

# 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 think proposal 1 is better than proposal 2, because proposal 2 violates the “rights” and “opportunity for expression” of democratic public sphere.
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 it enables people to bring their ideas into conversation with one another, and to criticize and hold accountable those who exercise power.
  - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1. Because proposal 1 gives people a fair opportunity to participate in public discussion.
  - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1. Because proposal 1 follows the rule that each person should have good and equal access to quality and reliable information on public matters.
  - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1.
  - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
    - i. Proposal 1. Because proposal 1 gives people the chances to discuss different views.