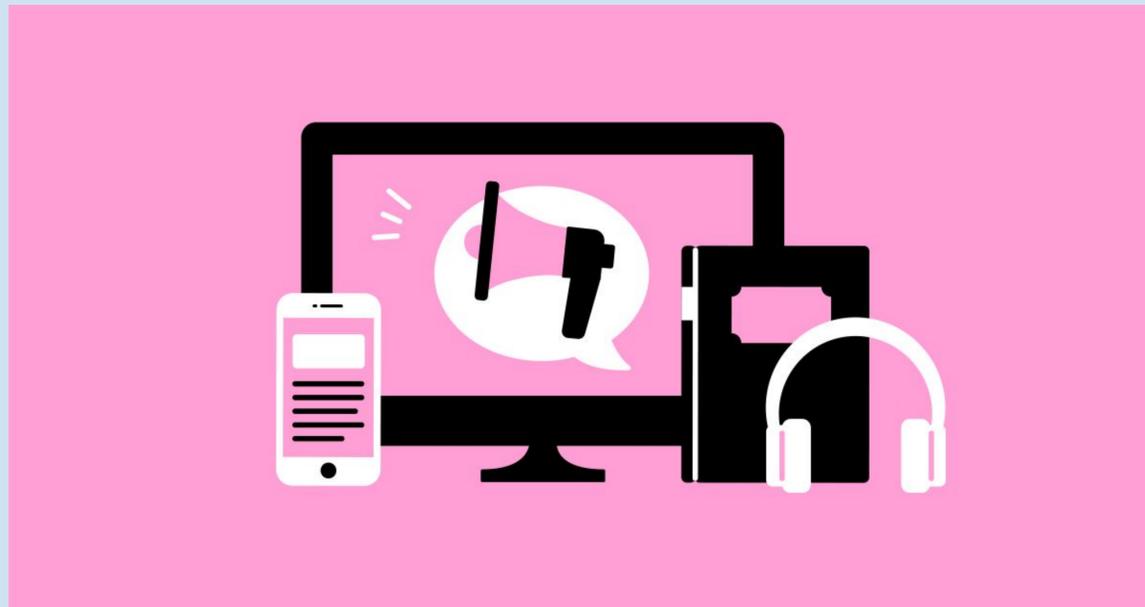To what extent does the youth possess enough media literacy skills to be able to discern fact vs. opinion, detect AI-generated sources, and find bias in the media, and what educational components can be used to improve it?

Why is it so important today?

With the rapid development in new technology, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for the youth to find legitimate information online, which is contributing to vast polarization of opinions.

How is this different than other research?

When computers first became popular, media literacy was about finding credible sources online. Now, with the rise of AI, it also includes determining if a source exists at all. Not only will this project determine if the youth has enough media literacy skills, but also provide educational tools to determine source validity.

Qualitative or Quantitative?

This project will collect quantitative data (for example, using polls) to discern whether the youth across a range of ages has the media literacy skills to determine fact vs. opinion, detect AI-generated sources, and find bias in the media.