# Article information:

Why social media has changed the world — and how to fix it | MIT News | Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
<https://news.mit.edu/2020/hype-machine-book-aral-0924>

# Article summary:

1. Social media has become a major part of everyday life, with 3.5 billion people actively participating in it.

2. Sinan Aral's new book, "The Hype Machine," explores the benefits and downfalls posed by social media, including how it can be used to spread disinformation and political attacks from beyond sovereign borders.

3. Aral suggests ways to improve social media platforms, such as automated and user-generated labeling of false news, limiting revenue-collection that is based on false content, and creating data portability and interoperability so consumers can own their identities and switch from one network to another.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

This article is generally reliable and trustworthy in its reporting of Sinan Aral’s new book “The Hype Machine” which explores the benefits and downfalls posed by social media. The article provides evidence for its claims through research studies conducted by Aral himself as well as other researchers at universities such as MIT, UCLA, NYU Stern School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, etc., which adds credibility to the article’s claims. The article also provides insights into potential solutions for improving social media platforms such as automated labeling of false news or limiting revenue-collection based on false content.

However, there are some points that could have been explored further in the article such as counterarguments or alternative solutions for improving social media platforms that were not mentioned in the article. Additionally, while the article does provide evidence for its claims through research studies conducted by various universities, it does not provide any evidence from sources outside academia which could have added more depth to the discussion around improving social media platforms. Furthermore, while the article does mention potential risks associated with using social media platforms such as disinformation campaigns or user burnout due to anger-inducing content, it does not explore these risks in detail which could have provided a more comprehensive understanding of these issues.

# Topics for further research:

* Social media platform improvement strategies
* Social media platform counterarguments
* Social media platform alternative solutions
* Social media platform disinformation campaigns
* Social media platform user burnout
* Social media platform anger-inducing content

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/c331292c8bd539a352e75a3aa02fd619>