



# Fake WhatsApp Messages

**Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA)**

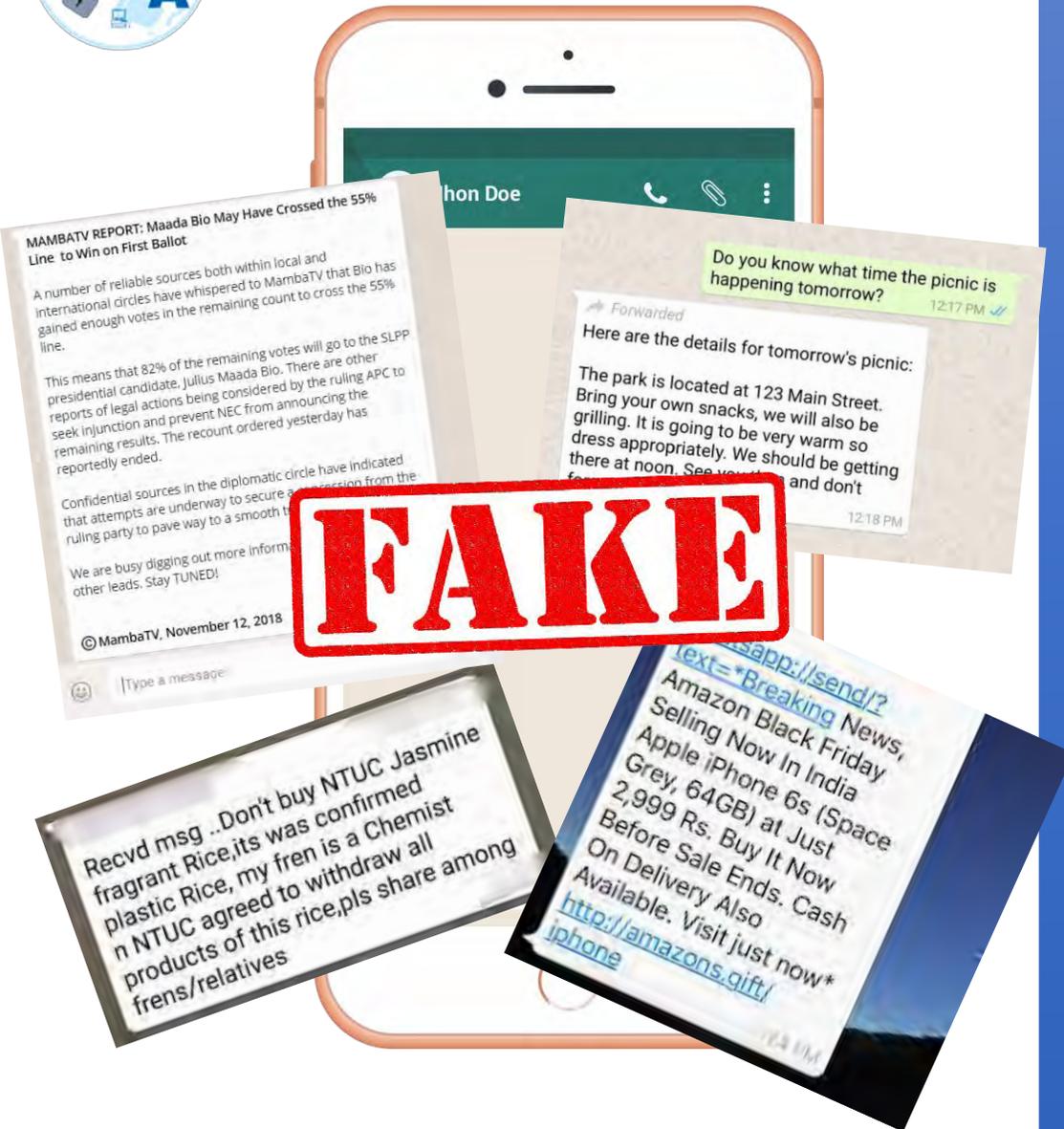
Project Phase-II



# Check Fake WhatsApp messages before you forward

You may receive many spam emails.

