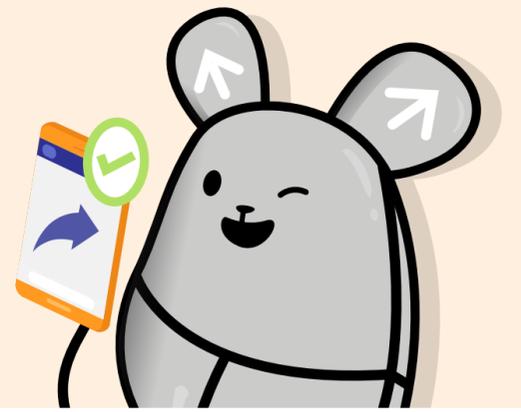


RESPONSIBLE SHARING OF INFORMATION

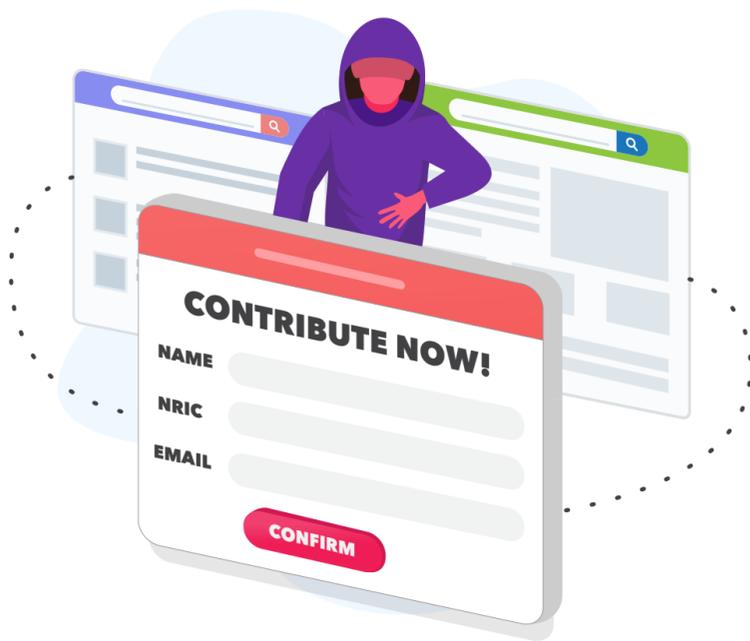


WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO SHARE RESPONSIBLY?

When you share responsibly, you ensure that information you pass on to your community is verified, constructive and benefits others.

WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES OF IRRESPONSIBLE SHARING?

The irresponsible sharing of information can lead to a number of negative consequences:



Hoaxes and scams:

- When we share information that is not verified, it can mislead others into believing hoaxes and falling for scams.
- In March 2020, a fake email by "Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong" encouraging readers to respond with "contributions and thoughts" was circulated online.
- By replying to the hoax email, unwitting respondents would fall prey to a phishing scam where hackers and criminals would get access to their personal information.



Spread of unnecessary fear:

- Sharing untrue information can also spread unnecessary fear.
- In April 2020, a message was posted in a Facebook group claiming that food courts and coffee shops were set to close, with supermarkets only open two days a week.
- The post also encouraged members in the group to stock up on supplies to last a month.
- This unsubstantiated information had the ability to cause public alarm and incite panic buying.

