

Digital Dilemma



A game where **you decide** how to respond to populist voices online.



**Play as
The Media!**



**Play as
A Civilian!**

SCENARIO A



SOMEONE ON YOUR FACEBOOK NEWS FEED HAS SHARED THIS VIDEO OF A SPEECH BY DONALD TRUMP. THE VIDEO SHOWS HIS CONTROVERSIAL VIEWS ON MEXICAN IMMIGRANTS.

**OK, TELL ME
MORE...**

**NEW
SCENARIO**

GO BACK

THEY POSTED A CAPTION ALONGSIDE THE VIDEO, WHICH READS:

"We've been invaded by millions of illegals and it has done nothing but hurt us. Liberalism has turned this country sick and twisted! We need people like Trump to save this country from being torn about by you stupid liberal rats!"

How do you respond?

a)

SEND A PRIVATE MESSAGE TO THE PERSON WHO SPREAD THE POST, EXPLAINING WHY TRUMP'S VIEWS ON IMMIGRATION ARE, IN YOUR OPINION, HARMFUL.

YES!

b)

DECIDE TO IGNORE THE POST. GIVING ATTENTION TO THESE PROVOCATIVE VIEWS WILL ONLY ENCOURAGE THEM TO BE SPREAD FURTHER.

OF COURSE!

c)

SHARE THE POST AND EXPRESS YOUR OUTRAGE. TRUMP CANNOT BE ALLOWED TO GET AWAY WITH SUCH BLATANT RACISM.

OBVIOUSLY!

You chose to: Send a private message to the person who spread the post, explaining why Trump's views on immigration are, in your opinion, harmful.

You're actually proposing a positive response to the post by preventing the further spread of the spectacle, while at the same time engaging in positive dialogue with someone who doesn't necessarily share your views.



BUT REMEMBER!

BE CAREFUL WITH YOUR LANGUAGE, AND TRY TO REMAIN RESPECTFUL.

DON'T LET YOUR EMOTIONS GET THE BEST OF YOU, AND PROVIDE A LOGICAL ARGUMENT.

IF YOU CAN, PROVIDE STATISTICAL EVIDENCE TO BACK UP YOUR STATEMENTS (RELIABLE SOURCES, OF COURSE!)

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO FIND THOSE? WE HAVE SOME SUGGESTIONS!



GO BACK

NEW SCENARIO

END GAME :(

SOME PLACES WHERE YOU WILL GENERALLY FIND SOLID, AND WELL-FOUNDED NUMBERS, STATISTICS AND FACT-CHECKING

GO BACK



U.S



U.S

NationMaster



WORLDWIDE

LATIN AMERICA

POLITIFACT



chequeado+

EL FUTURO DEL DEBATE

U.S

FCT

FACT-CHECKING TURKEY

TURKEY & MIDDLE EAST

DON'T SEE YOUR COUNTRY OR REGION? THIS [SITE](#) MAPS ALL OF THE FACT-CHECKING SITES IN THE WORLD

PLAY AS MEDIA!

NEXT SCENARIO

You chose to: decide to ignore the post. Giving attention to these provocative views will only encourage them to be spread further.

You're right in thinking that sharing it only creates a bigger spotlight for the candidate, but you are missing out on the chance of creating dialogue with someone who doesn't share your views. Who knows, maybe if you provide a decent argument, you could make them rethink their stance.



BUT REMEMBER!

IF YOU'RE NOT INTO GETTING INTO PUBLIC COMMENT BATTLES WITH PEOPLE, TRY SENDING THEM A PRIVATE MESSAGE.

INSTEAD OF JUST ATTACKING SOMEONE FOR POSTING SOMETHING THROUGH PM, ASK THEM WHY THEY DID IT. AND SHARE WHY YOU THINK IT'S INAPPROPRIATE.

PROVIDE LOGICAL ARGUMENTS, AND IF YOU CAN USE FACTS AND FIGURES, ALL THE BETTER

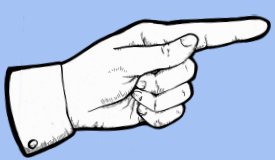
GO BACK

NEW SCENARIO

END GAME :(

You chose to: share the post and express your outrage. Trump cannot be allowed to get away with such blatant racism.

We get that you're mad. And want to let everyone know how dangerous he is, but you're actually doing exactly what he wants you to do, which is get him more attention (there's no such thing as bad press). Instead, try sharing an article (from a reliable source) that supports YOUR political view or candidate.



