

MISINFORMATION: A BIBLIOGRAPHY

October 17, 2023



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This bibliography was created by the Lakewood Public Library for distribution on the October 17, 2023, at *Dealing With Disinformation in a Democracy*, a program presented by the Cleveland Chapter of the League of Women Voters and the Lakewood Public Library.

The Lakewood Public Library is solely responsible for the contents of this document.

This document is in no way a comprehensive bibliography of available resources addressing disinformation and misinformation, nor is it a list of recommended reading. Rather, this bibliography is a survey of just some of the resources available.



Killer Underwear Invasion!: How to Spot Fake News, Disinformation & Conspiracy Theories

by Elise Gravel (Chronicle Books, 2022)

For ages eight to twelve. “A humorous, creative take on learning how the media can generate fake news and how to decipher the real from the unreal. This informational graphic work is a must read for students and educators.” — *School Library Journal*



The Nantucket Sea Monster: A Fake News Story

by Darcy Pattison, author, and Peter Willis, illustrator (Mims House, 2017)

For ages six to twelve. A Junior Library Guild Selection. “This title discusses the issue of fake news in an age-appropriate way while avoiding politics; most useful in a classroom setting.”

— Judy Poyer, Anne Arundel County Public Library



Can You Believe It?: How to Spot Fake News and Find the Facts

by Joyce Grant, author, and Kathleen Marcotte, illustrator (Kids Can Press, 2022)

For ages nine to twelve. “This is an excellent introduction to media literacy for young readers who are bombarded with information daily.”

— *Youth Services Book Review*, Starred Review



The Bees Who Conquered Fake News With The Power Of The Truth: A Story to Help Children Understand the Damage that Fake News Can Do

by Nacho Valle García and Marysia Wiarciejka (Garcia Graphic, 2020)

For ages six to twelve. One book in a collection of six that can help start a conversation with children so they can enjoy the digital world while avoiding its dangers, including fake news, bullying, viral challenges and excessive screen time.

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS



What Is Propaganda?: Fake News

by Matt Doeden (Searchlight Books, 2019)

For ages eight to eleven. This book introduces young readers to the concept of propaganda by analyzing examples from the past and present, with tips on how to spot propaganda and how to respond to fake news.



What's the Issue?: Fake News

by Tom Jackson, author, and Cristina Guitian, illustrator (Words and Pictures, 2020)

For ages nine to twelve. This book discusses the concept of fake news and the media as a whole, and reviews what is at stake when we think about fake news, with the aim of helping young people to understand this difficult subject and provide them with the tools to inform their own opinions.

“Essential.” — *Midwest Book Review*



The Fake News Phenomenon

by Duchess Harris (News Literacy, 2018)

For ages eight to twelve. “The detailed discussions on fake news and its predecessors—yellow journalism and propaganda—are timely and will be of great use to educators and students alike.”

— *School Library Journal*



Fake News: Can You Sort the Truth From the Lies?

by Clive Gifford, author, and Chris Dickason, illustrator (HarperCollins, 2020)

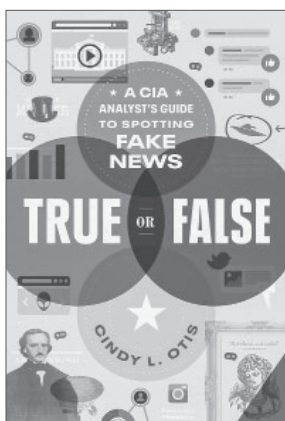
For ages six to nine. This book has young readers sort facts from fiction and invites them to challenge their friends, parents, grandparents and teachers to see if they know the true stories behind some of the world's most enduring fake facts and strangest hoaxes.



