

dis·in·for·ma·tion

manufactured information that is deliberately created or disseminated with the intent to cause harm, obscure the truth, or influence public opinion

Various actors, including state and non-state entities, attempt to spread disinformation in order to sow discord within New Jersey and elsewhere. Disinformation has the potential to exhaust resources, incite panic, create distrust between the government and people, increase polarization in groups, influence governmental actions or law enforcement responses, or cause undue harm, among other concerns.



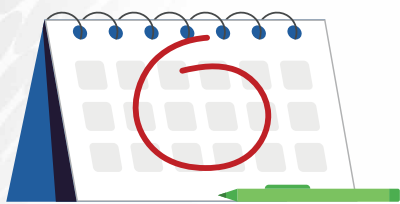
Consider the Source

Who created the account or article or captured the original piece of content?



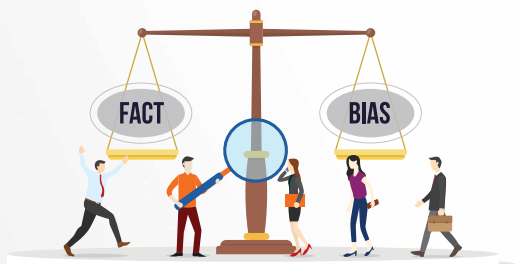
Check the Author's Motivations

Why was the account established, website created, or piece of content captured?



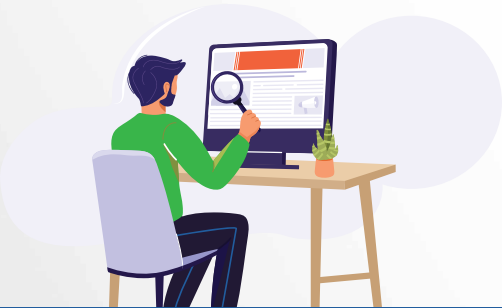
Check the Date

When was it created? Content, including pictures and videos, is often recycled and may not relate directly to the article.



Check Your Biases

What are your preconceived notions of the topic? Consider if your own beliefs may affect your view of the information.



Read Beyond

What is the whole story? Headlines can be misleading.



Supporting Sources

Where is the information from? Are you looking at the original account, article, or piece of content?



For more information on disinformation and other related topics, visit njohsp.gov/disinformation.