Sanitize before you share

4 quick steps to stop the spread of misinformation

1. **Pause.**
   Don’t let your emotions take over.

2. **Glance through comments.**
   Has someone replied to this with a fact check?

3. **Do a quick search.**
   In the search bar, turn the claim you’re checking into a question. Look for credible sources in the results.

4. **Ask for the source.**
   Reply to the person who shared the post, asking for the original source or for other evidence supporting the claim. Raising this where others can see it lets them know that the claim is questionable.

**Once you’ve followed these steps:**
- If you find credible evidence that a post isn’t true, alert others in a reply. If the post is dangerous or harmful, report it.
- If you still aren’t sure that the post is true, don’t share it.

Remember:
- Taking these steps can eliminate a large percentage of viral rumors and falsehoods.
- Visit newslit.org/coronavirus to learn more about sorting fact from fiction.

Want more? Try out our Checkology virtual classroom at checkology.org

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