Fake News in Focus

by Alex Gatling (Focus on Media Bias, 2021)

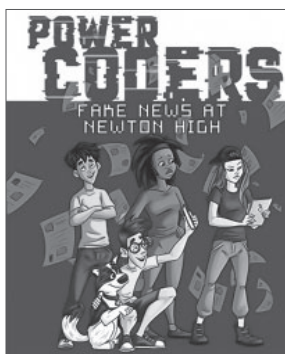
For ages ten to fourteen. “A good resource teachers and parents can use to start a discussion on media coverage and misinformation.” — Library Journal



True or False: A CIA Analyst's Guide to Spotting Fake News

by Cindy L. Otis (Fiewel and Friends, 2022)

For ages thirteen to eighteen. “A necessary and engaging resource that should be required reading for all high school students. ...The book’s droll tone and quick pace will thoroughly engage even those who dislike nonfiction; all readers will be empowered with a more critical eye when browsing their news feeds.” — *School Library Journal*, Starred Review



Fake News at Newton High: Power Coders

by Amanda Vink, author, and Joel Gennari, illustrator (Rosen Publishing Group, 2020)

For ages ten to thirteen. An engaging, fun and informative novel for young readers about Grace, the copyeditor of her school’s online newspaper. When a student submits an article about Coach Jenkins and his star running back Henry Lewis, Grace can tell that something is not right about the facts. She enlists the help of her fellow editors to fact-check sources and reverse search photographs in the article. Thanks to their tech savvy, fake news doesn’t stand a chance at Newton High.



Fake News: Rosen Verified Current Issues

by Jill Keppeler (Rosen Young Adult, 2020)

For ages twelve to seventeen. As the cry of “fake news” is used for both false sources and facts that people dislike, it has become more difficult to know what and whom to trust. With this informative book, young readers will learn what clues and signs to watch for when reading, watching, or listening to news media, and when accessing social media.

RESOURCES FOR CHILDREN AND TEENS

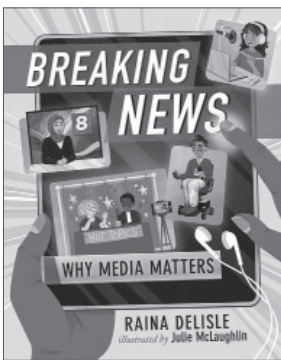


What the Fact?: Finding the Truth in All the Noise

by Seema Yasmin (Simmon & Schuster, 2022)

For ages twelve and up. “Educators will applaud a book that helps navigate an already overwhelming problem and curious teens will be rewarded with helpful tips for media consumption. It’s a book every library and classroom should have.”

— *School Library Journal*

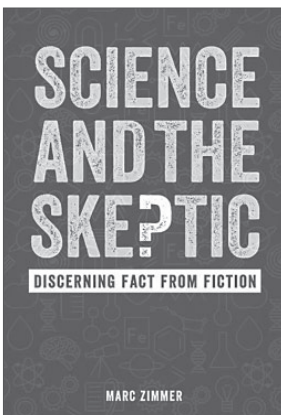


Breaking News: Why Media Matters

by Raina Delisle, author, and Julie McLaughlin, illustrator (Orca Book Publishers, 2023)

For ages nine to twelve. A book that helps children become critical news consumers and teaches them how to tell fact from fiction. It explores the history of the media industry, the important roles the news plays today and the challenges it faces, and it gives kids the tools they need to find the news they can use.

“Easily digestible content. This helpful guide is well suited for journalism lessons and will foster a necessary understanding of the power of information and news as well as how to responsibly engage with it.” — *Booklist*



Science and the Skeptic: Discerning Fact from Fiction

by Marc Zimmer (Twenty-First Century Books, 2022)

For ages thirteen to eighteen. “Interwoven in the book’s fast-paced and accessible narrative are special highlighted sections on timely scientific controversies, including COVID, climate change, anti-vax protesters, and GMO foods. This slim but rich book on approaching science news with healthy skepticism would be an excellent and welcome addition to junior high or high school nonfiction collections.”

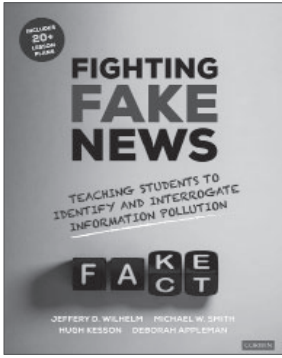
— *School Library Journal*, Starred Review



Information Literacy and Fake News: Facts Matter

by Diane Dakers (Crabtree Publishing Company, 2018)

For ages eleven to fourteen. In this age of fast-paced social media, news and views are shared throughout the world in seconds. This timely title critically examines the elements of journalism, truth and perspective, sources of news, as well as bias and objectivity to help young readers make informed choices about the accuracy of news and information. Teacher’s guide is available.