Fake WhatsApp forwards in a day while using Internet.





Here we talk about  
How to check  
Fake WhatsApp Messages.



## What is fake/hoax message?

Fake/Hoax messages are the messages, which are based on the false story.

These messages have been transferred through Internet like Social media like Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp etc.

Text messages, Emails



## Your subscription is ending soon

Please update your payment information now

### UPDATE YOUR PAYMENT INFORMATION

Our records indicate that your WhatsApp trial service is exceeding the one year period. At the completion of your trial period your WhatsApp will no longer be able to send or receive message. To continue using WhatsApp without interruption, we need you to subscribe for any of our subscription periods.

**To avoid service interruption, please subscribe by visiting your account page below.**

Sign in to the customer portal with your Number:

We appreciate your prompt attention to this matter, and look forward to continuing to meet your communication needs.

Sincerely,  
The WhatsApp Team

Account information

# What is fake/hoax message?....



The purpose of creating a hoax message

*Trick people to pass it on to other people to reach to a mass audience.*

*For instance, the below message has been circulating several months ago.*

**“Hi! My name is Tim John and I am the owner of WhatsApp. WhatsApp is upgrading and would no longer be free. To qualify as a premium user, change your status to “Premium” and include the number of years you have had this account. Share to 10 of your contacts and your icon would change to blue.”**



24 FEBRUARY

✓ Hello, I. Am DAVID D. SURETECH founder of whatsapp. this message is to inform all of our users that we have only 53million accounts available for new phones. Our servers have recently been very congested, so we are asking for your help to solve this problem. We need our active users to forward this message to every single person in their contact list. If you forward this message to more than 9 people in your contact list and the what's app logo on your will turn blue meaning that you have become a free user for life.

24 FEBRUARY 2014

29 July 2018

✓ Hello, I. Am DAVID D. SURETECH founder of Whatsapp. this message is to inform all of our users that we have only 53million accounts available for new phones. Our servers have recently been very congested, so we are asking for your help to solve this problem. We need our active users to forward this message to every single person in their contact list. If you forward this message to more than 9 people in your contact list and the what's app logo on your will turn blue meaning that you have become a free user for life.

Confirming this is the new icon WhatsApp

Send it to all your contacts to update the application

send this to 10 people  
To activate the new whatsapp calling for free version 4.0.0

100% WORKING!!! I GOT THE NEW WHATSAPP NOW... With free calls!!!

29 July 2018

# What is fake/hoax message?....



The funny part about the fake messages is that it has been circulating for years.

This is very much crazy.

Youngsters, may forward in a hurry without checking whether it is important or not.

Don't pay attention to the number of times you receive a message. Just because a message is shared many times doesn't make it true



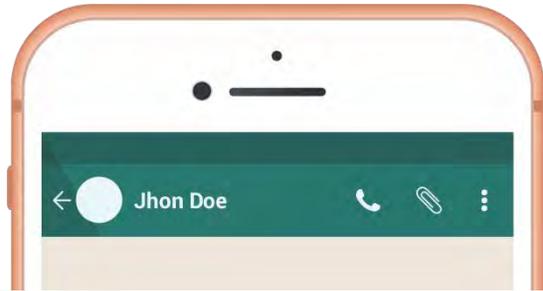
# Some examples of How to check Fake WhatsApp messages:



# Fake Links

In the above advertisement link, <http://amazon.mobile-flashsale.com> looks like offer is from amazon site. But actually it is from mobile-flashsale.com instead of amazon. The advertiser used gaps in technology and forcing in believing that offer is part of amazon.

Either you need to check about amazon.in for such offer is available or not, then only forwarding message is always better.



Buy Samsung J7 Mobile @ 499 Rs.

