

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 Proposal 2 would be better, as people won't be able to see fake news at all, but, at the same time, it restricts the opportunity for expression.
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 preserves Rights because it doesn't obstruct the right of free expression.
 - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1 (see above).
 - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
 - i. Proposal 2. Because people won't see fake news in the first place, there would be a better access to quality and reliable information on public matters.
 - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1. People would see reliable, true information, as well as some false, not so well grounded information. This way, users can form their own point of view based on that.
 - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1, as people would be able to comment on those posts marked as inaccurate and discuss with each other on that topic. This way, they might realise that it is fake news and they might learn to differentiate fake news better.