

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. I believe that Proposal 1 is better. This is because instead of censoring users, it provides the users with an option to propagate their ideas while making them realise that their credibility is at stake. This in turn would put the idea of getting away with posting false and inaccurate content on social media into question as it would come at the cost of the user's credibility.
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** best promotes Rights. This is because it gives the users the ability to share the posts which in turn lets them bring their ideas into conversation with other people.
 - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
 - i. **Proposal 1** best promotes Opportunity. This is because it assures that the users are free of censorship and are able to participate fairly in public discussions through social media.
 - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
 - i. **Proposal 2** best promotes Access. This is due to the quality and reliability of the information and the promotion of effective participation in decision making by the users receiving the posts.
 - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
 - i. **Proposal 1** best promotes Diversity. It gives each and every user a chance to hear a wide range of views in order to be more informed and reasonable.
 - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
 - i. **Proposal 1** best promotes Communicative Power. It gives the users equal opportunities to promote the type of information they need as well as explore their interests and ideas.