

Why Twitter's Fact Check Of Trump Might Not Be Enough To Combat Misinformation | FiveThirtyEight

By Lee Drutman

June 3, 2020

Last week, Twitter tried something new. When President Trump [tweeted](#) that “There is NO WAY (ZERO!) that Mail-In Ballots will be anything less than substantially fraudulent,” Twitter appended this message to Trump’s tweet: “Get the facts about mail-in ballots” — which in turn, linked to a [page with the headline](#): “Trump makes unsubstantiated claim that mail-in ballots will lead to voter fraud.”

Given the dangers misinformation poses to both democracy and public health, many believe social media platforms [have a responsibility](#) to monitor and correct misinformation before it spreads. But can corrections like this even work? And what role should social media platforms play in combating misinformation?

Well, it turns out there is evidence that fact checks *do* work. Numerous studies have demonstrated that when confronted with a correction, a significant share of people do, in fact, update their beliefs.

[...]

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