

5 STEPS TO

SPOT

FAKE

NEWS

1

WHAT is it?

News? Opinion? Analysis? Satire? Conspiracy Theory? Look for verifiable FACTS in the article. If the article is satire or conspiracy theory, enjoy it but don't use it as a source.

2

CHECK fact-checkers

Has the source or article already been fact-checked? Try these fact-checking sites:
<http://bit.ly/2ooLtBv>

3

Look INSIDE the site

Click on links on the page. Look for cited sources, quotes, data. Is it sensationalist or factual? Does it interpret or report?

4

READ the article

Go beyond the headline and any images. Examine your emotional reaction. If it is strong, ask why? Look for facts and data that you can fact-check.

5

Look OUTSIDE the site

Double-check the author and the publication. Are they reliable, reputable, honest? Use 3 or more outside sources to verify facts.

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BE

SOURCE

MOTIVE

AUTHORITY

READ

THREE-SOURCE TEST

Based on info from:
Newseum, IFLA, University Libraries
at University of Washington, and Mike
Caulfield, WSU Vancouver