IT'S A TRAAP...TEST!

AVOID THE INFORMATION BEAR SNARE

Tracking the reliability of a source isn't typically a straight shot.
Follow the TRAAP Test to help you evaluate sources like an info pro.

TIMELINESS of information

- When was it published and/or posted?
- Has it been revised, updated, superseded?
- Is it considered current or outdated in its field of research?
- If online, are the links functional?

RELEVANCE of topic

- How well does it relate to your topic?
- Is it more useful than other results?
- Who is the intended audience?
- Is it at an appropriate or comparable level of discussion?

AUTHORITY of creator

- Who is responsible for it & is contact info available?
- Are they qualified & can their credentials be verified?
- What are their organizational affiliations & reputation?
- If online, what does the URL reveal? .com, .gov, .edu, etc

ACCURACY of content

- Is it supported by evidence?
- Has it been reviewed or refereed?
- Can it be verified in other reputable sources?
- Are their spelling, grammatical, or typographical errors?

PURPOSE of existence

- Is it to inform, persuade, or entertain? Is this intention made clear?
- Are any biases (personal, ideological, institutional, etc) evident?
- Is the point of view based in fact, opinion, or propoganda?
- Does it use emotional or objective language?

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