees it as pure lie were confused.

3. Staring unrest: the ultimate of indiscriminating copy and paste is unrest both social and political

Conclusively, social media is a tool that breaches the gap between and among human race; it makes the world the true one global village which makes it possible for everyone to interact irrespective of distance. However the users are to be cautious of how they spread information and mind the use of copy and paste.

Not everything you read is worth forwarding to others.

FAKE NEWS

OLUPONNA RASHEEDAT OLUWASOLAFUNMI.

NIGERIA

It's no longer news that one of the things contributing to the ills in the society is FAKE NEWS. There are lots of factors which bring about fake news to the society, affecting both literate and illiterate negatively, so waging war against fake news, I guess can limit the spread of fake news in the society.

My name is Oluponna Rasheedat and in my own words, I'll love to briefly explain what I understand by fake news. Fake news is an unreal or an un-existing fact which later tend to become real after going viral. I can also describe it as an un-existing vibe or illustration after which is passed from people to people tends to bring about a negative factor in the society if not properly controlled.

A lot of factors can bring about fake news to the society out of which includes: hatred, anger, envy, frustration, hurt emotions to mention a few.

A lot of things contribute to the spread of fake news but I would love to focus on social media.

Social Media: we are now in the twenty first century where a lot of people have access to internet. Being provoked by an emotional distress like hatred can prompt to LIBEL.

There are lots of ways through which it can be spread due to social media.

1. Bots: this is not a physical ware but a computer algorithm created by someone of high programming intelligence. They stimulate the behaviour of human being on social media and interact with them like normal being. Through this, fake news can be spread without being targeting.
2. Trolls: these are people with accounts on social media. They are on social media to generate comments of people after which they do, spread it on social media without the real cause of the comment.
3. Micro targeting: some websites form cookies to hack into people's account after which they compose some fake news using the name of the person whose account has been hacked.

How do we detect fake news?

1. Consider the source
2. Check the author
3. Read beyond what's been posted (is it an headline with a different note under it?)
4. Check the date the news was released
5. Is it a joke? Some can be for fun even though it's wrong!

How can we prevent fake news from spreading?

1. Understand when a message is forwarded: some news do not have a source. Just being forwarded from a person to another, ask for the source from the person who forwarded the message.
2. Check photos and media carefully. Check if they are also reported in a different site or is it only a particular site that is accessible to the information?
3. Look out for messages that look different. Compare the information on different sites.

Some can have additional information and some might reduce from the informed.

4. Verify with other sources.

Dangerous effects on fake news

1. Affected grades: fake posts and research can lead to affected grades. Elites will sometimes need to go online for research. Any fake post online can affect their grades negatively.

2. Causes harm to health issues: some fake news can actually prove in their ways that some certain illnesses have been cured using some certain kind of drugs. Any kind of attempt as per say the news can cause harm to one's health.

I will like to round off my essay using this poem below:

O you fake news
You're no longer news
But what you're planting in the mind of people
Makes me think you must be powerful
But have you heard about WAR?
It spoils everything built for years
And you think you're going to survive?
Sorry time is not on your side!
I know ...
You will be spoilt between a twinkle of an eye.

FAKE NEWS BY: XOLANI NTULI

SOUTH AFRICA

Fake news refers to as junk news, pseudo-news, alternative facts or hoax news, is a form of report which consist deliberate misinformation spreads via traditional media (print and broadcast) or online media. However, digital reportage of news has bought back and increased the usage of fake news, or yellow journalism. The news is then reverberated in social media which occasionally finds its ways to the mainstream.

More so, Propaganda is a communication used primarily to influence audience and further a sender's agenda, the relevance of fake news has increased in post -truth politics. For media outlets, the ability to attract viewers to their websites is necessarily to generate traffic.

Fake news is written and published with a sole intent to mislead, damage entity, or gain financial or political support. More often than not, using sensational dishonest or outright fabricated headline to increase readership or otherwise, similarly clickbait stories and headlines earn advertising revenues from this activity "Money make the world goes around"

This relate to the fact that money is the hook in everything when it comes to our modern environment we have created through capitalism, which at the end we have to maintain revenues, this lead everyone to do anything for profit, "fake news " can be also be propaganda which becomes part of it to mislead for private gains. When we speak of (revenue)...one have to remember that we speak about income received by an organization, or by state from taxis.

Publishing a story with a false content that attracts users benefits advertisers and improve ratings. Each access online advertisement revenue increase political polarization and popularity of social media, primarily Facebook News Feeds have all being implicated in the spread of fake news , which competes with legitimate news stories .Hostile government actors have also been implicated in generating and propagating fake news particularly during elections. This prove that on this world we have been lied to, our so called leaders are misleaders , it is now that people start to see that people can get away with murder but in the "Christian bible "... Jesus warn his people to never do what they hate and never tell lies for nothing hidden won't become manifest from Thomas gospel quotes. There seems to be a war of good and evil in this world we live in ... same applies to truth and the lies.

We need to repent and relearn on a new script or culture that will promote the philosophy of being better men in terms of leadership development. Again some will prefer to use what works for them despite the fact that nothing is hidden from the truth, the moon and the sun. We have lost morals and values. The basic principles of life, the golden rule of ancient time that was pass on or a heritage is..." Do to others as you will like to be done to you "so we are blinded by the norm that ..."we need money to survive " , you can even lie to yourself. The land is enough for you to harvest, don't forget the ten commandments..."never tell lies", they shall kill, e.t.c.

FAKE NEWS DESTRUCTION OF LIFE

BY: SD.NAJAH FATHIMA

INDIA

Fake news is something which is created by false assumptions. Mostly these are created and spread by people who have political issues or have any hatred towards the particular party person or any community.

The main medium through which this is shared is social media. This media platforms is a place where any kind of information is spread as fast as the fire catches in the forest. People share fake news by not thinking or knowing the reality. They don't have the right knowledge of knowing what is real and what is fake. These fake news end up destroying that particular person identity. Some may get through it but some may end up their lives.

What mistakes do we usually make?

- We don't realize what is right or wrong and just forward the messages.
- We don't have the right knowledge about the subject.
- By reading the news we start judging without thinking from their perspective.
- The encouragement of fake news rises not by the one who creates it, but by the one who spreads it by not having the right knowledge about it.

What we need to know?

- First thing we need to know is we don't have the right to spread news which we are not aware about.
- Fake news can sometimes end up by taking innocent life.
- Fake news spreads hatreds and misinformation (the main purpose of fake news is to spread hate towards the particular personality. But we need to understand fake news shouldn't be used for such revengeful purposes). People may stop believing news.
- There are many illiterate people who rely on news. They do not know the difference between fake and factual news. They believe blindly on whatever they watch or read. We shouldn't let this happen it may be harmful for future generations, if this continues.

Just by creating fake news you do not only take revenge but destroy one's career's life and hope of living. At the same time people stop believing news which may lead to many unacceptable consequences.

The only source through which we can be aware of what is happening globally. That source will end up being useless and unacceptable.

Stop fake news. Before you forward any news, do know the difference between real and fake.

FAKE NEWS

BY: OLUWASEYIFUNMI O. PAUL

NIGERIA

A lot has been written concerning this phrase "fake news" in series of articles and newspapers but yet I would like to add my own little knowledge to it.

This is a form of news consisting of deliberate disinformation or hoaxes spread via traditional news media (print and broadcast) or online social media. Digital news like this has brought back and increased the usage of fake news, or yellow journalism.

Fake News is also information that cannot be verified, without sources, and possibly untrue.

Such news is often reverberated as misinformation in social media but occasionally finds its way to the mainstream of media as well. It undermines serious media coverage and makes it more difficult for journalists to perform their duties properly in covering significant news stories. Fake news has grown from being sent via emails to attacking social media.

This type of news is also referred to made-up stories designed to deceive readers into clicking on links, maximizing traffic and profit, the term has also referred to satirical news, whose purpose is not to mislead but rather to inform viewers and share humorous commentary about real news. According to pratty library, Satire or comedy news which often begins with an aspect of truth then purposefully twists it to comment on society has the potential to be spread as though it is real news by those who do not understand its humorous nature. If such news is not curtailed, it will cause a great damage to the image of the society, community, state or a country as a whole.

As stated earlier, fake news can be spread by various means of disseminating Information viz: radio, television, newspapers, social media, mouth to mouth, etc. It is in the light of this that I will like to suggest that if one perceived or come across news or a piece of information, it is of necessity to research, verify, confirm, prove, find out or authenticate the source(s) of such news before consuming or spreading the news like wildfire.

Finally let us make sure that we stand together against fake new so that we will not be cajoled unnecessarily nor be put in a state of panicking, mislead, misguide or state of confusion rather I will advise we verify the source of any information or news before consuming such news hook line and sinker.

Let's stand and fight against!!!

Let's kick out fake news!!!

Source: Wikipedia, prattlibrary and personal administration

FAKE NEWS BY: ANSHIKA

INDIA

Nowadays, Fake news has become a trend. Many people spread it for publicity while many people spread it to seek attention while others spread it just for fun. 'Fake news' can be in any form. It can be on social media or important circulars or bussiness meetings. People should be aware of their surroundings as what is happening, actually. They just believe in fake news and then panic unnecessarily which is wrong. It is a serious issue. People should take it serious because it can lead to casualty.

Fake news like any kind of pandemonium, many people will panic and heart attack is common in such cases. Talking about today's generation, youngsters don't have patient level. They want everything very soon. They don't have that patience level in themselves. Many a times some people who are less educated come in the category of youngsters only who do this either just for fun or to take revenge from somebody. They do in the heat of moment and later on they realize that they did wrong by spreading fake news for which they feel bad.

Fake news can be stopped by taking proper precautions or by the following steps :

- (i) Never believe any rumour unnecessarily just because someone said to you;
- (ii) Before trusting anyone blindly just make sure that the information is correct or from your relied source(s);
- (iii) Every statement has positive and negative aspects both in them...just learn to differentiate between both of them first;
- (iv) Fake news are mostly spread by uneducated people...it can be because of any reason just be alert from such people;
- (v) Social media has both positive and negative uses....just handle it with care;
- (vi) In case, if you get trapped in such Fake news case, don't panick...think with your open mind you will find the solution within yourself or also you can take advices from your closed & dear ones.

By following the above steps, at some extent it will help you to deal with Fake news or be alert before getting trapped in such fake news.

It's rightly said, 'A man never gets old for learning.'

You should never stop learning no matter how old you maybe.

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**FAKE NEWS: THE POISONOUS NEEDLE
BY: HAMZAT RASHID****NIGERIA**

I woke to the ringing tone of my phone, the morning is still at its infancy and I wonder what urgent call that could be. Alas!, it was from my dad.

"Hello Rashid good morning!" without waiting for any response he added "have you taken your salt bath?". Still half unconscious from the effect of night reading, I just slept less than three hours ago, studying late into the night.

I opened my eyes wide as if I were listening with them. He repeated himself when he got no response from me. "Have you taken your salt bath" but now in a deeper tone that smells trouble. "Salt bath?" I stammered. He immediately instructed me to enter the bathroom and take a bath with brine solution. I followed suit without questioning. He is my dad after all, I can always ask questions when I am done.

I got to school to hear other students gist about salt baths, oops! I am not alone. It later turned out that the saline bath is a prevention for the ravaging Ebola virus.

That little story is a tale few people like me survived to tell. Many lost their lives soaking themselves in salt. Ailments such as kidney failure, liver and skin damage became permanent scars on many.

It later appeared that some students created a joke about using saline solution to bath as a preventive measure against Ebola virus and it was sent for fun amidst them. Later, it became an internet sensation trending on twitter and other social media platforms. Some even went far to rewrite the hoax to become more threatening if you fail to bath with salt.

Illogical logic

How on earth would you bath with salt? Our body system constantly removes salt from our blood stream in the form of sweat and urine but to defy all logic, some still went ahead to perform this deadly act. *"Ebola virus is also illogical"* was there logical explanation

This is just one of the many hoaxes out there. Everyone is turning a journalist spreading news with such powerful tools like Facebook and twitter at our fingertips.

Recent South Africa xenophobia is still fresh in memory, within seconds, related and unrelated videos started flying around. Videos of violence that happened in India and other parts of the world, in as much as it is violent it became sensational. Government and NEWS media spent lots of time disregarding reality from fake news.

No right thinking man would support the insane attacks, but many have consumed too many nerve wracking news. They wished they were never alive at this time in the world

Before you create the hook

Fake news is like a fish hook, but with both sides sharp. When you want to send a message, you have to get a holistic understanding of the situation, half reporting is also fake news. If you are not a certified reporter, refrain from sending news to the public. Rather, use the iWitness platforms of NEWS media outlet. Share with them to ensure thorough verification and authentication. You found a man dead in the well, and you shared the video with the caption that a man committed suicide. Meanwhile, the man was drunk and fell unconscious in the well.

Before you share the hook

As very emotional beings, we have the tendency to care, protect and above all be seen as superheroes. When you get hold of any article, it is at your best interest and the interest of the public to confirm and verify first. Do not share in haste. If it is so urgent to share, share with someone who can verify first.

You need to understand who the sender is, why is he sending it and what purpose does it serve. It might not necessarily lead to loss of life but emotional trauma and stigma. The scar sometimes, the almighty power of time might not heal.

Corona time requires corollary measures

People are tense, the impact of coronavirus is one cut too deep. People and business are left in the abyss. While some businesses are on the downward trend some are getting super. Among the gainers in this period is Social media platforms, they have seen increased usage and interaction with their webs and apps. YouTube declared more watch time than ever, Facebook, twitter, TikTok, Instagram etc. have seen dramatic increase in their usage. What does this tell you?

People now have huge access to information. The internet has shrunk the world to a global village, information from the top of mountain everest can get to the hunter in the deep amazon forest within seconds. This calls for extra care, especially with the advent of various image editing tools. You can be a President of the United States from your room and place yourself sweating on the cold mountain everest. Nothing seems impossible.

You would need an eagle eye to see through the needle to handpick the genuine information from fake news.

Stay safe and avoid the hook

TOPIC: FAKE NEWS AND ITS DANGERS
NAME: OLANREWAJU ABDULAFIS O.
SHARK'S.

