

technocracy.news

An anti-technology website that has repeatedly promoted false claims, including in stories about the debunked link between vaccines and autism and the virus that causes COVID-19.



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic journalistic standards.

Score: 20/100

Ownership and Financing

Technocracy.news is owned and operated by Patrick Wood, an author and speaker who has

expressed negative views about mandatory vaccinations, climate change, and technocracy, or the belief that society should be governed by technical experts. Wood is based in Phoenix.

On the website's About Us page, Wood discloses that he is the author of several books about technocracy and "a frequent speaker and guest on radio shows around the nation." His books can be purchased in the site's Shop section.

The website also generates revenue from affiliate links on its Bibliography page and solicits donations on its Donate page. The page says that "this is a reader-supported news site" that has "no other source of income or support: no ads, no grants, no corporate sponsors, no list rentals." The site does not run display advertisements.

- ✗ 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 website says on a Quick Start page, "This website is *not* about bashing technology. It is about Technocracy. We love technology when it serves us. We resist all those who would use technology to control us against our will. Technocracy is the clear and present danger to humanity but it cannot be resisted until it is understood."

Technocracy.news often publishes conspiracy theories and articles that are critical of technology and "technocrats." The site divides content into dozens of sections, including Censorship, Total Surveillance Society, Disinformation, 2030 Agenda, Climate Change, Internet of Things, AI, and Corrupt Data.

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

The site's Quick Start page includes several of Wood's articles describing his views on technology, including "Patrick Wood's 12 Days of Technocracy," with segments such as "Day 1: We Were Warned About Technocracy" and "Day 12: Rejecting Technocracy."

Typical headlines on the website include "Utah Creates Surveillance Panopticon By Giving Data To Private AI Company," "Global Cooling Gives Nightmares To Global Warming Alarmists," "Massive Fake News Campaign Targets Brazil's Amazon Fires," and "Your 'Private' COVID-19 Test Results Will Make The Rounds Anyway."

Credibility

Some stories published on Technocracy.news are republished and attributed to conservative news outlets such as Breitbart and Conservative Review, as well as the Russian government-owned news organization RT, or Russia Today. Other articles are produced by staff, and occasionally attribute information to published research.

The website regularly publishes articles that advance false and misleading claims, including about vaccines, 5G technology, and the virus that causes COVID-19.

For example, in a May 2020 original article, headlined "Blaylock: Face Masks Pose Serious Risks To The Healthy," the author, retired neurosurgeon Russell Blaylock, claimed that wearing face masks actually increases the risk of contracting COVID-19, instead of preventing transmission.

"With the advent of the so-called COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen a number of medical practices that have little or no scientific support as regards to reducing the spread of this infection. One of these measures is the wearing of facial masks, either a surgical-type mask, bandana or N95 respirator mask," wrote Blaylock.

Global health authorities including the World Health Organization and U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention support wearing face coverings in public to prevent against the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Blaylock also claimed without evidence that the COVID-19 virus “enters the brain by way of the olfactory nerves (smell nerves), which connect directly with the area of the brain dealing with recent memory and memory consolidation. By wearing a mask, the exhaled viruses will not be able to escape and will concentrate in the nasal passages, enter the olfactory nerves and travel into the brain.”

Sarah Stanley, an infectious diseases professor at the University of California, Berkeley, told The Associated Press in May 2020 that Blaylock’s claim is false.

“Breathing out the virus is not going to appreciably change the amount that is there,” Stanley told The AP. “Therefore, there should be no reason why wearing a mask would increase your chance of infection in the brain.”

Health agencies including the World Health Organization have said that the COVID-19 virus is spread through respiratory droplets that usually would enter the nose or the mouth -- not the brain.

In several stories published in 2019, Technocracy.news has promoted unsubstantiated claims that the use of 5G cellular technology can cause health problems. For example, a November 2019 story written by alternative medicine advocate Dr. Joseph Mercola and originally posted on LewRockwell.com said that “mounting research suggests the proliferation of 5G for the sake of faster wireless internet could be a public health disaster.”

In a May 2019 story titled “Health Warning: The Risks Of 5G And Are They Worth Taking?” — an article first published on CounterPunch.com — Technocracy.news wrote in a preface to the story that “technocrats”’ desire to implement 5G worldwide “far outweighs any human health risks that are demonstrated present.” Another story, November 2019’s “Stop Technocracy: Bringing The Hammer Down On 5G” said that the problem with the technology “is that millimeter waves are absorbed by human tissue, and will not pass through your body like lower-frequency WiFi and radio waves; herein lies the health risk that nobody in the industry wants to talk about.”

