

Effective New Tool Created for Discerning Fake News | UT News

By Molly Dannenmaier

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AUSTIN, Texas — We hear a lot about fake news, but do we know it when we see it?

Research from The University of Texas at Austin has found that although Facebook users may be too quick to believe or share misinformation, flagging fake news can make a significant difference. In fact, the study, published online today by Information Systems Research, shows that platforms can reduce the extent to which their users fall for and spread fake news articles by deploying a better designed fake news flag.

The new paper studied what tools would help Facebook users spot fake news. Lead author Tricia Moravec, an assistant professor in the McCombs School of Business, and her two co-authors, Antino Kim and Alan R. Dennis of Indiana University, found that two simple interventions, especially when combined, had a strong effect on helping people discern real from fake news.

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