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**From:** Craig Silverman  
**To:** Jack Werner  
**Sent:** 10/27/2014 2:11:19 PM  
**Subject:** Re: Picture of macedonian guy who cut off his penis is actually a chinese that cut off his penis

Thanks, Jack! I will keep you posted on how Emergent evolves. One thing we may do is try to test it being used by news organizations as a platform to do fact checking/debunking. If that happens, I'll get back in touch to see if you'd like to try it out.

Best regards,  
Craig

On 27 October 2014 06:51, Jack Werner <&Ita href="mailto:jack.werner@metro.se" target="\_blank">jack.werner@metro.se wrote:  
Craig,

I've now answered your questionnaire, and I hope I could supply you with satisfying information. If there is anything not clear about us or the work we do, please ask and I'll do my best explaining. I know from experience that fake stories often are deeply cultural, and what may be very obvious in Sweden might not be as clear in the US.

I'd love to stay in touch! As I mentioned previously, Emergent is a great asset for me and I'm very curious about the forms of which work like ours could take in the future.

All the best,

**JACK WERNER**  
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Sveriges största dagstidning.

24 okt 2014 kl. 22:55 skrev Craig Silverman <&Ita href="mailto:silvermancraig@gmail.com" target="\_blank">silvermancraig@gmail.com

Hi Jack,

Thanks so much for getting in touch! It's nice to meet a fellow debunker. I've put this up on the site. Good job digging into it. I had a similar experience with CEN in relation to a dubious story about Justin Bieber and a bear:

<http://www.poynter.org/latest-news/regret-the-error/261703/bear-attack-foiled-by-justin-biebers-music-a-story-too-good-to-check/>

I doubt you'll hear back from them, but I'd love to know if you do. Kind of amazing that the Mirror in the UK has a story about this and the one from 2013 with the same photo and doesn't even know it.

Let's for sure stay in touch. Also, would you be willing to fill out a little questionnaire I am asking people who do debunking work to complete? It's for a research project I'm doing with Columbia University:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YJZ3AZiNFR3vTS4D\\_V4c424TgM\\_bTCH-l2kcYbat9rk/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1YJZ3AZiNFR3vTS4D_V4c424TgM_bTCH-l2kcYbat9rk/viewform)

Best regards,  
Craig

On 24 October 2014 11:22, Jack Werner <&#x26;lta href="mailto:jack.werner@metro.se" target="\_blank">jack.werner@metro.se wrote:  
Hi Craig

First, let me say that you're doing an awesome job and that I'm thrilled to see what Emergent will turn out to become!

I'm at the Swedish edition of Metro, and we have a similar effort here, fact-checking stories that circulate on social media. Today, I wrote this:

<http://www.metro.se/nyheter/nej-bilden-visar-inte-en-makedonier-som-fatt-snoppen-avskuren/EVHnjx!ofmiWMT4pV366/>

(Use Google Translate)

Short put, a picture that is said to depict a Macedonian guy who supposedly cut off his penis is actually one year old, and from China. If you google "Oliver Ilic"+penis or "Yang Hu"+penis, you'll find that many international news sites have written about this story and used the pic.

All the best and keep up the great work,

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*Read the free Verification Handbook:*  
<http://verificationhandbook.com/>

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