#BeSmart

Be Aware of What You Share

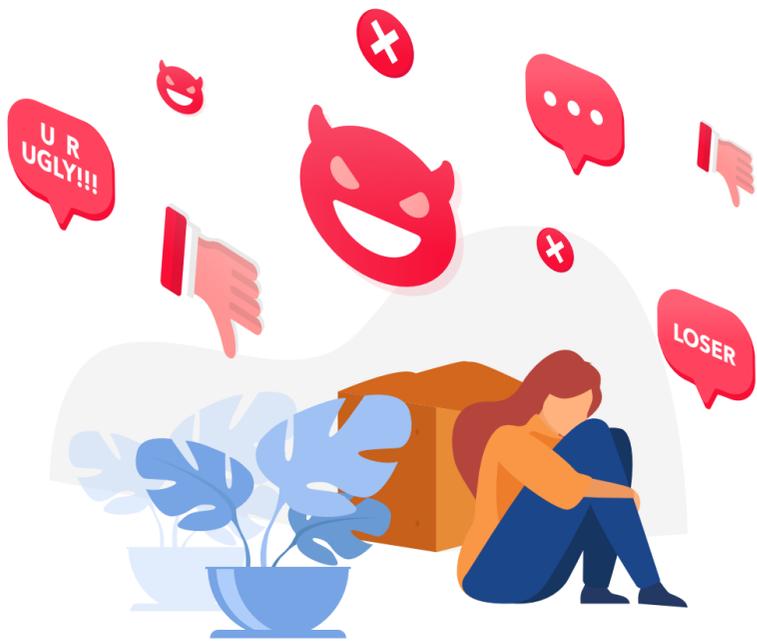
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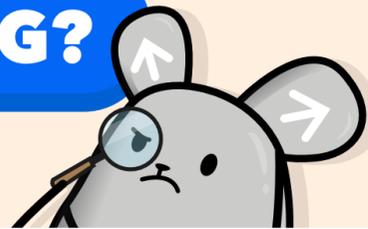


Negative cyber environment:

- When we share negative content and comments online about other people, it has a real impact on their feelings and emotions.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has given rise to a number of online vigilantes who take extreme measures when reporting those who flout safe distancing rules.
- Some of them directly confront and take videos of those who they believe are not conforming to the rules, and in extreme cases, shame and verbally abuse their victims.

HOW CAN I PRACTISE RESPONSIBLE SHARING?

Before you share anything, T.H.I.N.K. twice and ask yourself the following:

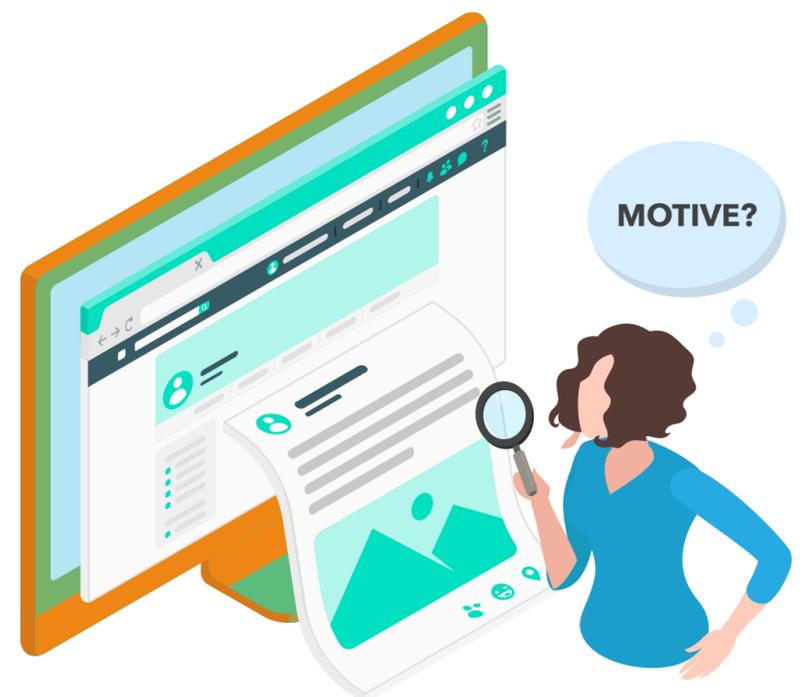


IS IT TRUE?

- Check against other reliable sources and news channels to verify if the content is real.
- Run the story through websites such as Factly (for Singapore-related content), FactCheck or Snopes (for international content).
- To check if an unverified content or message is a scam, go to scamalert.sg or call the Anti-Scam hotline at 1800-772-6688.

