DOES THE MEDIA NEED FIXING?

STEVE HERMAN (WHITE HOUSE BUREAU CHIEF, VOA)
Steve Herman is VOA's White House Bureau Chief. The veteran journalist spent 26 years in Asia, including reporting from Tokyo and subsequently as a VOA correspondent and bureau chief in India, Korea and Thailand. He also served as VOA's Senior Diplomatic Correspondent, based out of the State Department.


Steve was elected for five consecutive years to serve as Chairman of The Foreign Press in Japan (FPIJ) after completing a one-year term as President of the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan (FCCJ). He also served a one-year term as President of the Seoul Foreign Correspondents' Club and is currently a Governor of the Overseas Press Club of America.

Follow Steve on Twitter at @W7VOA
“MEDIA” — WHAT DOES THAT WORD NOW MEAN?

- MSM (MAINSTREAM MEDIA)
- PARTISAN MEDIA
  - THE “LIBERAL BIAS”
  - EMERGENCE OF THE ALT RIGHT
- FOREIGN ACTORS
LIBERAL

Americans Against the Tea Party
3 hours ago
Do you think Trump should be impeached?

JUST IN: Unanimous Resolution Passed Calling... As Congress celebrated their narrow passage o...
BIPARTISANREPORT.COM | BY LIZ LEE. SO...

2.4K 374 265

Mother Jones
3 hours ago
I love this country. We all love this country. That's why it's so hard to read this shit.

Donald Trump is forcing Central American refu...
Brutal gangs and incompetent governments are dri...
MOTHERJONES.COM

138 54 154

CONSERVATIVE

Right Wing News
6 hours ago
HYPOCRITE...

Ellen DeGeneres Just BANNED President Trum...
RIGHTWINGNEWS.COM

211 809 148

The Federalist Papers
9 hours ago
When she fired off this tweet, it was clear that Chelsea Clinton thought she had one-upped Donald J. Trump. It quickly became clear that she was very wrong.
Take a look at how Twitter owned her.

Smug Chelsea Thinks She Finally Beat Trump....
Nice try, though.
CONSERVATIVEHIBUNE.COM
### Rating by Page

- **MOSTLY FALSE**
- **MIX. OF TRUE AND FALSE**
- **MOSTLY TRUE**
- **NO FACTUAL CONTENT**

#### Mainstream

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Analysis of pages from Sept. 19 to 23 and Sept. 26 and 27.

*BuzzFeed News*
Trump’s Religious Freedom Executive Order

Featured News Story May 6th, 2017

From the Left
Many religious freedom advocates are actually disappointed with Trump’s executive order
NEW YORK — President Trump’s
Washington Post

From the Center
Trump signs executive order to ‘vigorously promote religious liberty’
President Donald Trump signed an executive order Thursday
CNN

From the Right
Trump marks National Day of Prayer, signs executive order on religious freedom
President Trump marked the National Day of Prayer by signing
Fox News
Americans' Trust in the Mass Media

In general, how much trust and confidence do you have in the mass media -- such as newspapers, TV and radio -- when it comes to reporting the news fully, accurately and fairly -- a great deal, a fair amount, not very much or none at all?

% Great deal/Fair amount

GALLUP®
Trust in Mass Media, by Party

% Great deal/Fair amount of trust

- Republicans
- Independents
- Democrats

1997: Republicans - 64, Independents - 53, Democrats - 41
1999: Republicans - 59, Independents - 53, Democrats - 46
2001: Republicans - 61, Independents - 55, Democrats - 47
2005: Republicans - 66, Independents - 59, Democrats - 49
2007: Republicans - 70, Independents - 53, Democrats - 44
2009: Republicans - 66, Independents - 52, Democrats - 41
2011: Republicans - 60, Independents - 59, Democrats - 39
2013: Republicans - 58, Independents - 59, Democrats - 38
2015: Republicans - 55, Independents - 60, Democrats - 51

Gallup
Trust in Mass Media, by Age

% Great deal/Fair amount of trust

18 to 49 years old
50 and older


GALLUP
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Within each ideological group, source is overall...

- More trusted than distrusted
- About equally trusted as distrusted
- More distrusted than trusted

Source names in bold have been "hated or" by at least 40% of web respondents.