Fighting Fake News: Teaching Students to Identify and Interrogate Information Pollution

by Jeffrey D. Wilhelm, Michael W. Smith,
Hugh Kesson and Deborah Appleman (Corwin, 2023)

Students often click, swipe, and believe because they don't know how to do otherwise. This book helps educators to model how to read, myth-bust, truth-test, and respond in ways that lead to wisdom rather than reactivity.

"If I were in charge of the world, every school would have a required media studies course, and every faculty would do a book study around *Fighting Fake News*. This book is an essential tool in helping students to be more consciously aware, reflective, and rational about the waves of news and other forms of "angertainment." — Kelly Gallagher



Why Learn History (When It's Already on Your Phone)

by Sam Wineburg (The University of Chicago Press, 2018)

This helpful book is about the importance of teaching students how to compare the vast, often misleading landscape of digital information against a reliable information base, and, more importantly, how to think critically about the media they consume. A compelling argument is made for learning history the old-fashioned way, including reading books, especially since relying blindly on information available in the digital sphere is a recipe for deception.

"Wineburg writes in an engaging, dynamic way that helps the reader wade through significant research and data points to arrive at the important conclusion that studying history through a critical lens can help students become more aware of dangerous systems, falsehoods, and ideologies alive in the world around them. Teachers who read Wineburg's book will have a better path towards helping students face today's challenges." — National Council for History Education

Center for Digital Literacy

All published by the Center for Digital Literacy, these three titles form a trilogy that covers the theory, practice and implementation necessary for introducing media literacy into classrooms, from pre-kindergarten to twelfth grade.

Based on the work of media literacy scholars and teachers, these publications provide educators the resources (including curricula, lesson plans and integrated activities) needed to help students gain the critical thinking needed to live fully, safely and responsibly in the 21st century media culture.



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Five Key Questions That Can Change the World

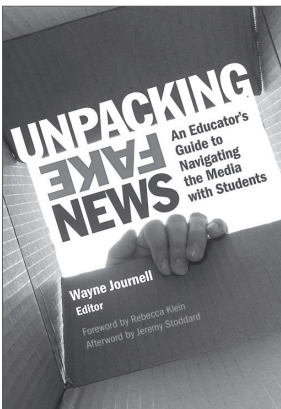
by Elizabeth Thoman and Tessa Jolls (2003)

Literacy for the 21st Century: An Orientation Guide to Media Literacy

by Elizabeth Thoman and Tessa Jolls (2005)

Media Literacy Works!: A Case Study in Elementary Media Literacy and the Arts

by Tessa Jolls and Denise Goodman (2005)

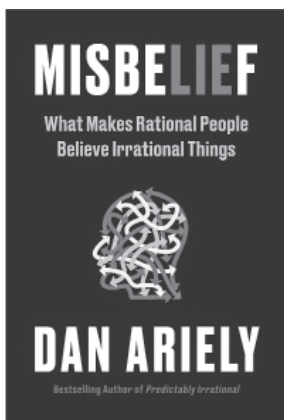


Unpacking Fake News: An Educator's Guide to Navigating the Media with Students

by Wayne Journell, editor, and Jeremy Stoddard and Rebecca Klein (Teachers College Press, 2019)

“While ‘fake news’ is not new and often not really news, this engaging collection of insightful essays makes the case quite clearly that its impact on democracy is likely more serious now than it has been in the past. One of the notable strengths of this book is its emphasis on concrete approaches to help students develop the critical eye and specific skills needed to protect themselves and the larger democracy from the insidious influence of fake news.”

— Diana Hess, Dean of the School of Education,
University of Wisconsin–Madison

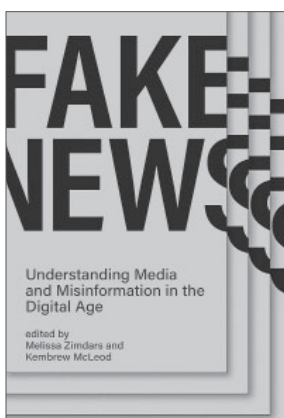


Misbelief: What Makes Rational People Believe Irrational Things

by Dan Ariely (HarperCollins, 2023)

Preeminent social scientist Dan Ariely argues that to understand the irrational appeal of misinformation, we must first understand the behavior of “misbelief”—the psychological and social journey that leads people to mistrust accepted truths, entertain alternative facts, and even embrace full-blown conspiracy theories. Misinformation, it turns out, appeals to something innate in all of us—on the right and the left—and it is only by understanding this psychology that we can blunt its effects.

