

Analysis of the Perceived Accuracy of Fake News Among Students: The Similarity of Super Fake News to Real News

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ABSTRACT

Scientific objective: The subject of research presented in the article is the perceived accuracy of fake news depending on how it is defined: as disinformation (narrow definition) or misinformation (broad definition). The analysis is based on the hypothesis that narrowly defined fake news will more effectively pretend to be real news than broadly defined fake news, so users will perceive both of these groups of fake news in different ways. **Research methods:** a diagnostic survey method including a scale of fake news, and psychological measurement of the level of analytical thinking and active open-minded thinking. **Results and conclusions:** The analysis proves that

users perceive the accuracy of fake news in two ways: hard fake news (broadly defined fake news) is perceived as less accurate and super fake news (narrowly defined fake news) is perceived as more accurate. Moreover, while analytical thinking only benefits the recognition of hard fake news, active open-minded thinking prevents one from believing both hard and super fake news. **Cognitive value:** The article presents a media-psychological analysis of the perceived accuracy of various groups of fake news, and thus different ways of designing educational activities in this area were determined.

KEYWORDS

disinformation, misinformation, Facebook, media literacy, critical thinking