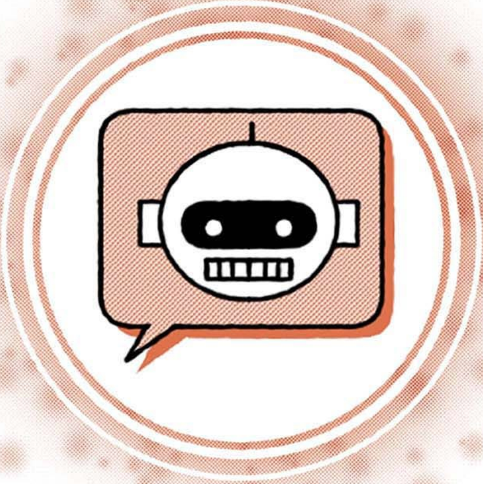
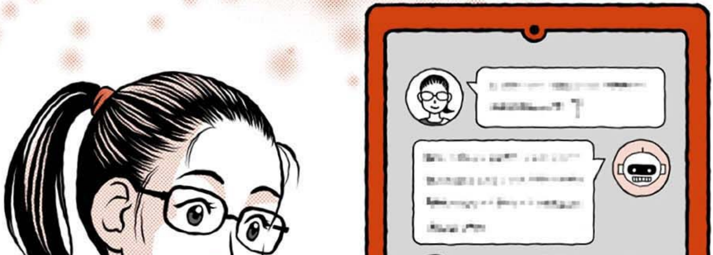
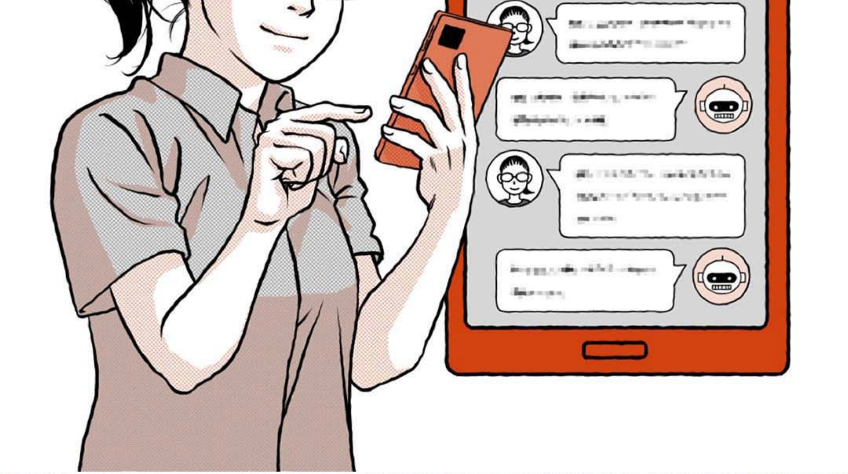
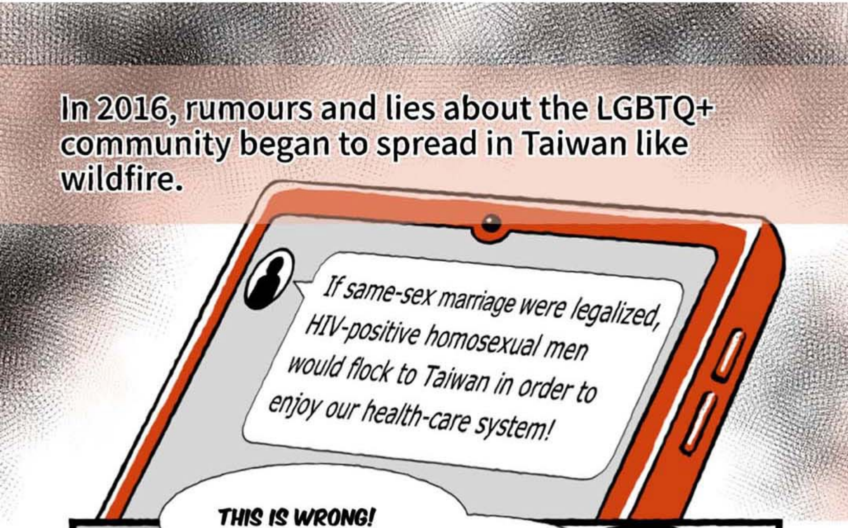
On the trail of rumours
- A helpful bot -