“A rigorous but also deeply compassionate book: Ariely’s goal isn’t to condemn people who fall for misinformation, but to show the reader how easy it is to believe the irrational. The book asks us to foreground empathy to reexamine some of our own beliefs.” — *Booklist*

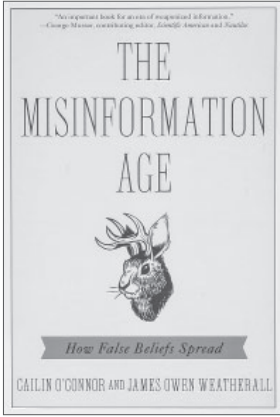


Fake News: Understanding Media and Misinformation in the Digital Age

by Melissa Zimdars and Kembrew McLeod, editors (The MIT Press, 2020)

This book examines the real fake news: the constant flow of purposefully crafted, sensational, emotionally charged, misleading or totally fabricated information that mimics the form of mainstream news. Rather than viewing fake news through a single lens, the book’s contributors map the various kinds of misinformation through several different disciplinary perspectives, taking into account the overlapping contexts of politics, technology, and journalism. Also, the contributors consider possible solutions to the complex problem of fake news—ways to mitigate its spread, to teach students to find factually accurate information, and to go beyond fact-checking.

“McIntyre’s book is perhaps the most thoughtful of the post-truth set. He argues persuasively that our methods of ascertaining truth—not just the facts themselves—are under attack, and that this assault is especially dangerous.” — *Washington Post*

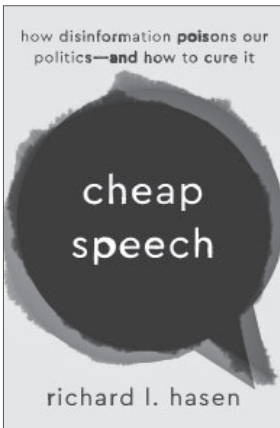


***The Misinformation Age:
How False Beliefs Spread***

by Cailin O'Connor and James Owen Weatherall
(Yale University Press, 2020)

Philosophers of science Cailin O'Connor and James Weatherall argue that social factors, rather than individual psychology, are what's essential to understanding the spread and persistence of false beliefs. This book, written for a political era riven by fake news, alternative facts, and disputes over the validity of everything from climate change to the size of inauguration crowds, shows convincingly that what you believe depends on who you know.

"Empowering and thoroughly researched, this book offers useful contemporary analysis and possible solutions to one of the greatest threats to democracy."
— *Kirkus Reviews*

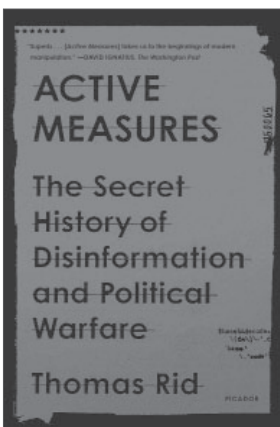


***Cheap Speech: How Disinformation
Poisons Our Politics—and How to Cure It***

by Richard L. Hasen (Yale University Press, 2022)

An informed and practical road map for controlling disinformation, embracing free speech, saving American elections, and protecting democracy.

"Hasen puts forth a number of solid recommendations on how to combat disinformation."
— *New York Times*

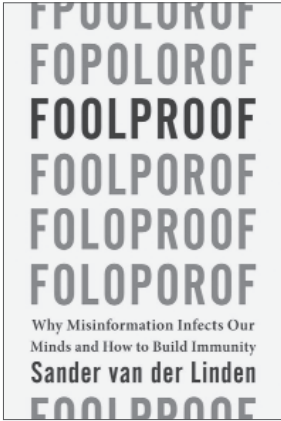


***Active Measures: The Secret History of
Disinformation and Political Warfare***

by Thomas Rid (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2021)

We live in the age of disinformation—of organized deception. This book takes the reader on a guided tour deep into a vast hall of mirrors old and new, pointing to a future of engineered polarization, more active and less measured—but also offering the tools to cut through the deception.

