<u>Bruce Ryan</u> 2/22/2024 ⊖

2. What is the impact of IL on society?

\ominus	Less health inequalities										•	
\bigcirc	Enabling people to have an understanding of the amount of information, how to find it effectively and use ethically											
Θ	A more literate and fair society .											
e	A rational and informed citizenry in a robust democratic society											
e	(Hopefully!) it can help create citizens that think critically about information and systems, and how people contribute to and interact with them											
Ð	The growth of QAnon, according to Matthew Hannah (Hannah, M. N. (2023). Information Literacy in the Age of Internet Conspiracism. Journal of Information Literacy, 17(1), 204-220.)	-		•	-	•						
\ominus	Ability to have critical, informed discussions											
\ominus	the perpetuation of middle class and white values											
e	People are able to at least suspect that information they come across might be wrong. They don't fall for everything they read.											
\ominus	Better IL? Then better, more effective, engagement with wider society. I could argue there is a push towards worse IL (propaganda, fake news, deep fakes, disinformation, etc) to deliberately prevent good engagement and enable dodgy political views to gain power.		•	•	•	•	-	-		-	-	
e	Informed citizens who can participate in democracies. Productive, rational debate among those who disagree. Healthy dissent.											
\ominus	More IL must generally be a good thing we would assume that it will contribute to people being more informed, more empowered, better connected.								-			

⇔	Less 'hot takes' and more informed opinions. A more healthy and respectful societal discourse with less hostile polarisation and more tolerance.			•					
θ	Full citizen participation								
θ	Helps people think critically, question what is fake news!								
θ	Informed citizens who are critical thinkers								
⇔	More people have access to authoritative data and information	-							
θ	People thinking more critically about information								
⇔	Responsibility and human rights								
	More responsibility on services and businesses via government policies to safeguard people's right	-							
	to good information, evidence and truth and less misuse of personal data and information for gain	-							
⇔	When faced with a complex information environment and large scale communication platforms at hand, an								
	understanding of this can have big effects.								-
θ	Imagine what IL looks like in a dictatorship. I suppose it exists underground and has to be suppressed.								
Θ	People not led so much by the biased media								
⇔	I think we also put too much on information literacy. It can't fix all the problems								
⇔	IL and society								
	Lack of IL and too much information create dangerous worlds. We must educate and fund this essential skill								
	from earliest possible age & in the interim educate general population. Promote the positive not the								
	negative messages about information handling								
e	Aligns with the UN sustainability goal 4to give people access to education								
θ	continued funding for librarians								

÷	We should try and understand why people believe conspiracy theories though, because I agree that IL is not 'the' solution - it is just part of it			-	-	-	-	•	-	-		
Ξ	Going outside of one's bubble is very enticing but people of all political stripes don't always want to		-	•				-	-		-	
	listen to other points of view. Not sure precisely how this relates to Information Literate societies.											
Θ	People learning to take responsibility for the information they create. Role models of good practice	-						-	-			

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