worldtruth.tv

A website that says it covers "powerful and concealed information" that has promoted false claims and conspiracy theories, including about the COVID-19 pandemic.



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

Ownership and Financing

WorldTruth.tv appears to be owned by a man named Eddie Levin, whose LinkedIn profile lists him as the site's founder and CEO. On the site itself, he is identified only as "Eddie," with his author biography describing him as the site's founder and owner.

The site runs advertisements and accepts donations from readers through PayPal.

Content

The site's About Us page says, "This blog serves the purpose of telling other people on a daily basis about the 'sacred knowledge' that I have uncovered.

WorldTruth.TV is a website dedicated to educating and informing people on a regular basis with well-researched articles on powerful and concealed information."

Content is divided into more than a dozen categories, including News, Tech, History, Education, and Conspiracy/Unexplained, and Health/Wellness. The Archives section lists articles by the month they were published, but no publication date is provided on individual articles.

Much of WorldTruth.tv's content consists of articles republished from sites that NewsGuard has found to have repeatedly published false content, such as NaturalNews.com, NowTheEndBegins.com, and ZeroHedge.com. The website attributes the republished articles to their original source.

Score: 7.5/100

- 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)
- X 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)

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

More information.

Credibility

WorldTruth.tv has frequently promoted false claims and debunked conspiracy theories, including in stories related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, in an undated article titled "Ultra-Creepy H.R. 6666 Trace Bill – It's A Whole Lot Worse Than You Think," the site inaccurately described the requirements of a proposed U.S. law known as the COVID-19 Testing, Reaching, And Contacting Everyone (TRACE) Act.

The article, which was republished from the site NowTheEndBegins.com, said the bill "means government comes to your home, taps on your door and demands you take a COVID-19 test. And if you test positive, that means the government makes sure you stay at home." The article later said the bill "will create a gestapo state where the government decides who goes out, who stays home, and who is removed to an undisclosed facility for their own protection."

The TRACE Act proposed providing \$100 billion in grants to fund contact tracing and testing services in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. The bill did not, however, specify that the testing or quarantines were mandatory, nor did it authorize any forced removals from a person's home, as the article claimed. A press release from U.S. Rep. Bobby Rush, the Illinois Democrat who introduced the bill, said, "This bill does not authorize anyone to enter your home, for whatever reason, without your permission, nor does it allow the government to remove anyone from your home because of the coronavirus."

The site also promoted the false claim that Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates will use a future COVID-19 vaccine to implant microchips in people in an undated article titled "No Vaccine, No Job: Eugenicist Bill Gates Demands "Digital Certificates" To Prove Coronavirus Vaccination Status."

"Bill Gates wants to digitally track everyone who contracts the Wuhan coronavirus (COVID-19) and recovers from it, along with everyone who's been tested for it. He also wants to know who takes the coronavirus vaccine once it becomes publicly available," the article said. "Bill Gates wants everyone to have a 'quantum dot tattoo' microchip inserted in their bodies."

To back its claim, WorldTruth.tv misrepresented research funded by Gates and Gates' own comments on a March 18 Reddit forum. In December 2019, researchers at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who had received funding from the Gates Foundation, published a paper about technology they developed that can keep a vaccination record on a patient's skin with an ink-like injection that could be read by smartphone. However, the technology does not have the capacity to track patients' movements, Kevin McHugh, a Rice University bioengineering professor who worked on the study while at MIT, told FactCheck.org. The Gates Foundation told FactCheck.org that the research is unrelated to COVID-19.

In that March 18 Reddit forum, Gates discussed "digital certificates," a technology used to transmit encrypted information online, as part of a solution to expand COVID-19 testing. This technology is not related to the skin-based vaccination record research, and no vaccine -- for COVID-19 or otherwise -- contains a microchip feature.

The site has promoted an unfounded conspiracy theory linking the COVID-19 pandemic to 5G cell phone technology. In an article titled, "Coincidence? "COV-19" Circuit Inside New 5G Cellular Circuit Boards," the site said a piece of telecommunications equipment being installed in a 5G tower was labeled "COV-19," based on a YouTube video of a man who said he was a telecoms engineer.

"Clearly, something is 'up' with this new 5G technology, and the fact that an electronic device inside a 5G circuit board is actually labeled COV-19, seems to seal the deal as proof the disease outbreak is connected to the new cellular technology," the article stated.

According to a May 2020 Reuters fact check, the equipment shown in the video is a Virgin Media cable television box, not 5G technology, and none of that

box's components included a "COV-19" label. There is no evidence that 5G is connected to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The website has also promoted ineffective and potentially dangerous medical treatments. In an article headlined, "How Three Naturopathic Doctors Cured Cancer," the site claimed a regimen called the Gerson therapy could cure cancer. "Max Gerson accidentally learned how to cure cancer by experimenting with a diet to cure migraines that ended up also curing tuberculosis. Eventually he learned that nutrition and detoxification was the cure for all disease."

