Personal Politics

What is fake news, and why is it important to understand? The year 2017 was full of chaos within the media. We witnessed high-profile sexual assault allegations, the election of a controversial president, natural disasters devastating Texas, Florida and California, to the mind-numbing and heart-breaking mass shootings. No person needed a religious affiliation, or an assignment to a political party to recognize the turmoil which stewed in America this last year. With the complete overload of information, *fake news* remains a blinding fear in the average American's search for up-to-date and reliable happenings in our nation and across the globe.

Simply-put, fake news is information that has been twisted to either reinforce or downplay a particular claim. One might feel a significant amount of anxiety relying on sources for very relevant information as absolute truth; whether it *be FOX CNN NBC* or the *BBC*, or even our local *Deming Headlight.* It is difficult to blindly trust an organization which provides information, especially when publicly discredited by a high political figure. That is why it is important, more so that we are still young, to work individually to seek out a source of information which we are content with. Instead of news agencies funded by high-brow companies or people of influential incomes, one could search instead for organizations which push for transparency, as well as maintain high moral standards in regard to their audiences.

Things to consider-

- Funding- Where does your source of information source its monies for operations?
- Authors- Who is responsible for the production of that article? Are they reputable?
- Date- Is the story current
- Compare- Is the same story being told with the same details between news agencies?