Buy Samsung J7 Mobile at Ju...  
amazon.mobile-flashsale.com

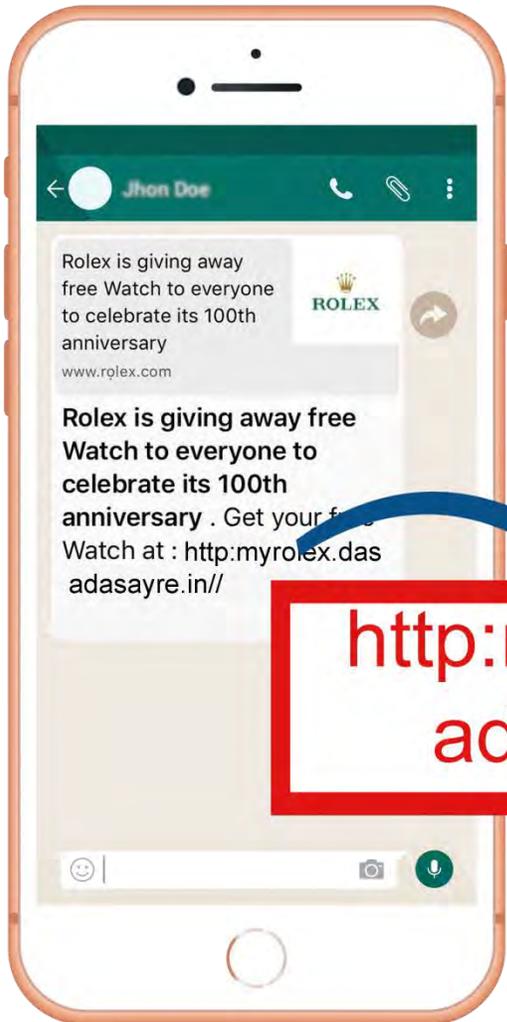
**Breaking News, Amazon Selling Samsung J7 Mobile Phone at Just 499 Rs because of Golden Anniversary. Buy It Now Before Sale Ends. Cash On Delivery Also Available. Visit just now <http://amazon.mobile-flashsale.com/>**

6:19 PM





# Fake Links



[http:myrolex.das  
adasayre.in](http:myrolex.das adasayre.in)

Scammers have been trying to con unwitting shoppers by tricking them into thinking they are receiving money-off vouchers for supermarkets

Recently, WhatsApp messages have been sent to thousands of phones, offering such mobile offers. The message says the deal is to celebrate the supermarket's 68th anniversary



