



the line in between

Information is the most valuable commodity in the world today. People sit through hours of news reports, scanning different channels and social media platforms to know what is happening around the world. A reasonable enough effort to gain knowledge, one would think. Yet, what happens when information is processed and refined to serve a means other than the truth, and opinions based on managed truths are presented by television networks? Let's dive into this issue.

On the one hand, the media spreads awareness. It allows viewers to be part of a larger conversation and acquire a knowledge base on different topics. We cannot be in more than one place at a time, so watching the news helps us stay connected. The media has served so many benefits for the world with the information it brings every day, from political exposures, criminal activities, and conflict-related news to entertainment and weather reports. The point of journalism is to hold people in power accountable, and journalism without a moral position is impossible. Many people are responsible for the news we are fed every day, either as reporters or freelance journalists.

On the other hand, mass media, including the news and social media, have been corrupted by hidden interest groups that sow seeds of confusion and advertise the things that suit their agendas, keeping people glued to their screens on half-truths and sugar-coated sales

itches. The repercussions of misinformation are immeasurable and can not always be detected. Today, the sift factor in investigating the news landscape has shifted in the direction of simply entertaining the perceived interests of the viewers and fulfilling the wishes of those in control. "The control of information is something the elite always does, particularly in a despotic form of government. Information and knowledge is power. If you can control information, you can control people" Tom Clancy

"Information is not knowledge. The only source of knowledge is experience" said Albert Einstein. I quote this man because, although I agree with him, I disagree with the second part of his statement. I don't think experience is the only source of knowledge. Not all information is indeed knowledge, but even with experience, information is only as reliable as the person who receives it, and knowledge can come from information but is useless unless it serves its real purpose. Sometimes in life, we weigh the pros and cons of a situation. Today, I think the cons outweigh the pros of information from the news. So, I do not believe that we can rely on everything we watch on the news, or else we might drown in misinformation and starve of true knowledge.

By Angel Amadin

