



Fake News on the Internet

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Stanford study examines fake news and the 2016 presidential election

Fabricated stories favoring Donald Trump were shared a total of 30 million times, nearly quadruple the number of pro-Hillary Clinton shares leading up to the election, according to Stanford economist Matthew Gentzkow. Even so, he and his co-author find that the most widely circulated hoaxes were seen by only a small fraction of Americans.

Question

“Does Google and Facebook have an obligation to block fake news from their sites?”

Social Media



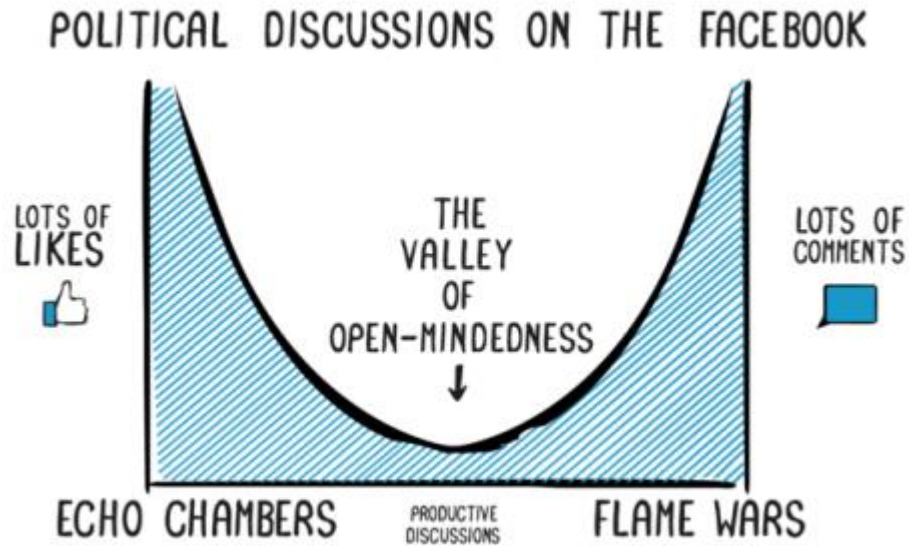
Is it ethical? - Kantianism

1. If this practice was made universal and every news outlet followed this practice, our society would be vastly misinformed and our democracy would not function.
1. This behavior uses people as a means to an end, which Kantianism finds unethical.

How Facebook / Google work?



Echo chamber



Is it ethical? - Kantianism

1. Universality of sharing all information is a good thing.
1. People are not being used as a means to any end by distributing the information because Google and Facebook gain nothing by allowing fake information to be shared.

Is it ethical? - Utilitarianism

UNETHICAL

UNETHICAL

UNETHICAL

ETHICAL



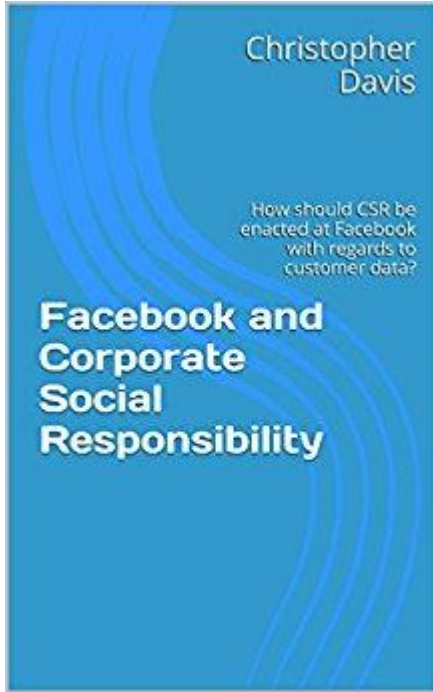
Is it ethical? - Virtue Ethics



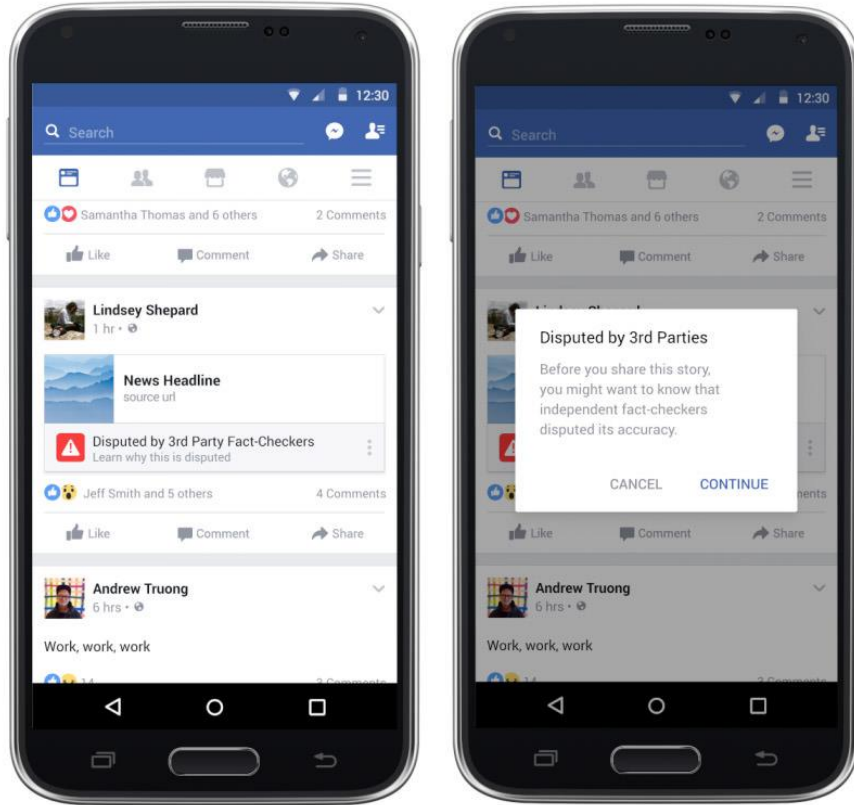
Question

“Does Google and Facebook have a responsibility to cease “publication” of fake news?”

Who has responsibility?



Fact Checkers



Conclusion



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