

# **CONTENT WARNING**

***This presentation engages with sensitive material, including examples of racism and stories of physical violence.***

***Your discretion is advised and encouraged.***

# Case Studies in Disinformation

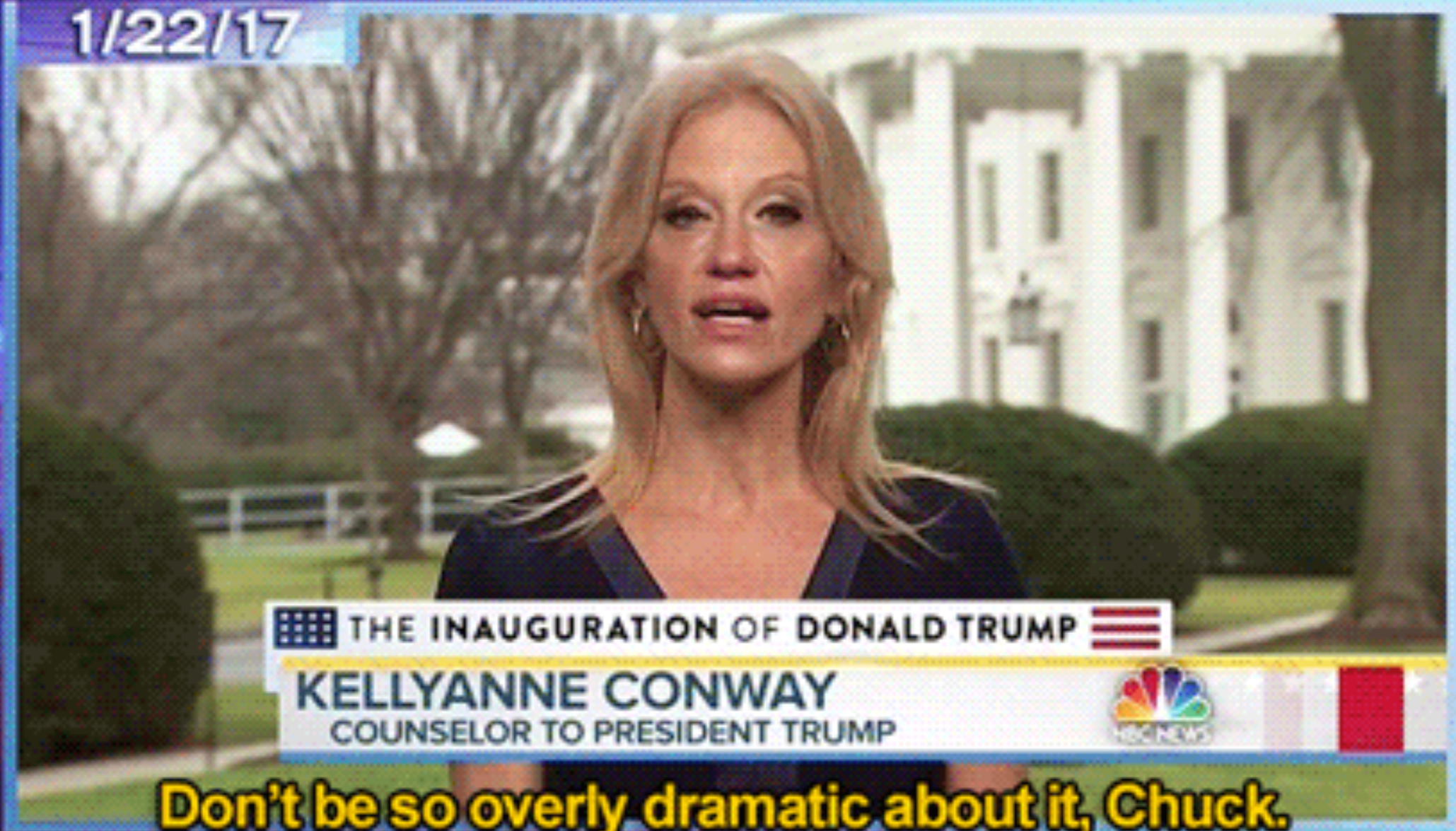
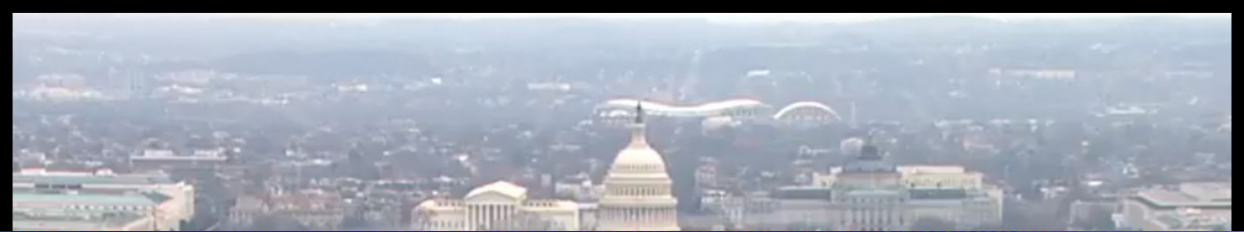