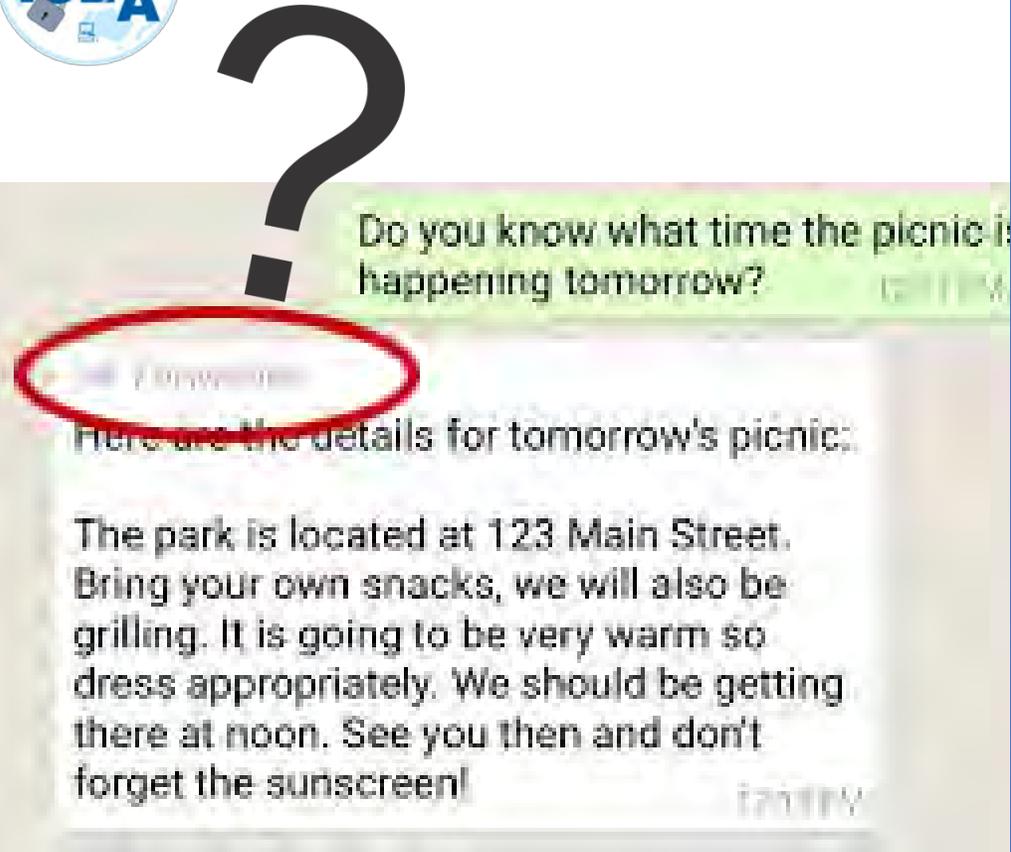
UR1994 KB1212 RJ1708 Send this message to 10 people. As soon as all of them have read your message, you will get an SMS from Whatsapp, with an activation code. Once you enter the activation code, you will no longer have to pay to use Whatsapp, which is going to charge for messages from new year 2013. 9:42

## Free Offers

Actually, in the above message somebody is offering Whatsapp free, as you are already using free only and the same to everybody.



# General Tips for identifying the Authenticity of WhatsApp messages



## Understand when a message is forwarded

Double-check the facts when you are not sure  
Before forwarding such messages, try to confirm the same.

There are some web sites like <https://check4spam.com/whatsapp/> , where you can check the spam /fake messages



## Use common sense

**Sale ! Sale ! Sale !...  
Grab them before  
you loose.. Come a  
and buy smart  
phones at ₹2000**



Some times we need to use common sense in identifying information in the message as nobody gives you Rs 50,000 device for Rs 499 or Rs 999.

The main point really is about being thoughtful about what you share

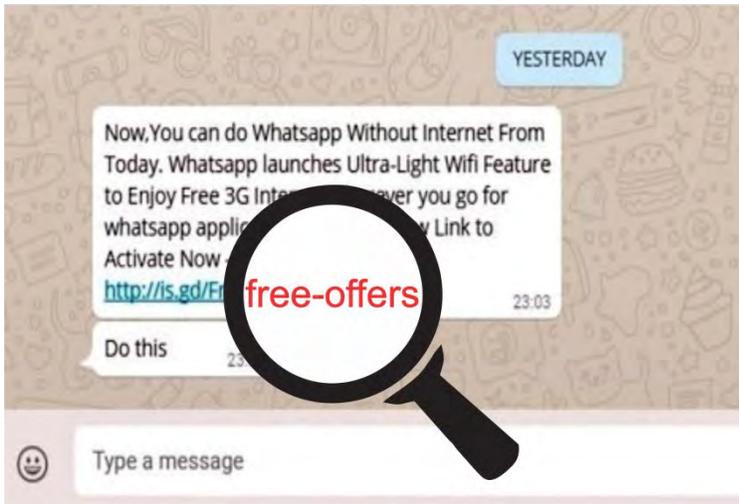
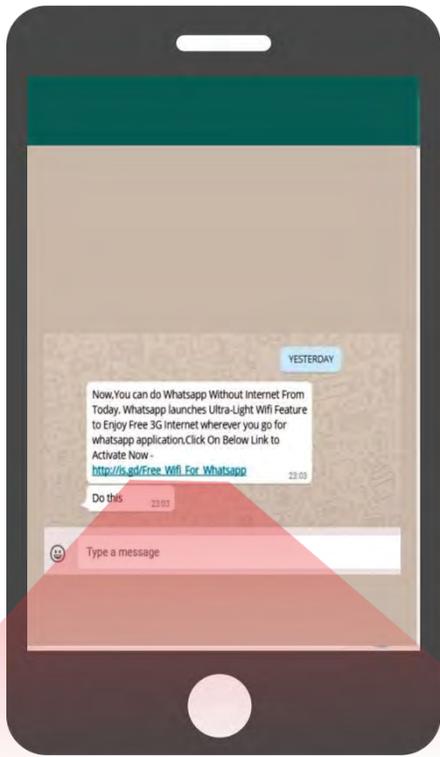
If you are not sure of the source or concerned that the information may be untrue, think twice before sending