BUT REMEMBER!

IF WHAT THE POPULIST CANDIDATE WANTS IS ATTENTION, COUNTER IT BY GIVING NON-POPULIST CANDIDATES WHICH YOU SUPPORT ATTENTION. FIGHT FIRE WITH FIRE.

ANY SUPPORT YOU DO GIVE/POST (BE IT AN ARTICLE OR STATISTICS) SHOULD COME FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE. GO TO ONE OF THESE [FACT CHECKING SITES](#) WHEN IN DOUBT.

GO BACK

NEW SCENARIO

END GAME :(

SCENARIO B

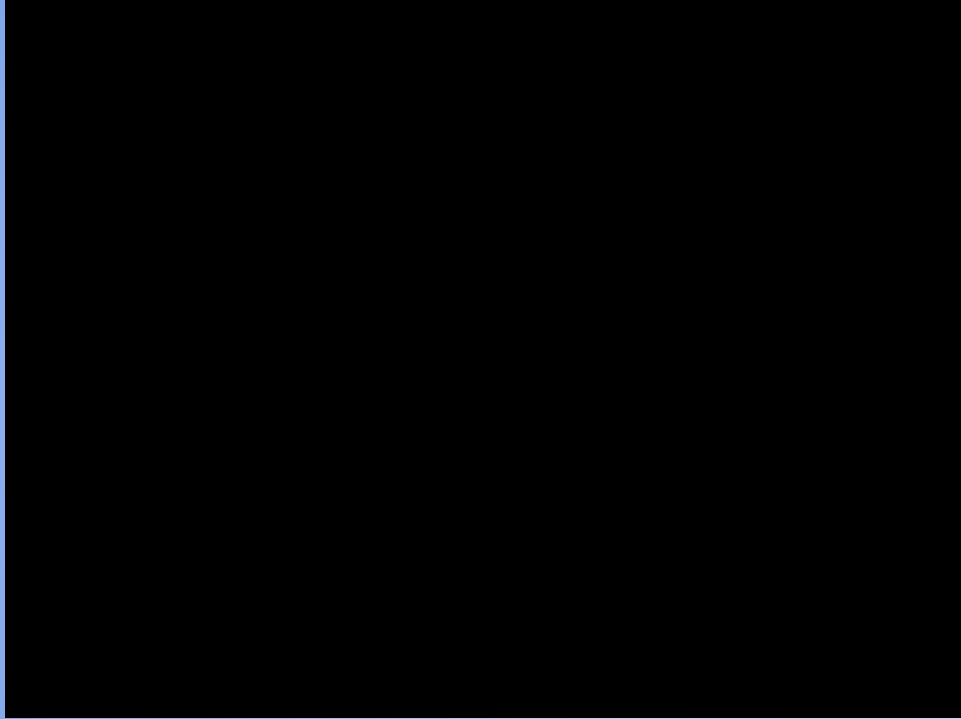
PLAY AS
MEDIA!

YOU ARE A JEWISH FILIPINO WHO, ENRAGED BY DUTERTE'S (YOUR COUNTRY'S POPULIST PRESIDENT) STATEMENT COMPARING OF HIS POLICIES TO HITLER'S, YOU TAKE TO TWITTER TO WRITE A POST ABOUT YOUR INDIGNATION. YOUR POST IS MOSTLY ON THE EMOTIONAL SIDE, AND YOU DON'T HESITATE IN CALLING HIM A "FASCIST PIG". SOON AFTER, YOU START GETTING HATEFUL COMMENTS FROM PEOPLE YOU DON'T KNOW. SOME READ:

Typical Jew, always playing the victim...

Duterte's the best thing that's ever happened to this country
****. I hope he kills you next.

OK, TELL ME
MORE...



CONTINUE

How do you respond?

a)

SAY NOTHING. AFTER ALL, WHO WANTS TO ENGAGE WITH INTERNET TROLLS?

TOTALLY!

b)

START A TWITTER WAR, AND GET YOUR FRIENDS TO ALSO ATTACK THE TROLLS, BY CALLING THEM NAMES AND BEING OFFENSIVE.

MAKES SENSE!

c)

DON'T IGNORE THE COMMENTS, INSTEAD ANSWER ALL COMMENTS RESPECTFULLY INCLUDING A LINK TO AN ARTICLE, STATISTICS, POLLS, ETC.