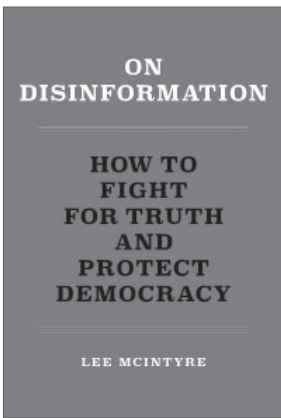
"A comprehensive and disturbing tour of the changing shape of disinformation over the last century."
— *Christian Science Monitor*



Foolproof: Why Misinformation Infects Our Minds and How to Build Immunity

by Sander van der Linden (W. W. Norton & Company, 2023)

“Misinformation and disinformation have caused a worldwide infodemic, potentially crumbling democracies and eroding our fundamental trust in one another. This outstanding and easy-to-read summary of the science, offered by the foremost scientific authority on the subject, is essential reading for us all.” — American Psychological Association



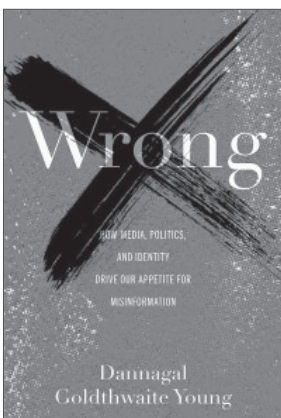
On Disinformation: How to Fight for Truth and Protect Democracy

by Lee McIntyre (The MIT Press, 2023)

A powerful, pocket-sized citizen's guide on how to fight back against the disinformation campaigns that are imperiling American democracy.

“In post-truth America, reality isn't dying by accident or suicide; it's being poisoned on purpose. Lee McIntyre—a philosopher of knowledge as well as a student of disinformation—names the culprits and exposes their methods. Even more important, he shows how to foil the crime. *On Disinformation* is the brisk, bracing primer that everyone should read on how to make America truthful again.”

— Jonathan Rauch, Brookings Institution



Wrong: How Media, Politics, and Identity Drive Our Appetite for Misinformation

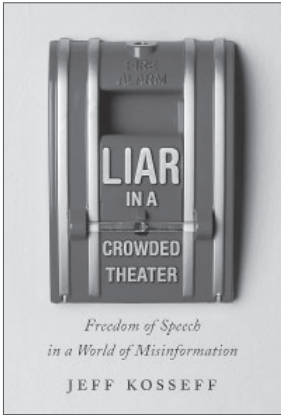
by Dannagal Goldthwaite Young (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023)

An engaging look at how American politics and media reinforce partisan identity and threaten democracy.

“Powerful, distinctive, and utterly compelling, *Wrong* argues that the way we satisfy our needs for comprehension, control, and community is shaped by our social identities, which are at the core of both the supply and demand for misinformation. Because politicians and the media know this fact, they behave strategically in order to structure politics through this perspective. This book is sorely needed, and Dannagal G. Young's argument is truly central to our understanding of today's misinformation problem.”

— Jaime Settle, College of William & Mary, author of *Frenemies: How Social Media Polarizes America*

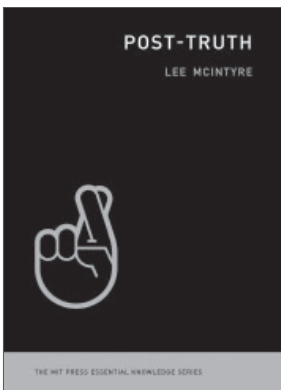
RESOURCES FOR ADULTS



Liar in a Crowded Theater: Freedom of Speech in a World of Misinformation

by Jeff Kosseff
(Johns Hopkins University Press, 2023)

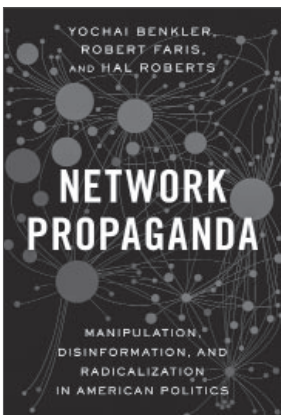
How do governments around the world respond to the spread of misinformation, and when should the government protect the free speech of liars? Law professor Jeff Kosseff addresses the pervasiveness of lies, the legal protections they enjoy, the harm they cause, and how to combat them. This book explores both the history of protected falsehoods and where to go from here.



