



MAL-INFORMATION

(*& why Media Literacy matters*)

First off, we need to know what we mean by the term "mal-information" - it's a new term (created in 2017) so most people don't know what it means

So let's have a look at the definition...

'Mal-information' is when genuine information is shared with the intention of causing harm, often by moving information designed to stay private into the public sphere

Mal-information = true info + harmful intentions



.... ***but how is it used?***






Mal-information can be used in a variety of ways, usually to make the reader form a certain opinion.

For example, sometimes a true statistic will be presented without any context... though the information is not made up, this does not give a full or honest picture of a situation.








Why does this matter?



Mal-information can cause serious harm e.g. trolls might reveal details about a person that should not be in the public sphere such as their address or their religious beliefs, this can put them in danger.



It is also inaccurate use of information, e.g. lacking context which is used to manipulate you, the reader!

But what about scrutiny?

However, the media exists to scrutinise people in positions of power. This often means unearthing information that was intended to be private.

A good example of this is the information that journalists published which revealed Harvey Weinstein's harassment of women



The problem of subjectivity...

The problem with the term 'mal-information' is that there is a lot of **subjectivity** involved with the 'intention to harm'...

What some people see as **malicious**, others may see as **legitimate** scrutiny





Media Literacy To The Rescue!



It can be hard to know if something is mal-information. So, every time we read any news article, we must always consider:

Who is writing?

Why do they hold this belief?

What are they trying to make you think/feel?

Where did they get the information?

This will help you spot the bias of the piece so you can be informed.





Activity: Spot the Bias!



Look at the articles below...

What impression do they give of the women?
Write a list of 3 things contribute to the impression
they give

MailOnline Femail

Not long to go! Pregnant Kate tenderly cradles her baby bump while wrapping up her royal duties ahead of maternity leave - and William confirms she's due 'any minute now'

By Siofra Brennan For Mailonline and Rebecca English
Royal Correspondent For The Daily Mail
10:40 GMT 21 Mar 2018 , updated 07:43 GMT 22 Mar 2018

MailOnline News

Why can't Meghan Markle keep her hands off her bump? Experts tackle the question that has got the nation talking: Is it pride, vanity, acting - or a new age bonding technique?

11k shares

By Mail on Sunday Reporter
23:58 GMT 26 Jan 2019 , updated 16:45 GMT 28 Jan 2019

TOP AND TOE HOLD

LEFT HAND TOUCH

DOUBLE HAND CLASP

TALK TO THE BUMP

THE HANDS SHOWN



Not long to go! Pregnant Kate tenderly cradles her baby bump while wrapping up her royal duties ahead of maternity leave - and William confirms she's due 'any minute now'

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**Though there isn't any untrue information here,
it is presented in entirely different
ways... this is bias!**



Spot the Bias!



Both these articles report on Jeremy Corbyn and anti-Semitism but they present the information differently...



*Make a table listing the differences between these two front pages.
What is the overall impression of each?*



Spot the Bias!

MIGRANTS SPARK HOUSING CRISIS

By James Slack
political editor

BRITAIN has been ordered by Brussels to build more homes – to cope with all the EU immigrants.

The European Commission warned the UK is heading for an acute housing crisis caused by massive population growth.

It estimated that between 2009 and 2014, the UK needed to build 1.5 million extra homes to cope with the EU immigrants.

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Now EU tells Britain to build more homes as open borders send population soaring

BRITAIN'S housing market is heading for a crisis, says the European Commission, which has ordered the UK to build 1.5 million extra homes to cope with the EU immigrants.

The demand for more housing is contained in a report into Britain's

housing for 2014 (see page 10) to ensure the UK is able to cope with the EU immigrants.

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Tory cuts to affordable homes responsible for UK housing crisis, says National Housing Federation

A massive reduction in Government grants to social landlords has been identified as the primary cause for the deep fall in the construction of social housing over the past seven years

Ben Chu Economics Editor | @Benchu |

Here is another example, what does each headline state is the cause of the housing crisis? What is the impact?