IS IT HELPFUL?

- Before you share it, read the full story and assess if the article is a helpful source of information.
- Think about what motives the content creator may have before you share it. Individuals with their own agenda may pass off opinions as facts when creating the content.
- Hoaxes and scams may also entice victims with deals that could be too good to be true. While you may think that you're sharing a great deal with your friends, it's always better to verify first.



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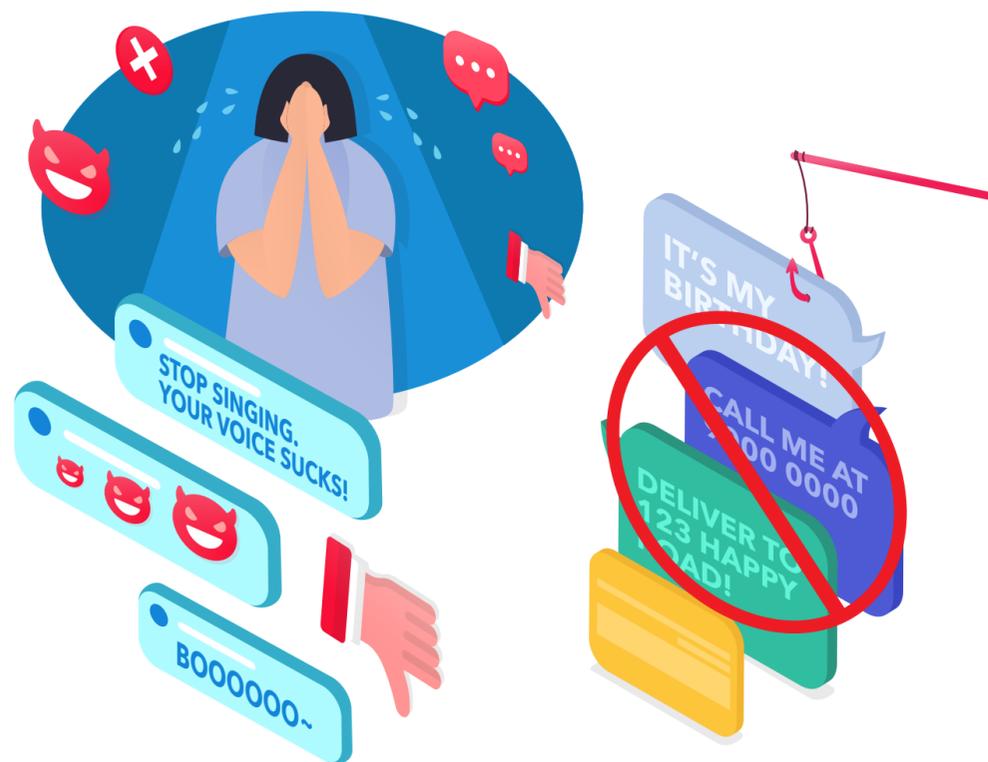


IS IT INSPIRING?

- Consider if the content helps to encourage others to act in a positive way, and if it supports a meaningful cause that you believe in.
- Think if you would be proud to have your name associated with the creators of the content or the comment that you are sharing.
- Contributing to a positive cyber world means that we share content that inspires and uplifts others.

IS IT NECESSARY?

- Before sharing any information, consider if what you're sharing is beneficial to the community.
- Also, consider if the opinion you want to share will have any negative impact on anyone.
- Avoid oversharing personal information, such as your phone number, address and birth date.
- Be mindful that your personal texts, videos and messages may also be shared or leaked, even if they were intended to be private.



IS IT KIND?

- When you're sharing a comment or piece of content, consider if the words, tone and attitude are kind.
- If you're sharing something entertaining at the expense of someone else, you could be unintentionally causing harm.
- An online comment can often hurt long after it has been posted, as it may continue to circulate online due to sharing of screenshots.
- As a general rule of thumb, don't say anything online that you would not say to someone's face.



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