



The Heroes and Villains Guidebook ANNEX 3 | Introducing the Villains

In the world of smartphones, social media, and internet, some digital troublemakers have shown up on the scene. These online adversaries have their own sneaky ways of causing problems. You might not know their names, but you've probably seen their tricks. There's the one who loves to snatch up your private info without asking, the mean one who bullies people online, the tricky one who spreads fake stories, and the sly one who tries to make you believe things that aren't true. Our Heroes have to be on full alert ..





MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY



The Thief is a relentless gatherer of our personal information. It employs sophisticated tools and intelligent software to access our private data and observe our lives. Sometimes, it doesn't even need to steal because we willingly provide it with what it seeks. Have you ever wondered if someone has read your private messages on social networks or used your data for online shopping? That's the work of the Thief.



The Thief defeated. But don't fret, our Heroes (Reflect) and (Act) are here to help you confront the Thief. The key to victory lies in understanding what personal information is accessible and who can access it. By deploying our Media and Information Literacy (MIL) skills, we can create secure passwords and identify and respond to digital security threats. Soon, you'll be protected, and the Villain's movements will be restricted.



MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY



The Bully

The Bully is a menacing and formidable adversary. With its helmet-like skull and wrestler's mask, it's well-protected while inflicting harm on others. It revels in causing suffering by engaging in cyberbullying, amplifying hate speech through bots and trolls, and spreading defamatory lies about individuals. Remember that mean post that went viral? Chances are, it was the work of the Bully.



The Bully defeated.

However, the Bully can be defeated. Hate speech, stigmatization, and defamation have real-world consequences, but our Heroes (Reflect), (Create), and (Act) are well-equipped to counter this menace. They recognize their responsibility in combating hate speech and respond with a powerful wave of love and understanding.



MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY



The Agitator

The Agitator thrives on sowing confusion and chaos, primarily through the dissemination of false and misleading information. It's no surprise that it had a field day during the pandemic. With its three spinning heads, it keeps you guessing about the true source of its messages. Beware, it may pretend to be human, but it operates in perfect harmony with algorithms, bots, and automation.



The Agitator defeated.

The Agitator can have life-threatening consequences, as seen in your aunt's WhatsApp message about a supposed COVID cure. But our heroes are adept at comparing various sources and analyzing content to uncover its malevolent intentions. They defeated the Agitator and brought its little helpers under control.



MEDIA AND INFORMATION LITERACY



The Manipulator

The Manipulator may appear innocent at first, but it can quickly ensnare you in its web. Its goal is power, achieved by infiltrating our thoughts with censored, polarizing, and targeted content. Collaborating with the Agitator and using algorithms, it ensures that we only consume and believe what it wants, creating divisions among people with differing beliefs.



The Manipulator defeated.

If the Manipulator is successful, you may not even realize its influence. But our heroes know the right questions to ask: Why am I consuming this content? Is someone trying to manipulate my thoughts? Is this information accurate? Reflection is their primary tool for defeating the Manipulator, especially in times when public opinion matters. Once exposed, the Villain loses its strength.