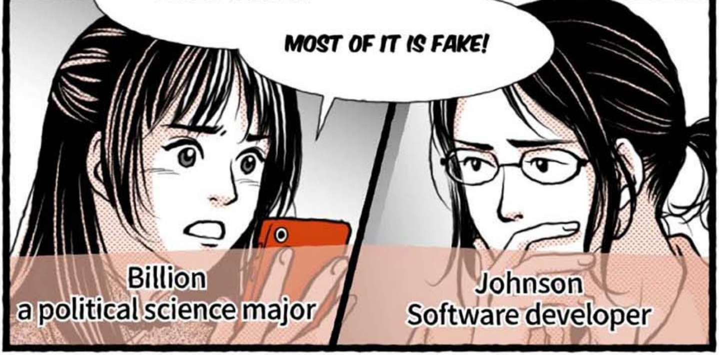


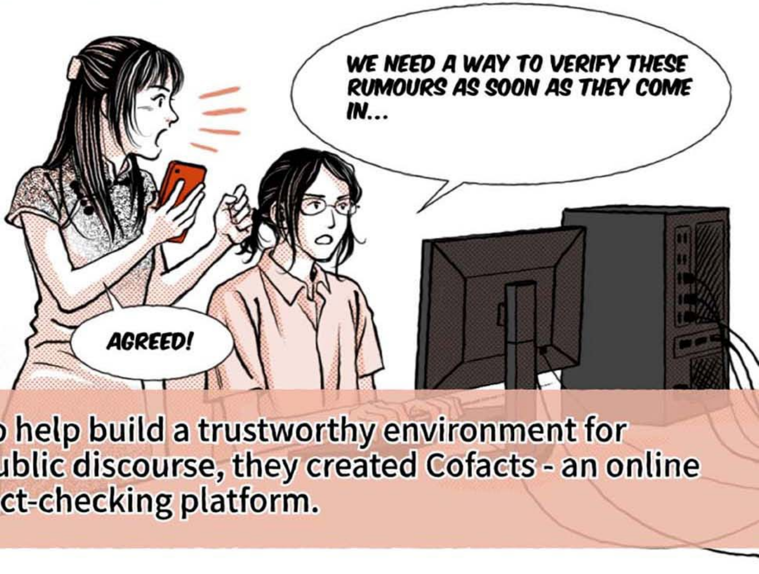


In 2016, rumours and lies about the LGBTQ+ community began to spread in Taiwan like wildfire.

If same-sex marriage were legalized, HIV-positive homosexual men would flock to Taiwan in order to enjoy our health-care system!

THIS IS WRONG!

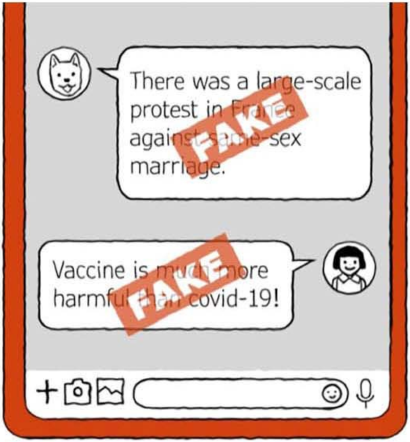

MOST OF IT IS FAKE!
Billion
a political science major
Johnson
Software developer


WE NEED A WAY TO VERIFY THESE RUMOURS AS SOON AS THEY COME IN...
AGREED!

To help build a trustworthy environment for public discourse, they created Cofacts - an online fact-checking platform.

Everyone likes to share content.

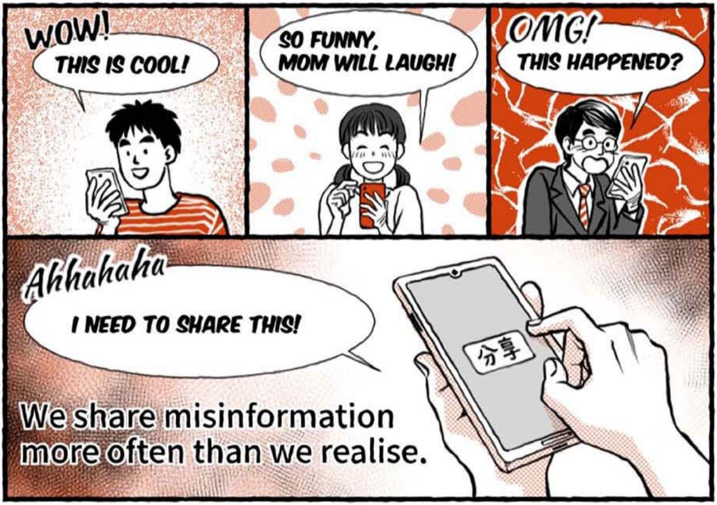
The more sensational it is, the more we might share it with others.