317,000 that used it for President Obama's last inaugural. This was the largest audience to ever witness an inauguration -- period -- both in person and around the globe. Even the New York Times printed a photograph showing a

Politico Staff/Politico (January 21, 2017)

Photo credit: Alex Wong/Getty Images (January 21, 2017)

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**Don't be so overly dramatic about it, Chuck. You're saying it's a falsehood. Sean Spicer, our press secretary, gave alternative facts to that.**



3,443 people are talking about this



Grandvastguernseycow/Tumblr (March 24, 2017)



# 'Post-truth' named word of the year by Oxford Dictionaries

Alison Flood/The Guardian (November 15, 2016)



# How Will Science Survive In The Age of Alternative Facts?

Struminger, Winking & Ross/Huffpost (July 19, 2017)

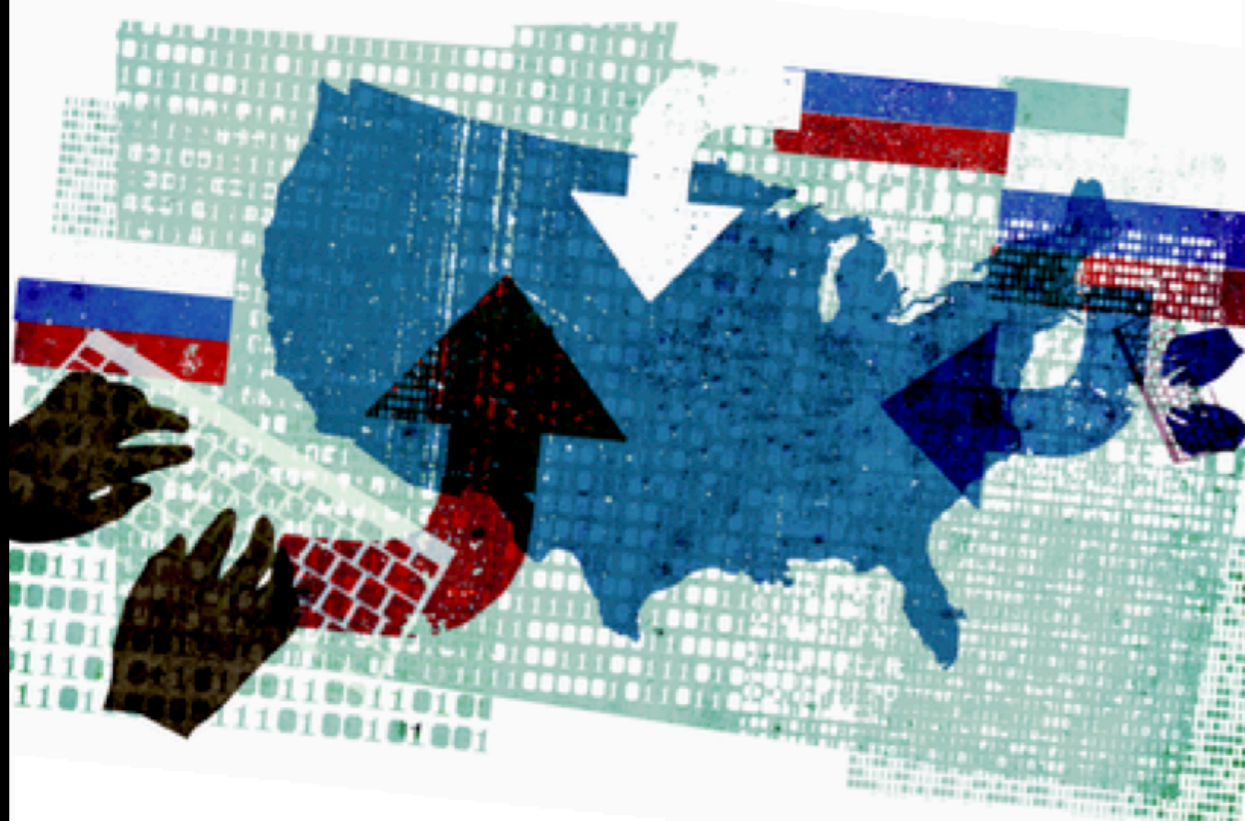


# America is facing an epistemic crisis

David Roberts/Vox (November 2, 2017)

# CYBER WAR

How Russian Hackers and Trolls Helped Elect a President



WHAT WE DON'T, CAN'T, AND DO KNOW

KATHLEEN HALL JAMIESON

Fathoming what happened in 2016 is important in part because the Russian cyberattacks represented a phase change in US electoral politics.

Cyber-War (Jamieson 2018, 223)



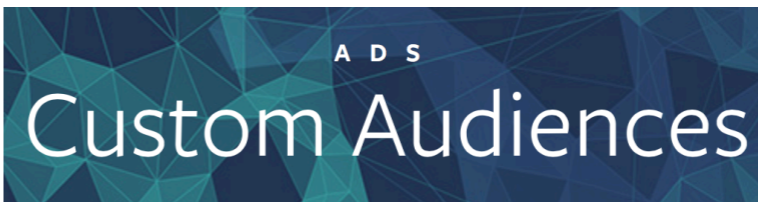
facebook



I want to launch a Twitter Ads campaign

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ADS  
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## Targeting your ads

Targeting ads is an essential part of a successful advertising campaign. You may have designed the perfect ad, but you'll need to show it to the right people at the right time to better reach your goal. Google Ads offers different ways of targeting your ads.

Google



# This Analysis Shows How Viral Fake Election News Stories Outperformed Real News On Facebook



**Craig Silverman**  
BuzzFeed  
Founding  
Editor,  
Canada

Posted on November 16, 2016, at 5:15 p.m. ET

Pope Francis Shocks World, Endorses Donald Trump for President, Releases Statement

TOPICS: Pope Francis Endorses Donald Trump



WTOE 5 News (2016)

propaganda



Donald J. Trump   
@realDonaldTrump

