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The Effect of Fake News in the New Media on University Youth and its Relationship to their Behavior

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Abstract

The current study aimed to identify the impact of fake news in the new media on university youth and its effects on their behavior. An electronic questionnaire was used to collect data from a sample of respondents .

The most important findings of the study:

- 1 -It was found that 18.5% of the respondents depend, to a large extent, on the new media for obtaining information and news, 58% of them rely on it to a medium degree, 17.5% of them rely on it to a low degree, and 5% of them do not rely on the new media to obtain information, for information and news.
- 2 -It was found that 33.7% of the sample members were always able to distinguish between fake news and true news in the new media, and 60% of them were able to distinguish news sometimes, and 6.3% of them were rarely able to distinguish fake news.
- 3 -The high percentage of university youth who had a negative attitude towards fake news published in the new media, by 64.2%, and 30.5% of them had a neutral attitude, and 5.3% of them had a positive attitude.
- 4 -It turns out that 47.6% of university youth in the study sample see that fake news presented in the new media has a strong impact on their behavior, and 30.8% of them see it as having a medium effect, 15% of them see it as having a weak effect, and 6.6% Of them see that there is no effect of fake news in the new media on their behavior.
- 5-There is a weak inverse relationship between the rate of university youth's use of new media and the degree of influence of fake news published in the new media on their behavior, where it was (t < 0.3), which is at the 0.01 level, meaning that the higher the rate of use of new media, the lower the degree of impact Fake news spread in the new media on their behavior.

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6 –There is a strong inverse relationship between the degree of university youth's knowledge of fake news that is presented in the new media and the degree of its impact on their behavior and how they deal with it, where it was (t<5.0) and it is at the level of 0.01 that is, the higher the degree of knowledge of the university youth about fake news in the media. What is new before the degree of its impact on their behavior and how to deal with it.

Keywords: Fake News, New Media, University Youth.