## Question Yourself ?



- **Question** about the information that upsets you.
- **Question** about “Why did the content Creator send it?”
- If you read something that makes angry or afraid, **Question** politely whether it was shared to for that purpose?
- If the answer is yes **Question** yourself whether to forward or not?

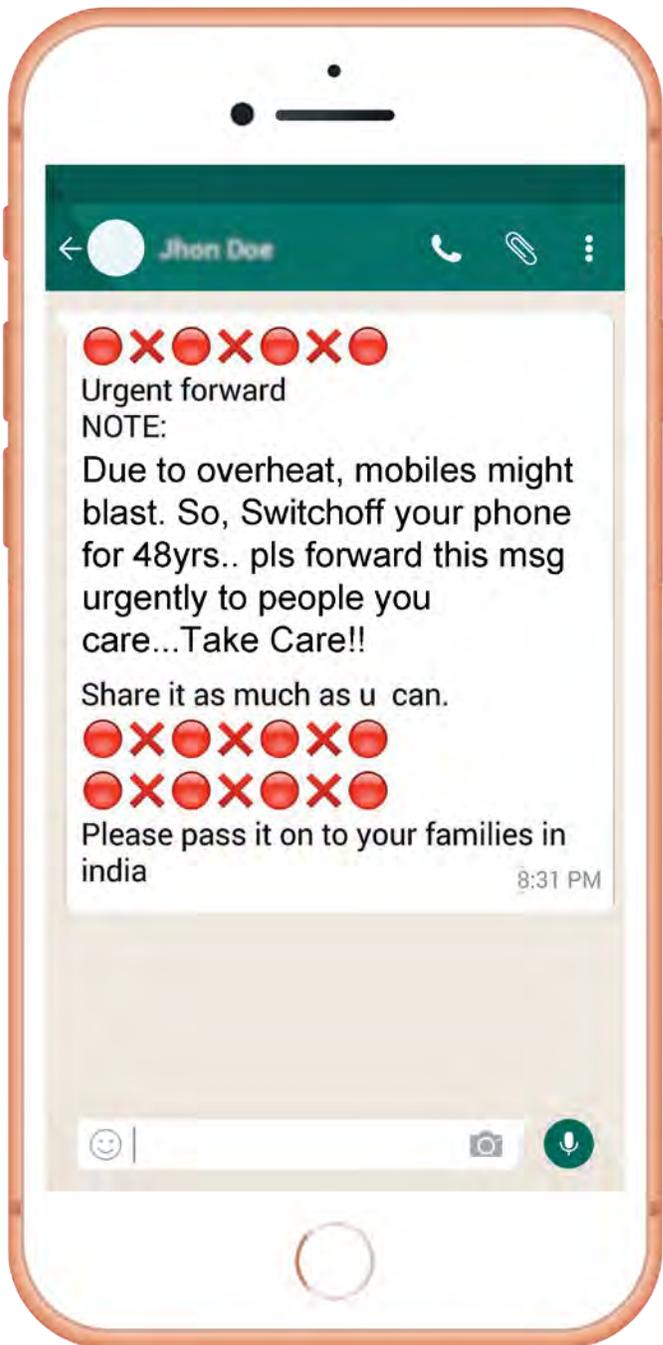


## Check information that look different

Check URL if it's available in the message. Check the authenticity of URL. There are many fake URL used in these type of messages. When In doubt, Google it

