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Fake News and Media Literacy

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<div align="center">300 Word Statement:</div>

Everyday, we read, hear or watch stories reported by newscasters about what is happening in our society and around the world. It is the best way to stay informed about issues that are happening, why they are happening and where it is taking place. Media literacy is an important factor when trying to identify and interpret the information being shared. Different individuals listening to the same information might have their own unique interpretations, therefore media literacy helps us to gauge and analyze the information that we receive. Media literacy encourages us to think critically and make sense of what we are reading, hearing or seeing and since people can and may have their own interpretations, being media literate lets us view information objectively.

To gain a better understanding and help determine what is real or fake media, I designed an infographic on the concept of the 8 Trust Indicators. According to The Trust Project site, they state that the 8 trust indicators are; expertise, labels, references, local, diversity, actionable feedback, methods,and best practices. After learning about these 8 trust indicators in class, it became clear to me that in order for news to be considered real, they must hit these 8 criterias. I focused on making my media literacy tool simple yet educational, and that is how I came up with the idea for the Indicator Tree.

From the roots to the trunk all the way up to the branches, the tree represents that everything working together makes a strong foundation. As I apply that concept to my Indicator

Tree, being able to follow the 8 trust indicators can help determine if what is being shared has a strong foundation to stand on and if the source is credible.

I believe that my literacy tool would help people recognize important concepts in the text. By using the Indicator Tree and answering the questions of the 8 trust indicators, you will be able to analyze the source and content. For instance, real news makes sure that the authors are 100% real. After testing out my product on a news source, I know my author was a real person, and has worked on multiple articles that have been published, therefore making him a credible source. This artifact can help people review and assess the information that they are given. The Indicator Tree gives them a clear understanding of what they need to look for and questions they can ask. If they are unable to find the information to prove what they are reading, hearing or watching is reliable, the details are more than likely non-credible.

I think that, "The Trust Project", is a great tool to gain a deeper insight into the 8 trust indicators because they go in depth on what you should be looking for. For instance, when you look into the indicator, expertise, they sometimes have a hyperlink to the name of the writer, the article, where they work and a biography of the individual. These tools can give you the confidence that what you are being told is accurate. Since knowledge is power it only makes sense that what is being communicated through the media be informative, true and accurate.

Bibliography:

#Trustedjournalism trust indicators. (2021, February 08). Retrieved February 12, 2021, from

    https://thetrustproject.org/trusted-journalism/