Resources and Readings on Digital Media Literacy

Compiled by Dr. Jessica Ghilani for Pitt IT Cybersecurity Speaker Series

Data on how Pittsburghers get their news sources:
https://www.journalism.org/interactives/local-news-habits/38300/

Data on News Consumption Across Social Media (as of 9/2021)
https://www.pewresearch.org/journalism/2021/09/20/news-consumption-across-social-media-in-2021/

Historic context and research on the decline of print newspapers and rise of news deserts:
https://www.usnewsdeserts.com

Tool for assessing media bias:
https://mediabiasfactcheck.com

Media Bias Charts:
https://www.adfontesmedia.com
https://www.allsides.com/media-bias/media-bias-chart

> Analysis as to whether media bias charts are trustworthy tools:
> https://www.poynter.org/fact-checking/media-literacy/2021/should-you-trust-media-bias-charts/

Tools for identifying fake news and fact checking:
- UPenn's Annenberg Public Policy Center
  https://www.factcheck.org
- Politifact
  https://www.politifact.com
- Politico's "Is this true?" database of fake news
  https://www.politico.com/interactives/2018/is-this-true/
- A Fact Checker's Guide to Manipulated Video:
  https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2019/politics/fact-checker/manipulated-video-guide/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.c525e9c01182

Tool for understanding social media filter bubbles:
Wall Street Journal's Blue Feed Red Feed (Archived but still available for viewing)
https://graphics.wsj.com/blue-feed-red-feed/

Tools for understanding ecosystems of disinformation:

Understanding DeepFakes:
CNN: "Inside the Pentagon's Race Against Deepfake Videos"
https://www.cnn.com/interactive/2019/01/business/pentagons-race-against-deepfakes/

NOVA PBS video about Deepfakes:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T76bK2t2r8g

Understanding bots and trolls:
Botsentinel:
https://botsentinel.com

Spot the Troll:
https://spotthetroll.org

Breaking Harmony Square:
(a game where you learn to build a following by being a troll who stirs up controversy in community groups on social media)
https://harmonysquare.game/en

Additional tools and resources:

A compilation of links to news articles that examine and discuss the Facebook Papers:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1QYqmJsifBjf_xA23Ea7AdeMFyjGWaF_dvhi5EZdNUf4/edit

Media Manipulation Casebook:
https://mediamanipulation.org

Samantha Bee interviews a Russian Troll in 2016:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OauLuWXD_RI

Article on disinformation used in political campaigning:
https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2020/03/the-2020-disinformation-war/605530/

Article on Facebook's significant influence and consolidated power:
https://www.theatlantic.com/magazine/archive/2021/11/facebook-authoritarian-hostile-foreign-power/620168/

Media Matters for America:
https://www.mediamatters.org

Propublica:
https://www.propublica.org

Ida B. Wells Society for Investigative Reporting:
https://idabwellssociety.org

Journalism news:
Poynter:
https://www.poynter.org
Nieman Lab:
https://www.niemanlab.org
Columbia Journalism Review:
https://www.cjr.org

Local News Advocacy Resources:

National Trust for Local News: https://www.nationaltrustforlocalnews.org
Propublica's Local News Reporting Network: https://www.propublica.org/local-reporting-network
Local News and Congress (prior attempt to find public funding) https://www.axios.com/congress-coronavirus-bailout-local-news-a0b3b77b-91f1-425c-a57a-69c885fe2746.html