Look for these signs so you can check if information is accurate

hoaxes or fake news have spelling mistakes or grammatical mistakes



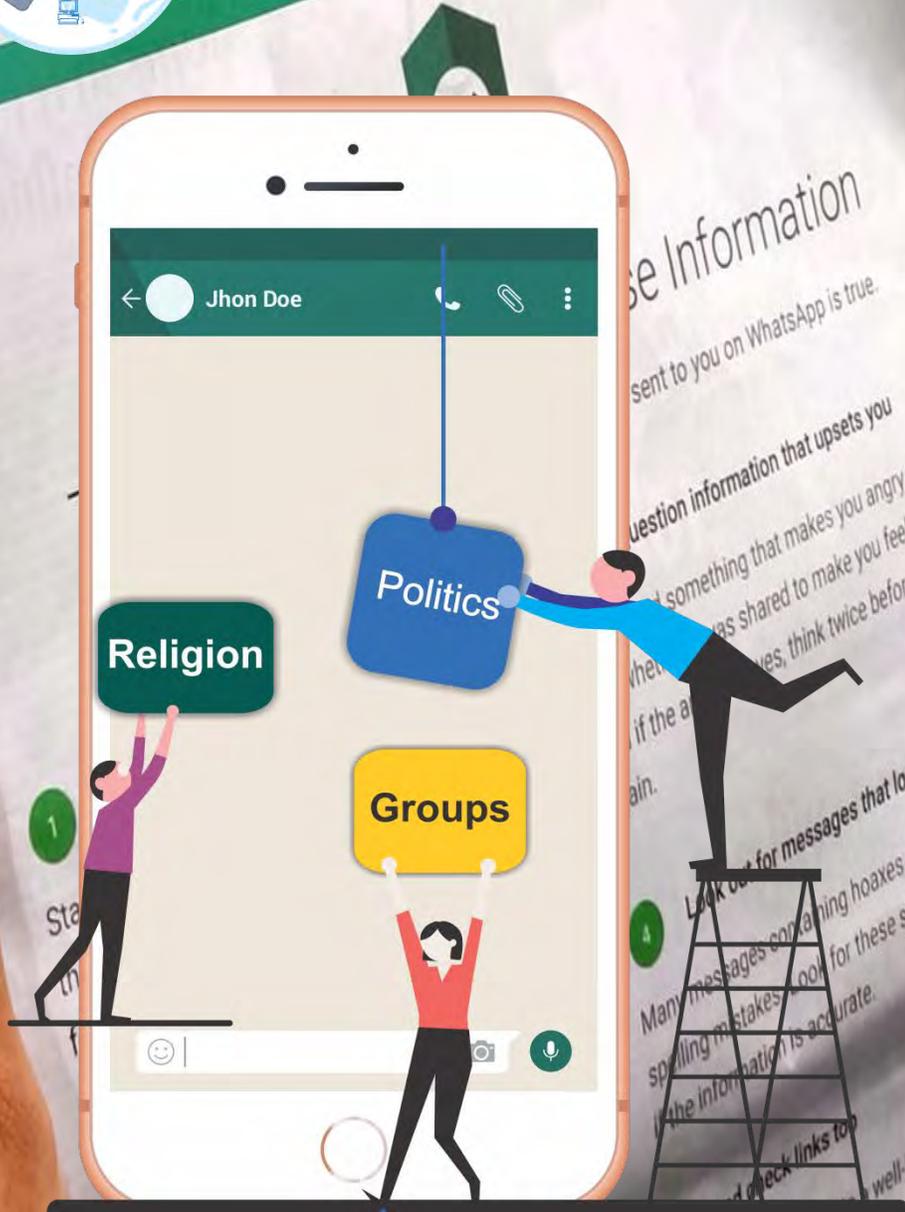
## Check information that seems unbelievable