Based on web respondents. Ideological consistency based on a scale of 1D political values questions (see details in the survey). Grouping of outliers is determined by whether the percent who trust each source is significantly different from the percent who distrust each source. Outlets are then ranked by the proportion of those who trust more than distrust each.
FAKE NEWS ISN’T NEW

Tim Stanley @timothy_stanley 10 Jan
In the 1828 election, Andrew Jackson's people started a rumour that John Quincy Adams had procured an American girl to satisfy the Tsar.

Tim Stanley @timothy_stanley
At Jackson's inaugural, a mob stormed the White House in celebration. There were fist fights & thousands of dollars in damage.
7:09 PM - 10 Jan 2017
Christmas Miracle!

SEVERED LEG HOPS TO HOSPITAL!

Accident victim’s runaway limb is reattached in 7-hour operation!

Cannibal chef gets own TV cooking show

HEY LADIES! CONTROL YOUR MAN — WITH VOODOO!
SPACE ALIEN TELLS ALL

' MY STEAMY NIGHTS WITH HILLARY IN UFO LOVE NEST'

BY KAT MARCHAND

SENATOR HILLARY CLINTON's autobiography "Out of This World: My Life as an Alien" published by Doubleday

"I won't read the book. I don't like the title," says a friend of Clinton's. "I just hope it's not a real

story."

"I read the book," says a rival senator. "I think the author is a fraud."

"I don't think it's true," says a former assistant to Clinton. "I've heard reports that the author is a

psychic."
"I just wanted to do some good and went about it the wrong way."

Edgar Maddison Welch
(Quoted in NY Times, Dec. 7, 2016)
The five types of fake news

Stories classified as fake news can generally be put into five categories, as experts try to develop a way of warning readers what they may be encountering.

1. Intentionally deceptive
These are news stories created entirely to deceive readers. The 2016 US election was rife with examples claiming that “x celebrity has endorsed Donald Trump”, when that was not the case.

2. Jokes taken at face value
Humour sites such as the Onion or Daily Mash present fake news stories in order to satirise the media. Issues can arise when readers see the story out of context and share it with others.

3. Large-scale hoaxes
Deceptions that are then reported in good faith by reputable news sources. A recent example would be the story that the founder of Corona beer made everyone in his home village a millionaire in his will.

4. Slanted reporting of real facts
Selectively-chosen but truthful elements of a story put together to serve an agenda. One of the most prevalent examples of this is the PR-driven science or nutrition story, such as 'x thing you thought was unhealthy is actually good for you'.

5. Stories where the ‘truth’ is contentious
On issues where ideologies or opinions clash - for example, territorial conflicts - there is sometimes no established baseline for truth. Reporters may be unconsciously partisan, or perceived as such.

Reference: Deception Detection for News, University of Western Ontario
THE NEED FOR NEWS LITERACY

“Young peoples’ ability to reason about the information on the internet can be summed up in one word: bleak. … Democracy is threatened by the ease at which disinformation about civic issues is allowed to spread and flourish.” — EVALUATING INFORMATION: THE CORNERSTONE OF CIVIC ONLINE REASONING STANFORD HISTORY EDUCATION GROUP (Nov. 2016)
FIGHTING FAKE NEWS

- snopes.com
- USAFACTS.org
- wikitribune.com
- https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/2016/07/20/the-10-best-fact-checking-sites
Drastic increase in the amount of time youth spending with media

Used well, the media can entertain and inform in positive ways.

Most children aren’t taught to use media thoughtfully.

HTTPS://YOUTU.BE/GIARW5R6D4
REALITY CHECK

City unsure why the sewer smells

By KRISTIN HAY
H-P Correspondent

SOUTH HAVEN — The tests have been inconclusive in trying to locate the source of a mysterious odor that has been detected in several downtown South Haven businesses.

Bob Stickland, the director of Stickland said he will discuss the strategy of putting a non-toxic smoke into the sewer to detect the path of the offensive gas emanating from basement drains.

"Somebody is putting something into the sewer that is creating the odor," Stickland said in an interview after the council meeting. "We are trying to find out..."

REGION

Homicide victims rarely talk to police

REGION