

News Item

Get Ready for a Covid-19 Vaccine Information War | The New York Times

By Kevin Roose May 13, 2020

The other night, midway through watching a clip from "Plandemic" — a documentary that <u>went viral on social media last week</u>, spreading baseless lies and debunked nonsense about the coronavirus to millions of Americans overnight — I had a terrifying thought:

What if we get a Covid-19 vaccine and half the country refuses to take it?

It occurred to me that all the misinformation we've seen so far — the false rumors that <u>5G cellphone towers</u> fuel the coronavirus, that <u>drinking bleach</u> or injecting UV rays can cure it, that Dr. Anthony Fauci is <u>part of an anti-Trump conspiracy</u> — may be just the warm-up act for a much bigger information war when an effective vaccine becomes available to the public. This war could pit public health officials and politicians against an anti-vaccination movement that floods social media with misinformation, conspiracy theories and propaganda aimed at convincing people that the vaccine is a menace rather than a lifesaving, economy-rescuing miracle.

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Source: Get Ready for a Covid-19 Vaccine Information War - The New York Times