The ~~FAKE NEWS~~ media (failing @nytimes, @NBCNews, @ABC, @CBS, @CNN) is not my enemy, it is the enemy of the American People!

4:48pm · 17 Feb 2017 · Twitter for Android

1,600 REPLIES 1,649 RETWEETS 5,592 LIKES



disinformation



YOCHAI BENKLER,  
ROBERT FARIS,  
AND HAL ROBERTS

# NETWORK PROPAGANDA

MANIPULATION,  
DISINFORMATION, AND  
RADICALIZATION  
IN AMERICAN POLITICS

## *Definitions: Propaganda and Its Elements*

### Propaganda

Communication designed to manipulate a target population by affecting its beliefs, attitudes, or preferences in order to obtain behavior compliant with political goals of the propagandist.

This definition focuses the study of propaganda on intentional communications that are designed by the propagator to obtain outcomes. Unintentionally false communications that in fact affect behavior, but not by design, would not count. It limits the study to communications targeted at a population, excluding interpersonal manipulation or very small-scale efforts to manipulate a small group. This limitation in part is to keep the term in its broad original sense of dealing with mass populations, and in part to avoid confounding it simply with all forms of interpersonal manipulation. It limits the term to purposive behavior intended to affect a political outcome desired by the propagandist. In this, we purposefully exclude marketing, which fits all other elements of the definition and which shares many of the practices. We do so because we believe normative judgments about how it is appropriate for parties to treat each other in markets may differ from those we consider appropriate for interactions among citizens and between them and their governments or other political actors. Historically, even in more

*Network Propaganda* (Benkler, Faris & Roberts 2018, 29)



**Misinformation** is information whose inaccuracy is unintentional. This includes information reported in error, as when the *Chicago Daily Tribune*, relying on its political analysts and early poll returns, famously misreported in its early edition that Dewey had defeated Truman in the 1948 U.S. presidential election. The late evening edition corrected the error.