NIGERIA

Imagine I came telling you that your beloved mother has been tested positive for the deadly virus COVID'19. You are the type that's very far from her and thereby cannot be so sure whether am being truthful or not. All of a sudden, changes started to occur in you. You noticed you're not the real version of yourself any longer. Gradually, you are being classified as a 'living dead', the reason being; for the fact that your distant location gives you little or no access at times to communicate with your mum. Then suddenly, you realize you can't function properly because of the bond you share with your mum, you can't just afford to let anything bad happen to her, you then thought joining her will be the best option. COMMITTING SUICIDE was the only way you decided. Luckily for you, your posted letter was delivered to your mom on time, and she calmly and quickly replied you saying to God be the glory, she's all good and healthy.

At first, I'm very sure you'll hate the rest of me. Then aside from you, I might have influenced others with the same phenomenon 'FAKE NEWS', keeping the lives and safety of people at risk and endangering the society.

FAKE NEWS may result into HATE SPEECH, which in fact has played a major role in most of AFRICA'S CIVIL WAR. With this, lives and assets are lost, making things harder and bitter for humanity. FAKE NEWS is one of the social problems a lot of countries are tackling.

Sensitizing the 'SOCIAL LIARS' and making them know the amount of lives that can be endangered in the cause of spreading fake news. Another way to tackle FAKE NEWS is to be very sure and accurate about the news you share and believe - this way, the rate of fake news spread shall reduce drastically. Government should set up a penalty for those that spread fake news. They should be dealt with and charged according to the constitution and levity of the news spread.

Aside from the one I refer to as the 'SOCIAL LIAR', the masses should be sensitized and kept updated on the happenings, so that they won't fall into accepting fake news. Also, information management agencies should try to make the cost of news reading cheaper and easier, e.g., the online news sites should reduce the cost at which they charge their customers for life stream, etc. Education should also be enhanced on different aspects, if we have more learned or educated people in the society, the rate of social problems like fake news will reduce. These solutions coupled with more actions shall help in reducing the DANGERS OF FAKE NEWS.

FAKE NEWS, DON'T BELIEVE IT, DON'T SPREAD IT!!!
Together, we can curb the spread of fake news.

FAKE NEWS

BY AJILEYE OLAOYE

PAPA

NIGERIA

Sequel to the fact about the kind of information/news that abound our society (Africa), I realized that the society we find ourselves had extremely added many values to our lives, though many are of negativity, but the countenance of the populace eventually lies in the information/news they receive, mainly from social and mass media. If the government, religious organizations, nongovernment organizations and even the family can deny us of the right values to compliment the sustainability of our lives & living, I think information/news would have served as the final hope of the populace. But it is another way round, due to the manipulation and propaganda that rule our affairs through politicizing and maladministration in the state/society. I want to bring out in this piece, the causes, spread rate and effect/consequences of FAKE NEWS in our community.

CAUSES OF FAKE NEWS

It is through non-realistic sources of events

Politicizing activities for the purpose of societal awareness

Inter-denominational influence by the religious organizations

Magnanimous lobby by nongovernmental organizations

Negligence on the part of the broadcasters

SPREAD-RATE

An adage says: 'action speaks louder than voice'. If we notice very vividly, we can realize that almost every smart phone now has FM radio, even an average human being will be willing to listen to news on mass media. If one cannot afford to get daily newspapers, we presently have over 100 radio and television stations in the South/West Nigeria alone, through which information gets to the hearing of the populace. Meanwhile, the rate at which information spreads on the smart-phone is alarming.

EFFECTS/CONSEQUENCES

I will like to point out only the key words here

Death,

Sickness,

Maladministration,

Maltreatment,

Deformation,

Inter-tribal Crisis, etc.

The fact that Information/News is from the right source does not mean it is completely reliable.

All we need to trace is the authenticity of such an information/News from its primary source, after a standard and structure investigation to prove its fact.

As a Historian, I've learnt many things about information/news while in school and till date. We only admit to whatever we wish to posit through the fact of evidence to the populace. Meanwhile, as a Historian, we hardly believe many information/news going on air or in the public, until we can trace its source, causes & effect.

FAKE NEWS IBRAHIM YUSUF OLAIDE

NIGERIA

Fake news is an instrument of deceit that tries to justify lies

Fake news is an unguided and unverified piece of information to discredit others or gain fame

Fake news is a cancer in the heart of any nation

Fake news is a menace in the society that poses an irreparable danger to the society.

Fake news has made most of the citizens of my fatherland to turn their back on their beloved nation

Fake news has made most of the youth of my country lose hope in the future of our nation

Fake news has done enough damage to the extent that no one believes that something good can ever come out of my country

Fake news makes my country look bad to the extent that if she does something wonderful and spectacular, the citizens will find it very hard to believe

Fake news and propaganda have become norms in my country

Fake news has divided my country politically, religiously and tribally

Fake news has made it so difficult for the citizens of my country to see ourselves as one, no matter where we come from

Fake news can cause problem between family, within country, between countries and between continents

Fake news is a political tool that was invented by politicians to discredit their oppositions in order to have claim to political seats. But to the surprise of the inventors, it has done more damage than they could ever imagine. It has torn my country apart like a shredded paper

Fake news is a gun powder that is waiting to explode

In conclusion, it is our collective responsibility to stop the spread of fake news because it is our common enemy. Let us verify and confirm every source of information we are sending out, in order not to lead the entire audience astray, as this can cause hatred and disunity in the society.

Please and please, stop the spread of fake news. Injury to one is injury to all.

God bless Federal Republic of Nigeria and save my dear country from fake journalism which has become norms for its citizens through the help of social media.

BY KISHAN DAHAL**INDIA**

The host of ideas, including theorist in Asia, the Middle East and the post-communist Europe, neither post-Marxist nor liberal democratic writers have provided an explanation for the historical emergence of the modern idea of civil society itself. Aristotle is credited with the first usage of the term civil society, although his meaning has been distorted subtly in the translation from Greek to Latin and then to English. Then the emergence of political scenario around the world started relating civil society as one of its features to be adapted.

Role of civil society in combating the corona virus pandemic gets enhanced. This war is on everyone of us, human beings. World economy is under crisis, poorest civilization is on verge of death, with hunger than virus, this period of pandemic has stopped the daily life. This is firstly on civilized and educated like-minded gatherings, sticking to the Government guide lines, making uneducated and rural population aware it's in the hands of civil society to fight this battle, alongside the government and frontline warriors. Its contributors agree that civil society is the realm of plural and particular identities and interests, again this pandemic needs such resources and resilience.

The increasing cases of casualties across the globe, only valid option left is to keep our race under total lockdown.

In countries like India, things get multitask, being a secular nation, gatherings and festivals are parts of daily living. Also, most of the rural manipulated population still believes in conspiracy theories and fake propaganda, politically created to gain the materialistic satisfactions. We, humans, have been greedy and always lived ahead from just so called necessity. To make this part of population aware and to make sure they don't just die of hunger, is where civil society must be concerned. As the policies are amazingly crafted keeping pandemic calamity ahead, following Authority guidelines, reaching to every needed citizen has to be the main concern of today civil society.

This Wuhan outbreak has caused concern, with alarming level of spread and severity. World Health Organisation has been trying their best, and scientists across the globe are indulging their every hour in search of Corona inoculation . The purpose of educated minds should not just stop with regular responsibilities. This is the time to stretch ones boundaries, maintaining guidelines and helping the needy. Like drinking a glass of water and quenching the thirst of others, not only the individual advances from infancy to manhood, but the species itself from rudeness to civilization. The final and the most crucial part should be played by the media, the social media in this content. Delivering authentic news and believing in humanity rather than running behind materialistic earnings. We are all in this together, getting out together, and alive, shall be an applaudable victory in the name of mankind.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS BY BAMIDELE AYOOLUWA

NIGERIA

Fake news is a form of news consisting of deliberate disinformation or misinformation spread via traditional news media (Print and Broadcast) or social media platforms. Digital news has brought back and increased the usage of fake news, or “YELLOW JOURNALISM”. Fake news is written, published and posted with the intent to mislead, in order to damage an agency, entity or person, or gain financially or politically. It often uses sensationally dishonest or outright fabricated headlines to increase readership.

As stated above, bloggers misinform people in order to gain fame; sometimes, to mislead or gain financially. Confirmation bias and social media algorithms, like those used on Facebook and Twitter, further advance the spread of fake news. Modern impact is felt for example in vaccine hesitancy.

There are different types of Fake news but there are mainly 6 types :

Click Bait

Propaganda

Satire/ Parody

Sloppy Journalism

Misleading headings

Biased or Slanted news

These are features of fake news and may help to identify and avoid instances of fake news.

Also, a well known case happened in Ilesa, Osun state, Nigeria, in the year 2018. A message was sent across to all those who registered for JAMB (JOINT ADMISSION and MATRICULATION BOARD) that year that the profile of everyone who registered had been lost, and that they should all go back to their respective registration center for re-registration. They all rushed there, and by the time they got there, they realized that it was fake news, after wasting time, money, and energy.

I will implore the government and all agencies that are concerned to help curb this cankerworm. This has led to a lot of damages to everyone concerned, including me.

I will suggest that news platforms should provide adequate information about their news source. I also suggest that a system of sparsely supplied warnings could be helpful than a system of no warnings, since the former can seem to imply that anything without a warning is true.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS

BY: ADESINA SHERIF KAYODE

NIGERIA

What is fake news?

It is an invention created out of nothing that take the appearance of Real news with the aim of deceiving the people, Here the information is false but it seems True.

It can also be called Misinformation or Disinformation which is a deliberate dissemination of false information to confuse or mislead someone, it can also be called an intentional lie.

Freedom of Speech empowers the free exchange of ideas, opinions and information it also allows members of society to form their own opinion from happenings in the public but many a person are misusing this right, as a result, some unscrupulous news are created with frightful intentions and distributed, such news has created public chaos, communal clashes (which has led to the death of some individual), political tension as well as economic threats.

Before the advent of social media, people rely on the conventional media as their reliable and trusted news source. This is because, the conventional media provide the public with well researched news that were gate kept and scrutinized BUT on the arrival of social Media there is a freedom for public to develop and distribute information on their own without any check. This is a new model that has been abused for several selfish and nonchalant reasons.

Seeing these reasons above, should we say it is wrong to have freedom of expression or result to saying social media has done us more harm than good? Though, Fake news has created fear, racism, lack of trust, depression, hypertension, amongst others but it's essential that you keep your emotional response to such stories in check. Instead, approach what you see and hear rationally and critically.

It is disheartening how fabricated stories are circulated by fellow human beings, it has now become an act that most news we hear is 60% lie which circulate easily than the truth, which in the real sense has not helped anybody.

Waging war against fake news is our collective responsibility, everybody has what they like and detest, one is likely to share a fake news if especially if it confirms their beliefs. Remember that the primary goal of a person who invents fake news is to deceive us. This person will not invent fake news that leaves everyone indifferent or that concerns a subject that doesn't interest anyone! we need to stop being sentimental because they are our friends, family or people we admires (stars, bloggers etc) doesn't mean they can't spread a fake news.

So, before reposting or believing in the post let us THINK :

T: is it True ?

H: is it Helpful?

I: is it Inspiring?
N; is it Necessary
K: is it Kind?

FAKE NEWS

BY MOHAMMED REZUWAN KHAN

MYANMAR

Fake news also known as pseudo news or hoax news consists of deliberate disinformation spread via traditional news media that has an effect on the life of humans, leading our lives towards the negative. Actually, fake news spreads out speedily ahead of the authentic news around the world as it has the most powerful density to persuade the minds of readers. In fact, people do believe in them without having any evidence of truth.

Nowadays, fake news are repeatedly written on social media by different people for their own selfish purpose whereas the essence on the long run is meaningless. In addition, swindlers create them regardless of its danger and consequences in future; what they want is for their own benefit.

Fake news dismantle societal relationships when it reaches people, it can cause violence and hostility, that's why everyone should think before broadcasting any kind of news anywhere. The reason it could create arguments is because different people have different ideas and people's mind change spontaneously on account of anger being an attribute of human nature'

To put an end to this, we have to cooperate with our friends, joining hands with key persons in the community where we live, we must wage war against fake news and those who spread them, we should eradicate the root of such a fallacious thing from our society.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS

ESTHER F. UBI

NIGERIA

Fake news is information of interest not real, falsified reports of current events to deceive, trick, steal, cheat, swindle or gain advantage. War against fake news is to engage in conflict in opposition to or in exchange for the real news, to eradicate its spread on social media and other channels (Internet).

The spread of fake news has become a threat that cannot be easily stopped because it did not just start now, it had been in existence since invention of news industry. Information spreads globally of which most people disperse without confirming if it's true or not. Most times stories don't match with headlines and it misleads.

Finally, it's high time for it to be revealed for what it really is, every hands ought be on deck. For it is said *many hands spoil the soup*, that is, many *mouths spoil the news* because everyone wants to paint it to suit or fit their purpose.

In conclusion, before passing out information try to investigate, be sure it's true before distribution, especially in Nigeria, the news dispersed is different from the main events/situations of things; and when given information, check it, scan it thoroughly before photocopying to others. Remember, *in unity we stand and in division we fall*, for we can stand for something to avoid falling for anything. Let's bring a stop to the analyzing, spreading, receiving and giving of fake news to avoid fallacy being seen as real (truth). Thanks!

FAKE NEWS**TEMIDAYO OYINLADE****NIGERIA**

Fake News is a form of news consisting of deliberate disinformation broadcast or spread on news media or online social media. The news is then often reverberated as misinformation in social media but occasionally finds its way to the mainstream media as well.

If fake news has no concern for the truth at all, there it would be a form of bullshit as defined by the philosopher Harry Frankfurt.

Fake news is written and published usually with the intent to mislead in order to damage an agency, entity, or person, and/or gain financially or political power, often using, dishonest, or outright fabricated headlines to increase readership. Similarly, click_bait stories and headlines earn advertising revenue from this activity.

Many reputations have been damaged through fake news, many are no more due to the gravity of damages fake news has caused upon them. Sometimes ago in Nigeria, the leader of IPOB the indigenous people of Biafra mislead people that the president of Nigeria is dead but his head was replaced by the head of a man in Sudan called Jubril for the president to live and survive. Whenever president is given speech people would be calling him the Jubril of Sudan. Many nations have been misleading with fake news which led to war of country against country. There was a time a rumour was going viral in Nigeria that India football nation team defeated super eagle of Nigeria 99 goals to one. It was said that whenever Nigerian players see ball that it was turning to lion, they said India was barn from world cup, that particular time, Nigeria has never qualified, let alone of going to the world cup to play.

