Presenting...

Fighting Fake News
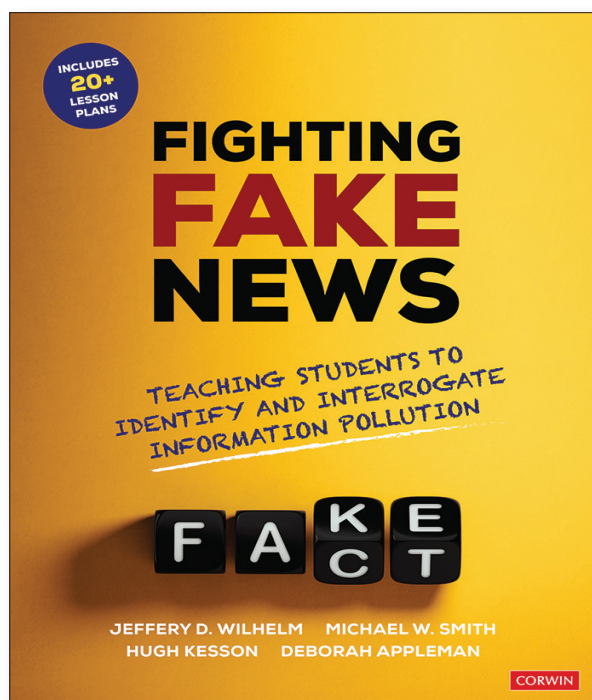## Teaching Students to Identify and Interrogate Informatioun Pollution

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Critical thinking and online reading need to go hand in hand—but they often don't. Students click, swipe, and believe because they don't know how to do otherwise. At times, so do we. And that's a problem. *Fighting Fake News* combats this challenge by helping you model how to read, myth-bust, truth-test, and respond in ways that lead to wisdom rather than reactivity.

No matter what content you teach, the lessons showcased here provide engaging, collaborative reading and discussion experiences so students can:

- Notice how teacher and peers read digital content, to be mindful of how various reading pathways influence perception

- Identify the author background, the website sponsor, and other evidence that help set a piece in context

- Stress-test the facts by evaluating news sources, reading laterally, and other critical reading strategies

- Use "Reader's Rules of Notice" to learn to identify common rhetorical devices used to influence the reader

- Be aware of how for-profit social media platforms feed on our responses to narrow rather than widen our reading landscape

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We are still in the wild west era of the digital age, scrambling to impart a safer, ethical framework for evaluating information. Thankfully, it distills to one mission: teach students (and ourselves) how to think critically, and we will forever have the tools to fight fake news.

Driving while texting is dangerous; but so is sending our students on the digital highway without critical thinking skills.

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