Post-Truth

by Lee McIntyre (The MIT Press, 2018)

Are we living in a post-truth world, where “alternative facts” replace actual facts and feelings have more weight than evidence? This book traces the development of the post-truth phenomenon from science denial through the rise of fake news, from our psychological blind spots to the public’s retreat into information silos. McIntyre argues that we can fight post-truth, and that the first step in fighting it is to understand it.



Network Propaganda: Manipulation, Disinformation and Radicalization in American Politics

by Hal Roberts, Robert Faris, Yochai Benkler, Harold Roberts (Oxford University Press, 2018)

The authors argue that longstanding institutional, political, and cultural patterns in American politics interacted with technological change since the 1970s to create a propaganda feedback loop in conservative American media. This book offers a new perspective and methods for diagnosing the sources of, and potential solutions for, the perceived global crisis of democratic politics. Note that readers may likely find this work highly partisan.

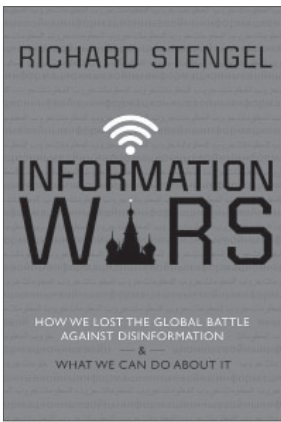
“There are a lot of books on networks, social media, propaganda, polarization and American politics. This is the best.” — *Bloomberg*



Breaking the News: Exposing the Establishment Media's Hidden Deals and Secret Corruption

by Alex Marlow (Simon and Schuster, 2021)

Written by Alex Marlow, editor in chief of *Breitbart News*, this book offers the argument that the establishment media became weaponized against Donald Trump and his supporters on behalf of the political left. *Breitbart News* began banging the drum about “fake news” during the 2016 election, and it resonated with millions of voters. And it still does to this day. Note that readers may likely find this work highly partisan.

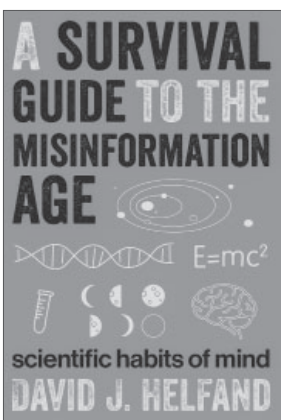


Information Wars: How We Lost the Global Battle Against Disinformation and What We Can Do About It

by Richard Stengel (Atlantic Monthly Press, 2019)

“With the eye of a historian and the passion of a man in the arena, Richard Stengel has given us a compelling and illuminating memoir of his time at the highest levels in the fight against disinformation and for American values. Richly observed and thoughtfully rendered, Stengel’s book is essential reading.”
— Jon Meacham

“*Information Wars* is a gripping insider account of the U.S. government’s struggle to understand and fight back against a new generation of online threats from extremist messaging and Russian disinformation. As a celebrated journalist who moved into the frontlines of this fight, Richard Stengel sheds new light on how bad actors leverage technology to undermine trust, and helps us better understand what must be done to protect our democracy.” — Madeleine K. Albright

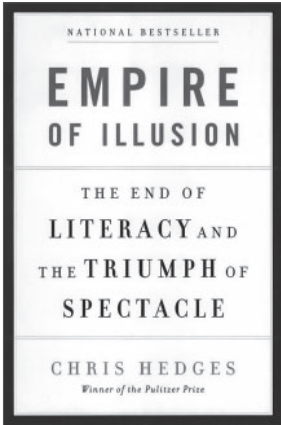


A Survival Guide to the Misinformation Age: Scientific Habits of Mind

by David Helfand (Columbia University Press, 2017)

David Helfand, one of our nation’s leading astronomers and science educators, has taught scientific habits of mind to generations in the classroom, where he continues to wage a provocative battle against sloppy thinking and the encroachment of misinformation.