In conclusion, I suggest death penalty to be attached to fake news, to stop narcissistic act of people for power and position.

CLICKBAIT LUQMAN ALAWODE

NIGERIA

The invention of internet and its improvement over the years has been a major shift in how human process daily activities, this is no doubt a great technological development which has improved our wellbeing in term of communication. Despite the fact that internet connection has been in existence in some part of the world for decades, Africa witness a great shift in the last two decades.

Before the popularization of internet, Africa processes daily activities manually especially the news media which makes use of both print and electronic (radio and television). With the improvement of internet, the processes of news as with other human activities has changed significantly and a new method of news reporting has been added to our means of communication through online and social media.

Despite the fact that the use of clickbait by reporters have been in existence, it became more popular with the use of internet/social media in the past few years.

What is Clickbait

Wikipedia sees CLICKBAIT as a form of advertisement uses hyperlink text or thumbnail link that is designed to attract attention and to entice users to follow that link and read, view, or listen to the linked piece of online content with a defining characteristic of being deceptive, typically sensationalized or misleading.

Also Mariam Webster dictionary posits that clickbait is something such as headline designed to make readers want to click on a hyperlink especially when the link leads to content of dubious value or interest.

In a nutshell, clickbait can be referred to as such headlines, hyperlink, caption, or assertion which is published online or offline with the ulterior motive of misleading unsuspecting readers. In most cases they contain links online with catchy headlines often to mislead the reader to click for further detail or information but they are lead to somewhat different. From historical perspective, clickbait writers are considered typical of yellow journalism with little or not well researched news and instead push forward an exaggerated headline to lure readers to click, often the readers are disappointed or fall victim.

WHY CLICKBAIT

More page views

Lack of adequate research

Dubious act

Increased brand awareness

Pay per click

More page views: in the 21st century, social media has done more good than harm but

somehow its invention has turned majority of non-professionals to day-light journalist, this without much ado gave birth to blogging which can be handled by anyone irrespective of educational background or professional affiliation. Blogging is a set of skills to run and control an online page (blog) which is equipped with many functions that enable individual operators (bloggers) to write, post and air opinion for a target audience. As part of its functions, bloggers make money through their day to day activities but this does not come easy hence the need to attract traffic to their blog become paramount. Page view is necessary in this kind of job so the operators (Bloggers) are left with no option than to write captions that attract internet users to the page. As great as this sound, its negative effect has overshadowed its positive effect on human race, this is because of the fact that thousands of untrained professionals are now into the business of journalism, they report activities on daily basis with topnotch captions that attract readers but with poor story that turns readers away.

Lack of adequate research: The primary ethics of journalism standards include independent fact-checking of information by one or more employees, also, reporters in the field of journalism are expected to be as accurate as possible by seeking reliable sources of information before publications. Little or no knowledge of journalism and lack of adequate resources have limited the ability of today's online newsmakers to make adequate research into an event before publications, as a result of these, news houses employ the use of clickbait to attract readers to their blog or website in order to gain traffic which in turn left readers disappointed.

Dubious act: This is vast becoming one of the evils we have to live with on social media in this generation, it ranges from scammers who create links for unsuspecting/gullible individuals to click on in order to gain access to their social media account to track members of their various groups for dirty businesses.

Increased brand awareness: in this case, clickbait are employed by marketers who are willing to showcase their brand to prospective customers, these set of people cook a catching headlines that may attracts the attention of internet users to click on their link in order to see their brands

Pay per click: this is another new trend, there is a website today that does not verify any information submitted by their so-called journalist, this has given rise to click bait, their roadside journalist entice people with different headlines in order to attract them to click on their page/link this is because the writers/journalist are paid base on the number of views they are able to gather within a month. Consequently, the writers instead of becoming journalists, they turn to hunters that attract people to click on the website/link.

SIGNS OF CLICKBAIT

Sensational Headlines

Free money links

Suspense

Sensational headlines: This type of headlines are very common online these days, facts are intentionally omitted from headlines whereas minor and irrelevancies are exaggerated and in most cases the original message or content of the story is hidden and captioned under a sensational headlines to attract people to click. Some examples of sensational headlines are; *ten reasons men should not be helping their wives with the house work, how I made my first million, What the North don't want you to know about Nigeria and Power. Thirteen ways Saudi Arabia dealt with America. Why I beat my wife to stupor.*

These are some examples of sensational headlines and they are indeed click baits, facts of the message are hidden like the last example which says why I beat my wife to stupor, if such headline is clicked the story might tell you how he made love to his wife and the wife said "you are a strong man". Imagine if the story was captioned with less attracting headline probably only a few people will be interested in the link because it is considered a norm for a man and his wife to make love and nothing is so special about a man being strong.

Free money links: The poverty line throughout the world especially in the developing countries had given rise to this kind of headline it has become a thing of everyday, on social media especially; whatsapp. People are attracted to anything or link that shows or tell them how to make money quick so it is not surprising that the scammers came up with this style. Some of such links have some of the below words as their headlines: FREE DATA TO ALL MOBILE NETWORK USERS, INCOME PALACE, MAKE MONEY WITHOUT STRESS, URGENT, IN SUPPORT OF ALL NIGERIANS OBTAIN 4G DATA FREE AND 5000 AIRTIME TO CALL ALL NETWORKS etc. all these will come with one link or the other and after clicking, it will be surprised that is a total different thing or one will be asked to forward to certain number of persons or groups to be able to claim the prize.

CONCLUSION

Click baits are those sensational, tricky, mind blowing, freebies, paradise-like links, its signs are enormous and the click baiters never sleep because it is through this that they feed and live their lives. It is advisable for everyone irrespective of educational level, exposure and poverty, not to click on these headlines they are out to take advantage of their victims in term of money and getting access to their personal data.

SECTION II

POETRY

FAKE NEWS: JUST LIKE OIL BEAN
BY: IZUNNA OKAFOR

NIGERIA

Untimely and unannounced,
It explodes from its pond,
piercingly scatters far and near
Incarcerating attentions as folktales.

It's cracking sound is overwhelming
Speedy is its pace
And its sprint, sporadic
As it flies in the wave of deceit.

Its formation is deliberate
For it isn't without a goal.
A goal which may even be seen holy
But in real, is merely and purely phony.

Its spread though could be injurious,
Sweetens the unfair ears,
Who in it find their pasture
And from same derive a solipsistic pleasure.

Alive, trendy or dead,
Its ponds are gently scratchy
And its leaves and branches
Naturally incendiary.

It germinates where it falls
And reproduces for wider consumption,
Some despise, but many cherish it
For its twofaced packaging
and content.

Just like the oil bean tree
From the upmost leaf
To the down most root,
Everything here ought to be handled
with great caution, discretion
and clairvoyance.

THE ERRONEOUS NEWS BY: ADESINA ADEBAYO

NIGERIA

The flawless of the treacherous news;
Parturition from rumours and gossip,
Chanting around the world in it woeful melody,
Swaying austere like a whirlwind,
Lure with the beauty of lies and confusion,
Deceitful in charming but outrageous,
Piercing and whistle the heart of the readers,
Prosecuting the victim's freedom,
Wrecking the squeaky reputation,
And blemish the glowing image.

The erroneous news;
bewildering the heart of the people,
In good morale charge to the hail of bullets,
Slaughtering in blood and thunder,
Depriving the victims sentiment,
After being loot away,
From the herald of a fake news,
Wailing all around the world,
Causing depression for the victims,
Anxiety lodge in human feelings.

War against fake news;
Striking in thunderous words,
Lightning like a midnight candle,
Echoing and pouncing in the reader's heart,
With soft tone like a lullaby,
Beware and never fall into deception,
booming news failing de jure,
Hurl from the hazy intellect,
One should adhere to the reliance source,
And call a spade a spade.

AGENTS OF DOOM**BY: HASHIM YUSSUF AMAO (LEGALBARD)****NIGERIA**

The rumours you mong
The fake news you peddle,
Many mayhems it has caused,
Many homes it has ruined.

Hiding behind your keyboard,
You concoct lies and dish to the world.
You worry less about the consequences
And continue serving your falsified meals.

Out of chasing clouts, you have dented images.
You have swindled feelings out of your political games
In minds of many, you have gripped fears
Out of the falsified news you continue to share.

With fake news, you have reported a living being to have died
And pointed at your own country with a filthy finger
You have accused innocent souls gullibly
And damage names built over the centuries.

Your freedom to speak, truthfully is entrenched in the constitution
But if abused, could journey you to the realm of destruction.
Hence, desist from being an agent of doom
And put a halt to sharing of fake news.

**WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS
BY: NISHANT VAIDYA****INDIA**

This new world has started loving fake news,
They love to watch celebrities cutting their cake news,
They don't bother who make such news,
They don't want to listen what's happening with their city or lake news.

Such news create chaos within civilians,
They create such news in billions,
Knowing nothing about money that cost millions,
They just keep adding fake news in trillions.

They don't respect women and men,
They don't know what to write when,
Maybe they just know how to ink a pen,
They should actually be the ken.

We don't know how they have such a mindset,
Maybe they forgot that it is a threat,
Without knowing anyone whom they haven't met,
I don't know by such things what do they get.

They change the whole map,
And keep talking crap,
They should be given a slap,
And their work should be thrown in scrap.

Such people should be talked,
Such news should be immediately blocked,
Their offices should be locked,
After hearing all this, the world should be shocked.

VICTIM
BY: LUQMAN ALAWODE

NIGERIA

I am a victim.
Victim of irredeemable image,
Image spoilt on the platform of lies,
Lies I was told by image breakers.

I am a victim.
Victim of lies I was told;
Fake news I have spread unconsciously
Copy and paste I have done indiscriminately.

I am a victim.
My angelical image is on the verge of bane.
I am sorry, I was lead astray
And I spread the news without delay.

I am a victim.
Just like everyone I am.
A victim of unverified news
I have come to make my image new.

FAKE NEWS**BY: ADESIGBIN AHMED ADEDEJI****NIGERIA**

Our channel of communication impede with pseudo air
 Enthralling down men, and women, to halt their thoughts .
 A changes in the Psyche.
 Brave to coward, rich to poor,
 A wave transmitting in the air .
 Going viral in its lie ,
 Echoes in an unrhymed metrical balance ,
 Without any resemblance to the truth ,
 Slowly, slowly ,it goes down to the ears
 of the sundry, and to the senses of the individuals
 Giving their mind a second thought „
 Scatter the soul to go side by side
 Bewitching the mind of the human to unite to the lies ‘13’
 And, it came with an unknown source, unknown number ,
 unknown location, just to trapped our ears to their lies ;
 Saying in falsehood to disrupts the united pot of the living
 by enslaving within the width of its tongues ‘17’
 So is their any similitude with what you said
 Telling us, our President has die ,
 die in the outside world,
 A man from Libya on reign ,
 accenting the executive directive as the President ‘ 21’
 A words of blasphemy
 Profanation, chatter
 booming, and booming in the trumpet nostrils
 Of scuttlebutt, and gossipers
 Jestng in their soul to defame the Presidency ‘26’ .
 A words so chilled in their icing lips ,
 Witty with jokes, parables and proverbs
 Scandal, libel, and slander ,
 lovely written in a marginal lines, and column
 without any logical research, 31
 A words in lies ,
 Gleaming in the sight of the listeners
 And viewers, watching and listening to the falsehood ;
 Causing havoc, and chaos on the roads
 And on the express of the second thought
 Where you and I, are living... 37
 Say No To Fake News on Social Media .

FAKE NEWS
BY: CLINTON NGUNJIRI**KENYA**

Many of us have mobile phones,
If you don't have a mobile phone; you may have a sim card,
What do you do when you get news online?
Your fingers become lightening and forward it to friends,
Hashtag thank me later,
Do you even take time to confirm, if it's from a reliable source?
Some of those news crack your ribs but do you think of the impact?
It will be too late to reverse what you have do,
Fake news spreads like fire.

Information is power,
What of fake news?
It's a disease that misguides the recipient,
Our girls take poison to make their tummy flat,
They want to have more curves than racing track,
They want to shoot those saucy pictures,
Desperately they get hold of misleading information,
Why don't you consult a nutritionist?

Our boys are dying due to fake news,
How can drugs reduce your stress?
Your problems can't migrate,
Deal with it, don't take the short cut,
How can drugs make you a better musician?
Your lyrics are getting locked by the smoke,
Do not listen the fake information and research conducted by professor unknown.
Fake news kills our unity,
You read something that speaks falsely about your brother or sister,
Now you look at them as the enemy,
Now every breath they take in your presence irritates you,
There is no prove to give
But the fire of hate is already ignited,
Soon the news spreads
And the whole country is in flames.

Dark minded people pump you with false news about a person,
Most of us love reading news disgracing a person,
A celebrity, a politician, an honorable person,
We stump them from the back,
We make them feel less human,
We sell their self-esteem cheaply
Leaving them feeling sorry for what they haven't done,
For once let's avoid fake news

How much do you get for passing that news?

In this time of pandemic-
Let's stop pointing fingers,
The fake news will make us fight each other
Instead of fighting Covid-19,
Don't listen to those dividing news:
"Country A is fighting a biological war,"
"Country B has a vaccine,"
Let's join hands and do what we can,
Take precautions,
Later we shall ask questions.
Lend me your ear,
Can you hear?
Let these words go deep in you
Let these words last in you year after year?
Before you pick your phone to forward that news confirm if it's true.

4. Know that information is not for fun so stop passing fake news for fun.
Count your words carefully and utter them with wisdom.

Fake information spreads faster than real information.

Fake news can ignite the whole world, you're the one fire extinguisher we need to break the chain of fake news.

FAKE LIES EVERYWHERE!
BY: DR.T. RAMESH BABU

INDIA

Birth to death, dawn to dusk;
Man to woman, in and out;
Everywhere and everything hiding fake behind mask;
Life filled with fake news and fake out.
Whom to trust and what to believe;
Morning news to night news feed;
Misrepresentations and dishonesty motive;
Truth and factual are not their weapons to feed.
Literate to illiterate, employee to unemployed,
White collar to blue collar,
Lay man to politician attributed;
By falsifiers and manipulator.
Spreading fake news and misleading lives;
Of men and women, engendering contradictions;
In identification, which is true and which is false?
A rise! A wake! If not, your life is ruined always.

