

Ricardo Gonçalves, 20 years old, a student of Sciences of Communication. When asked about the journalism that he's meeting day by day, has always an answer ready. In just 12 minutes, I could find out this young man's opinion about the new journalism, the online society and how youngsters deal with the massive quantity of information provided nowadays.

Probably not like other people of his age, Ricardo still likes to buy a good newspaper and read it in the "old-fashioned way". Nonetheless, when the necessity is to find a quick information, the internet is the media he uses most frequently. For him, online newspapers are just to check a specific news of a specific section. We go there with almost a strategy to find exactly what we're looking for. Not like in a printed newspaper, where we navigate through the entire paper and see every news of every sections.

Social networks, as Facebook and Twitter are pointed by this 20-years-old student as the best places to find an information in first hand. Unfortunately, they're also the best places to find all kinds of false news. For this student, in today's era of information, there's no possible excuse to believe and share all this untrustworthy so-called news.

It's Ricardo's belief that an education for the media at school wouldn't fix everything, but it should be a good way to start. In this way, starting soon, people should be able to separate the good information from the bad information, the trustworthy websites from the false ones, even in the traditional media. It's all a matter of choosing which filters adjust better to which individual, in order to select (from the good information) which newspapers, television broadcasters on internet sites we prefer.

For Ricardo it's a fact that social networks occupy a central position on the search for information. At least in his case, he adds. He also sees two side in it: a positive and a negative. Sometimes he wishes he could let go of this "dependency", somewhat general in the society of the 21st century. On the other hand, it's very easy to just go online and look up every information needed, he confesses. In some cases (probably in most of the cases) we can even find information we weren't looking for or weren't expecting.

It's really easy to be informed in today's true era of information, maybe it's not even a choice anymore, he wonders. Someone can be scrolling down on Facebook and news just come along, without being asked. We get the urge to click on them and read at least the title, if not the first lines at least. That's why, for him, the youngsters' interest on information has been

increasing, because it's right there in front of them. Then again, the problem of untrustworthy information appears. An education for the media would be a good way to promote a fair usage of online resources because that's why they exist, to give us good information.

In the end, what is the point of having all this information available if we don't know how to make the best of it?

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