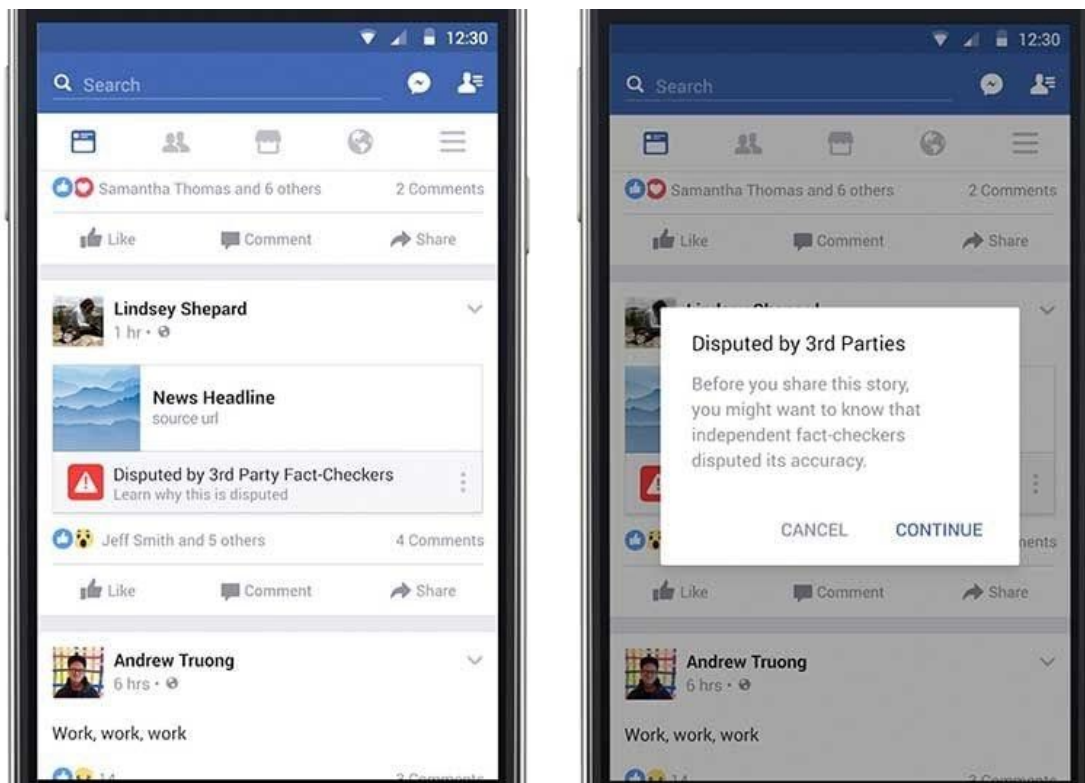# Facebook and Fake News

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 prefer proposal 1 and because although third party fact-checkers are supposed to be neutral and make empirical judgement on fake news, it is still possible to have human errors or mis-judgement on information. Or worse, there can be manipulation of information after the third-party fact-checkers or the media platforms dominate or control the exchange of information on the internet.

      Thus, the third-party fact-checkers or the social media platforms should not be given the power of banning certain information unless that involves certain extreme information such as terrorism or personal privacy abuse. If the information is defined as fake, it is still better to let the users do the final judgement with supporting evidence or warning instead of banning the "fake" information from being shared. We will not ban the discussion of flat Earth right? So proposal 1 is the best approach in balancing freedom of speech and mitigating 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, because platforms do not ban certain information, but just flagging a warning on potential fake news.
   b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
      i. Proposal 1, because if some news are prevented from sharing, people to not have the opportunity to discuss the information, even if they are considered fake.
   c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
      i. Proposal 1, if it happens that the third-party checkers or platforms made a mistake, people are still able to access the information and might provide evidence of why that information should not be flagged as fake.
   d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
      i. Proposal 1, because some information might be wrong or cannot reflect the full picture of reality, but at least people have the chance to express different opinions on "fake" news flagged by the platforms.
   e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
      i. Proposal 1, because if the "fake" news is still accessible to everyone, users can provide more information or evidence while discussing the "fake" news in comments. Some of the "fake" news might be against the mainstream values or perspectives, but still we should not forbidden people from exploring such ideas which is possible to be proved as true after some time.