

# 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. At the moment, given third-party checkers are used to verify the information, Proposal 1 seems to be better simply because even fake news reports are often made by bots. If the new way of verifying information is developed and considered highly reliable, then it's ok to consider taking more strict measures against fake news like Proposal 2 suggests.
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 better promotes liberties of expression and association, because it still preserves the right for people to make a choice whether to believe the information, no matter if it's considered fake
  - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 does a better job here too, because it gives more opportunity to participate in public discussion by having the information shared by other people.
  - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
    - i. Proposal 2 preserves and promotes Access better, because it preserves the right for people to see reliable information, because fake news is prevented from being shared.
  - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 promotes Diversity since no information is prevented from being shared and as a result any information has equal chances to be seen by people.
  - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 better promotes Communicative power since it preserves the right for users to communicate with one another through sharing information.