There was a large-scale protest in France against same-sex marriage.

Vaccine is much more harmful than covid-19!

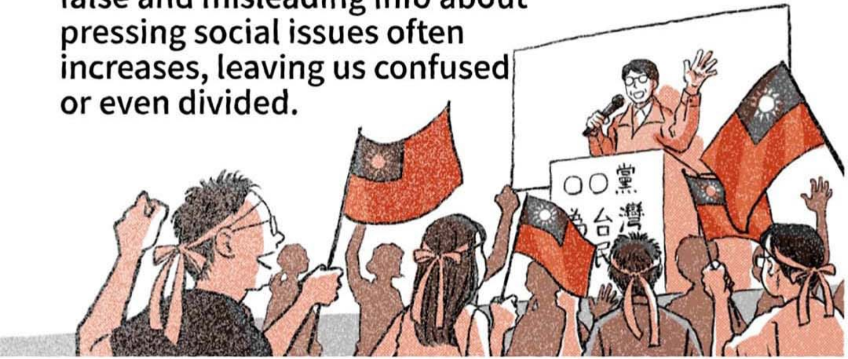
But how do we know if it's actually true?

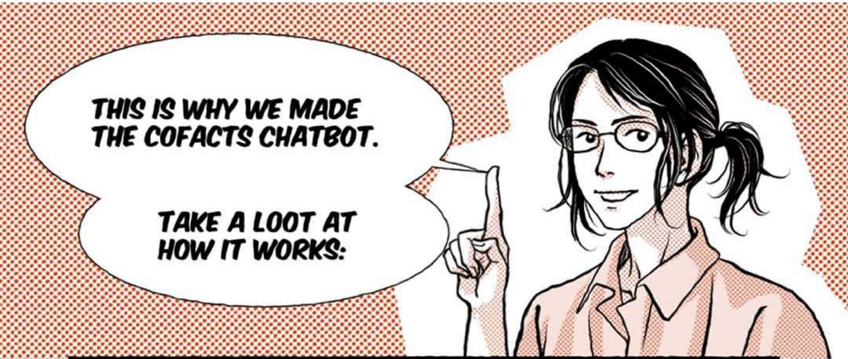


WOW!
THIS IS COOL!
SO FUNNY, MOM WILL LAUGH!
OMG!
THIS HAPPENED?
Ahhahaha
I NEED TO SHARE THIS!
分享

We share misinformation more often than we realise.

Especially in election times, false and misleading info about pressing social issues often increases, leaving us confused or even divided.




THIS IS WHY WE MADE THE COFACTS CHATBOT.
TAKE A LOOT AT HOW IT WORKS:

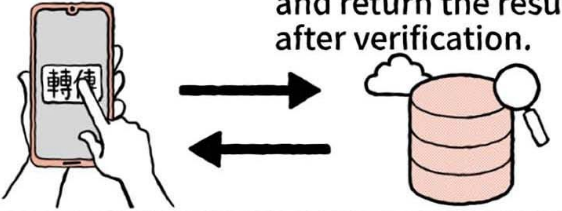
When you stumble upon information you are unsure about in LINE messenger...

Is this true?

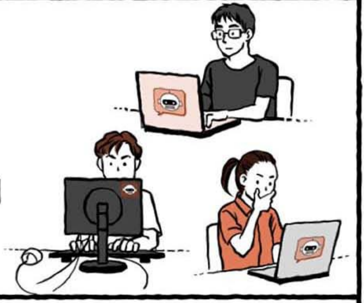
[1] You can forward it to the Cofacts bot.

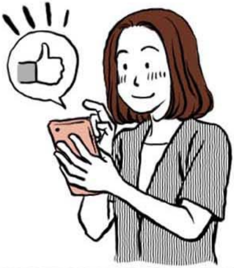
[2] The bot will search its database

and return the results after verification.



