

# 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. Proposal 2 relies on third-party fact-checkers implementation being infallible.
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 2 prevents people to express anything other than proven facts,
    - ii. Therefore preventing individual expressions and all future ideas that has not yet been proven will be censored. The rights of the individual would be shifted to the fact-checkers.
  - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
    - i. In Proposal 2 the people with the best connections to the fact-checkers would have most opportunity for expression.
    - ii. Proposal 1 is however not without problems as if not censored in any way, news spam could prevent opportunity of expression for those who do not spam.
    - iii. Expressions that is radical also have a tendency to get more attention in news circles as it gets more reactions, positive and negative.
    - iv. Proposal 1 is the only choice that have the potential to be somewhat equal in the long-term.
  - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
    - i. Proposal 2 would greatly promote the access to fact-checked information.
    - ii. Fake news, together with new ideas and thoughts would be greatly hampered in it's access to the public.
  - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 best promotes diversity, but much of this diversity is up to facebook to
    - ii. Put in front of the individual. If we have algorithms that steer the content according to what interests the individual clicks on, they will soon not have any diversity in their media flow and thus we have created for them a filter bubble.
  - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 best preserves Communicative Power. The spread of fake news needs to be
    - ii. Dealt with by implementing new features rather than regulation.
    - iii. Credibility-score on accounts is certainly one feature that should be tested and as this
    - iv. Is still somewhat new territory i think with some patience we will see features that hamper fake news and still keeps the freedom of expression intact.
    - v. The real problem in societies is keeping people well educated, as this is what ultimately
    - vi. Decides what leaders and ideas they follow and both social medias and mass-media as of today exacerbate these opinions.
    - vii.