

YALICHECKS

YOUR GUIDE TO

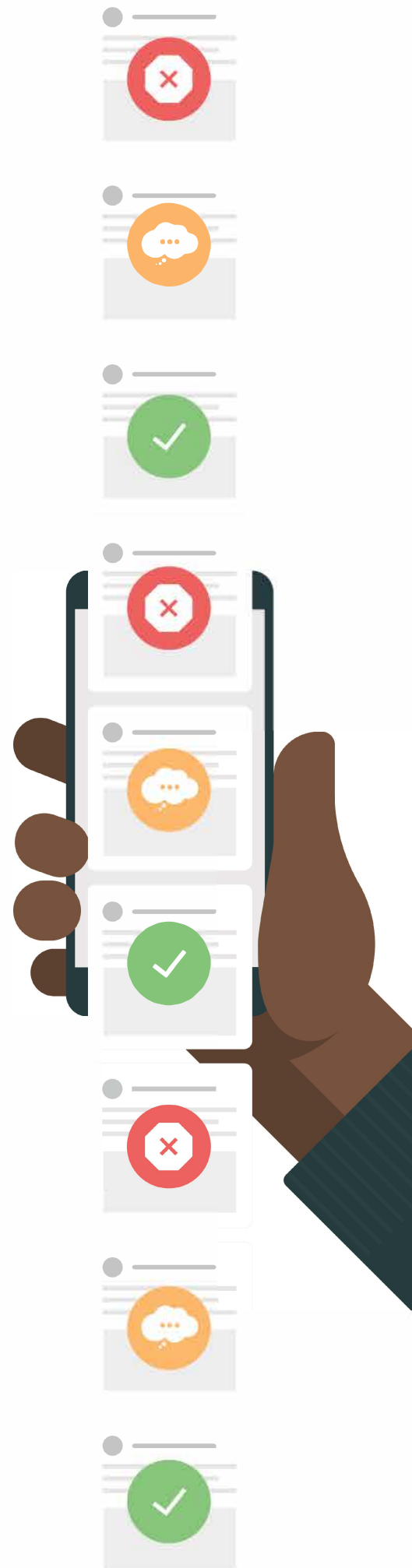
FACILITATING A SESSION

ON UNDERSTANDING

AND COUNTERING

DISINFORMATION

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Your Guide to Facilitating a Discussion Using “Understanding and Countering Disinformation”

Using this YALILearns guide and the YALI Network online course, “[Understanding and Countering Disinformation](#),” you and your peers can facilitate a community discussion on the destructive effects of disinformation, common practices bad actors use to manipulate populations, and what you can do to counter disinformation in your networks.

Total Time: 78 minutes

Introduce Yourself (5 minutes)

- Introduce yourself and thank your participants for attending your YALILearns session. Provide a brief overview of the YALI Network and direct participants to [yali.state.gov](#) for more information about the Network and [yali.state.gov/checks](#) for more resources on media literacy and countering disinformation.
- Briefly share why you are interested in countering disinformation and what participants can expect from this discussion.

Icebreaker (10 minutes)

- Have participants share recent stories they have seen on social media or in their communities that have included false information. Have they seen a clickbait title on a news article or computer bots disguised as real people under the comments of a social media post? Take 5 to 10 minutes and discuss.

Watch Lesson 1: Disinformation With Intent to Harm (10 minutes)

Group Discussion (10 minutes)

Ask participants to reflect on the first lesson by discussing the following questions:

- The information landscape is constantly changing and growing. With billions of people on WhatsApp and the increasing amount of people interacting on social media, how can we use online platforms to highlight credible and trustworthy information?
- Disinformation tactics have been used for centuries, yet most people do not know their harmful effects. What are some best practices for talking about disinformation with friends and family for the first time?



Watch Lesson 2: The Disinformers (5 minutes)

Group Discussion (15 minutes)

- Have you seen disinformation tactics used to manipulate human emotions or for political gain?
How did you identify these tactics?
What are some other reasons why disinformers spread disinformation?
- We can all fall into the trap of believing or spreading disinformation by following confirmation biases and opinions. Discuss some ideas to help you and your peers learn to consider and disregard these biases.

Watch Lesson 3: Countering Disinformation (8 minutes)

Group Discussion (10 minutes)

- Have you recognized disinformation campaigns? Were they related to elections, health crises, or conflict? Look for common trends in the answers of the participants.
- What steps do you take to fact-check a video, news article, social media post, or piece of information?

Wrap Up (5 minutes)

- Thank your participants and encourage them to go online, take the YALI Network Online Course, “Understanding and Countering Disinformation,” and pass the associated quiz to earn their certificate.
- Encourage participants to sign up for the YALI Network by visiting yali.state.gov

To learn more about disinformation, please visit yali.state.gov/checks.