PROPAGANDA
BY: EJIGA MICHAEL JIGS

NIGERIA

Do you watch the news?
If you don't; you are uninformed,
If you do; you are misinformed,
How should you be best informed?

Should you pass through the long road,
Rather get it through the short wrong road,
Maybe you should use the wrong watch
still better, try walking without the watch.

They will say "time is not on our side"
Don't believe that lie.
The say "information moves with the speed of light"
'That even the dead watch says the truth twice"
Don't believe that lie.

Here's the dilemma right?
Go home or go hard!
Go listen to news and sleep
Like babies are being hushed to sleep
And they wake up to cry at night ,
Because there's no light,
Because there's no information.

Who kept you in the dark?

When they close the curtain and tell you its night.
Don't believe, it's a lie.

The world is a global village,
information moves with the speed of light.

Don't believe it, it's a lie

Information travels fast,

but fake news with same speed and frequency always been superimposed to oppose
the motion

and the interfere to produce a dead beat with frequency
that makes people dance to the rhythm of believing
that they are being fed with news.

Don't be gullible, scrutinize every news.
Go the long way, even if time seem to be against you,
You are entitled to honest news.

WEAPONS OF WARFARE
BY: AMARA CHRISTA

NIGERIA

Through those lonely roads, I walk again,
Holding unto a bunch of words,
Itching to be scribbled...
My eyes shut, as I secretly stagger
Like a drunk, wishing to magically fly home
Just to get his wife bitten up...
Held tight by my conscience...
Yet, in this crossroads, almost vertically challenged
Guilty of handling a willed weeping weapon
Charged and acquitted with a blessed brilliant bleeding weapon
Always longing to feed on plain piece of papers with its scribbles...
We are guilty!
What shall it profit
Feeding the universe with void talks,
Scribbling falsely ,
Endangering the ears and eyes of readers and listeners .
We watch them perish like insects flung into the den of insecticide...
We're guilty of been brutally baptized
By the Holy immersion in false words,
Sworn to break the law just to get monetary gains
Popularity, in form of traffic creation
Tarnishing, blackmailing and unknowingly ending lives.
Throwing stones in market places seem dangerous ,
No one knows the eyes to put in darkness or the life to shorten.
Alas! Words are weapons on warfare
If rightly used, brings progress,
If wrongly used, may end the life of a brother .
I urge you brother,
Scribble with caution ,
Air with living conscience
For the dogs are let loose to get hold of defaulters.

**UNSOLVED MYSTERY
BY: ADEOLA ADEWUYI****NIGERIA**

Why drilling thy mine, when the soil seems dried?
Why spilling the oil when the ground is slippery
Bitter truth will be deep rooted...
For a complicated issue to be clear,
But for the truth to be pictured,
There lies conscience and guilt sense
Armed and sanction fear will let out.
No matter how long it went on Bunny,
If a fact needs to be ultimately prevail.
The seeker curiosity brings it to light
Stop speeding through the darkness route ;
Work with fact!

**LET'S FIGHT THE FAKE NEWS MENACE-
BY: SUBHOJIT PANDA****INDIA**

It takes birth out of nowhere,
but it's consequences are deadly, here and there,
Dividing people by opinion,
while for some, it serves as entertainment and fun,
What is the point to embrace a lie,
when it can cause thousands of people to cry?
The wounds can take years to heal,
The pain can be intense for the one who deal,
The doer has to ask his inner conscience,
Was it really necessary to break the silence?
The empowered have to take the lead,
Dig deep to uproot the cause and find the seed,
Let's stop this invisible virus to spread,
Let the fake news die and the real one go ahead.

PROPAGANDA IS FAKE NEWS
BY: XOLANI NTULI

SOUTH AFRICA

We are daily being slaughtered,
Bombarded with propaganda and lies .
This has become our breakfast and lunch ...
Grabbing a bite,
'Cigarette' it's a pack of lies ,
"Where there is smoke there is fire " ,
Our people are burning ,
Our future will soon become ashes ,
Cancers is on flames .

People want to get away with murder
Soon it will be their time to die on fake news,
We all infected with murder and bribe,
Its a chronic illness.

People have forgot...
"Prevention is better than cure"

We are amusing ourselves to death
"No health, no wealth"
Technology killing people in a smart way
Internet it's an illusion
It's tell a lie on our visions
Like television.

We people are an illusion
Lying to ourselves.

FAKE NEWS**BY: ADEMOLA AYOMIDE MIRACLE****NIGERIA**

A silent killer
Source of many ruins,
Shooting the innocent ears,
Stabbing the poor eyes,
Strangling the helpless souls.

Is it a sin to hear?
Is it a trespass to see?
Is it a transgression to know?
His victim, must I be?
Hiss under grass, deception.

What joy does he seek to derive in my stupidity?
What happiness does misleading me promise him?
Fame?
Money?
Political stability or Strength?

It is like a chain.
A wicked man create it deliberately,
People think it is the truth and also share,
Transfer of a deadly virus from a person to millions.
Culprit, victim, victim-culprit, victim, victim-culprit, victim...

Enough of me being fooled!
Enough of believing lies.
I have not only been fooled.
I have also foolishly fooled others.
I'm a victim-culprit.

I'm ready to resist,
Only news from verified sources
Will I listen to,
Only news with verified facts
Will I read.

Checking out for possible flaws
Sources, dates and authors
Hope I'm not taking a joke, serious?
With these,
I am getting resistant to fake news.

No to fake news,
Don't fabricate one,
Don't share,
Don't fall victim,
Protect the world.

THE CRIME SCENE: SHE DIED
BY: AJIBADE ABDULMUJEEB ABIOLA
PEN NAME: THE SOARING EAGLE #TSE

NIGERIA

With my own very eyes, wide open.
I witnessed the scene, she... Died.
We have left home as witness for our destination
Yet, confused with a pause at the juncture of decision.

I don't know if George be the judge.
The gravel is lifted but suspended.
The Judge is puzzled as where to strike.
George is guilty yet somehow has an alibi
I'm still waiting for the judge to adjudge George .

Things were better in black and white,
Was she wearing short shorts when shot?
I do not know if her top is blue or maroon
But we heard of colour riot in her room
What do I call her blood it used to be red
But now it could be just is pitch or whine.

It was a knife, driven through her abdomen
I saw two silhouettes, while hers screamed
His stood above in the act, without fear
Murder! In which I must see to the end
Little did I know, "hey" I was tapped at the rear
"It was a script and we needed to act it out"
I stood, stupefied. With my thoughts shutting their doors at me.

Then I sat reminiscing over and over again,
Thinking of what to believe and what not to believe.

FAKE NEWS BY: FUNMI ISEYEMI

NIGERIA

I saw it with my eyes,
All my hopes arise
In fantasy I sunk
Like a man all night drunk.
Alas, it was not so
This can't be 'oh no',
My fingers on the wall clashed
As all my hopes dashed.

I heard it with my ears,
How it all ended in tears,
It left me crumbled
As I onward struggled,
Suddenly I stepped on the brakes,
When I heard it was fake,
I've been so pained.
The shock leaving me drained.

Comrades, let's put an end to fake news
To the media we pay our dues.
We start the fight from this town,
This menace we bring down,
Throughout the country running the race,
Our nation becoming a better place
And together we pull through
To make our news true.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS
BY: MAJOFODUN BABALOLA

NIGERIA

Fake news!
What will be your gain?
If you said man can live without brain
If you approved the intake of cocaine
Saying it will make man sane,
With all these lies, what will you attain?

It is not funny
Will you gain more than money?
When the lives of many
Will be at stake,
Yet you still feed us with fake news' cake,
When will you stop being fake?

Is it when all our backs are turned against each other?
Countries fighting one another
And sons killing their fathers.

Or is it when the truth is finally dead?
When lies and rumours are thoroughly spread
As deceit lies with us on the same bed.

All in the name of views,
You went to renew the real news,
Just to catch people's attention and to amuse them,
Leaving on the heart of man bruises
Caused by your Gossip press crews.

This is a war;
Against deceit and fake news.
Ravens have stopped delivering the truth to our doorstep.
We lost news' value because of your abuse
Now, the truth must be restored
For fake news has exposed us to death's dews.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS
BY: ZAINAB ABDULMUMIN
NIGERIA

The conscience, they say is the police of the heart,
which help secure human value,
but purveyors of falsified information,
have remain on the run on this.

Honesty, truth and accountability are let go of,
as fake news seems to be taking control,
while innocent masses become victim,
of it fraudulent and adulterated messages.

wars have been waged against fake news,
as it mock us to our face,
but we found ourselves stuck, despite our will to fight it,
notwithstanding, the believe that victory is near still stay strong in us.

we would keep on wielding our sword, made of pen and our shield,
fighting against fake news,
we won't stop standing firm on our resolve,
fake news, must be eradicated.

CEASE THE LIES
BY: GIFT. A. CHIOMOLE

MALAWI

Cease the lies and seize the facts
No lie, I sincerely wonder what you get from all these lies
Money or fame, one of these I guess,
but why the fuss? Who taught you the malice?
Who lied to you it's ideal to disseminate fake news?
Young blood, it's time you alter your plans,
It's time to articulate the truth and cease the lies.

Hastily, divorce the repulsive falsity
And get wedded to the beautiful reality,
become a flicker in the dark shadows.
Open the eyes and ears of your folks, cease the hoaxes.

News! is such a double faced creation,
False news begets destruction while true news begets redemption.
So, cease the lies, cease the defamation
If not for yourself then do it for your nation.

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS
JOANA CHINWOGOLA

MALAWI

Why does your mind fail
For that fraudulent call
Why do your lips spread
That which will spread
Reputation that's spoiled
Aren't your hands exhausted?
Of reacting to the faulted

It comes newly and attracts interest
It strides through all tests without protest
More beings gulp in it without protest
More lips replicate it at an alarming quest
Knowing not the fruit it will bear to the rest
Relegating that it will only exhale opposite of best

Cautiously brainstorm on new information before forging
Rush not into twisting any report
For you know not what it purport
The more twist and spread on that
The greater the wrath it will reciprocate

FAKE
BY: JIBRIL BABANGIDA

NIGERIA

I don't have friends,
I have family,

Friends are 'FAKE',
Families are 'REAL'

I was misled by the 'FAKES'.
I was guided by the 'REALS'

If you share unverified information YOU ARE FAKE

If you Share Authentic information YOU ARE REAL

If you want to like me, like me because I AM REAL

If you want to hate me, hate me because I AM NOT FAKE like you.

Rumor has it
BY: OGBONNA-EZE SAMUEL

NIGERIA

Rumor has it,
that Mama Abike was responsible
for the death of her husband, Jimi,
who had made plans for a second wife.
She was a witch, and jealousy had
heightened her lust for blood.

Rumor has it,
that Chief Zachary greased elbows and palms,
and silenced lips as he aspired
for the post on the council.

Rumor has it,
that the west wind brings rain
along with the smell of corruption
from the Presidential villa, which served
as a den of hungry wolves,
stealing from the poor to feed their stomachs.

Lastly, rumor has it,
that as surely as the sun sets
in the west, if we could carefully
sieve the information we pass across,
and don't solely blame the press for our misdeeds,
the spread of fake news will be curtailed.

FAKE NEWS
BY: HEMAMALINI N M.A.

INDIA

Fake News Worlds Threatening Power
Threatening veils that brings disaster.
It is an embodiment of unknown danger.
It leads to the sparkling fire.
It enthralls our soul with unbound noise.

The Nature mother of surviving souls
Cries in a danger with unrevealed news.
It enriches the worst with more and most,
Upholding unknown fear to mind.

Mind becomes embodiment of evil.
The peace has no place to save,
Logical becomes illogical,
Illustrations becomes unreasoning.

Let us all join our hands,
Togetherness to eradicate
Unreasoning news,
More to bloom with logical factors
With freshening knowledge to acquire,
Eradicate Fake News.

NO CHORUS OF LAMENTATION
BY: PEARSON LEMANI

MALAWI

Being in a cage of cacophony for
Many years ,
Cradle of quinine still meanders in
Desert of Ashes ,
Stirring up a soup of propaganda and contraceptive
To embalm a midnight Dove .
A siren of change escorted by simple
Sandals of Moses ,
Turned to furnace of dragon teeth ,
Who can Stand with your Chamaeleon
Saliva Manifesto?
Rustle of leaves are novice .
Religious kick bathed with impregnable
Acid ,
Making parchment face to grow old ,
Beauty that never fades
In silver cup will fade.
Wind of regime that bleach skirt of truth
At a lonely peak ,
Will make dry eye's to dance,
Knees of a virgin knocking each for being
Recessive ,
While her legs soaked in the scent of jungle
Venom ,
Sweeping arms over the red soil ,
Making Dove to sing softly ,
No chorus of lamentation to harvest life
Like standing stalks of grain .

ACT OF SELF-DECEIT**BY: DR. ASHOK CHAKRAVARTHY THOLANA****INDIA**

Misleading news, misguiding news
Often revolutionize the public views;
Like the mind, the human nature
Into ever-new illusions, often venture.

'Fake' itself is a word, full of deceit
That may be provisionally pleasant;
What that undetectably follows later
May even tarnish a brightest future.

A fickle thought gives sudden birth
Unaware, it clouds wisdom with loathe,
Then and there erupts the storm of evil
For a speck of joy, inviting vast trouble.

Under the dust and rubble of ignominy
One would lose life's delights, so many,
What we sow – so we reap! Is it not?
Fake news, is it not an act of self-deceit.

Unless we clip the wings of this danger
Trust between humans, it may endanger.

FAKE NEWS**BY: DR PRAGYA SUMAN****INDIA**

My ocean is liquid pearly one
Ink wells is brimming in blue,
My fake fuelling pen
Spills in black hue,
Too much for papers, eyes and eardrum
Concoction is played
In the tiny turret of nib
Undertow of elastic eddies
Truth is molded in now
Tawdry talks are in tentacles
Through the whole world
Pearl that poured out of nimbus
Has lost in the front page flash,
As rein is in the fouler's hand
Stallions are springing in the magic wand!