“Lexicon of Lies: Terms for Problematic Information” (Caroline Jack/Data & Society Institute 2017, 2)

**DAILY BEAST**

# *White Supremacists Claim Nikolas Cruz Trained With Them; Students Say He Wore Trump Hat in School*

Weill, Lorenz, Allen & Briquelet/The Daily Beast (February 15, 2018)

**TIME**

Lt. Grady Jordan with the Leon County Sheriff’s Office in Tallahassee also said investigators have found “no known ties” between Cruz and Republic of Florida, a group that his office tracks.

Lisa Marie Segarra/Time (February 15, 2018)

**Disinformation** is information that is deliberately false or misleading. For example, in September 2014, false reports of an explosion and toxic fume hazard at Columbian Chemicals, a chemical manufacturing plant in St. Mary Parish, Louisiana, spread online via scores of fake Twitter accounts, spoofed versions of local news websites, YouTube videos, and text messages to local residents. No explosion had, in fact, taken place.

“Lexicon of Lies: Terms for Problematic Information” (Caroline Jack/Data & Society Institute 2017, 3)

# POLITICO

## How white nationalists fooled the media about Florida shooter

ABC, AP and others ran with false information on shooter’s ties to extremist groups.

Shawn Musgrave/Politico (February 16, 2018)

# дезинформация (*dezinformatsiya*)

 **SOVIET ACTIVE MEASURES**

HEARINGS  
BEFORE THE  
PERMANENT  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
NINETY-SEVENTH CONGRESS  
SECOND SESSION  
JULY 13, 14, 1982



U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON : 1982

11-262 0

CIS RECORD ONLY

U.S. Government Printing Office (1982)

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Mark R. Robinson/Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (2018)



Photo credit: Kostyantyn Chernichkin (December 15, 2013)



**Иван Галицин** 22 Feb 2014 17:19

There was a coup In Ukraine. I live in Kiev, I was on the Maidan, but peaceful protest ended two months ago, when we were displaced by armed nationalists. It's a nightmare. Fascists came to us again 70 years after the Second World War. I do not want this future for Ukraine.

Share

3 ↑



**dmrt** → **Иван Галицин** 22 Feb 2014 22:33

Иван Галицин

*I do not want this future for Ukraine.*

Thanks you for your post and sorry for what happened. An object lesson on how emerging democracy could be turned into anarchy.

Hope sanity will eventually prevail so that Ukraine could get its house in order, in cooperation and partnership with both EU and Russia. It is its destiny if you think of it ....

1 ↑

Report

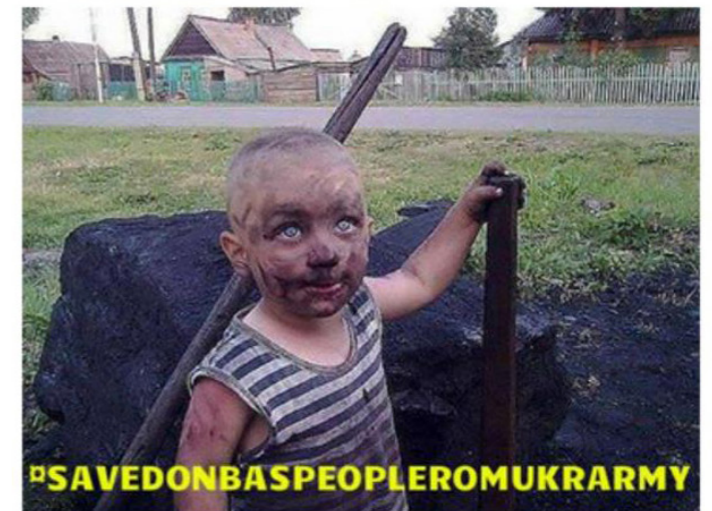
Report



**War No More**  
@WorldWarNoMore

#Ukraine #Poroshenko #Kiev #Nazi's #Genocide #saveonbasspeople

Reply Retweet Favorite More



RETWEETS  
31

FAVORITES  
8



10:50 AM - 10 Jul 2014

**WEK Williams&Kalvin** Sponsored · [Like Page](#)

Black girl magic!