DEFINITELY!

You chose to: Say nothing. After all, who wants to engage with internet trolls?

If you say nothing, you are missing a chance to debate your view in a civilized manner. Moreover, by not answering statements raised by the trolls, their comments remain the only frame of reference for other readers to form their perceptions (in other words, the populist spectacle continues)



BUT REMEMBER!

THE POINT ISN'T GETTING INTO A COMMENT BATTLE, BUT INSTEAD TAKING THE NEGATIVITY AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO FURTHER ILLUSTRATE YOUR POINT OF VIEW.

COUNTER FICTION WITH FACT. INSTEAD OF USING THE SAME AGGRESSIVE LANGUAGE AS THE ATTACKERS, PROVIDE STATISTICS AND FACTS--THESE ARE IRREFUTABLE.

GO BACK

PLAY AS MEDIA!

END GAME :(

You chose to: Start a twitter war, and get your friends to also attack the trolls, by calling them names and being offensive.

The phrase “fight fire with fire” does not apply to these types of situations. Anyone reading the comments will discredit both your side and the troll’s side, because of the language and futility of your arguments. Instead, if you provide facts your point of view will immediately be regarded as more credible (first step to countering the populist spectacle)



PROVIDE LOGICAL ARGUMENTS, AND IF YOU CAN USE FACTS AND FIGURES, ALL THE BETTER

ANY SUPPORT YOU DO GIVE/POST (BE IT AN ARTICLE OR STATISTICS) SHOULD COME FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE. GO TO ONE OF THESE [FACT CHECKING SITES](#) WHEN IN DOUBT.

DON'T LET YOUR EMOTIONS GET THE BEST OF YOU. RATIONALITY ALWAYS WINS IN THESE SITUATIONS.

GO BACK

PLAY AS MEDIA!

END GAME :(

You chose to: not ignore the comments, instead answering all comments respectfully including a link to an article, statistics, polls, etc.

Wow, it seems like you've got a pretty good idea of how to counter populism and polarization. Keep up the good work.



BUT REMEMBER!

ANY SUPPORT YOU DO GIVE/POST (BE IT AN ARTICLE OR STATISTICS) SHOULD COME FROM A RELIABLE SOURCE. GO TO ONE OF THESE [FACT CHECKING SITES](#) WHEN IN DOUBT.

TRY TO ALSO HEAR THE OTHER'S POINT OF VIEW (WHEN POSSIBLE). WE LEARN THE MOST THROUGH DISCUSSION .

GO BACK

PLAY AS MEDIA!

END GAME :(

SCENARIO C



GO BACK

ABU BAKR, THE LEADER OF ISLAMIC STATE, HAS RELEASED THIS VIDEO ENCOURAGING PEOPLE TO 'FIGHT' IN ORDER TO UPHOLD THE NAME OF ALLAH.

THE CLIP HAS MADE ITS WAY ONTO A PRESS WIRE,

YOU ARE A JOURNALIST, AT A MAJOR NEWSPAPER WHO MUST DECIDE WHETHER TO REPORT ON THIS, AND IF SO, HOW.

OK, TELL ME
MORE...

How do you respond?

a)

DON'T REPORT ON IT, VIDEOS CAN OFTEN BE REPURPOSED AND YOU WILL ONLY PUBLICIZE THIS LEADER'S MESSAGE FURTHER
TOTALLY!

b)

SHARE THE VIDEO AS IS, WITH LITTLE TO NO ADDITIONAL TEXT. YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE OBJECTIVITY OR TRANSPARENCY.
MAKES SENSE!

c)

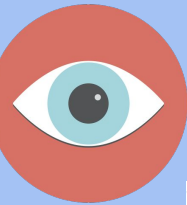
REPORT ON IT BY TRANSCRIBING THE VIDEO INTO YOUR TEXT. YOU DON'T WANT TO GIVE THE FOOTAGE EXTRA CIRCULATION.
DEFINITELY!

d)

SHARE THE VIDEO ALONGSIDE TEXT THAT PROVIDES CONTEXT, VIEWS AND INFORMS READERS OF LEADERS SUCH AS THIS ONE.
EXACTLY!

