

Citing Virus Misinformation, South Africa Tests Speech Limits | Undark

By Sarah Wild

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“African blood and black skin prevent Covid-19.” This is one of the many claims that the fact-checking organization Africa Check has [disproved](#) since the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 emerged in December 2019. In South Africa, where Africa Check is headquartered, there are [rumors](#) that the virus only affects white people, leading some residents to [ignore](#) warning signs that they might be infected.

“Just this past weekend, we received over 200 requests to fact-check information related to the pandemic, many times over what we got on a ‘normal’ weekend of the last quarter of 2019,” wrote Lee Mwiti, Africa Check’s chief editor, in an email to Undark.

[...]

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