

# Information Integrity

**mitigating** (identifying, countering, hardening systems against) **manipulation** of information, networks, algorithms which have **harmful effects on** individuals, groups, society

# Existing Research: Multi-disciplinary

- **Psychologists** studying why people are vulnerable to believing false information
- **Communication scholars** studying propaganda, historically and in modern, online systems
- **Information scientists** studying how false, misleading, or manipulative information spreads online
- **HCI researchers** looking at how the design of systems shapes how online tools are used to deceive and manipulate;
- **CSCW researchers:** looking at collaborative/participatory nature of online disinformation and how that
- **Sociologists** looking at how the structure of systems (networks, algorithms) reflects and shapes influence operations
- **Education scholars** developing new digital and civic media literacies

# Important Challenges

- Mis/disinformation is frequently **contextual**
- **Broader lenses** for studying misinformation:
  - More **languages** (not just English)
  - More **contexts and platforms** (not just Twitter) & **cross platform flow** of info
  - Additional **media** (not just text)
- **Protecting researchers** (harassment, mental health)
- Content suppression through harassment or censorship makes it hard to understanding what is **not happening**
- **Access to data**
- Working in an **adversarial space**

# Promising Directions

- **Understanding and documenting harms** that come from misinformation
  - **direct** and **indirect**, at the **individual, group, and societal levels**
- Closer collaboration with **civil society groups**
- **Education** and other individual-level interventions
- Platform support of **digital literacy** (giving people signals they need)
- Learning from **successful cases** of online groups handling information integrity issues well