

“This World is Just Falling Apart”: How Actual News Consumers Grapple with Fake News and (Sometimes) Tune Out | Nieman Journalism Lab

By Laura Hazard Owen

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“Residents cycle between verifying information and disengaging from news to relieve stress.” [In the International Journal for Communication](#), Temple University’s [Andrea Wenzel](#) looks at how consumers — in 13 focus groups across cities in California, Indiana, Kentucky, and New York — “navigate vast quantities of often conflicting information and misinformation about the state of their country and fellow residents.” (The focus groups, consisting of 58 participants in total, took place in 2017. Support came from Columbia’s Tow Center for Digital Journalism, where Wenzel [is a fellow](#).)

[...]

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