

Internet/Evaluation Worksheet

Evaluation of Information on the Internet

Institute for Historical Review	http://www.ihr.org/
Pinehearst Inc	http://pinehearstresearch.com/index.shtml
Southern Poverty Law Center	http://www.splcenter.org/index.jsp
Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu	http://www.deloitte.com/
Harry Ransom Center	http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/
American University for the Humanities	http://www.auh.edu/

Circle the name of the web site assigned to your group. Upon examining this web site, do you find this information to be reliable? YES / NO (Circle one answer only)

Give evidence in all four categories of evaluation that supports your answer above. Use the questions as guidelines in developing your evaluation:

Authority:

1. Do you recognize the author's name? Is there an author's name?
2. If you don't recognize the name, or there is no name, what type of information is given about the contact information? Position? Organizational affiliation? E-mail address? Biographical information?

Accuracy:

1. Does the website cite sources used to present its information? What type of sources are they? Scholarly? Popular?
2. Is it possible to verify the legitimacy of these sources?
3. If the site is research-based, does the website clearly identify the method of research and the data gathered?

Objectivity:

1. Determine what is the aim of the author or organization publishing the site.
2. What is the purpose of the web site:
 - Is it advertisement for a product or service?
 - Is it for political purposes?
 - Is it trying to sway public opinion on a social issue?
3. Do you trust the author or organization providing the information?

Currency:

1. Is a date clearly displayed?
2. Can you determine what the date refers to?

When the page was first written?

When the page was first posted on the Internet?

When the page was last revised or updated?

The copyright date?

3. Are the resources used by the author current?

4. Does the page content demand routine or continual updating or revision?

5. Do the links on the page point to the correct Internet site addresses?

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