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. In my opinion, Proposal 1 would be a better option.
   Facebook isn't the only source of information people have, so if the content is not allowed to be shared on the platform, it is possible that others might find it from other sources and believe it. On the other hand, if it is shown flagged, people know that it is false information, therefore reducing the spread of fake news.

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 preserves and/or promotes the Rights to public speech.
      In proposal 2, facebook would be straight away forbidding people from sharing certain things, which is the opposite of promoting the right to public speech.

   b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
      i. Proposal 1 preserves and/or promotes the Opportunity for Expression.
      In proposal 2, facebook would be not allowing the content to be shared, which isn't an opportunity to express.

   c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
      i. Proposal 1 preserves and/or promotes the Access.
      In proposal 2, facebook, by not allowing the sharing of the content, would be restricting the users from getting access to it.

   d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
      i. In my opinion, neither of the proposals promote or demote Diversity.

   e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
      i. Proposal 1 preserves and/or promotes the Communicative Power.
      Unlike proposal 2, proposal 1 allows the communication to happen, as it allows the sharing of content, even though it is false.