This picture smells like Shea butter, coconut oil, vanilla, and tropical fruit. QUEENS.



4.6K Reactions 53 Comments 778 Shares

[Like](#) [Comment](#) [Share](#)

**WEK Williams&Kalvin** Sponsored · [Like Page](#)

Power to the People! We have to grow up, we have to wise up. We don't have any other choice this time but boycott the election. This time we choose between two racists. No one represents Black people. Don't go to vote. Only this way we can change the way of things.... [See More](#)



108 Reactions 32 Comments 20 Shares

[Like](#) [Comment](#) [Share](#)

Source: "Beware: Disguised as Your Community, Suspicious Groups May Target You Right Now for Election Interference Later (Young Mie Kim/Project DATA, August 8, 2018)"



Stop A.I.

Who is behind this mask? A man? A woman? A terrorist? Burqa is a security risk and it should be banned on U.S soil!



11K

1.1K Comments 55K Shares

Source: US House of Representatives Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (November 1, 2017)



AUG 20 Florida Goes Trump! patriotic state-wide flash mob

Public · Hosted by Being Patriotic

Interested Going

Saturday, August 20, 2016 at 2:00 PM EDT More than a year ago

Florida

Show Map

About

Discussion

339 Went · 1.6K Interested

Share this event with your friends

Source: Poulsen, Ackerman, Collins & Resnick/The Daily Beast (September 20, 2017)



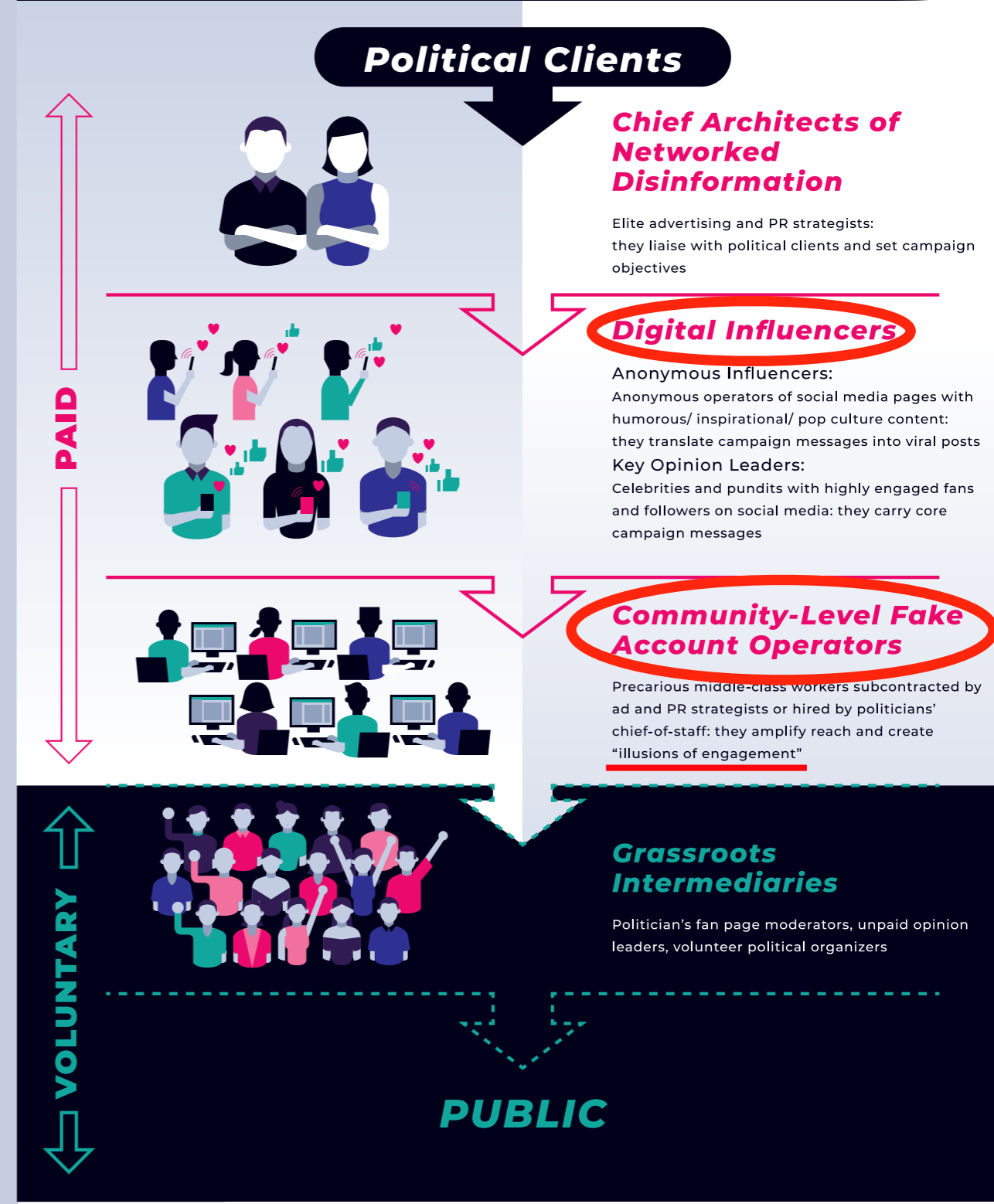
# Architects of Networked Disinformation

