

clashdaily.com

A website that says it supports conservative Christian values that has repeatedly published false and unproven claims, including about the COVID-19 pandemic.



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.

Score: 10/100

Ownership and Financing

ClashDaily.com appears to be owned by Clash Daily LLC, a privately held company registered in Delaware that is listed as the recipient of reader donations on the site's Support Clash Daily page.

Doug Giles, a conservative commentator and author, is identified on the website as its founder. His name also appears in the site's logo and the About Doug Giles page describes him as "the man behind ClashDaily.com."

Giles has published a number of books expressing his views on masculinity, hunting, and politics, including "Pussification: The Effeminization of the American Male," "Rise, Kill & Eat; A Theology of Hunting from Genesis to Revelation," and "Would Jesus Vote for Trump?" He also co-hosts a podcast, "Warriors and Wildmen," and sells oil and charcoal paintings, which are mostly of animals, but also include portraits of President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump.

The website runs advertisements and accepts donations from readers.

-  Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)
-  Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)
-  Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)
-  Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)
-  Avoids deceptive headlines (10)
-  Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)
-  Clearly labels advertising (7.5)
-  Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)
-  The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)

Content

The site's About Doug Giles page describes ClashDaily.com as "a mosh pit of breaking news, edgy opinion, lots of attitude, and a call to action for God- and country-loving patriots. Yes, ClashDaily.com loves America's founding documents and its Judeo-Christian worldview, and we will defend the aforementioned with an unapologetic zeal and an irreverent sense of humor."

The website's articles primarily add conservative commentary to reporting and video from other sources, such as Fox News, Reuters, and The New York Post.

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

The site also publishes original commentary in its Opinion and Doug's Columns sections.

Typical headlines include "Yet Another Pro-Trump Meme Has CNN's Knickers In A Knot," "Deliver Us From Evil Democrats," and "If Masculinity Is 'Toxic', Call Jesus Radioactive."

Credibility

ClashDaily.com articles and headlines have promoted false and unsubstantiated claims, including stories about the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, in an April 2020 article, headlined "Coronavirus And The Horrors Of Democrat Control," the site said, "Every day we are seeing more studies that confirm that COVID-19 is not deadlier than the flu."

This claim is not supported by studies published in peer-reviewed medical journals. A May 2020 study published in JAMA Internal Medicine found that weekly death tolls from COVID-19 in April 2020 were 20 times higher than the deadliest week of an average flu season. A March 2020 study published in the journal The Lancet Infectious Diseases estimated that 0.6 percent of patients infected with the COVID-19 virus will die, compared with the flu's mortality rate of 0.1 percent.

As of April 28, 2020, the day the ClashDaily.com article was published, 57,000 people in the U.S. had died of COVID-19 -- a toll that had already surpassed that of recent flu seasons, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. During the entire 2018-19 flu season, the CDC estimated that 34,000 people died due to the flu, with the annual flu death toll from 2010 to 2019 estimated to be between 12,000 and 61,000.

An April 2020 article headlined "PUSHING PANIC: What We All Need To Remember About The COVID Death Toll Tallies," asserted without evidence that the number of deaths caused by the COVID-19 virus -- referred to in the article as the "WuFlu" -- was being inflated.

“And even the ‘real’ numbers of WuFlu casualties we’ve experienced so far do not accurately reflect any distinction between those who died OF coronavirus, and those who just happened to die WHILE INFECTED WITH the virus, regardless of the true cause of death,” the article said. “Strictly speaking, supposing someone drowned in a backyard pool ... but was later found to be an asymptomatic carrier of Coronavirus, that would be one more stat in the scary headlines.”

There is no evidence that someone who died of causes unrelated to COVID-19, like drowning, has been counted as a COVID-19 death, as the site claimed. Dr. Sally Aiken, president of the National Association of Medical Examiners, said in an April 2020 USA Today article that the death of a person who had tested positive for the COVID-19 virus will not necessarily be classified as a COVID-19 death.

A May 2020 article titled “The Internal Battle For America” also made the unsubstantiated claim that doctors had inflated the death toll from the virus.

“Meanwhile, doctors are ordered to lie about the numbers by labeling practically all deaths coronavirus,” the article said. “This will keep federal funding coming and Americans panicked. Evidence confirms that the coronavirus lock-down is a political weapon for Democrats to defeat Trump in November.” The article provided no evidence that doctors have been “ordered to lie” about COVID-19 deaths.

ClashDaily.com has published conspiracy theories related to the February 2018 mass school shooting in Parkland, Florida. In a May 2018 article, titled “Hey, Hysterical Leftists: Keep Your Hands Off My Guns,” the author accused David Hogg, a student at the high school where 17 people were killed, of being a “crisis actor.”

“The use of ‘crisis actors’ such as David Hogg, a seventeen-year-old student from Parkland, was part of the Liberal narrative,” the article stated. “Hogg is a glory-seeking know-nothing boy who was given his

fifteen minutes of fame and is still trying to expand it. It's questionable whether Hogg was even on campus during the shooting."

The article provided no evidence that Hogg was a "crisis actor." Contrary to the article's claim, Hogg was on the school's campus during the time of the shooting, according to 2018 articles from fact-checking websites FactCheck.org and PolitiFact.com.