You chose to: Not report on it, videos can often be repurposed and you will only publicize this leader's message further

You're right in thinking that sharing it only creates a bigger spotlight for the candidate, but you also have the journalistic responsibility of letting readers know the happenings of the world and preventing misinformation (which many times aids populist leaders). You could maybe give a brief about what is said in the video, and give your article a twist by making it about the rise of populism in the Middle East.



CAREFUL!

WRITING A SUMMARY ABOUT THE HAPPENINGS REDUCES JOURNALISTIC OBJECTIVITY

YOUR ARTICLE MIGHT LOSE SOME CREDIBILITY GIVEN THAT YOU'RE NOT PRESENTING THE EVIDENCE.

TRY TO NOT BE TOO RADICAL OR HARSH, YOU WILL ONLY PUSH AWAY READERS THAT HAVEN'T MADE THEIR MINDS UP YET. YOUR AIM IS TO INFORM RESPONSIBLY.

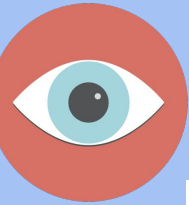
GO BACK

PLAY AS
CIVILIAN

END GAME :(

You chose to: SHARE THE VIDEO AS IS, WITH LITTLE TO NO ADDITIONAL TEXT. YOU DON'T WANT TO LOSE OBJECTIVITY OR TRANSPARENCY.

Aiming for objectivity is important, but just posting video without an explanation could be dangerous. Without context or intervention, readers could easily misinterpret the information, and/or posting of it could indirectly publicize this populist leader.



CAREFUL!

ALWAYS INCLUDE CONTEXT!

TRY TO BE OBJECTIVE AND PRESENT FACTS THAT CAN FURTHER INFORM THE READER, OR MOTIVATE THEM TO RESEARCH THE SUBJECT FURTHER

YOU COULD ALSO MAYBE DRAW (CONCRETE) COMPARISONS BETWEEN THIS LEADER AND PAST ONES, BASING YOURSELF ON POLICIES AND PROPOSALS, TO DRAW ATTENTION TO THE SEVERITY OF THE SITUATION.

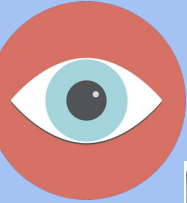
GO BACK

PLAY AS
CIVILIAN

END GAME :(

You chose to: Report on it by transcribing the video into your text. You don't want to give the footage extra circulation.

Good thinking! Many times videos can be taken out of the context or used to further promote the leader's ideas. But readers could also accuse you of manipulating the information or pushing a certain agenda.



CAREFUL!

BE CLEAR WHEN YOU STATE THAT THE TEXT IS AN EXACT TRANSCRIPTION OF THE VIDEO.

PROVIDE ADDITIONAL CONTEXT OF THE LEADER BOTH BEFORE AND AFTER THE TRANSCRIPTION

IT WOULD ALSO BE WISE TO SPECIFY THE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN ABU BAKR'S SPEECH AND THE TRUE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM--YOU DON'T WANT TO CREATE NEGATIVE CONNOTATION.

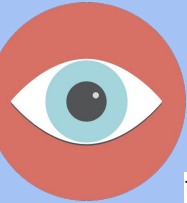
GO BACK

PLAY AS
CIVILIAN

END GAME :(

You chose to: SHARE THE VIDEO, alongside text that provides context, views and informs readers of leaders such as this one.

Sharing the video can further the populist spectacle, but you did well in providing additional context and facts. Be sure to be precise and concise, as many readers will only be interested in watching the video, and that defeats the purpose of including contextual text.



CAREFUL!

IN ORDER TO MAKE SURE THAT READERS DON'T JUST WATCH THE VIDEO AND THEN LEAVE THE ARTICLE--WITHOUT ALTERING THE FOOTAGE--YOU COULD MAYBE INCLUDE A SHORT VIDEO INTRO THAT PLAYS BEFORE THE FOOTAGE, SO THAT READERS CAN BE AS INFORMED AS POSSIBLE.

IT WOULD ALSO BE WISE TO SPECIFY THE DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN ABU BAKR'S SPEECH AND THE TRUE TEACHINGS OF ISLAM--YOU DON'T WANT TO CREATE NEGATIVE CONNOTATIONS.

PROVIDE LOGICAL ARGUMENTS, AND IF YOU CAN USE FACTS AND FIGURES, ALL THE BETTER

GO BACK

PLAY AS
CIVILIAN

END GAME :(

THANK YOU :)

(AND STAY SAFE OUT THERE!)