FAKE NEWS EVERYWHERE

BY: ESTHER F. UBI

NIGERIA

Information spreads like wildfire
Aproko will spread without confirmation
Amebo go carry them further
When headlines don't match stories attached
Where are we heading?

When sloppy journalism is the order of the day
And misleading titles all around
What is the fate of the mass?
Who then is to be trusted?
How will the human be bailed?

It's time to reveal fake news for what it is
For it's effects is unfathomable
For it spreads within a blink
It is a threat to the reality of information to be dispersed
Remember if we stand for nothing
We will fall for everything.

FREEDOM PERSECUTED

BY: DOINA ȘERBAN

ROMANIA

One thing lead to the other
And I refuse to take the orders
Thinking it was their usual news
Fake news as they usually spit

Alas, I was wrong
Freedom persecuted
As if it is the last sunset
And mankind is waiting,
The crown is to be blamed, damn disease.

What keeps you drenched in houses and hospitals.
Twilight bleeds the arched vault pierced in the dark coast
Set boundaries cutting a bit temporarily
From our persecuted freedom

We suddenly become aliens
With masks, gloves and oxygen at the gates
Appearing to be the midnight ghosts
Haunting the deserted streets

The gate creaks in saddened cemeteries
The graves weep abandoned
The coffins no longer reach the pit
And the crematorium is a place of desertion.

I don't ring the bells like I used to
Hung in brass tongues
But, who knows, maybe until the fall
Churches will wake up to serve.

There are commemoration of the corner,
People look sadly by their windows
Erase, oh my God, sad night mares,
Or they will scatter us in a cloud of smoke.

Today, I have learnt a lesson
Identification of sources becomes necessary
So I could take the right order
To avoid similar disorder

FABRICATION OF CANDOUR NEWS
DR. PREETHA C

INDIA

Imitation and mock up news in variety,
It is the fashion and need of today's society;

Taking actual situation and data, people eradicate accuracy,
To give scandalous news spirited with hypocrisy,

The mob today, is never bothered about exactness,
Rather carried away by the exciting fictitiousness,

It is very sad to see the veracity fading away,
By shifting and drifting correctness to hoax today,
People are so busy serving society fake facts very zestful,
Forgetting that they are spreading negativity and being deceitful.

Individuals should learn to express their point of view with honesty,
Bringing out their frame of mind with verity and positivity,
Learning to do away with falsehood facts through sincerity,
Understanding that it is our prime duty, to give details with clarity.

**BIRDS OF A FEATHER
BY: LUQMAN ALAWODE**

NIGERIA

Come let us reason together
In this life we have to be clever
If not we will regret forever

Like birds of a feather
Let's flock together
Perhaps we can grow together
In wisdom or we die running helter-skelter

Ignorance is a disease
A tool of deceit
In the hand of bourgeoisie
That spread news of fallacy

Come let us all reason together
We are as bamboozled as ever
Unless we choose to be clever
We will continue as ever.

**GILGAMESH BIRD
BY: PROF: MOHAMMAD NURUL HUDA**

BANGLADESH

Nothing is untrue,
No news or view,
If you say it from the wisdom
Of your birth and death;

Nothing is true
If you say it from the fabrics
Of your kingly breath
Manufacturing the outfit
Of an emperor-dictator,
Commanding the others.

O sisters and brothers,
Let's plunge under-world
And wing space-world
In the guise of Gilgamesh bird,
Combating the killer to the last;

Defeating any fake virus,
Natural or manufactured,
Upholding the triumph of
Every blade of intrepid grass
Of our mother earth

THE WAR FOR FAKE NEWS
DR. BRAJESH KUMAR GUPTA "MEWADEV"

INDIA

Most of the news has true resources
But some news are fake news
What is the reason for it?
But in the end, it's still so lonely
Some journalists work only for money
The smart money's on leaving town
And some for only true journalism
I want to hear, what you think I want to be
I wish you in my life would come true
Let's end the confusion
I am against fake news
About the universe outside
People doing crazy stuff
Propaganda
Disinformation
Sloppy Journalism
Misleading Headings
Biased or Slanted news
And other related topics
So there a war against fake news
I will see knowledgeable facts
I wake up for winning as opposites.

POST-TRUTH ERA
BIPLAB MAJEE

INDIA

We have entered into a post-truth era.
Our time and market encircled us
like a Merry Go Round.
We are not in a position to understand
What is truth and what is fake

In the market of globalization.
Even love becomes commodity
In the Big-bazar and Shopping Mall.
Emotions matter more than facts.
Fake news matter more than true news.
Unstructured exchange of messages in social media
And television are creating
Fake information every day.
Even statesmen and politicians
Are using unchallenged falsehood

To win over people's heart.
 Fake news everywhere like coronavirus !
 Gradually we are entering into a world of hyper-reality.
 So far we are in a puzzle
 How can we fight a new clandestine technologies
 And big-data which is shaking the very foundation
 of democracy in every country.

IF I HAD KNOWN
ABUBAKAR TERKIMBI SAIDU

NIGERIA

Happily and joyfully,
 But blindly,
 I started the spread,
 The spread of the news
 Like a wild fire
 During the harmattan season;
 Spreading, spreading and spreading.
 Spreading it all the nooks and crannies
 Of my village Agera village,
 Of our Dictator being dead!
 Betting with my life precious life.
 But at last, lo!
 The opposite!
 FAKE NEWS!
 Social media! Social media!
 Look at what you've done!
 My life precious life,
 Will it be spread?
 Before the spreading and the betting,
 I would've found out.
 If I had known...

THE SCRIBE
TOBIAS BURGHARDT

GERMANY

In Ancient Babylon, the word
 & its shadow initially vertical,
 head & lips: the pictogram,
 the scribe carved it with reed
 & wooden pen in malleable clay
 or notched it in silver & stone,
 in Baghdad, it became a sword,
 that marks the boundary of the edge
 between truth and fake,
 as he now drew in a leftward motion.

MASK

BY: DR. RAM SHARMA

INDIA

It looks,
i fear from the cracks of mask,
there shouldn't come my animality,
now i am in tension,
now i will come to my reality

LIFE-SAGA

BY DR. RAM SHARMA

INDIA

Life`s magic,
the more you dip, the more it becomes deep,
you are the protector and its selector,
why there is no ray of hope ?
the past which passed,
take the teachings from it,
sorrows and happiness go together,
life is a bed of thorns,
but don't change your humanity,
don't loose heart,
work is worship.

FAKE NEWS PANDEMIC

BY: DANIEL MILTZ

USA

{Free Verse}
There's an end times coming
To these fabrications
Simply tune in to the true meanings
Open and ready your mind quick
Life is what transcends
While making plans to amend
The festival of untruth communications
Dispose of the exaggerated lores
The abhor, and the torment wars
It's energy for you to excuse a lot of
While a great opportunity to rise above
Information of interest short of

THE FAKE TIME
BY: ANWER GHANI

IRAQ

The Fake Time
I live without time
Not because I am a gypsy thing
But the truth is that my time is fake
I mean very fake.
Yes, I am the son of the fake time
Full of fake morning
Fake evenings
Fake days
And fake nights

My breath, which enumerates the false moments
Does not come out of my chest
It just plays as a strange bird
And the twilight that have long dreamed of
The vehicle of love and nostalgia is not a real color
But just a fake brown tale

I can tell you all fake promises
Fake justifications and violations
In the name of fake titles

I can tell you of injustice
Based on false justice
Because I am the son of the false time

THE SPEAR OF FALSEHOOD BY: ERIKANMI PETER

NIGERIA

Enough!!! You spear of falsehood!,
That pierced through many personalities till they turned tattered wear,
Many images were duplicated by your unreal symbolism like a teddy bear;
No wonder!, you're the primogenitor of falsification and duplication.

You're a mirror that seems real but just a mere reflection,
Your shining exterior welcomes many more into your interior painted of deception
Those who barge in, meet you laughing on your seat of silly exaggeration!
Now the world at hand has built you an empire through website synchronization,
Which makes you kill faster than riffle with data connection
You ugly beautiful information!

Your spread like a pandemic is what we have vowed to curtail,
By didactic awareness and massive publicity call
To be cautious of your sneaky nature that causes gall,
Which also misleads people in their beliefs till they fall.

Our boxes of orientation would be stationed at every street,
With a wall poster of the quote " Confirmation comes before believing; not every news
is real" in everywhere on a plain sheet.
Even the billboards in mega cities would speak against your stupid wit,
Till the whole humanity is well oriented of your pretty shit!.

We would raise an army to impeach you like a coup d'etat ,
We mean the invincible one that fights with network attach,
And the vincible one of a professional body to defend your attack.
Because you're as corrosive as pungent chemicals that react.

How Long Will you Keep influencing us with your own feelings called propaganda
As if we have no personal plans and agenda.
Not only you we detest but including your sloppy journalism,
Which will be fought back by legal media criticism.
Kudos to it!, it did a lots, your misleading heading,
But sorry ! here is the time for its brutal ending!.

PSEUDO NEWS

BY: UTHMAN BALOGUN

NIGERIA

On a regular basis, it does...
Destroyed many lives and still does.
Mixing the true with the untrue.
Vividly red but a different story to the masses.
Presenting red as if though red was blue.

Giving false hope, creating depression.
Both embedded in its complex nature.
I realise, on further reflection,
an hoax is far more dangerous
than a sword, fully wielded.

So true it is, the popular saying
the pen being mightier than the sword
In one stride, changing millions of lives.
Of that, it's more than capable
At a moment, the sword can only take some lives.

Pseudo news just is no joke.
For the perpetrators of this does await
of payback, many a stroke.
An agent of destruction it truly is
In junk news' spread; brethren, don't assist.

FICTITIOUS REPORTS BY: AFOLABI KEHINDE HASSAN

-

NIGERIA

Words travel fast,
Faster than a freight train,
It goes the extent,
The conveyer cannot,
In the shortest of time.

Our world is revolving,
Words given life to,
Can reach corners of the world,
Just like the whisper of the breeze.
Within a twinkle of an eye.

Technology develops everyday,
Scientists work to make life easy,
While many humans are also at work,
with the motive, to create distress
Spreading fake news among people.

The effect, many a life is lost,
Wealths and funds misspent,
Time, efforts and energies wasted;
Wasted, like a sermon for the dead.
Courtesy of the fictitious reports.

Blames fall on the virtuous men,
Lauded are the pathetic ones,
Human intelligence, unconsciously abused,
clouded are the judgements passed.
All orchestrated by this misinformation.

It's time we wake up from our slumber,
Wage war against the perpetrators,
Sounding false alarm in our world,
Foisting unwarranted panic,
Misleading people, depriving them of the truth.

Let's unite in this movement,
Take the fight to the perpetrators,
Threat they are, to our rights,
For misinformation is tricky,
And innocent people tend to buy it.

On the government we called,
Help us in this fight for justice,
Let everyone be cautious,
To put this criminal act to bed,
We all have a part to play.

FAKE NEWS**BY: FATAI ISMAIL OMOBOLAJI****-****NIGERIA**

Have you seen anything that spread faster more than a virus
Something that will travel without an aircraft and roam round Asia
To the beautiful cities around Europe in a whiff
And surge the high borders of North and South America in one click
And visit the poor Africa to feast
Just in a solo day it will paddle round Antarctica and Australia brine full of people
Have I not warn you it's spread more than infections!
It eat man's brain with turmoil of high magnitude
It has no scientific drugs because you are the cure yourself
What I warn you about is Fake News

I tell you nobody could recollect when it was born
But it reincarnate during the contemporary epoch
It was created by people for you and i
It is the evidence of everything awful about information
Fake News not solely mislead
But also ravage credibility

I tell you consider the source and you control the spread
I inform you read beyond and you attack the spread with fresh knowledge
I advise you check the credibility of the author and examine cause for reasons
I warn you check for supporting source and you cure yourself from FAKE NEW

FAKE NEWS**BY: DR- HANA FUOZI AL- ZEIN****-****SYRIA**

Love = peace .. We start (with love) ...
When we utter this supreme word
That was granted from God Almighty and
Singled it out for human beings
For the existence of reasons
And some people do not want to look into it
For social reasons of their own
And here we say with great regret
My dear friends, let's put one hand by hand
In order to complete this beautiful word
And adorn it with another word
That is her sister in life ..

Peace.. Yes, peace ...
Which is mentioned in all the heavenly books
and mentioned time and time again
And sent to us through all the messengers peace be upon them
When it is pronounced by some societies that claim peace .. !! ,.
They trade the alleged peace regardless of how they trade !!!? ..
Please let us share this difficult task, which is love peace..
Love and peace
With our words
And shun fake news
For in reality, it negates world peace
among the people of the world
Yes, It is one of the most difficult tasks that we advocate
We peace advocates should explain it to everyone
Through this hypothetical communication ...
But this can only be done with your help.,
One of you will ask me
How is this .. ???
The answer would be that you love each other
First through the same family
Then we walk a little outside our homes and
Get closer to the neighbors who are already members of the same family
Regardless of religion, color or race ..
no to terrorism... . No ... to extremism ...
In all its forms ...
Yes for love and peace among all peoples ..
Greetings to your noble person
Oh ye peace lovers
Desist from fake news
It's consequence is never peace but violent
It kills faster than arrows
Peace! Let's live in peace and shun fake news

A KILLER LUQMAN ALAWODE

NIGERIA

I know a killer
He uses no gun nor sword but words
I know a killer
I have met him many times in my life
He killed many brain without traces
Many times he escape without cases

I know a killer
So many times he comes closer
Even in my dream and during the day
But he picks race without delay
Yeah! In the face of truth
I know a killer
He kills with no gun nor sword but words

Fake news, the killer I have known in a while
Who are you? A killer or a saver
Fake news is a killer that has to be stopped
A menace that has to be curbed

Investigative journalism has gone down the drain
Yellow journalism is the order of the day
I know a killer
Who kills with no gun nor sword but words

I know a killer
Social media is his abode
Twisting words and shooting them like arrow
Copy and paste is his accomplice

Fake news
A killer without gun nor sword but words

FAKE NEWS BY: ALI AL-SHALAH

IRAQ

Oh God,
 this freedom is elusive.
 My body stares into the future
 and my soul lives in the past.
 This freedom is elusive,
 I am breathing an air of madness,
 the inhalation is the living and exhalation is the dead.
 Thieves are stealing the horizon from divine words.
 I drag the horizon in this desert
 behind me to return it to its sacred verse,
 then I try to tie the two banks with my tears.