The Gerson therapy, which consists of an organic diet, dietary supplements, and regular use of coffee enemas, has been studied since the 1940s. It has yielded no evidence showing it can treat cancer, according to the U.S. National Cancer Institute. Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center's website warns that coffee enemas can be dangerous, noting that they can cause "electrolyte imbalance, which has resulted in serious infections, dehydration, colitis, constipation, seizures, pleural and pericardial effusions (fluid collecting in the lining around the lungs and heart), and death."

WorldTruth.tv has regularly published unfounded conspiracy theories about a secret organization called the Illuminati controlling world affairs. For example, an article titled, "The Illuminati Staged USA Presidential Election," said, "It is not the American people who choose the President and Vice President of the United States of America, but rather the super secret 'shadow government' called the Illuminati/ New World Order who choose them!" The article provided no evidence to support this assertion.

In another example, an undated article titled "Las Vegas Shooting Exposed As Antifa-Led False Flag Attack," said, "With over 50 people killed and hundreds more injured, evidence begins to emerge that the horrific shooting attack in Las Vegas today was actually a false flag orchestrated by violent leftist group Antifa in a bid to incite a civil war in the United States."

According to 2017 articles from The Associated Press and FactCheck.org, there is no evidence that Stephen Paddock, the man responsible for the October 2017 mass shooting on the Las Vegas Strip, is connected to the antifa movement. The site supported the claim with two fabricated tweets attributed to President Donald Trump.

Because WorldTruth.tv has promoted numerous false claims and debunked conspiracy theories 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 and NewsGuard could not find any corrections.

The site's About Us page, which states its purpose is "telling other people on a daily basis about the 'sacred knowledge' that I have uncovered," hints at the site's promotion of conspiracy theories. It does not, however, explicitly disclose a perspective for the site, stating, "This website does not aim to promote or to dismiss particular views, opinions or belief systems. It rather attempts to present in an objective manner the subjects at hand, using credible sources from different viewpoints."

Articles published in the site's News section, however, often contain opinion. For example, an undated article, titled "Obama Running Shadow Government Op To Discredit Alternative News & Other Pro-Trump Media," republished from NaturalNews.com, stated, "In essence, after losing the election, the hate-filled, anti-American Democrat party — now run by unhinged lunatics and advocates of terror-style violence against Trump supporters — have decided to go rogue and literally engage in acts of sedition and treason against the United States government while undermining Trump's popular support with targeted attacks against outspoken pro-Trump publishers."

In an article about U.S. President Donald Trump's push to develop a vaccine for the COVID-19 virus, the site said, "With no qualms about doing business with corporate felons, President Trump is now jumping in bed with Big Pharma criminals to turn the American people into human guinea pigs in order to push Big Pharma profits and try to boost the stock market in time for the November elections."

In an article about the October 2017 Las Vegas shooting, the site said, "If the mainstream news was meant to truthfully report events to the people, then this information would be all over every television set in America, but it isn't. The 'news' is nothing more than a propaganda tool used by the political elite to push an agenda onto the masses."

Because articles in the website's News section routinely include opinion, NewsGuard has determined that WorldTruth.tv does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Three emails sent to the site's founder, Levin, seeking comment on the site's history of publishing false claims, its approach to corrections, and separation of news and opinion, were not returned.

Transparency

WorldTruth.tv names "Eddie" as the site's owner in his author biography. Because the website does not provide Eddie Levin's full name, it does not meet NewsGuard's standard for clearly disclosing ownership. Additionally, while articles are generally credited to "Eddie" and provide his biography, because his full name is not included, the site does not meet the standard for providing information about its content creators.

The site does not name its editors. An email address is provided on the site's About Us page.

Three emails sent to Levin seeking comment on the site's lack of information about editors and why he is not identified by his full name on the site, were not returned.

Advertisements on the site are either labeled as such or distinguishable from editorial content.

History

According to the site's About Us page, it was created in 2011.

Correction: An earlier version of this Nutrition Label incorrectly credited a 2019 study to researchers at Rice University and MIT. While the lead author of the study, Kevin McHugh, worked at Rice University when the study was published, he conducted the research during his time at MIT. NewsGuard apologizes for the error.

Editor's Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on May 27, 2020.

Written by: <u>John Gregory</u> **Edited by:** <u>Amy Westfeldt</u>

Send feedback to NewsGuard: Click Here

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Ownership and Financing

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