

# Anatomy of a “Fake News” Story

I have enlarged portions of this fake news story (below the story) to assist you in helping students identify what clues or evidence lead them to conclude the story is not a real one. Read my previous blogpost: [Students Need Our Help Detecting Fake News](#)

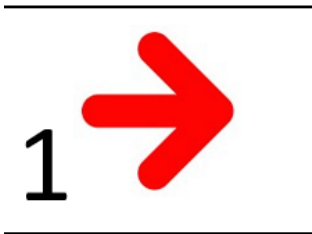
See also: [Teaching Resources For Tackling Fake News](#)

The image shows a screenshot of an ABC News article titled "Obama Signs Executive Order Banning The Pledge Of Allegiance In Schools Nationwide". Six numbered callouts with red arrows point to specific areas of the page:

1. Points to the URL in the browser address bar: `http://abcnews.com.co/obama-executive-order-bans-pledge-of-allegiance-in-schools/`
2. Points to the ABC NEWS logo.
3. Points to the article title: "Obama Signs Executive Order Banning The Pledge Of Allegiance In Schools Nationwide".
4. Points to the byline: "By Jimmy Kasting, ABC News - December 11, 2016".
5. Points to a photograph of President Obama signing an executive order.
6. Points to a caption below the photo: "President Obama, seen here signing an Executive Order today which bans the Pledge of Allegiance in all public schools around the country. (AP Photo / Dennis System)".

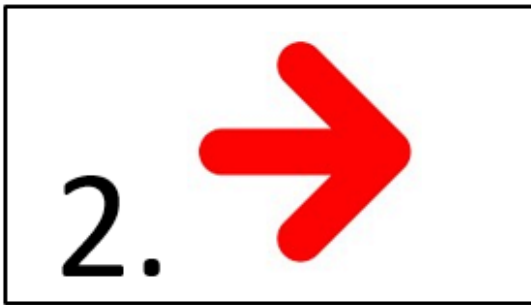
Additional visible elements include a search bar, navigation menu (NEWS, FASHION, TECH, VIDEO, WORLD), and a "Recent Comments" section on the right side of the page.

1. What does the URL `www.abcnews.com.co` mean?

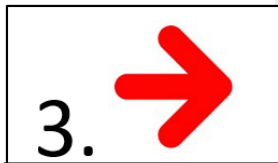


<http://abcnews.com.co/obama-executive-order-bans-pledge-of-allegiance-in-schools/>  
493 captures  
16 Aug 2016 - 17 Jun 2019

2. Is this the REAL “ABC NEWS” logo? How would you know?



3. Does this headline represent what has actually happened? Did you read it elsewhere? Could you verify it?



Home > News > Obama Signs Executive Order Banning The Pledge Of Allegiance In Schools Nationwide  
NEWS

Obama Signs Executive Order Banning The Pledge Of Allegiance In Schools Nationwide

4. Is the author, Jimmy Rustling, a real journalist for ABC NEWS? How could you know?

[This [archived page](#) purports to give readers his background.]



By Jimmy Rustling, ABC News - December 11, 2016 120955

SHARE

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5. Can you locate this exact photo online?

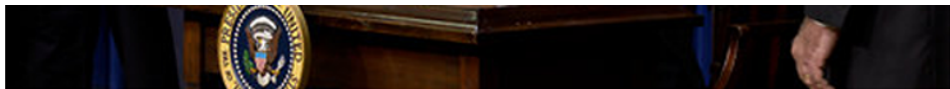
Does it represent the real act of signing an executive order banning the pledge of allegiance?

5. →



6. The photo caption is credited: AP /Dennis System. Is he a real photojournalist working for the Associated Press? How could you verify it?

6. →



*President Obama, seen here signing an Executive Order today which bans the Pledge of Allegiance in all public schools around the country. (AP Photo / Dennis System)*