

# Facebook and Fake News

Consider each of the below proposals, and fill in each of the below TODOs.

## Proposals

### Proposal 1

Facebook relies on an algorithm as well as individual users' reports to identify content that is potentially "fake news." Once the content has been identified, it is sent to third party fact-checkers for verification. If the content is verified as fake news, it is publicly flagged with a warning that the content is disputed by fact-checkers.



### Proposal 2

However, a designer at Facebook believes that there needs to be a different approach to content regulation. Their proposal is that content deemed problematic by third-party fact-checkers should be prevented from being shared on the platform altogether.

# Questions

1. Which form of content regulation, Proposal 1 or Proposal 2, do you feel is better? Why?
  - a. Proposal 1, because despite Facebook will label the content as “fake news”, it doesn’t ban the content itself; Proposal 2 on the other hand, there’s a potential of misuse of the ban abilities of these companies (Facebook in this case) and it may be seen as a way of censorship for certain groups.
2. Which form of content regulation, Proposal 1 or Proposal 2, do you think best preserves or promotes the [five rights and opportunities necessary for a democratic public sphere](#)?
  - a. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Rights? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, because it does not prohibit disputed content, it rather labels it as such; no opinions are censored with this method, even if such opinions have questionable credibility.
  - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, because all opinion matters, maybe, and only maybe, people promoting content labeled as “fake news” are seeing certain things from a different point of view, which can be indicators of “something”.
  - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, maybe the fact that a public figure is sharing “fake” news might be a flag or indicative that this person is not a trustworthy person.(?). All information is good information, it just depends on how you use it,
  - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, as I stated before, all information is good information, depending on how you use that information, for example, if a candidate keeps spreading content labeled as “fake news”, it will be an indicator that he/she is not a reliable candidate.
  - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, thinking different does not always lead you to a good port, but sometimes, going against the popular opinion is the right thing to do. Take Galileo Galilei as an example.