Behind the Scenes of Troll Accounts and  
Fake News Production in the Philippines  
By Jonathan Corpus Ong & Jason Vincent A. Cabañes

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

## THE ARCHITECTURE OF NETWORKED DISINFORMATION

REFERENCE: Ong, J.C. & Cabañes, J.V. (2018). Architects of Networked Disinformation



Architects of Networked Disinformation (Ong & Cabañes 2018, 9)

**President Duterte Supporters Worldwide**  
December 27, 2016 at 2:30pm · 🌐

Sa mga hindi pa po nakakaalam, may mensahe po si Barack Obama kay Pangulong Duterte!  
Ano po ang inyong masasabi dito?  
Basahin niyo po at i-share!



**Barack Obama: "Merry Xmas My Brother Duterte"**  
Washington DC, The Outgoing President Barack Obama has this morning shown his brotherhood to the Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte wh...  
PINOYSPEAK.INFO

Like Comment Share

👍👎👤 Ramelo Guardiania, Lia Liñan and 1.5K others  
496 shares

Top Comments  
67 Comments

Source: Meme Buster (January 7, 2017)

**Showbiz Government**  
12 hrs · 🌐

There you go...

"Based from the documents circulated to the delegates, the cases filed against the Philippine President was sponsored by politicians. This alone can raise many questions. Why politicians? Why not civil society groups? And based on the latest report coming from the Philippines, President Duterte's public approval rating sits at 75%. Is this the type of man who kill his own people? I'm not convinced", - Dr. Alfred Sanders, Oxford College of Law professor and international law expert



**Law Expert To ICC: You Cannot Prosecute A President With Very High Approval Ratings In His Country |**  
Oxford College of Law professor and international law expert, Dr. Alfred Sanders hit International Criminal Court over complaints of human rights violations...  
GLOBALNEWS.FM/RADIO.FM

👍👎👤 6.4K · 302 Comments · 3.5K Shares

Source: Meme Buster (June 28, 2017)



Source: Meme Buster (February 26, 2018)

**Eric Yanuario Mabini**  
Follow · 21 hrs · 🌐

Rodrigo Duterte Statue Unveiled In United Kingdom, The Queen Apologizes:

The nine-metre (30ft) brown statue has been erected at the Merrion Street, Dublin, Ireland in United Kingdom  
The statue, with Mr Duterte's hand reaching outward, was intended to show that he had embraced the whole world and he has shown the capability of fighting drugs trafficking, a thorny issue in the whole world, Queen Elizabeth said.

LONG LIVE THE PUNISHER!  
LONG LIVE THE PEACEMAKER!  
LONG LIVE THE JUSTIFIER!  
LONG LIVE THE SAVIOR OF OUR BELOVED COUNTRY PHILIPPINES!

