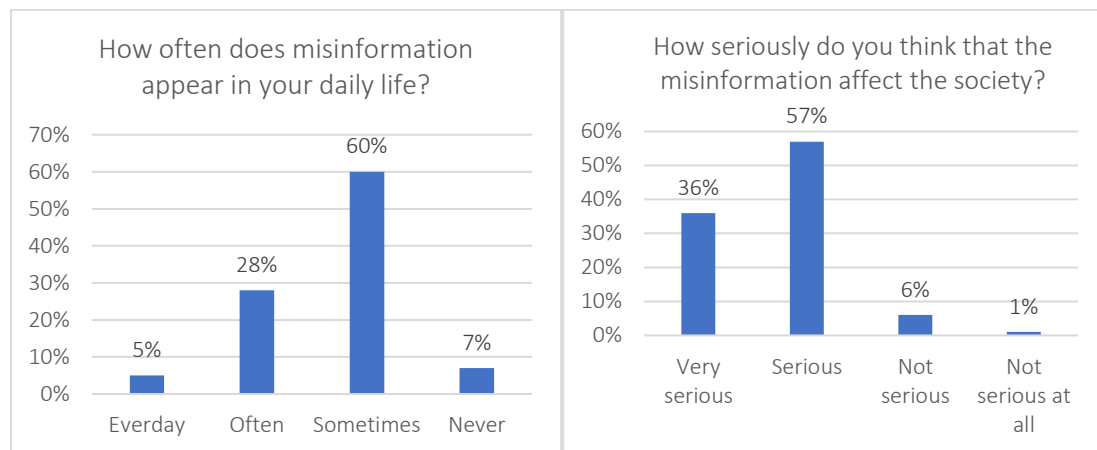


# Observation of Taiwanese Opinion on Misinformation

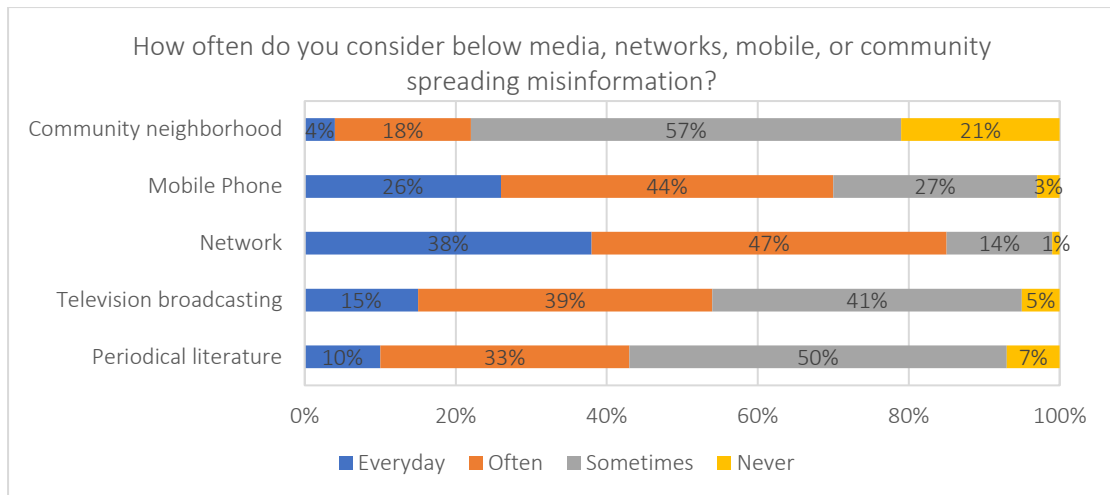
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In recent years, the spread of misinformation has become more serious. Public awareness of the issue, as well as the identification and verification of the misinformation, need to be discussed further. According to the survey results, the spread of misinformation is still common. Most people believe the influence of misinformation to society is detrimental. Nearly 90% of people consider misinformation to occur in daily life; meanwhile, people have started to become aware of the influence that misinformation has on society.



