Tierney Real News Network does not disclose information about its ownership. The site appears to be owned by Peggy Traeger Tierney, who is listed as the writer on all of the site's posts. The site does not provide biographical information about Tierney.

A Breaking News link at the top of the site directs visitors to what appears to be Tierney's Facebook page.

The site does not run advertisements.

TierneyRealNewsNetwork.com primarily publishes stories about U.S. politics. The site is presented in a blog format, with stories appearing in reverse chronological order.

Headlines are often generic in nature, such as "UPDATE Wuhan Virus (3/20)" and "REAL News (3/14/20)." The site frequently writes approvingly of U.S. President Donald Trump and is critical of Democrats and others who oppose the president.

Tierney Real News Network has published false and misleading information about the COVID-19 virus on multiple occasions.

For example, in a March 2020 story, titled "REAL News about the Wuhan Virus," the site promoted several debunked claims, including the claim that "Bill Gates funded the Wuhan lab in China that released the Wuhan virus and is already selling test kits."

The site did not offer any evidence that the lab in Wuhan, China, nor has any evidence backing this claim emerged. Moreover, there is no evidence that the lab in Wuhan "released" COVID-19 virus. A March 2020 study published in the journal Nature Medicine concluded that the virus "is not a laboratory construct or a purposefully manipulated virus." An earlier study, published in February 2020 in the Journal Nature, found that the COVID-19 virus is "99.9% percent identical at the whole-genome level to a bat coronavirus."

The site's claim that Bill Gates is "selling test kits" is also false. On the contrary, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is providing funding for test kits to be made widely available in the Seattle, Washington, area. The foundation is not charging local authorities for the test kits.

The site also has downplayed the severity of the novel coronavirus. According to a March 2020 post by Peggy Tierney, "I believe the virus is no more dangerous than the common flu - for healthy people - but has been engineered to be highly infectious and impact the elderly & sick."

In fact, there are many known cases of healthy people contracting the disease, and, as noted, there is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus was "engineered" in any way.

In another March 2020 story, the site repeated another false claim relating to Bill Gates and the virus's origin. "Microsoft says Bill Gates is stepping down from the company's board," the site wrote. "Did he get caught for helping the Communists engineer the Wuhan virus panic? Gates & President Xi appear pretty chummy."

There is no evidence that the virus was engineered by China, nor is there evidence that Bill Gates or his foundation played a role in the spread of the virus.

The same article claimed that "Communists China quietly bought up the world's supply of respirators & masks in 24 hours, on the cheap," to price gouge the planet. The site did not provide any evidence to back this claim. Although medical supplies such as ventilators and N95 masks were in short supply, there is no support for the claim that the shortage was engineered by China.

Because TierneyRealNewsNetwork.com has made multiple false and misleading claims about the COVID-19 virus, NewsGuard has determined that the site has repeatedly published false information and that it does not gather and present information responsibly.

TierneyRealNewsNetwork.com does not disclose a perspective or label stories as opinion. However, because the site is presented as a personal blog, NewsGuard has determined that it does not handle the difference between news and opinion irresponsibly.

TierneyRealNewsNetwork.com does not articulate a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

The site does not include contact information, although an email address is listed on a donation page that appears when users click on the Donate button. NewsGuard sent two emails to this address, inquiring about the site's publication of false information, its approach to corrections, and its handling of opinion, but did not receive a response.

The site's headlines are typically short, generic blurbs — such as "UPDATE Wuhan Virus (3/27/20)" — which do not include deceptive claims.
Tierney Real News Network appears to have started publishing in October 2019.

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Send feedback to NewsGuard: Click Here

Sources

Ownership and Financing
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