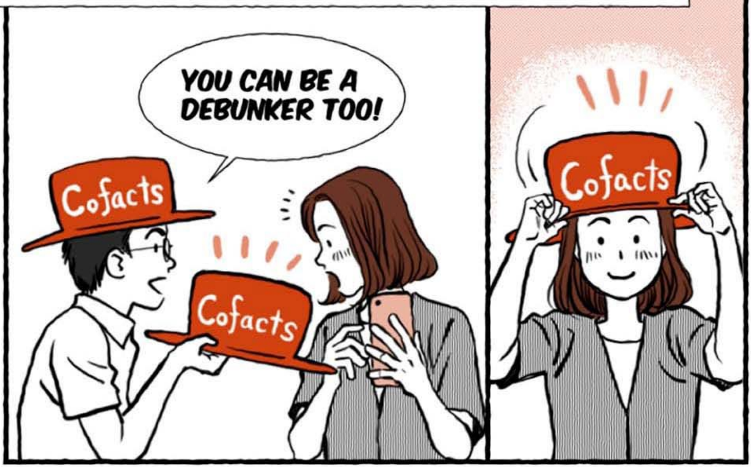
[3] If the database doesn't have enough information, it will send it to volunteers who fact-check it and add verified details.





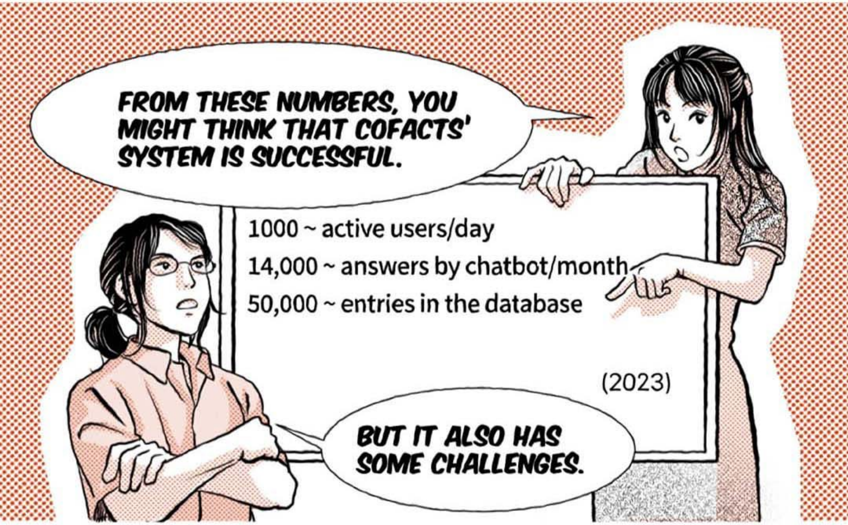
[4] If there is no simple answer, you get several options. By rating the answers based on clarity, helpfulness, and authenticity, you can help the database determine the best answer.

Cofacts hopes to increase critical thinking about the content we receive and disseminate.

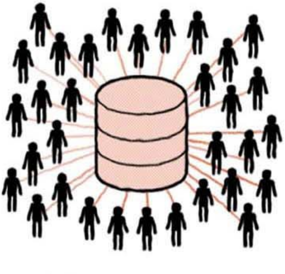

YOU CAN BE A DEBUNKER TOO!
Cofacts
Cofacts
Cofacts

Cofacts has made the source code open.

So, everyone can use the code to program their own chatbots for messengers like LINE.

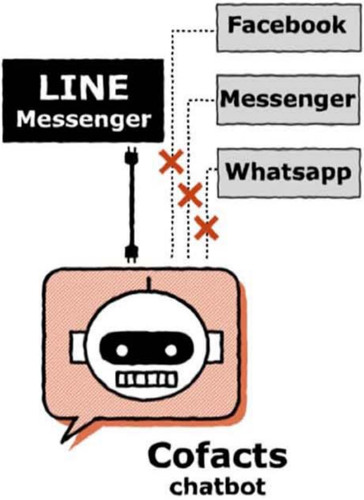

FROM THESE NUMBERS, YOU MIGHT THINK THAT COFACTS' SYSTEM IS SUCCESSFUL.
1000 ~ active users/day
14,000 ~ answers by chatbot/month
50,000 ~ entries in the database
(2023)
BUT IT ALSO HAS SOME CHALLENGES.

Everyone can be a part of Cofacts' fact-check community. And the chatbot's database relies on this crowdsourced knowledge.



