Chapter 3: Fake News

1. Mislead people

It is obviously not true, isn't it?

Sometimes Fake news are obvious and sometimes they are less.

It is in these cases where it becomes more pernicious and it can be easy to get manipulated.

2. How to recognize them

Abraham Lincoln: *"The best way to destroy an enemy is to make him a friend"*

It is by practising fake news by yourself that you become able, in spite of yourself, to guess them.

HOW TO SPOT FAKE NEWS

CONSIDER THE SOURCE
Click away from the story to investigate the site, its mission and its contact info.

READ BEYOND
Headlines can be outrageous in an effort to get clicks. What's the whole story?

CHECK THE AUTHOR
Do a quick search on the author. Are they credible? Are they real?

SUPPORTING SOURCES?
Click on those links. Determine if the info given actually supports the story.

CHECK THE DATE
Reposting old news stories doesn't mean they're relevant to current events.

IS IT A JOKE?
If it is too outlandish, it might be satire. Research the site and author to be sure.
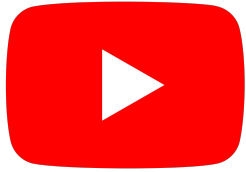
CHECK YOUR BIASES
Consider if your own beliefs could affect your judgement.

ASK THE EXPERTS
Ask a librarian, or consult a fact-checking site.

IFLA
International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions

Here is a picture from IFLA (https://www.ifla.org/) giving some steps to follow to get a better understanding on how to spot if a news is fake.

Also here is an interesting video worth watching that gives its own advices on how to spot fake news.

3. AI to counter fake news

As we talked about AI in the previous chapter, you might be wondering if there are any useful tools to counter this.

And the answer is yes …
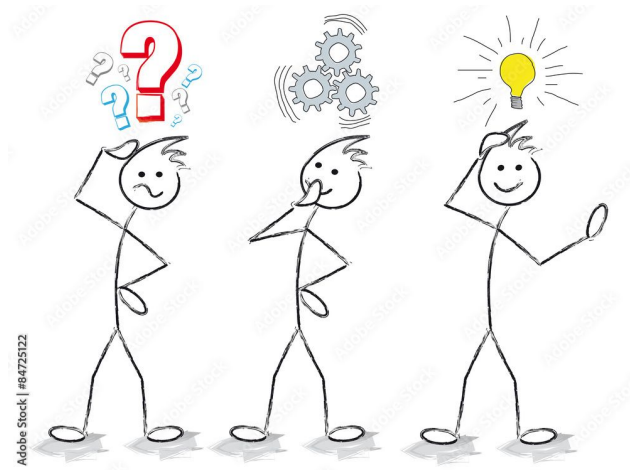

… but it also comes with a backlash.

Because AI is getting better at unmasking fake news, it is also getting better at creating it.

Firstly we will talk about some of the tools you can use to counter fake news.

Secondly we will use tools to create fake news so that you can better understand how it works, how to spot them and also how hard it can be to counter.