

# Why dangerous conspiracy theories about the virus spread so fast — and how they can be stopped | Washington Post

By Travis M. Andrews

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Since the novel coronavirus pandemic began, misinformation has proliferated on the Internet — par for the course during a crisis. People took to social media in droves to share false claims that covering your body in chlorine or eating garlic were effective methods of fighting the virus, both of which were [disproved by the World Health Organization](#).

The pandemic has also sparked a wave of more insidious conspiracy theories, such as the false claim that 5G mobile networks spread and worsen the [coronavirus](#), which has led to [dozens of instances of arsonists setting fire to cell towers across Europe](#).

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