EVALUATING ONLINE SOURCES THROUGH



LATERAL READING



HOW YOU WERE (PROBABLY) TAUGHT TO EVALUATE WEBSITES

- Is it a .com or a .org?
 - While some .orgs are reliable (pewresearch.org), some are biased or partisan (911truth.org).
- Does the site have **ads**?

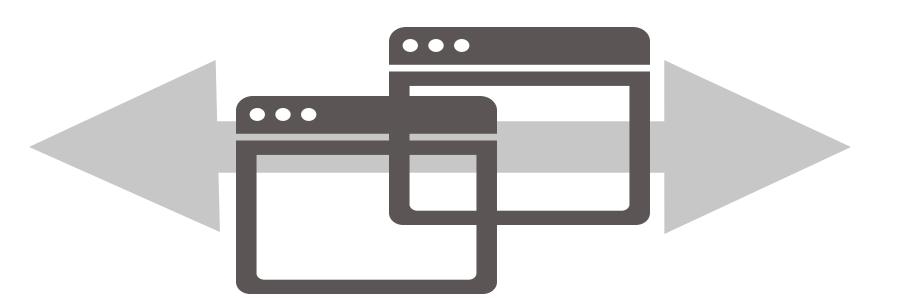
 Some of the most authoritative news websites are .coms with ads (nytimes.com, wsj.com)
- P Are there citations?

Non-credible websites often include citations to other articles on the same site.

Currency can be important for timely topics, but the newest source isn't always the best source.

While sometimes helpful, these are SUPERFICIAL MARKERS OF CREDIBILITY

HOW YOU *SHOULD* BE EVALUATING WEBSITES





A skill used by **professional fact-checkers** to jump outside of a source and use **new browser tabs** to seek additional information about a source's credibility, reputation, funding sources, and biases.







Lateral reading involves using **Wikipedia**, credible **news** sources, and other **references** to better understand what a source is.



UNFAMILIAR WEBSITE

NEW BROWSER TAB

INFO ABOUT SOURCE