



girlsecurity.

CAN YOU SPOT A FAKE?



#DEFENDURREALITY

Don't let your words be manipulated.

Don't let your voice be silenced.



@GirlSecurity_ sc: girlsecsnap

www.girlsecurity.org/disinfo

WHAT IS DISINFORMATION?

"Disinformation" is information that is intentionally misleading or false, unlike "misinformation" which is unintentionally misleading or false. For girls, disinformation is most commonly seen on social media platforms.

HOW CAN YOU DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST DISINFORMATION?

1. **Gather Trusted Sources.** As you read information online or research information for a school project or paper, begin to build a base of trusted sources, those people or sites you trust for legitimate analysis and information. Also, ask others you trust to share the names of experts, authors, and sources for information.
2. **Check the Date.** Some times bad actors will repost old information, often to create confusion or panic. Make sure the information you are reading is current (*after* you have vetted the sources to ensure they are real, reliable, and trusted).
3. **Know Your Social Media DNA.** Social media companies show us the information we want to see based on information we have sought. Change it up. Read opposing view points. Your social media DNA will begin to provide more information for you to think critically.
4. **Think Before You Share.** Defending your reality means that you are in control of the information you see and share. If you read something sensational, something that doesn't feel real, **vet it, don't spread it, and tag it #defendurreality.**

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HOW CAN YOU DEFEND YOURSELF AGAINST DISINFORMATION?

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- **Think Before You Link.** Disinformation is often designed to make you feel angry or shocked. Consider your motivation for sharing a post or link: to reinforce anger or provide new information to improve a conversation?
 - **Talk to Your Friends About Disinformation.** In addition to reporting, talking about disinformation with your friends is helpful. Odds are they saw or shared the same information.
 - **Actions Speak Louder Than Words?** If a post is asking you to do something, whether repost, or share with friends, or participate in an event, check the source, talk to a trusted friend about the information, and check with a parent or caregiver.
 - **Do not engage with accounts or individuals who post disinformation.** Report the post and/or block the account for personal security.
 - **If you think you spot disinformation, tag it!**

#defendurreality



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