“A must–read for anyone presuming to call themselves a scientist and a should–read for anyone just trying to make sense of the overwhelming volume of data and real and concocted ‘proofs’ of nearly everything that spews forth from the Internet on demand. This book provides a road map for teaching students how to both celebrate science and how to view their primary source of information with skepticism and caution. Every science teacher should read this book.” — John Ziegler, *NSTA Recommends*

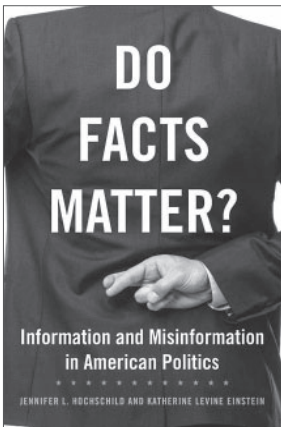


***Empire of Illusion:
The End of Literacy and the
Triumph of Spectacle***

by Chris Hedges (Nation Books, 2010)

A prescient book by Chris Hedges, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist that forecast the culture that gave rise to misinformation—a society beholden to empty spectacle and obsession with image at the expense of reality, reason, and truth. An instant bestseller, this title is a striking and unsettling exploration of illusion and fantasy in contemporary American culture.

“Thoroughly documented and written in a measured but take-no-prisoners tone.... It’s bound to stir up its share of interest-generating controversy.” — *Booklist*



***Do Facts Matter?:
Information and Misinformation
in American Politics***

by Jennifer L. Hochschild and Katherine Levine Einstein (University of Oklahoma Press, 2016)

A democracy falters when most of its citizens are uninformed or misinformed, when misinformation affects political decisions and actions, or when political actors foment misinformation—the state of affairs the United States faces today, as this timely book makes painfully clear. In *Do Facts Matter?* Jennifer L. Hochschild and Katherine Levine Einstein start with Thomas Jefferson’s ideal citizen, who knows and uses correct information to make policy or political choices. What, then, the authors ask, are the consequences if citizens are informed but do not act on their knowledge? More serious, what if they do act, but on incorrect information?

“Jennifer Hochschild and Katherine Einstein have tackled an under examined but extremely important subject and with good analysis show that a certain degree of cognitive grasp is needed for a voter-based political system to survive and flourish.”

— David R. Mayhew, Yale University



5 Ways For Seniors To Protect Themselves From Online Misinformation

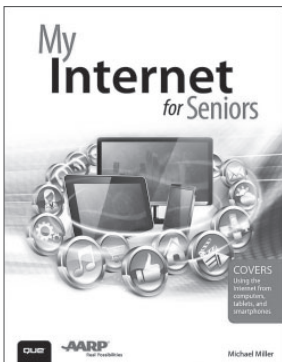
by Amy Yee (NPR, 2021)



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Online misinformation is a serious threat, from fake cures for COVID-19 to false information on voting eligibility. Seniors are especially at risk. People over 65 were more likely to share false or misleading content on Facebook during the 2016 presidential campaign, according to one study from researchers at Princeton and New York University. Older adults were also exposed to more misinformation on Twitter during that election. This helpful article offer seniors and their loved one practical tips in detecting disinformation and misinformation.

Available online at www.npr.org/2021/06/12/1002908327/5-ways-for-seniors-to-protect-themselves-from-online-misinformation



My Internet for Seniors

by Michael Miller (Que Publishing, 2016)

Reviewed and endorsed by AARP, this book helps seniors quickly and easily, and safely and securely get online and start using everything the Internet has to offer. Includes step-by-step tasks, large text, close-up screen shots, and a clear discussion of the dangers to avoid in the digital world.



The Ultimate Internet Safety Guide for Seniors

by Katarina Glamosljija (Safety Detectives, 2023)

While not limited in scope to senior citizens and the serious dangers of misinformation, this well written and easy to understand article offers a very useful checklist to navigate safely in an increasingly digital world. A perfect starting place for those wanting to discuss with a senior citizen the hazards of misinformation and manipulation.



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Available online at www.safetydetectives.com/blog/the-ultimate-internet-safety-guide-for-seniors.



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