

Title: Credibility of websites appendix for “Measuring the effect of Facebook’s downranking interventions against groups and websites that repeatedly share misinformation”

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Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

Appendix B: Credibility of websites

In order to study the credibility of websites linked to in posts shared by Facebook groups, we used the Iffy public spreadsheet. This dataset aggregates a list of websites rated as of low or very-low credibility, based on data pulled from the mediabiasfactcheck.com (MBFC) website. The “MBFC factual reporting” metric is based on a list of failed fact checks which are displayed on the page dedicated to each website. To compute the proportion of links to low credibility sites for each group (Figure 4), we summed the total number of posts containing a domain name that appeared in the Iffy public spreadsheet during a 30-day period before and after the notification date for each group and divided it by the total number of posts containing a link during the same period.

The Iffy public spreadsheet can be found on the Iffy.news website, in the section “Iffy Index of Unreliable Sources” by clicking on the “public spreadsheet” in the subsection “Where does Iffy get its info.”