With CIP’s team in place, we’re actively engaged in building a community to combat strategic misinformation

Jun 29, 2020 | Uncategorized

By Jevin West
Director, Center for an Informed Public
Associate Professor, UW Information School

December 3, 2019. It seems like a lifetime ago. We launched the Center for an Informed Public (CIP) that day with the hope of building a community to combat strategic misinformation and to strengthen democratic discourse. Since then, SARS-CoV-2 has infected more than 10 million people worldwide. As with any crisis (but especially this one), misinformation and disinformation has proliferated – so much so that the World Health Organization has popularized the term “infodemic” to describe the health risks associated with false information about the disease.

Here is where I would like to say “rest assured, we have you covered.” We don’t. Misinformation has not subsided and won’t any time soon. What I can tell you is this:
we have assembled a devoted team working on this problem, day and night. We have researchers setting aside their sabbatical to better understand how rumors and rumor makers are being amplified. We have faculty on the frontlines of COVID-19, debunking misleading claims in real time. We have UW students creating public awareness campaigns, in preparation for the U.S. elections, about synthetic media and deepfakes. We have local teachers and librarians developing media literacy programs for improving digital citizenry. We have faculty testifying in front of the U.S. Senate about the role of data and AI in the fight against COVID-19. That’s just to name a few of the many activities we’re currently engaged in.

We won’t solve the infodemic any time soon, but our team at the CIP, in collaboration with others around the globe, are making the kind of progress that makes me optimistic about our future. I encourage you to explore the rest of our newsletter, to visit our website, to follow us on Facebook and Twitter, and most importantly, reach out to us at any time with your questions. This will take more than just our team to address this challenge of our time.
With CIP’s team in place, we’re actively engaged in building a community to combat strategic misinformation | Center for an Informed Public

December 2020
November 2020
October 2020
September 2020
July 2020
June 2020
May 2020
April 2020
March 2020
February 2020
January 2020
December 2019
November 2019
October 2019
July 2019

Categories
Events
News
Newsletter
Recent Press
Uncategorized
Updates

© 2019 Center for an Informed Public at UW
With CIP’s team in place, we’re actively engaged in building a community to combat strategic misinformation | Center for an Informed Public