Fake News

Fake News is false information about a person, a group of people, or a situation that is spread in order to gain popularity and to influence events. Fake News spreads so easily today because anyone with a computer and access to the internet can create a website with false information using catchy titles. Also, almost anyone who has access to social media and spends time on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram can spread fake news. Fake News is a serious problem.

First of all, fabricated information can influence elections by creating false beliefs that make people not trust a candidate that is running for office. For example, during the last U.S. election, misinformation was spread about Hillary Clinton. “In fact, some political analysts say fake news stories on social media might have helped to tip the election to Donald Trump.” (Fake News Fooling Millions) One site claimed that “Hillary Clinton was selling weapons to ISIS.” (6). Second, fake news can increase international tensions or even contribute to conflicts. Fake news can potentially contribute to international conflicts when people believe posted information or comments that people took from fake news. It can turn them against other people. Also, if the fake news gets a lot of views, it makes it seem credible. “In October, another site peddling bogus news, The Free Thought Project, got more than 28,000 people on Facebook to share its
claim that U.S. Marines were heading to Europe to battle Russia." (6) Finally, Fake News negatively affects teenagers from middle school to high school and gives them a distorted sense of reality. “More than 80 percent of middle school students couldn’t distinguish between legitimate news, according to a recent Stanford University study. In the same study, 40 percent of high school students believed a news story they were shown was real simply because a photo accompanied.” (How To Spot Fake News) This shows that many young people believe fake news and find it credible and convincing.

Distinguishing between fake and legitimate news is not always easy, but there are some strategies that help to determinate if a source is real or not. If the information is real, it should be on more than one website. It is also important to check if the information is up-date. In addition, we can look for links that prove the author’s point and we can find out if the links work. Also, we need to examine whether the source is a well known publication, for example, a newspaper that has existed for a long time and has a wide readership. Such sources might include The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and Time Magazine, but there are many others, too.

In conclusion, Fake News is a big problem that needs to be addressed. Also, fake news can create problems that affect us in many ways. It can affect elections, contribute to international conflict, and makes it hard for teenagers to distinguish reality from fake news. Fortunately, there are helpful strategies to identify misinformation such as using a fact checking site such as Factcheck.org.
Personal Reflection

I completed this project in my ESL English III class. The name of this project is Fake news. First I defined what fake news is. Next, I analyzed online articles using the information I read in the text. Finally I typed it up. I had difficulty answering the questions and it was a long process to complete this essay. This new information will help me in real life because I realize that many people in this world are affected by fake news.

Class Reflection

In my English III class we learned about Fake News and then I had to write an essay about this topic. First, we went to the library and Mrs. Blais showed us a website that said Michelle Obama was a man. With the help of a list of questions we had to decide if the article was real news or fake. Then we examined six more articles for their legitimacy.

This project shows my proficiency in communication, specifically the District Academic Expectations for Student Learning for Informational Writing. It also shows my proficiency in Common Core Standard W.11-12.2. I had to read an article about fake news and then I had to select, analyze, and organize the information. To attain this proficiency, I had to give three reasons why fake news is a problem and then I had to explain the reasons and provide evidence from the article. This project relates to the real world because we encounter fake news on the internet and on social media sites and we need to be able to distinguish what is real and what is not. If we do not know how to distinguish between real and fake news, we can form opinions that are based on misinformation. Overall, I learned that fake news is a serious problem in our society and that not everything you read or that is posted on the internet is true.
Distinguishing between fake and legitimate news is not always easy, but here are some strategies that help to determine if a source is real or not. First of all, check if the article includes links to other websites for more information. Also, make sure the author gives you his/her email address or other contact information. Finally, notice if the pictures go along with the article and if they are helpful.

In conclusion, fake news is a major issue we have in our modern world and can lead to big misconceptions. It can influence elections, destroy a person's reputation, and can cause international conflicts. People spread fake news to make money and potentially influence public opinion. But there are certain strategies to find out if a website is fake or not such as checking if the links of a website work.

Reflection

I learned that sometimes people need to double check their newsfeed and make sure that it's true. If people have trouble knowing whether the news they seeing is true or fake, it can harm our society and cause major damage. I learned that it is not always easy to identify if a website or news is true or fake. Also, I have learned certain strategies to determine if a website is fake or not. First of all, check if the article includes links to other websites for more information. Also, make sure the author gives you his/her email address or other contact information. Finally, notice if the pictures go along with the article and if they are helpful.
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I learned about fake news that it is misinformation and intentionally false news that spreads to people and makes them believe it. Fake news has now become a serious problem for our society. We should take a look at it because it can cause international conflict, destroy someone’s reputation, and it can also influence elections. The other fact is that we don’t know
what kind of news is fake or not because it's complicated to identify and we often believe it and continue to share the news.

The Fake News unit relates to the real world because people are sharing the articles to each other and believe the news. But fake news are invented stories that someone made it up and once they are spread, they are believed by many people. Fake news has caused many problems in our society. When there's a problem, we need a solution to it.