



Social & Online Media Virtual Learning

HS/Introduction to Social and Online Media

April 15, 2020



Lesson: [Media Literacy Part 6 (4/15/20)]

Objective/Learning Target:
Analyze problems with disinformation and create innovative solutions to solve the problems.

Video Option

Link: <https://youtu.be/wp3Bqh-jwnI>

Bell Ringer

1. Think of a time in your life when you had a problem. It can be any problem it doesn't need to relate to media. How did you solve the problem? What was your process?

Solving Problems

- Identify the issues
- Understand everyone's interests
- Brainstorm possible solutions that satisfy everyone equally
- Select your best option
- Come up with contingency plans encase solution fails

Project Step 2

Coming up with solutions

- Now that you've identified specific problems you will want to create solutions to help solve those problems.
- A good solution looks at all the people affected by a problem and determines their interests.
- Then it works towards an outcome where most parties can be satisfied.
- Obviously, the people we're attempting to get good outcomes here are the general public but also paying attention to things like creators of technology and owners of social media platforms. We don't want to destroy their business in the process of fixing our issue. The one party we don't care about as far as serving their needs are the creators of misinformation. We actually want them to struggle with our solution.

What good solutions do

- A good solution is a process that can be followed. You don't just want to provide vague details or outlines. You want a specific plan that can be followed and executed. Think of a solution like a recipe. If the recipe isn't precise then you might end up with too much sugar or too little vanilla extract and the final product is off. A solution is the same way. If you aren't specific or provide things that don't work then it will not ultimately solve the problem. In fact, some solutions are bad and create more problems than they fix.
- A good solution takes into account how people will respond to their plan and anticipates their reactions. That way they can counteract any measures taken to stop the plan.

Examples of possible solutions

- Real identification required for social media accounts.
- This is a possible solution to some of the fake news issues, the biggest being bot accounts that spread disinformation and people who hide behind the anonymity of the internet to spread disinformation.
- In this solution the only way to sign up for social media would be with verified identification. It would require a real ID for social media accounts.
- Now, this could have real world effects on social media business. They would lose lots of users. It would be difficult for younger users to sign up as they often don't have IDs yet. It would change conversation and may result in less overall interaction on the platforms.
- This is where you would want to decide whether the positives outweigh the negatives. There's unlikely to be a perfect solution. You will have to deal with unintended consequences with messy problems like this one.

Research Links to Help You Start

- [Dartmouth study on fake news solutions](#)
- [Yale law study on fake news](#)
- [A BBC article on fake news solutions](#)

Assignment

- Take your problem list from last lesson and come up with well researched solutions to each problem. Each solution should include a plan that can be followed. Each solution should also discuss why it would be a positive change and why those positives outweigh any possible negatives.