Write a comment...  
Press Enter to post.



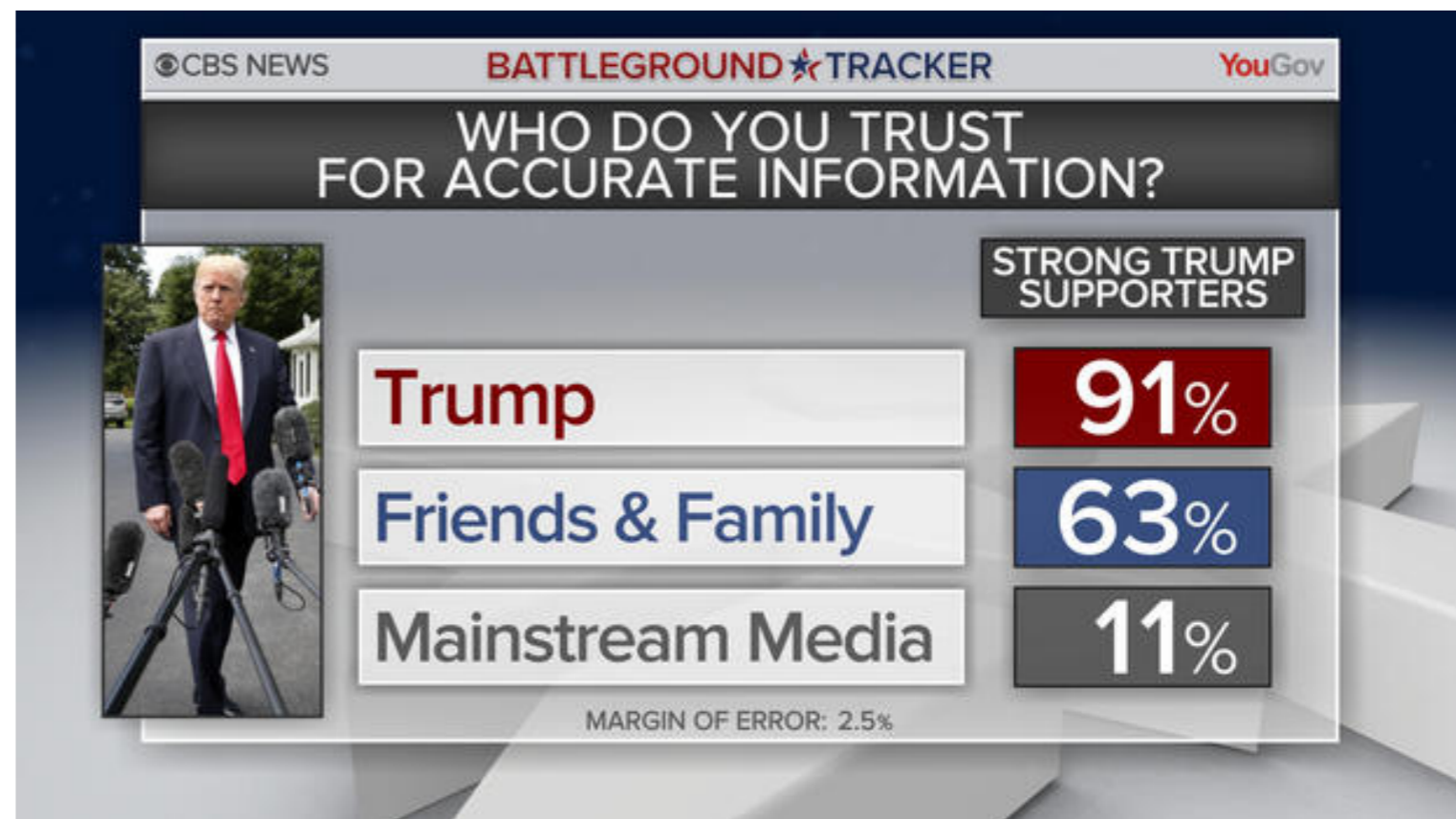
# Why influence matters in the spread of misinformation



Becca Lewis in Data & Society: Points

Follow

Nov 20, 2018 · 4 min read



CBS News (July 29, 2018)

Source: Alex Kaplan/Media Matters (December 4, 2018)