Oh God,
 love equals fraud,
 the woman I love is the woman I betray.
 Oh God,
 we must support the uprising of dictionaries:
 the Prophets have departed,
 there are no more messengers after today
 God remains an only One,
 so the rabbis, sheikhs and priests,
 how did they become Gods?
 Not a sinner after today,
 they are all Gods.
 Oh God.
 How will we mend this?
 Police live in languages,
 shooting their guns at the present-tense verbs,
 they build their camps in the genitive.

Oh God,
 how do we build a poem without the freedom of language?
 My language is a prison dreaming of another prison.
 A Questions then:
 why would the minaret call to prayer
 if the ears are deaf?
 Oh God
 Oh God

WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS EMMANUEL DOUGLAS MULOMOLE

MALAWI

Let's love the truth and hate the lying tongues
When we truly ween that the truth never dies
As a weapon of surely obliterating fake news
Has full of misinformation to the public views

Spreading the fake news is not a massive deal
But calling for louder alarm of massive affront
With our warring actions would be greatly ideal
No fake news because we're going to confront

Let us do a campaign as a brilliant awareness
For setting a war against the news of falseness
Retain the internet with a genuine information
And build a true link for accessing information.

Together we can greatly war against fake news
And gleam the world with a true & good news

FAKE NEWS BELLO BAYO

NIGERIA

Fake news
I've seen victims
Unconsciously sharing lies, violating the ethics
Unknowingly likened to bandits.

Fake news
Spreads in human thoughts like morning dew
Never were they real
But easy to believe
Like words said by a preacher behind the pew.

Fake news
Sent out to the world to bollix
Makes the media go mad boiling.

Fake news
A deception
What it creates, a false impression.
It's aftermath brings delusion.

Fake news
FALSE APPEARING REAL.

MIRAGE MUSA TOYEED

© ~SLogistic~

NIGERIA

News is perishable not like food items
News is life not like human life
News flies thousands miles not like flies
News has wings not like bird's wings

Like food, society feeds on hot news
Like life, news is the heart of the society
Like flies, news penetrates every angle of the society
The wings of news is social media.

Social media; a market place for idea,
a market place to win people's trust,
a mechanism for selling idea,
a medium for misinformation and propaganda.

The market had attracted many oportunists
Many handlers have gone on promoting hoax news.
bloggers do copy and paste
Letting the information go viral—they all are onto promoting their page
Leaving consumers vulnerable.

News has to be factual,
Is not a tail stories.
News has to be accurate,
Is not fictitious stories.
News has to be dependable,
Is not a tools to promote blogs.
News has to be objective
It does not backbite, defame and lie.

SECTION III

INTERVIEW

EXTENSIVE NOTE OF INTERVIEWEES' OPINION ON THE EFFECT OF FAKE NEWS

Having completed a series of interviews painstakingly on the perception ,effects ,spread and eradication of fake news , the War Against Fake News's Media Team unveil the grieved hearts of several conventional and social media users which have been poisoned against the genuiness of news generally by brilliant rumours predominantly.

Their perception of fake news seems uncontroversial as it is stated, that fake news is merely unauthentic information spread just to gain followers and multitudinous views on social media. However, a piece of objective advice is rendered in respect of, way to eradicate the spread of fake news, that; the cybercrime department should be dutifully obliged to blocking the accounts and pages of these people who indulge in such activities, that is, spreading of fake news. Thus, these patriotic citizens thereby admonish other social media users be conscious and cautious of any news extracted whether being genuine before dissemination. All opined by the interviewees in India.

Extensively, the interviews further disclose the perception of many a social media user towards the effects of fake news nationwide.

Many interviewed see fake news as new information of interest that prompts recipients into impetuous actions of regretful outcomes. Ignorance, Personal wish satisfaction and Public interest in news broadcasting are the basic factors stated to have instigated the spread of fake news. Meanwhile, prosecution is to serve as the sanction on whosoever spreads fake news.

To forestalling the spread of fake news outright, a few genius ideas are highlighted by the interviewees ; effective sensitization and watchdogs , verification of news if genuine before dissemination, Inconsiderate prosecution of the fake news carriers and conventional and social media orientation. Hence , the government is as well beseeched for transparency with the public so as to mitigate the severity of fake news in unison. As opined by the interviewees in Nigeria.

ERIKANMI PETER

AN INTERVIEW WITH MR. SAMUEL V. R., PROJECT ENGINEER (CRYSTAL LINK EXIMPORT, CHENNAI) - HIS OPINION ON FAKE NEWS

DR. PREETHA: Good afternoon Samuel, I am Dr. Preetha.C from India, the initiator of "War Against Fake News". My team is conducting a research on the effect of fake news and its spread especially on social media. In this regard can I have a brief interview with you?

Samuel V. R.: Good Noon Ma'am, I'm Samuel V.R. from Chennai. Certainly you can mam

DR. PREETHA: Happy to have a short talk with you. I will like to ask you a few questions in relation to this. Can I go ahead?

Samuel V. R.: Of course, Ma'am, I would like to take part in it.

DR. PREETHA: Are you a social media user, what is your favorite social media platform?

Samuel V. R.: Yes, I'm a social media user. I use WhatsApp, Facebook & Instagram.

DR. PREETHA: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Samuel V. R.: I would say five hours a day and sometimes when I am free, I might be little longer too.

DR. PREETHA: That's nice Samuel. What is your major news source? Is it the conventional media or social media?

Samuel V. R.: I do watch news on Television so I prefer television for news.

DR. PREETHA: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Samuel V. R.: Yes, through WhatsApp I have been fooled by rumors.

DR. PREETHA: Can you think of probably any news that you read online thinking it was genuine only to discover later that it was not real?

Samuel V. R.: Yes, during Chennai floods, we got too many fake news which caused a sense of panic among the city and right now, during this pandemic COVID-19, we are experiencing the same. Nothing changed from the past years about this fake news.

DR. PREETHA: Oh, yes even I do experience the same.

DR. PREETHA: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Samuel V. R.: No Ma'am. I actually stopped trusting on any news or information which I receive through social networks unless it's 100% authentic from a very trusted source.

DR. PREETHA: What is your perception of fake news?

Well, I think fake news are not authentic and they (rumor mongers) just do this simply to cause panic among people or use these rumors as a click bait to gain views.

DR. PREETHA: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Samuel V. R.: Yes, I agree to that. Since India is a Democratic country, few irresponsible people indulge in spreading unauthentic information and gain

through it. They should stop misusing the freedom of speech.

DR. PREETHA: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Samuel V. R.: I personally feel that the cybercrime department should handle this personally and block the accounts & pages of people who indulge in such activities. And we as individuals should also be responsible by not spreading news we receive on social media as such, instead we have to check whether it is authentic or not and after that only, we must share it.

DR. PREETHA: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on War Against Fake News?

Samuel V. R.: Yes, I would feel that I have done my part to eradicate such chaos in future.

DR. PREETHA: Last but not the least what advices can you give to social media users?

Samuel V. R.: Social media is a powerful medium through which we can make anything possible, let's use this as a medium to do positive things, rather than using it in a negative way and cause chaos and panic to the society.

MR. ADEGBENGA ADEJOORIN, A MEDICAL AND FREELANCE INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALIST SHARES HIS THOUGHTS ON FAKE NEWS DURING AN INTERVIEW SESSION WITH THE MEDIA TEAM OF "WAR AGAINST FAKE NEWS"

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Good day sir, I am Luqman Alawode from Nigeria, the initiator of "War against Fake News". Can I meet you?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: I'm Mr. Adejoorin Adegbeniga, a medical Practitioner in Ile-Ife

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Thank you, sir. Are you a social media user, what is your favourite social media platform?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Yes sir. I use Facebook, WhatsApp and Twitter.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: I equally do freelance investigative journalism, which enables me analyse to filter my news. So, I don't depend on a particular source or stereotypic means

LUQMAN ALAWODE: How do you usually react to news you read online?

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: I filter like I said and check how correct and genuine it could be. Make comparison with other sources before being ratified.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: This is an indication that you are well informed sir

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Yes, I do share news a lot but I ensure its confirmed and if it is unconfirmed, I mention. However, if it's copied, I indicate that too and ensure the source is quoted in order to avoid plagiarism.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Sir, as a freelance investigative journalist, can you tell us why you

think people spread fake news?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: It is usually done on three reasons:

- 1 Ignorance
2. To suit one's personal wish and,
3. To give people what they wish to hear.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: This is brilliant sir, as an experienced person, sir; do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: It is not an abuse; we all just need to go out of our way to educate social media users on plagiarism and its consequences. Especially when found to be slanderous and against someone's image, or harmful to the peace of the country if later found untrue. Just like in the case of Adeloye Saheed arrested recently by the Osun State Govt

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Thank you, in your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Adequate sensitization and cyber watchdogs can forestall and reduce the spread of fake news. Eradication??? It's not impossible, at the same time it can be significantly curbed to the barest minimum.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Fake news is everywhere in the world. Either you are right or wrong, something will be said against you. I'm a vocal critic of injustice. Many people will want to speak in favor of their political paymasters at the expense of the welfarism of the masses. So, it's not in the place of the government but it's all about you and me.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Jail term is imminent. Confirm from your source before posting.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Adejoorin Adegbeniga: Sure. No hassles

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Thank you for granting the interview

AN INTERVIEW WITH Ms. J. H. HEMA RUBA, PhD., RESEARCH SCHOLAR IN ENGLISH ON HER OPINION ON FAKE NEWS

DR.PREETHA: Good afternoon Hema, I am Dr.Preetha from India, the initiator of "War against Fake News". My team is conducting a research on the effect of fake news and its spread especially on social media. In this regard can I have a brief interview with you?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Pleasant day Ma'am, I'm J. H. Hema Ruba, PhD., Research Scholar from Salem.

DR.PREETHA: Happy to have a short talk with you. I will like to ask you few questions in relation to this. Can I go ahead?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Of course, Ma'am, it's my pleasure to take part.

DR.PREETHA: Are you a social media user, what is your favourite social media platform?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Yes, I'm an ardent social media user. I use WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter & I'm a YouTuber as well!

DR.PREETHA: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

J. H. Hema Ruba: I would say 4 to 5 hours a day and sometimes when I am free, I might be a little longer too.

DR.PREETHA: That's nice Hema. What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

J. H. Hema Ruba: I do watch news on Television. But since I spend more time on Social media, I would say it's Social Media.

DR.PREETHA: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Yes, most of the times! During my initial stages of using social media.

DR.PREETHA: Can you think of probably any news that you read online thinking it was genuine only to discover later that it was not real?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Yes, lately these pandemic rumors are confusing and it kind of gives unnecessary stress too!

DR.PREETHA: Oh, yes even I do experience the same.

DR.PREETHA: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

J. H. Hema Ruba: No Ma'am. I actually stopped trusting on any news or information which I receive through social networks unless it's 100% authentic from a very trusted source.

DR.PREETHA: What is your perception of fake news?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Well, I think fake news is merely unauthentic information which is spread just to gain followers/ earn through social media.

DR.PREETHA: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Yes, I agree that. Since India is a Democratic country, few irresponsible people indulge in spreading unauthentic information & gain through it. It's high time; they should stop misusing the freedom of speech.

DR.PREETHA: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

J. H. Hema Ruba: I personally feel that the cybercrime department should handle this personally and block the accounts & pages of people who indulge in such activities. And, on the other hand normal people who receives ant such unauthentic news/information should stop passing it to others unless they're sure of it.

DR.PREETHA: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

J. H. Hema Ruba: Yes, I would feel that I have done my part to eradicate such incidents in future.

DR.PREETHA: Last but not the least what advices can you give social media users?

Social media is one powerful platform for people irrespective of their age. We, as a user should always indulge in making the platform better for our future generations too. If used in a right way then Social Media is a wonder weapon against many anti-social activities. And, it's a duty of every citizen of our nation to

serve our freedom of speech & by that make the society a better place to our younger generation!

AN INTERVIEW WITH DR. SARAVANAN, GENERAL PHYSICIAN ON HIS OPINION ON FAKE NEWS

DR.PREETHA: Good afternoon sir, I am Dr.Preetha from India, the initiator of “War against Fake News”. My team is conducting a research on the effect of fake news and its spread especially on social media. In this regard can I have a brief interview with you?

Dr. Saravanan: Good day, my name is Dr. Saravanan, from Karur.

DR.PREETHA: Happy to have a short talk with you. I will like to ask you a few questions in relation to this. Can I go ahead?

Dr. Saravanan: Of course, you can.

DR.PREETHA: Are you a social media user, what is your favourite social media platform?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes, I do. I use WhatsApp, Facebook and Twitter.

DR.PREETHA: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Dr. Saravanan: Let's say 3 to 4 hours a day and sometimes when I am free, I might be a little longer. If I have too much of work, the time I spend on Facebook and Twitter will be less. But WhatsApp, I use regularly for communication.

DR.PREETHA: That's nice Sir. What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Dr. Saravanan: I do watch news on TV. But Social media dominates.

DR.PREETHA: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes, sometimes.

DR.PREETHA: Can you think of probably any news that you read online thinking it was genuine only to discover later that, it was not real?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes, of late due to lockdown we do get a lot of rumors, that the lockdown will come to an end, everything will become normal etc. But things are not true.

DR.PREETHA: Oh, yes even I do experience the same.

DR.PREETHA: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes, I do read and sometimes when I find news that is about fund raising for some good cause I do copy and paste. But certain times I did have my friends replying me informing me that it is fake.

DR.PREETHA: What is your perception of fake news?

Dr. Saravanan: Well, I think fake news is created by one group of people who make use of our ignorance and propagate the fake news in such a way that it seems to be true to most of us.

DR.PREETHA: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes. True, since India is a Democratic country all share their views which later get manipulated to fake news.

DR.PREETHA: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Dr. Saravanan: To share only news that comes from a genuine source. Read news clearly and correctly and also should know to differentiate between good news and fake news.

DR.PREETHA: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on “War against Fake News”?

Dr. Saravanan: Yes, you can

DR.PREETHA: Last but not the least, what advices can you share with the social media users?

Dr. Saravanan: Social media is a wonderful platform for everyone. We should always try to take the best out of it.

Educate everyone about the hazards of fake news. Every citizen should realise that they have their own part to play to make this world a better place to live in.

INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS FADAHUNSI OLUWASEUN

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Ma. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Ma?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: I am Fadahunsi Oluwaseun.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user (pause). What is your favourite social media platform?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes, I am. My favorite social media platform is Facebook.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: At least 6 hours a day.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Sometime, I feel like can this news be real and it pains me a lot when news posted are not true.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes oooo, countless time.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting, on another person's page.

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Not really but if I want to, I used to confirm from anybody I know that has knowledge about what the news is all about before posting it, and if I have nobody who knows something about the news, I would not to post such ooo

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes and no because sometimes, when I see a news, I know it is fake and also another time, I might not recognize because it depends

on how, where and who posted the news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Maybe, to have more comment, to get noticed.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: I think there should be penalty for those who carry fake news*

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes, I think so.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes, it does.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Yes, I do but I don't really believe their information. Sometimes the information is not real, and if the message is even real, they use to add more to it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: Firstly, there should be punishment for those who carry fake news all around*.

Secondly, people should try to find out about the authenticity of any news that comes their way before re-posting it to any platform*.

People should be careful of what they want to post because information is power*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: There are roles which government has to play

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: My advice is that there should be checkup in what and what people are doing and what they're posting.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"

Fadahunsi Oluwaseun: If you like to publish it, you can go ahead.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview we really appreciate the time given.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH BARR. (MISS) OPEYEMI AWOYEMI

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Ma, I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M., a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can I meet you Ma?

Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: I am Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes, my favourite platform is Twitter.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Can't say specifically, but a least 8 hours out of 12 hours
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Social media is my major news source.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online Ma?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: If I read something online, I mostly wait for 24hrs to say anything on it, because it can turn out to be false except it's a breaking news*.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: No, I don't share any news online.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: To some extent, I can.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: To generate traffic to their site, and to taint other people's character.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: I feel it is not nice especially if it's to create panic. No one should go through the feeling that comes with people spreading fake news about them. And I think whoever spreads fake news should be prosecuted.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes, it does. Fake news travels faster than the original news itself. It can out-them in bad pictures.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes, _Gossips. _ And I hardly react. That is why It's called gossips. Just read and slide.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Start prosecuting the carriers and shutting them down.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government have role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Yes, there should be a law that will be taken seriously to that effect.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Don't believe everything you see online.
- AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"
- Awoyemi Opeyemi Esq.: Sure.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given Ma. God bless you.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH EVANG. AKINWUMI IDOWU

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Sir. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Ma?

Akinwumi Idowu: I'm Akinwumi Idowu.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Akinwumi Idowu: Yes, WhatsApp precisely.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Akinwumi Idowu: Like 4 hours or there about. Both, once the data is on, definitely notification will come in which the heading might interest someone in checking through.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online Sir?

Akinwumi Idowu: Though, many sources give news which may either be confirmed or not, I do mostly listen to Audio means of communication for proper broadcast, Before believing such news*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: Though many at times, news will be broadcasted, believing its true, until we will be hearing again that it's fake news. Though that's part of the lapses of our mass communication agencies.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page, Sir?

Akinwumi Idowu: I don't share news, but if need be, it would have been confirmed from different sources before sharing.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Akinwumi Idowu: At times, it's not mostly known

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: Can't really ascertain but probably because they don't also confirm if it's fake or true*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: Fake news has though sometimes reason to sit and think before reaction, but it does causes great harm, like many negative actions might have been taken before later confirming it is fake news

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Akinwumi Idowu: Hopefully, yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Akinwumi Idowu: Yes, it does in several ways like I earlier said, the outcome of fake news at times might probably have gone out of hand before the real true could be confirmed.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Akinwumi Idowu: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: I think the best way to do that is probably through monitoring of social media. That's if possible, anyway.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government have role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: Sure, if everyone is well and properly orientated, there won't be need to spread any news without confirming it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Akinwumi Idowu: My advice is (social) media users should confirm news before spreading.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"

Akinwumi Idowu: That's not a problem; hopefully it brings a war against spreading fake news. Remain blessed.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Sir.

INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MR OJEBODE IFEJAH

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Good day Sir, I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M., a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Sir?

Ojebode Ifejah: I am Ojebode Ifejah Akinsanmi, a Quantity Surveyor. A Nigerian resides in South Korea

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Ojebode Ifejah: Yes, I'm a social media user, and because of my love for breaking news, I can say my favourite is Twitter.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Ojebode Ifejah: Probably 2 hours, depending on how busy I am.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: What is your major news source? Is it the conventional media or social media?

Ojebode Ifejah: It's the social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: How do you usually react to news you read online, Sir?

Ojebode Ifejah: Yea, I know that there's a high tendency that the news may or may not be real, so most times, I don't put a 100% belief in it, unless I get the same news from 2 or 3 other news platforms.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: Yes, a lot of times.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Ojebode Ifejah: I share the news to some friends I think will be highly interested in the topic of the news. I usually make sure I read it before sharing the link, and I try to tell the person how sure I am about it, I tell him or her the source of the news, and that he or she should make some verifications on it before spreading to others.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Can you recognize fake or genuine news?

Ojebode Ifejah: Not immediately, but by the time I read feedbacks or comments under the news headline, I'll know if it's fake or genuine.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: Some do it to call attention to themselves.

Some do it to defame other people or destroy their good name*.

Others do it deliberately due to their incompetence as a journalist, and failure to establish a good source for their news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: What is your perception of fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: It eventually spoils the good name of both the creators and the spreaders. It's something that needs to be done away with, if we want to make remarkable progress in terms of Journalism in our country.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Ojebode Ifejah: Yes, it is. While we are in a society that grants us freedom of speech, it is essential for us to make sure that we are sure of news before spreading it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Ojebode Ifejah: I think it has. Because most fake news usually brings down whatever efforts the government may be putting in place to make things go well, and the people tend to lose hope of having a better, and well governed society.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Ojebode Ifejah: Yea, I read from blogs, and I react by checking the comments under the post to really know how others feel about it, and it helps to also know if the news is true or not.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: I think the spread of fake news can be curtailed by the social media app developers, they should have a way of verifying news posted by bloggers, probably a logo in front of a verified news, and no logo in front of an unverified news, only then will people be able to identify what to wholeheartedly believe or what not to believe.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Do you think government have role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: I think they can curb it, by probably signing a new bill into law, which forbids the posting of unverified news on any social media platform, and the offence should be punishable.

Of course, I know Nigerians, we are so disobedient, and most times, people

prefer to do the opposite of whatever the law says. But the government needs to take quick action, before it brings down the entire information sector of our economy.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Sir, what advise can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Ojebode Ifejah: I advise that everyone should make it a point of duty, to always confirm any news before spreading it. If the person posting it, has refused to confirm it, we can do the confirmation from our end, and make sure that if it's not true, it doesn't start trending.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"

Ojebode Ifejah: Yes, sure.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH A REV AND MEDICAL DOCTOR (NAME WITHELD)

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: day Sir. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Sir?

Interviewee: I am a Medical Doctor and a Pastor.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Interviewee: Yes, WhatsApp and Facebook.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online everyday Sir?

Interviewee: Average 1-2hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media Sir?

Interviewee: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online Sir?

Interviewee: I take them with a pinch of salt, give it time for more confirmation before concluding.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Interviewee: I just don't allow myself to be fooled. Check my previous answer. I give it time.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Interviewee: Standard practice, I don't share information. I have considered it my work not to do that. The only thing I started sharing of late is e- copy of a national daily.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Interviewee: It may be difficult but not impossible to recognize. Like yesterday, I read News of the demise of one of the foremost politicians in Nigeria. I knew immediately that it was fake news. But I still told myself I will give it time. It happens to be fake news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Interviewee: People spread fake news for different reasons:

Some bloggers like to attract traffic to their blogs and individuals like to be the first to share breaking news derive some pleasures and fulfilment for their egos. Some may just be mischievous, wanting to cause panic or trouble. Some may just wish to see what the reactions of people will be to the fake news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Interviewee: Fake news is bad, evil, misleading and dangerous.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Interviewee: Yes, and it is an infringement on the right of others.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Interviewee: Yes, sure. It is a poison to the social environment.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Interviewee: Rarely.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Interviewee: Mass education and public enlightenment.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government have role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Interviewee: Government should be involved in educating people about the danger of fake news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Interviewee: They should know that fake news is bad and dangerous to everyone. They should not spread fake news to attract traffic to their blogs, it is corruption. The people should be patient and not rush to hit the share option for any news until they have verified through conventional platforms.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Interviewee: Yes. BUT DON'T PUT MY NAME, PLEASE.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview, we really appreciate the time given, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS ADEBISI ADEOLA

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Ma. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you, Ma?

Adebisi Adeola: I am Adebisi Adeola

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes, WhatsApp.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Adebisi Adeola: Approximately, 3 to 4 hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or

social media?

Adebisi Adeola: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Adebisi Adeola: Reason on it and discuss with friends if d information read and decision taken good

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes, I do cross check before sharing.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Adebisi Adeola: Some news is adequately formed which are fake but, when there is proper reasoning, one will realize it was fake

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: Some, to grasp people's attention, some to tease people while some just feel like catching fun

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: It leads one to the wrong path and hinder one from working towards means, through which solution could be reached.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Adebisi Adeola: It is.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Adebisi Adeola: It has negative effect on people than on government.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes, I do. Some information on blogs are real while some are not

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: We should be mindful of the information we disseminate because, when this is dealt with within us, it will also reflect at the government level. That is, when we get to the government level as representative, this will enhance smooth running and result into betterment of such society.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government have a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Adebisi Adeola: Whenever we realize the news at hand is not real, we should prove such information wrong. Also, we should realize the FACT and not buttressing what is wrong, to avoid building on it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Adebisi Adeola: Yes, Sir.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Ma.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS OLUREMI EYITAYO

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day ma, I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Ma?

Eyitayo Oluremi: I am Eyitayo Oluremi.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes, I am a social media user & I love WhatsApp, Facebook*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Eyitayo Oluremi: At least 2 hours at interval.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Eyitayo Oluremi: One will have different reactions to different news, my reaction is receptive.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page, Ma?

Eyitayo Oluremi: I share true and impactful message. Though, I make sure the news is accurate

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: They do because of fear and some out of low self-esteem.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: It's wrong and it is a social vice. Anti-social reformation is needed because information is power. Wrong information is deadly.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes. Misdirection on people and misrepresentation on government

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Eyitayo Oluremi: I don't read blog.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Fake news can't be stopped, but making efforts to ascertain true news will the spread of fake news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread

of fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes, through correct and accurate dissemination of correct news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Social media user should always accredit and verify true news and always disqualify fake new, though many users find pleasure in it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Eyitayo Oluremi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview, we really appreciate the time given, Ma*.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MR OYENIYI DAMILARE (a Journalist)

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Sir. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Ma?

Damilare Oyeniya: I'm Damilare Oyeniya.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Damilare Oyeniya: Yes, Facebook.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Damilare Oyeniya: 4 hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source is it the conventional media or social media?

Damilare Oyeniya: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Sir?

Damilare Oyeniya: As a trained journalist myself, I search the headline on Google and see if the news is on credible sites.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Damilare Oyeniya: Yes, Several times.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page, Sir?

Damilare Oyeniya: Yes, I do share. And I do cross check before sharing.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Damilare Oyeniya: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news Sir?

Damilare Oyeniya: Illiteracy and eagerness to be the first to break news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Damilare Oyeniya: It needs to be controlled but how is what I don't know.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Damilare Oyeniya: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Damilare Oyeniyi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Damilare Oyeniyi: Yes, I read blogs. But uncertain about their news.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Damilare Oyeniyi: Proper Education.
Literacy.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Damilare Oyeniyi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Damilare Oyeniyi: They should learn to only trust news from credible and reliable sources and platforms*.

The credibility of the platform is more important than the news*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Damilare Oyeniyi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS AFOLABI FOLASADE

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Ma. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M., a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you, Ma?

Afolabi Folasade: I am Afolabi Folasade Ayanfe by name.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes. My favourite social media platforms are Facebook and Instagram.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Afolabi Folasade: to 8 hours per day.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Afolabi Folasade: Both.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Afolabi Folasade: Always make deep research of news*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page Sir?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when it is fake or genuine?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: Because they don't dig deep on what they hear and what they see.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: It's really bad, and it is because people don't take their time to make findings*.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Afolabi Folasade: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Afolabi Folasade: I don't read from blog.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: Giving full detail of all that is happening.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Afolabi Folasade: They should always make findings before posing anything.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Afolabi Folasade: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview, we really appreciate the time given, Ma.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS OMOLE TOBILOBA

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Ma. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M., a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you, Ma?

Omore Tobiloba: I'm Omore Tobiloba Ifemide.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user. & what is your favourite social media platform?

Omore Tobiloba: Yes, I am. My social media platform is WhatsApp.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Omole Tobiloba: 15 hours out of 24 hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Omole Tobiloba: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Omole Tobiloba: It depends on the type of news and the information it's passing across. I accept and make use of the positive ones and I ignore the negative ones.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: Not at all.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Omole Tobiloba: Yes, I do share info and I cross check before sending.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Omole Tobiloba: Yes, I can.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: To have fame.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: Fake news can go to the extent of destroying some people's life, make some people commit suicide and it's also capable of increasing people's blood pressure.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Omole Tobiloba: Yes, it is.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Omole Tobiloba: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Omole Tobiloba: No, I don't read from blogs.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: Warning made before spreading of fake news.... for instance, those people that used to send message and ask people to resend to 10 people should be seriously warned before passing such news (fake).

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: Yes. They have.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Omole Tobiloba: People should be seriously warned i.e. there must be laid down rules about spreading of fake news and whosoever violates the rule should be punished. He/she must face the consequence.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Omole Tobiloba: Of course, yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time

given, Ma.

INTERVIEW REPORT WITH PASTOR SEUN ADE ANGEL

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day sir, I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Sir?

Seun Ade Angel: I am Seun Ade Angel.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Seun Ade Angel: Yes, WhatsApp.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Seun Ade Angel: 2/3 hours per day.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Seun Ade Angel: Social Media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Sir?

