
From: Tanya Chen [tanya.chen@buzzfeed.com]
Sent: 1/30/2015 5:20:14 PM
To: Alan White [alan.white@buzzfeed.com]
Subject: Re: How are you fixed over the next week?

Hey Alan,

Absolutely. Glad we've clarified - wasn't sure the exact angle you guys were taking. Stories from China that are picked up by Western outlets are probably handled a little carelessly 'cause it's geographically and culturally so removed from theirs that they're looking to just capitalize off the spectacle.

My reading/writing comprehension is not that great, so it's easier for me to verify videos or news broadcasts of these stories (send any my way you find).

I can have my cousin take a look, but I'm able to search a lot of them myself on baidu <<http://www.baidu.com/>> (their big google-type search engine). Not sure if you can use English, but here's what I found in Chinese (again, can't verify the text entirely but I can have Bryant Hua take a quick peep when he's back next week).

On septic tank:

<http://3g.cnfol.com/article-20141227-19798380.html>

<http://news.sina.com.cn/s/2014-12-27/155031334766.shtml> (Sina's a pretty credible national news source)

<http://v.ku6.com/show/gc68F1psVsgwezsjCZZoHg...html> (video of news broadcast: they don't allude to any sources though)

Sad KFC girl:

<http://www.yjhome.net/3947.html>

<http://www.1635656.com/mmzx/2014-1024-180.html>

Shamed underwear guy:

http://jiangsu.china.com.cn/html/jsnews/society/903925_1.html

http://www.sn.xinhuanet.com/2015-01/13/c_1113969279.htm (Xinhuanet is a big news source)

<http://news.163.com/15/0116/09/AG2QVI8M00014AEE.html>

Hard to tell if these were pulled from CEN or the other way around, but I'll have Bryant look at some of the copy. More to come!

On Fri, Jan 30, 2015 at 2:00 PM, Alan White <alan.white@buzzfeed.com> wrote:

Hey Tanya

Thanks. This is super helpful. That video - and the last one on the shaming, is really useful. If you see anything else where it's like - ok I can put a call in and just see if this thing happened - then go for it.

From what we've seen so far CEN put some stuff out there that just isn't true, and some stuff that is, but kinda badly sourced and with real sketchy quotes.

Like I say, I don't think this is going to be like a big debunk - "LOOK AT ALL THE LIES THESE GUYS TELL" - it's more a thinkpiece on how the internet has created this churning viral news industry with shocking headlines and the values of making sure things are right have kinda flown out the window. So approach with that attitude.

I totally buy that mistress shaming/penis cutting etc could be real. It's really the process of how they're doing this and trying to see how far back up the trail we can get. Because with some of these it feels like if you or I just grabbed a thing straight off reddit or tumblr and just ran it as a straight verified news story. The quotes really feel like fake padding, but it's impossible to prove.

Re your cousin, maybe just reach out to them with the headlines of some, just to see if some Chinese stories come up? I mean I'm guessing a Chinese equivalent of a Google news search of a headline would kind of yield the same kinds of results it would for us in US/UK? What fascinates me is how in some cases