The International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, which spent seven years compiling research about the safety of human exposure to radiofrequency electromagnetic fields, said in a March 2020 report that it did not find any evidence that 5G networks posed a risk to human health if used in accordance with international guidelines.

The commission says on its website that “a considerable amount of research has also been conducted on the relationship between RF EMF fields and other outcomes such as headaches, concentration difficulty, sleep quality, cognitive function, cardiovascular effects, etc.” The commission added, “To date, this research has not shown any such health effects.”

Politico reported in an April 2020 fact check that “misinformation about the health effects of 5G can be traced to a 2019 propaganda campaign promoted by Russian state television.”

A March 2019 story headlined “New York County Banned All Unvaccinated Children From All Public Places,” which was first published on EndOfTheAmericanDream.com, cited a disputed study to advance the debunked link that vaccinations cause autism. The article stated that “more scientific research is coming out all the time that is showing that there are very serious safety concerns regarding our vaccines,” citing a study that the article said “found a clear link between autism and aluminum in vaccines.”

The study, which was published in November 2017 in the peer-reviewed Journal of Trace Elements in Medicine and Biology, stated that “the aluminum content of brain tissue in autism was consistently high” among five patients studied. The Sunday Times of London has reported that the study by author Christopher Exley did not have a control group to evaluate results, and had received funding from an anti-vaccine group, the Children’s Medical Safety Research Institute.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and many other health and science authorities, including the U.K. National Health Service and the World Health Organization, have repeatedly stated that there is no link between vaccines and autism, based on an abundance of scientific evidence.

Technocracy.news has also published unsubstantiated claims that global temperatures could soon start to drop instead of increase. An October 2018 story “Growing Number of Climate Scientists Say That Warming Is Out And Cooling Is In,” which was republished from the website AmericanThinker.com, stated that “in a world riddled with climate-change doomsday predictions, a small but growing number of scientists are saying the highly touted climate models predicting steadily increasing global temperature due to humans’ carbon-dioxide emissions are wrong and that Earth something even more dire: global cooling.”

NASA debunked the idea of “global cooling” in a July 2019 blog post, stating that “scientists continue to grow increasingly confident that measurements of Earth’s long-term temperature rise in recent decades are accurate...Despite short-term decreases in global temperature, the long-term trend shows that Earth continues to warm.” Fact-checking site FullFact.org wrote in February 2019 that “although the average global temperature was slightly lower in 2017 and 2018 than in 2016, these drops were not record breaking.”

“NASA data shows that overall global warming is occurring: the planet is getting hotter and hotter over time, and at a faster and faster pace.”

Because stories on Technocracy.news promote false information and misrepresent credible sources to back unfounded claims, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false information, does not gather and present information responsibly, and does not avoid the use of deceptive headlines.

Technocracy.news does not publish a corrections policy. NewsGuard could not find corrections on the site and the website has left false claims uncorrected.

In response to NewsGuard’s questions about the website’s false content in the articles cited above and lack of corrections, Patrick Wood, the website’s owner and editor, said in a June 2020 email, “Technocracy News & Trends does not discuss or debate the nature or content of any article with disinterested parties such as NewsGuard. We make no exceptions.”

The website’s articles generally advance anti-technology opinion, which it discloses on its Quick Start page. Because its perspective is disclosed, and because the website does not label stories as either news or opinion, NewsGuard has determined that Technocracy.news does not handle the difference between news and opinion irresponsibly.

Transparency

Technocracy.news clearly discloses its ownership by Patrick Wood on its Quick Start page, which also lists Wood’s other published works. The site’s About Us page publishes biographical information about its editorial leadership, including its editor-in-chief.

A general contact form on Technocracy.news allows readers to send messages to the site.

Stories on the website are attributed to authors, but the website does not provide biographical or contact information for them.

The website does not run advertisements. Affiliate links are identified as such on the site’s Bibliography page.

When asked about the website’s failure to disclose information about its content creators, Technocracy.news owner and editor Patrick Wood said in an email, “Technocracy News & Trends does not discuss or debate the nature or content of any article with disinterested parties such as NewsGuard. We make no exceptions.”

History

Wood says on his LinkedIn page that he has been the editor of Technocracy.news since 2007.

The domain for the website was first registered in September 2015, according to Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) records.

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

Sources

Ownership and
Financing

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<https://technocracy.news/about/>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/patrick-wood-803bb67/>
<https://technocracy.news/shop/>
<https://technocracy.news/library/>
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Content

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Transparency

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History

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