



Menoufia University  
Faculty of Arts  
Department of Mass Communication

**The Impact of Rumors and Fake News to which  
Egyptian University Students are exposed through Social  
Networking Sites: A field study**

**An. M. A Thesis in Arts, Dept of Mass Communication**

*Submitted by*

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2020

## **Summary of the study**

**Researcher name:** Gihan Ashraf Ibrahim Mohamed

**Title of Thesis:** The impact of rumors and fake news to which Egyptian university students are exposed through social networking sites: A field study.

**Researcher:** Department of Media (Journalism) - Faculty of Arts - Menoufia University

**Abstract:** The researcher aimed to identify the relationship between the exposure of Egyptian university students to rumors and fake news spread through social networking sites and their effects on them as a main goal.

- The study is descriptive, in which the researcher used the survey method, which is the most used in media and social research, as the researcher applied a field study to an intentional sample of 400 Egyptian college students distributed over Cairo University, Alexandria University to represent government universities, Sixth of October University and Pharos University to represent universities Own.

The most important finding of the study are **as follows:**

- 47.8% of respondents were on social media (more than 2 hours), 33.8% (one to two hours), and 18.3% (less than an hour).
- The social content came in the forefront of the quality of the content followed by the respondents on social media by 33.3%, followed by (sports) by 24.9%, followed by (political) by 22.4%, then (technical) by 21.4%, then came (Religious) by 8.1%.
- That "destabilization of national security" and (to create confusion and shake confidence in society) and (intimidation) were the most important reasons for the spread and spread of rumors and fake news through social networking sites.
- The ambiguity of the news source affects its credibility and the possibility of re-publishing it on social media.
- There was a statistically significant correlation between the rate of respondents browsing the social media sites and the motives of their follow-up to these sites, as well as there was no relationship between the rate of respondents browsing the sites that publish fake news (rumors or fake news) through social media sites and the motives of their follow-up to those sites.

A statistically significant correlation was established between the motivations of the respondents to follow the sites that publish false news (rumors or fake news) through social media and the trends of the respondents when exposed to models of rumors and fake news.