Seun Ade Angel: News online at times makes me crazy because of some atrocities. They are always full of lies.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: Never.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Seun Ade Angel: I can't, and will never do. Copy and paste is not in my blood.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Seun Ade Angel: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: Because of their mentality.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: It is dangerous to our health.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Seun Ade Angel: YES.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Seun Ade Angel: Seriously, affecting our community not on people and government alone.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Seun Ade Angel: Sometimes, but now I am not.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: It's not easy to eradicate the spread of fake news. Simply because the government is fake and lies to people every day.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: Hmm..., Government! Well, with God all things are possible.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Seun Ade Angel: The only advice for them is to stop spreading fake news, and access, I mean crosscheck news before sending it to social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Seun Ade Angel: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH AJIBOYE ADEKANMI AYO

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day Sir. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Sir?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: I'm AJIBOYE Adekanmi. A resident of Ile Ife, Osun State.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Yes. Telegram is my favourite.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: At least, 18 hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Both.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Sir?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: I check most outlets' pages. Or most newspaper account I follow on Twitter.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page, Sir?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: I do share, but that's after confirming.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Yes, I can.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Sometimes, it's to make the populace panic or tarnish people's image.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: It is a public menace that should be curbed.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: No. It's an expression of freedom of speech.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Yes, it does.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: I do. I just subject them to scrutiny because most of these bloggers look for cheap popularity.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: It's to monitor everything everyone posts online.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think governments have a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Yes.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Sir, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Everyone should take time to verify information before sharing it with others.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Ajiboye Adekanmi: Yes, you can.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW SESSION WITH MR. AYANNIYI OPEMIPO (BIOLOGIST)

ERIKANMI PETER: Good day sir, I am critic Erikanmi Peter, a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you, sir?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Thank you. Opemipo Ayanniyi is my name.

ERIKANMI PETER: Thanks, sir. Can you please tell me your country of residence?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Country? Okay, Nigeria.

ERIKANMI PETER: Are you a social media user, and what is your favourite social media platform?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, my favourite social media platform is Facebook and WhatsApp.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, sir. On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Smiles. So far, I have data, I am always online, sir.

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! So, you are a current social media user?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, Sir.

ERIKANMI PETER: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Both, Sir.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, sir. How do you usually react to news you read online?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: If it is good news, definitely, I will be happy and if it's a tragic news, of course, I will feel sad.

ERIKANMI PETER: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Fake news? Like rumours?

ERIKANMI PETER: Exactly, that sir.

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Ok, not at all.

ERIKANMI PETER: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes. But I will make sure I filter it, to know if the news is coming from the right source.

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! It's a brilliant attitude sir.

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, Sir.

ERIKANMI PETER: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, real news must be a trending one in places for instance, this Covid-19 of a thing. It is real news. Am I communicating, sir?

ERIKANMI PETER: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: The truth is it travels faster.

ERIKANMI PETER: You mean fake news travels faster than genuine and real one?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, because people believe mostly in things that are not real in the first place, for instance, if it is published that, the government will send money to all Nigeria citizens tomorrow. Trust me, that type of news easily spreads, Sir.

ERIKANMI PETER: What is your perception on fake news?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: You mean my understanding on it.

ERIKANMI PETER: Yes sir.

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Fake news means something which is not genuine, or is presented fraudulently.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay sir. Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Opemipo Ayanniyi: Yes, freedom of speech is a human right, but in as much we are hearing unreal things, I think there is no need of spreading it. My view.

ERIKANMI PETER: Uhm! Okay sir. Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

If there are no answers for other questions, we say thank you for granting the interview despite your tight schedule.

AN INTERVIEW SESSION WITH MRS. AJIBOYE BOLUWATIFE

ERIKANMI PETER: Good day ma, I am critic Erikanmi Peter, a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you, ma?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: My name is Ajiboye Boluwatife.

ERIKANMI PETER: Thank you, ma. Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes, I am a social media user and WhatsApp is my favourite.

ERIKANMI PETER: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Well, I am always online due to the nature of my job. Let's say 12 hours.

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! What actually do you do, ma?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: I am an online/virtual tutor and a freelance writer.

ERIKANMI PETER: Wow! This is great, ma. What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Conventional media.

ERIKANMI PETER: Good. How do you usually react to news you read online?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: I do double check to confirm the source first before taking it as news. As we all know that fake news is everywhere, especially in this pandemic period.

ERIKANMI PETER: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes.

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! Okay. Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes.

ERIKANMI PETER: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes, it's usually glaring. You can tell from the contents at times.

ERIKANMI PETER: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Hmm...Some do it intentionally while some is just due to misinformation.

ERIKANMI PETER: What is your perception on fake news?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: They're just spreading the fake news they got out of ignorance without verifying. Fake news has a destructive effect and shouldn't be allowed at all. People need orientation on the devastating effect of fake news especially in a critical period like this.

ERIKANMI PETER: Good! Noted, Ma'am. Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes, it is.

ERIKANMI PETER: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: It should even be a punishable offence as it endangers other people's life and instills fear in them.

ERIKANMI PETER: Exactly! This perception is objective, Ma'am.

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes, it does a lot.

ERIKANMI PETER: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Actually, I don't know because fake news is very rampant.

ERIKANMI PETER: And lastly, do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Ajiboye Boluwatife: Yes, they are one of the sensitive agents to reduce the spread of fake news.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay ma, thanks for granting the interview despite your tight schedule.

AN INTERVIEW SESSION WITH MR. OLATUNDE TEMITAYO

ERIKANMI PETER: Good day sir, I am Erikanmi Peter, a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you sir?

Temitayo Olatunde: I am Temitayo Olatunde.

ERIKANMI PETER: Thank you, Sir. Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Temitayo Olatunde: Yes, WhatsApp.

ERIKANMI PETER: Really?! But I think it should be more than mere WhatsApp because the last time I checked, I discovered you being a steady blogger, Sir? So, is it WhatsApp, Sir?

Temitayo Olatunde: Yes.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, Sir. On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Temitayo Olatunde: It depends on my schedule.

ERIKANMI PETER: Which means if you are not having a busy schedule, you could stay online for 24 hours (A whole day)?

Temitayo Olatunde: Recently, I log-in in the morning and go offline at least 12 AM.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, Sir. What is your major news source is it the conventional media or social media?

Temitayo Olatunde: None.

ERIKANMI PETER: Alright, Sir. How do you usually react to news you read online?

Temitayo Olatunde: My reaction depends on the news.

ERIKANMI PETER: You mean the nature of the new, Sir?

Temitayo Olatunde: Yes.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, Sir. Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Temitayo Olatunde: No.

ERIKANMI PETER: Wow! That is good, Sir. Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Temitayo Olatunde: I only pick news on recognized professional media platform,

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! Okay. Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Temitayo Olatunde: As long as I am not present at the place the situation happened, the only way for me to recognize whether the news is fake or genuine, is the credibility of the publisher.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, Sir. Which means if the credibility of the publisher is obscure and indefinite, then the news is fake, Sir?

Temitayo Olatunde: Each media has its own credibility. As a journalist, I know how to recognize credible ones.

ERIKANMI PETER: Oh! Good, Sir. Why do you think people spread fake news?

Temitayo Olatunde: Some do not know they are spreading fake news.

ERIKANMI PETER: Good. What is your perception of fake news?

Temitayo Olatunde: Fake news is capable of damaging characters and causes war.

ERIKANMI PETER: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Temitayo Olatunde: No. It's a misplacement of freedom of speech.

ERIKANMI PETER: Hmm... In what sense, Sir?

Temitayo Olatunde: This happens when people spread fake news.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, exactly, Sir. Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Temitayo Olatunde: Yes. It causes misunderstanding between the rulers and the ruled.

ERIKANMI PETER: Okay, Sir. Do you read from blogs and how do you that react to blogs?

Temitayo Olatunde: I read headlines on blogs and verify the contents on E-version of Nigerian newspapers.

ERIKANMI PETER: Good, Sir. In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Temitayo Olatunde: I have no idea because social media plays vital role in spreading fake news.

ERIKANMI PETER: And lastly, do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Temitayo Olatunde: No idea for now.

ERIKANMI PETER: Thank you for granting the interview despite your tight schedule, Sir.

AN INTERVIEW SESSION WITH MRS. DUROJAIYE OLAIDE

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Good day ma, I am Luqman Alawode from Nigeria, the initiator of "War against Fake News". Can I meet you?

Durojaiye Olaide: Good day, my name is Durojaiye Olaide (Mrs) from Ibadan, Nigeria.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: You are welcome, Ma'am. My team is conducting a research on the effect of fake news and its spread especially on social media. I will like to ask you few questions in relation to this. Can I go ahead?

Durojaiye Olaide: Of course, you can.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Are you a social media user, what is your favourite social media platform?

Durojaiye Olaide: Yes, I am. I use WhatsApp mostly.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Durojaiye Olaide: Let's say 2 to 3 hours on weekdays and 3 to 4 hours on weekends and sometimes, it may not be up to that, it all depends on my schedule.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Good. What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Durojaiye Olaide: Social media.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Durojaiye Olaide: Hmm, I can't really say. I can't think of any right now.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Can you think of probably any news that you read online thinking it was genuine only to discover later that it was not real?

Durojaiye Olaide: I can't think of any right now. Let's just say I'm not really a news

freak. I got most news from my husband.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: That's a good source.

Durojaiye Olaide: I can only remember seeing job adverts online thinking it was genuine, sometimes I would have applied for some before knowing it was not real.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Durojaiye Olaide: I don't do all this copy and paste people do. I mostly copy and paste devotionals.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: What is your perception of fake news?

Durojaiye Olaide: Well, I think fake news is unverified and non-authentic news. It's normally generated from a non-reliable source and thereby misleading people concerning a situation or an issue.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Durojaiye Olaide: In Nigeria of today, it's not; it's always a free world.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Durojaiye Olaide: By orientating people to always verify news before sharing. Knowing the real source where the news is coming from. People should not always be in a hurry to copy and paste news.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on "War against Fake News"?

Durojaiye Olaide: Yes, you can.

LUQMAN ALAWODE: On a last note, Ma'am, what advice can you give social media users?

Durojaiye Olaide: Social media users should use it wisely and for good purposes. Not for flaunting of fake life and fake news. Not for fraud as well. And lastly not for misleading people

LUQMAN ALAWODE: Thank you for granting this interview.

AN INTERVIEW REPORT WITH MISS ADEDOYIN MIRACLE JULIANAH

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Good day, Ma. I am AJILEYE OLAOYE M. a member of media team conducting interview on the effect of fake news. Can I meet you Ma?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: I'm Adedoyin Miracle Julianah.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Are you a social media user and what is your favourite social media platform?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: Yes, I am. It is WhatsApp.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: 2 hours.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: Social media.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: How do you usually react to news you read online, Ma?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: No reaction.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: No.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: I don't share.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Can you recognize news when they are fake or genuine?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: Once it's through social media, I don't care if it's genuine or fake but I do not regard social media news to be genuine.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Why do you think people spread fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: Probably they get it from somewhere too.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: What is your perception of fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: This is Nigeria where everybody is a criminal, a country where there are no rules, a country, whereby the truth is termed lie and lies are termed true. Nigeria is a country whereby everybody does what she/he likes; our leaders don't do what they preach. So, the carriers of fake news are doing what they like. I don't blame them.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: In Nigeria, it is not.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think fake news have effect on people and government?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: For people it may but government I don't think so.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you read from blogs and how do you react to blogs?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: I don't read blogs.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: Our government should be open/plain to us so people won't be going about with fake news again.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Do you think government has a role to play in reducing the spread of fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: They are the main character.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, what advice can you give to social media users on the spread of fake news?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: They should try to make sure to confirm any news before spreading it.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Ma, can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on *War against Fake News*?

Adedoyin Miracle J.: It's a free world. You have my permission, Sir.

AJILEYE OLAOYE M.: Thank you for granting the interview. We really appreciate the time given, Ma.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MRS. A. SELVASIVAGAMI B. Sc., MATHS (TEACHER), (St. JOSEPH'S GIRLS HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL, SALEM-5) ON HER OPINION ON FAKE NEWS

DR. PREETHA: Good afternoon, Mrs. Selvasivagami. I am Dr. Preetha from India, the initiator of War against Fake News. My team is conducting a research on the effect of fake news and its spread especially on social media. In this regard can I have a brief interview with you?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Pleasant day madam, I'm A. Selvasivagami from Salem.

DR. PREETHA: Happy to have a short talk with you. I will like to ask you few questions in relation to this. Can I go ahead?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Of course, Ma'am, it's my pleasure to take part.

DR. PREETHA: Are you a social media user, what is your favourite social media platform?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Yes, I'm a social media user. I use WhatsApp and Facebook.

DR. PREETHA: On an average, how long do you stay online every day?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: I would say 2 to 4 hours a day and sometimes when I am free, I might be a little longer too.

DR. PREETHA: That's nice Selvasivagami. What is your major news source, is it the conventional media or social media?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: I do watch news on Television but I do read and watch from social media like, YouTube, as well.

DR. PREETHA: Have you ever been fooled by fake news?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Yes, most of the times! During my initial stages of using Social media.

DR. PREETHA: Can you think of probably any news that you read online thinking it was genuine only to discover later that it was not real?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Yes, I have a doubt in the data shown about the Covid-19 and feel allergy and panic when the data is being shown.

DR. PREETHA: Oh! Yes. I do even experience the same Do you share information (news) that you receive online and if you do, do you normally cross-check the news before copying and pasting on another person's page?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: No, I'm not interested in sharing such news to my contacts.

DR. PREETHA: What is your perception of fake news?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Well, I think fake news has become a vital part of social media. I just neglect usually. Sometimes it irritates. But what to do?

DR. PREETHA: Do you think that spreading of fake news is abuse of freedom of speech?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Yes, I do agree.... Fake news will pollute the society and waste people's time.

DR. PREETHA: In your opinion, what do you think can be done to eradicate the spread of fake news?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: I think the fake news uploaders should be found out using cybercrime and could ban their IDs, etc.,

DR. PREETHA: Can we publish your opinion online in our global anthology on War against Fake News?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Yes, I would feel that I have done my part to eradicate such incidents in future.

DR. PREETHA: Last but not the least, what advice can you give to social media users?

Mrs. Selvasivagami: Social media is a platform for every citizen. And, it's a duty of every citizen of our nation to ask the people not to take whatever read or received as it is 100%. We should not ourselves create the rumors. We may become the agents of fake news if we neglect without social responsibility.