In a May 2017 article, headlined "Hi. I'm Seth Rich. But You Probably Know Me As, 'RUSSIA,'" ClashDaily.com promoted the false claim that Seth Rich, a Democratic National Committee staffer who was shot dead in 2016, had leaked DNC emails to WikiLeaks. "There was NO hacker," the article said. "But there WAS a leaker. His name was Seth Rich. He wound up mysteriously murdered not long after."

There is no evidence that Rich leaked DNC emails to WikiLeaks. According to the April 2019 report from U.S. Special Counsel Robert Mueller, Russian hackers were the source for the DNC files and Rich died four days before WikiLeaks received the emails. Washington police have said that Rich's death was the result of a botched robbery.

The site has also promoted the debunked conspiracy theory that former President Bill Clinton and his wife, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, have orchestrated the deaths of several people deemed to be a threat to them. A January 2018 article headlined "The Clinton Body Count...Real or Imagined?" stated, "Currently at least 30-plus Clinton associates have departed. Scandals and unexplained occurrences have emerged and have gone on from the Clintons for decades. People suddenly disappear, commit suicide, have car and airplane wrecks just before testifying in cases with Hillary and Bill's involvement."

This conspiracy, which dates to the early 1990s, disregards credible reports from law enforcement and medical professionals who have ruled that the cause of death for many of the individuals was suicide.

Because ClashDaily.com has repeatedly promoted false, unsubstantiated, and misleading claims in its articles and headlines, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content, fails to gather and present information responsibly, and does not avoid deceptive headlines.

The website does not post a policy explaining how it corrects errors. The most recent correction NewsGuard found on the site was in a September 2018 article. Because numerous false claims in other articles have gone uncorrected, NewsGuard has determined that ClashDaily.com does not meet NewsGuard's standard for regularly correcting errors.

The site's About Doug Giles page discloses the site's political perspective. "ClashDaily.com is a mosh pit of breaking news, edgy opinion, lots of attitude, and a call to action for God- and country-loving patriots," the page said. "Yes, ClashDaily.com loves America's founding documents and its Judeo-Christian worldview, and we will defend the aforementioned with an unapologetic zeal and an irreverent sense of humor."

The site has separate News and Opinion sections, but articles in the News section often contain opinionated statements criticizing Democratic politicians and the media and praising conservatives.

For example, a May 2020 news article, titled "PROMISES KEPT: Coronavirus Can't Stop Trump From Building The Wall," said, "A vast number of women and girls are sexually assaulted in that dangerous journey across the border. You'd think the left would give a half-a-damn about them. But they don't—if I were a leftist, I'd say it's probably because 'Consuela' is a brown woman so she doesn't really matter. But I'm not going to accuse the left of racism—they proclaim it with their own policies. Building The Wall is a good thing, and we need to keep it coming!"

Another May 2020 news article, headlined "Trump is Not Weakening," stated, "Folks, you need to understand once and for all that Democrats and fake news media

are sick with hatred for all things wholesome and good and hatred for America. Without hesitation, they will destroy you and America for power to control every aspect of our lives. The treasonous wacko Democratic party must be defeated at the ballot box in November.”

In another May 2020 news article, the site accused news organizations of repeating Chinese Communist Party “propaganda” about the COVID-19 pandemic. “After all, there’s a clear goal in mind here—make sure that President Trump looks less credible than the Chinese Communist Party,” the article stated. “Clearly, there are some leftists that are upset that communists didn’t win the Cold War, so they’re carrying water for one of the most brutal regimes in the history of mankind.”

NewsGuard sent three messages using the contact form on ClashDaily.com, including one in 2020, seeking comment on the site’s history of publishing false claims, its approach to corrections, and its inclusion of opinionated articles in the site’s News section. None were returned.

Transparency

ClashDaily.com does not disclose its ownership. Clash Daily LLC is not mentioned on the site. While the site identifies Doug Giles as its founder on the About Doug Giles page, and the site’s logo reads “ClashDaily With Doug Giles,” he is never explicitly named as the site’s owner.

The site’s Contact Us / Tip-Line page provides a general contact form.

Stories are generally credited to authors, providing their biography at the bottom of the article. Individual contact information is generally not provided.

The site carries stories from content-sharing platform Zergnet, which allows participating sites to derive revenue from the traffic generated by those stories. Articles in these sections, which are labeled as “From The Web,” carry headlines that resemble news content,

such as “The Real Reason Trump Walked Out of His Own Coronavirus Briefing” and “The Political Cartoon That Went Too Far.”

These sections are labeled as “Powered by Zergnet,” which NewsGuard has determined is an insufficient disclosure of the commercial nature of the content, and thus does not meet the standard for making clear which content is paid for and which is not.

NewsGuard sent three messages using the contact form on ClashDaily.com, including one in 2020, seeking comment on the site’s disclosure of ownership and who is in charge of its content, as well as its policy on labeling advertising. None were returned.

History

The site’s domain name was registered in 2012.

Editor’s Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on May 20, 2020, with new examples of the site’s content.

Written by: [John Gregory](#)

Contributing: [Sam Howard](#)

Edited by: [Amy Westfeldt](#), [Eric Efron](#)

Send feedback to NewsGuard: [Click Here](#)

Sources

Ownership and Financing

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History

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