\*Intro music plays and fades low, becoming background music\*

\*Trent\* Social media is a common part of almost every American’s life. Social media allows people from across the world to see what their friends are doing. It also lets people get a close look at celebrities’ lives. But one thing that a lot of people doesn’t often come to mind when thinking about social media is that for many people it is a major source of news.

\*MSNBC Video\* (Minute 0:31) “New polling conducted for BuzzFeed shows a whopping 92 percent of those who say they’ll definitely vote in 2016 have at least one social media account, and 40 percent say they share political news and information on a daily or weekly basis.”

\*Trent\* It’s pretty amazing that so many people get their news from social media. Pew Research Center conducted research on people over 50 between 2016 to 2018. They found that the percent of people 50 and older getting news from social media rose from 45 percent to 55 percent in those 2 years. The center also found nearly 80 percent of people under 50 get news from social media. \*cite Forbes article\*

\*TedTalk Video\*(Minute 3:30) “The best reporter is not necessarily the professional one but is the one who happens to be at the right time at the right place when something important is happening. So, instead of having to rely on a fixed, rigid network of 3,000 reporters, we can now tap into a network of millions of people like you and me sharing instantly on social networks what’s happening. And this is not only great because we can reach remote planes that we couldn’t reach before, but it’s also great because we can have a different perspective on events.”

\*Trent\* Teens rely on social media for their news more than any other source. This means a teenager is more likely to get their news from Facebook or Twitter than from reading an article or watching TV. This can be great for people getting their information fast, but there are some problems with getting news on social media, notably Fake News.

\*USA Today Video\* (Minute 0:00) “President Donald Trump might have been up to something when he coined the phrase ‘Fake News.’ Turns out these are more likely to spread on social media than real stories. A new study conducted at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology discovered that false news stories are 70 percent more likely to spread on Twitter than true stories.”

\*Trent\* There’s definitely a threat that the news you see on Facebook could be fake, so is anything being done about it? The answer is yes, and social media sites are getting better at preventing fake stories from being shared very quickly.

\*WSJ Video (Minute 0:00) “The continued controversy over fake news, misinformation, and hate speech on the internet is forcing social media companies like Twitter, Facebook and Google to take steps to more closely evaluate and monitor the content on their sites. Twitter has long grappled with complaints that some users repeatedly post abusing and harassing messages. On Tuesday the company announced that it would let users block tweets containing specific words from showing up in their notifications. It will also improve tools for reporting abusive and harmful tweets and train it’s support team to better recognize harassment. Facebook has also announced it will bar websites that post misleadingly or fabricated news articles from using its ad selling tools”

\*Trent\* Social media is here to say, and it’s likely that more and more people will get their news from social media as time goes on. You can play a part by sharing stories on social media and saying something when you see a story that doesn’t seem true.

\*Background music fades in\*

<https://www.techtimes.com/articles/165158/20160615/how-social-media-is-changing-the-way-we-access-news-study.htm>

<https://fortune.com/2017/09/08/facebook-twitter-snap-news/>

<https://www.techtimes.com/articles/245012/20190815/youtube-social-media-are-teens-top-sources-of-news-according-to-survey.htm>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Puro_L7O4eY> (ted talk)

<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/insidestory/2017/10/fake-news-social-media-stopped-171009191121400.html>

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/05/09/fake-news-donald-trump-journalism-video-audio-facebook-twitter-column/590006002/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NSS0ePRc1AE> (WSJ video about tackling fake news)