The main sources of misinformation include media workers, politicians, and foreign entities. And misinformation from these three sources can potentially lead the public to distrust societal institutions. Many people believe that misinformation will reduce trust between social groups and view it as a threat to democracy and state governance.

Not surprisingly, network and mobile phones are considered as the most used channels of spreading misinformation to the Taiwanese public. Surveys state that 85% of the public believe that network is largely responsible for the spread of misinformation, while 70% also include mobile phones as a major factor. In contrast, people believe Traditional media to be less likely contributors to misinformation. The least likely source of misinformation spread was through individual interactions within one's community.



### How do people discern misinformation when it is so widespread?

According to the survey results, more than half of respondents think they are not influenced by misinformation, but don't have confidence in others to be the same. More than 90% of the people think that others will be affected by misinformation.

Results claim the following as the most effective means of combating misinformation. First, discussing with relatives and friends is viewed as the main way to conduct fact-check. Second, listening to the judgement of professionals and researching independently. Using a fact check mechanism is the least likely method taken. Alternatively, reminding relatives and friends of what is misinformation and posting clarifications is the most common means of identifying misinformation.

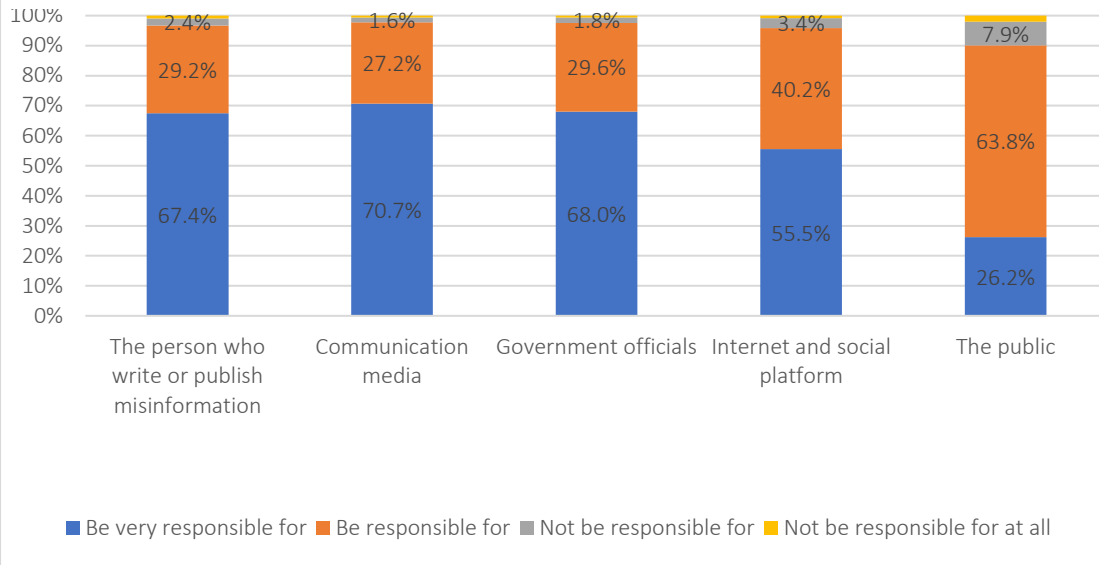
Lastly, 94% of people agree that misinformation can be identified through education.

Most people believe that the persons who write or publish misinformation, communication media, government officials, internet and social platforms and the public have a role in stopping the spread of misinformation; with communication media viewed as holding the highest amount of responsibility towards the goal.

More than 90% of people believe the government should legislate social media platforms to establish mechanisms that protect against of misinformation.

And there are more than 70% of people think that "even though it harms the freedom of people's speech, the government and social platforms should restrict the spread of misinformation on the internet."

Which of the following people or units do you think is responsible for reducing the spread of misinformation?



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