Even if you have not created a fake message, you are forwarding means you are believing and trusting the message and forwarding the same. i.e. you can be prosecuted with respect to laws

Unbelievable information creates an emotional reaction and is meant to provoke you

If you got a message like this telling you all are public holidays are shifted to Fridays from Sundays in India would you believe it



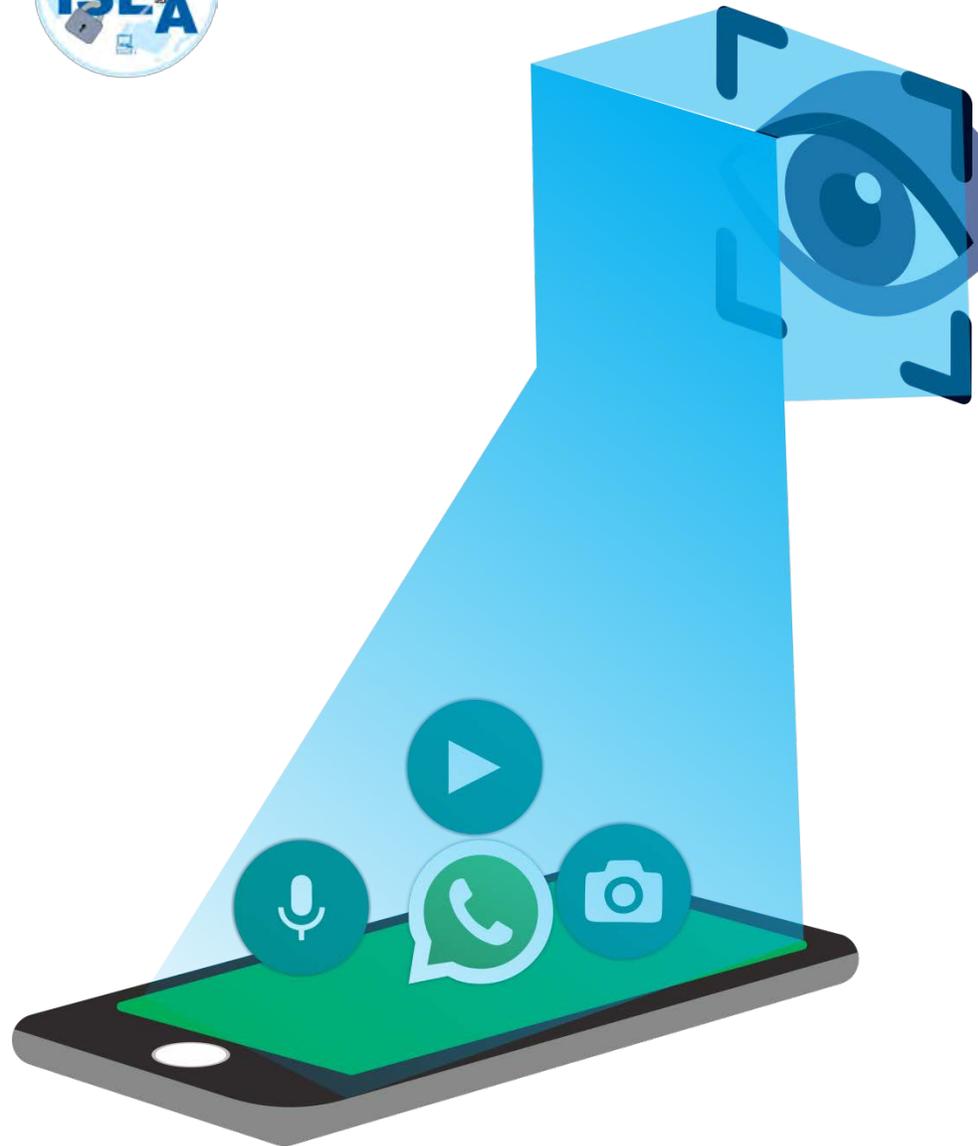
## Motivational Messages

Youngsters needed to avoid some kind of related post  
are proofs/facts as said below as

