

Topline questionnaire

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
December 1-4, 2016 OMNIBUS
FINAL TOPLINE
N=1,002

ASK ALL:

PEW1. How often do you come across news stories about politics and government online that you think are not fully accurate – often, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
51	Often
27	Sometimes
8	Hardly ever [OR]
10	Never
3	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW2. And how about political news stories online that you think are almost completely MADE UP? Do you come across those often, sometimes, hardly ever, or never?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
32	Often
39	Sometimes
14	Hardly ever [OR]
12	Never
3	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW3. Have you ever shared a political news story online that you later found out was made up?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
16	Yes
83	No
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW4. And have you ever shared a political news story online that you thought AT THE TIME was made up?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
14	Yes
85	No
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW5. As you may have heard, there have recently been some instances of so called "fake news stories" circulating widely online. How much responsibility does each of the following have in trying to prevent made up stories from gaining attention? First, **[INSERT ITEM, RANDOMIZE]** Do they have a great deal of responsibility, a fair amount of responsibility, not much responsibility, or no responsibility at all? ... How about **[NEXT ITEM]**?

- a) Members of the public

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
43	A great deal
31	A fair amount
13	Not much [OR]
11	None at all
3	No answer

- b) The government, politicians, and elected officials

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
45	A great deal
25	A fair amount
15	Not much [OR]
12	None at all
4	No answer

- c) Social networking sites like Facebook and Twitter, and search sites like Google

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
42	A great deal
29	A fair amount
12	Not much [OR]
13	None at all
5	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW6. How confident are you in your own ability to recognize news that is made up? Are you very confident, somewhat confident, not very confident, or not at all confident?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
39	Very
45	Somewhat
9	Not very [OR]
6	Not at all
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

PEW7. How much do you think these kinds of news stories leave Americans confused about the basic facts of current issues and events – a great deal, some, not much, or not at all?

Dec 1-4	
<u>2016</u>	
N=1,002	
64	A great deal
24	Some
6	Not much [OR]
4	Not at all
1	No answer