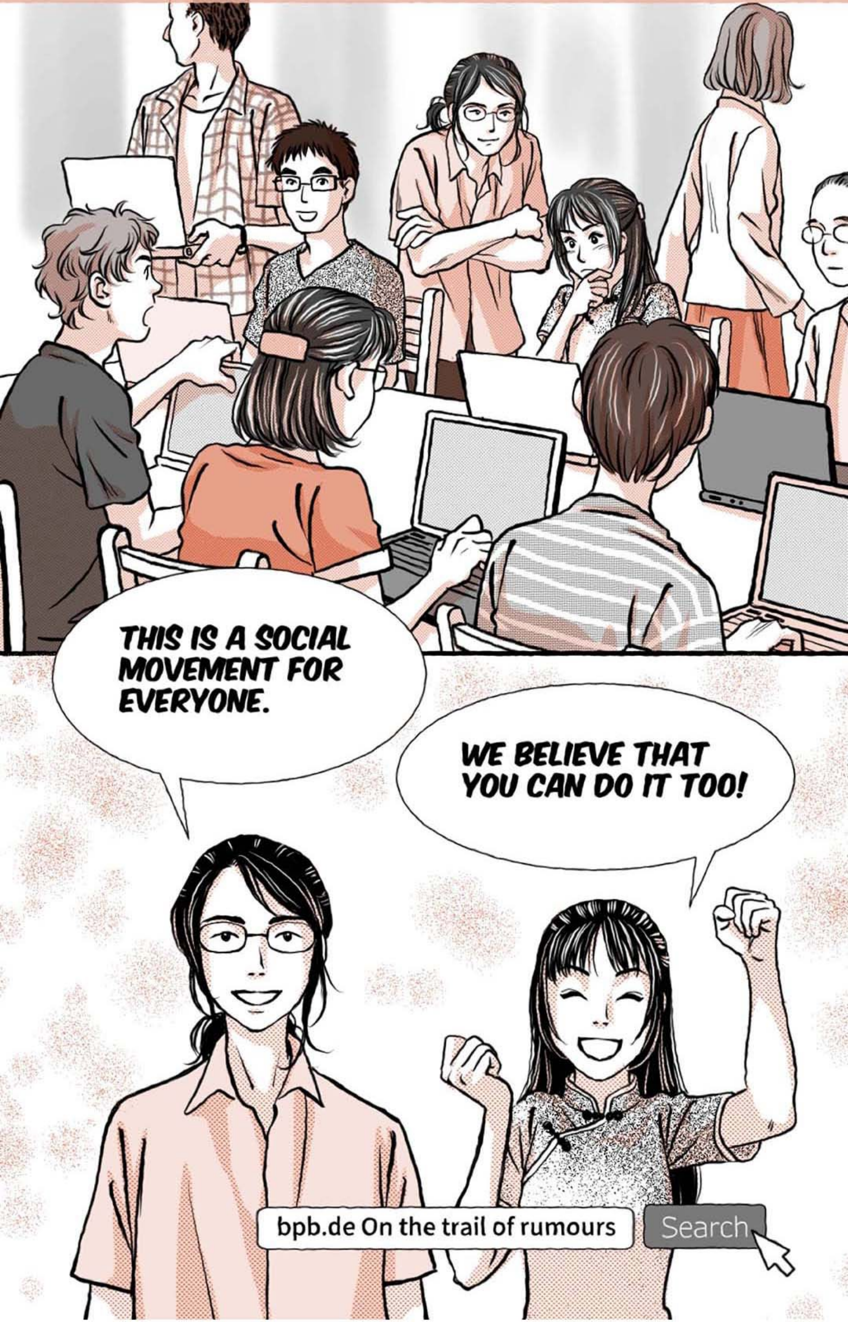
Some, however, raise credibility issues: If everyone can verify, everyone can falsify information too.

IS IT REALLY TRUSTWORTHY?


Facebook
LINE Messenger
Messenger
Whatsapp
Cofacts chatbot

Another common risk for tools that rely on access to platforms is being dependent on a platform company's access rules. This can be very costly or change suddenly.

Still, Cofacts continues to aim to facilitate dialogue and to help rebuild trust in society at large.


THIS IS A SOCIAL MOVEMENT FOR EVERYONE.
WE BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN DO IT TOO!
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