- Politically motivated
- Religiously motivated
- An individual/group/organization's viewpoint

As these messages may create distance with your  
relatives, colleagues as they may be part of or favor  
political party / religion etc.,

Because the related posts are in general biased or favor  
favor on one leader or one religion



## Check photos, Videos and Audio messages Carefully



It is easier to believe photos and videos but even these can be edited to mislead you

We tend to believe photos and videos more because we think what we see must be true  
But nowadays people can edit both photos and videos

Even if photos and videos are real, people often use old photos and videos and create a story around it that is not related to the images.



Here we can take actions, when we spotted problem



## To block a contact

Open WhatsApp.

Open the Application Menu (Swipe down from the top of the screen)

Tap Settings > Privacy Settings > Blocked Contacts.

This page displays all contacts that you have blocked.

Tap Add Contact icon at the bottom of the screen to select a contact to block.

## Actions



To fight fake news, we all need to work together – technology companies, the government and community groups

Identify groups that are problematic and report them as spam

On WhatsApp you can block any number or leave any group you want

Please provide as much information as possible so the WhatsApp team can deal with it quickly



## Actions

You can e-mail it their address

Law enforcement officials should send a request from an official government-issued email address to **WhatsAppLEC@subpoenasolutions.com** Law enforcement agents who are unable to include the legal process in an email may notify us via email of their limitations so we may coordinate service of process.

**You can mail it their address**

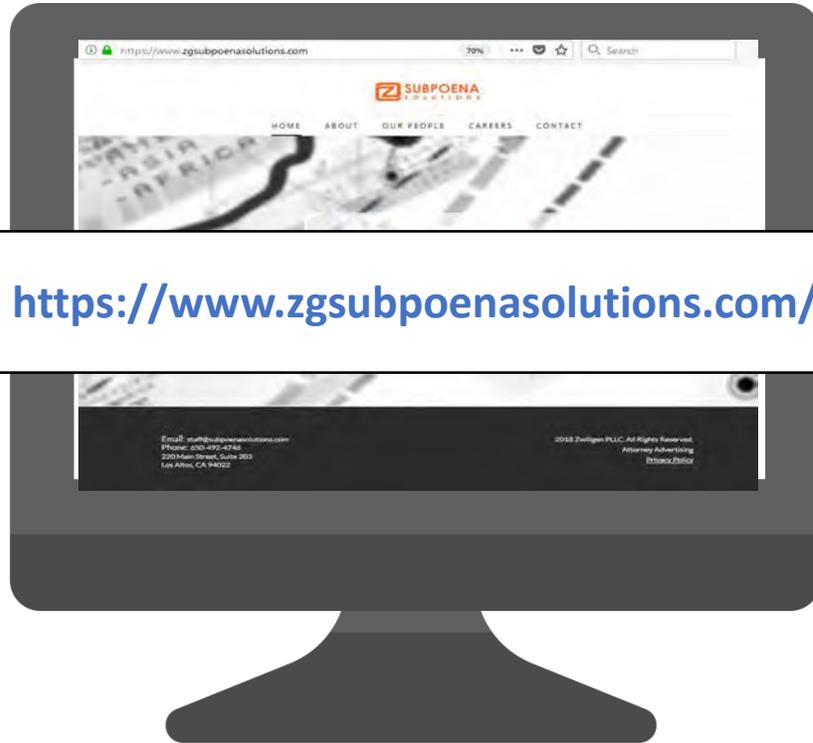
WhatsApp Inc.

1601 Willow Road

Menlo Park, California 94025

United States of America

Attention: WhatsApp Inc., Law Enforcement Response Team



<https://www.zgsubpoenasolutions.com/>