

Evaluating Resources

(The SIFT Method)

Stop!

- **Before reacting or sharing, pause and ask:** Do I know and trust this source?
- Consider your emotional response and whether the information aligns with your expectations.
- Avoid sharing or engaging until you have verified its credibility.
- Stopping ensures you stay focused and avoid misinformation.

Investigate the Source

- Research the author or organization behind the content.
- Use techniques like lateral reading or tools like Google or Wikipedia to determine their credibility, expertise, and potential biases.
- This quick step helps you decide if the source is trustworthy.

Find Better Coverage

- Instead of relying on one source, look for other credible outlets reporting on the same claim.
- Trusted sources with a history of accurate reporting help verify information and provide balanced perspectives.
- Finding better coverage can confirm or refute the original claim.

Trace Claims, Quotes, and Media to the Original Context

- Follow links or references to locate the original source of claims, quotes, or media.
- Check if the content is accurately represented or distorted.
- Tracing back to the original ensures you understand the full context and avoid misinterpretation.