

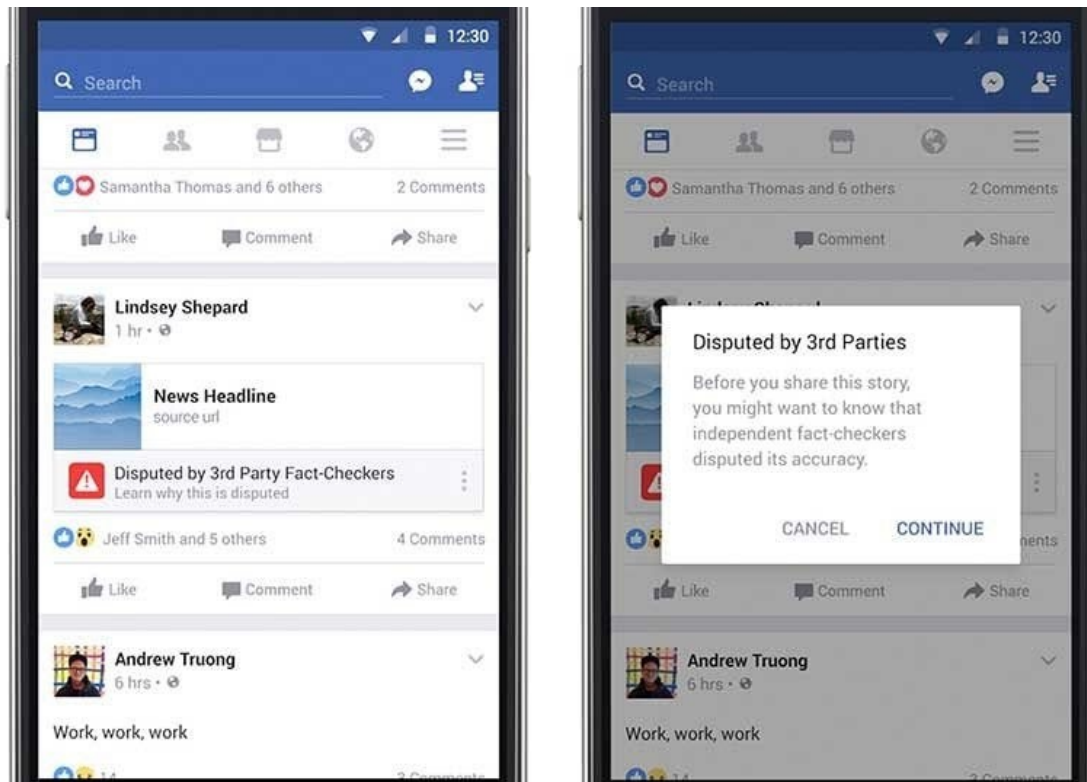
# Facebook and Fake News

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. Although it seems to be desirable to simply eliminate "fake news", I think this approach contains some unbearable risks like for example
    - What if the third-party fcheck itself pursues a certain goal and therefore doesn't judge objectively / correctly?
    - What if the fact-checker simply doesn't have the latest information and therefore judges unknowingly wrong?
    - What about freedom of speech, that is not limited to telling the truth by definition?
    - What in fact IS the truth, regarding facts where the answer can not clearly be divided into Yes/No, Black/White etc.. ?
    - If information classified as "false" can't be shared, how can one stay informed about other ways of thinking? How can evolution or reolution then take place?
    - What if I want to share "fake news" on purpose to warn someone or just to entertain someone by showing, how weird specific reports lately evolved?

With this in mind, I feel much more comfortable with Proposal 1, that gives someone a clear warning / command to do further research before sharing and/or believing a certain information.

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 best the liberties of expression and association as Proposal 2 simply equals a prohibition to share different thoughts – may they be reasonable and/or true or not.
  - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 promotes best Opportunity of Expression, because for individuals, who don't have the money and/or power to communicate through tv/radio/news papers/etc..., social platforms are one of the rare ways to share their thoughts with others.
  - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 best preserves access to reliable information, as
      1. some information today classified as "false" might be proven "true" in the future
      2. the source is not muted but flagged with a warning.
  - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1, because different thinking is not silenced and every one is able to be informed about ALL different opinions regarding a given topic.
  - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1 wins this also, as Proposal 2 wouldn't give same-minded individuals the opportunity to find communities and evolve within. Might look perfect regarding "fake news", but also suppresses evolution and/or revolution.