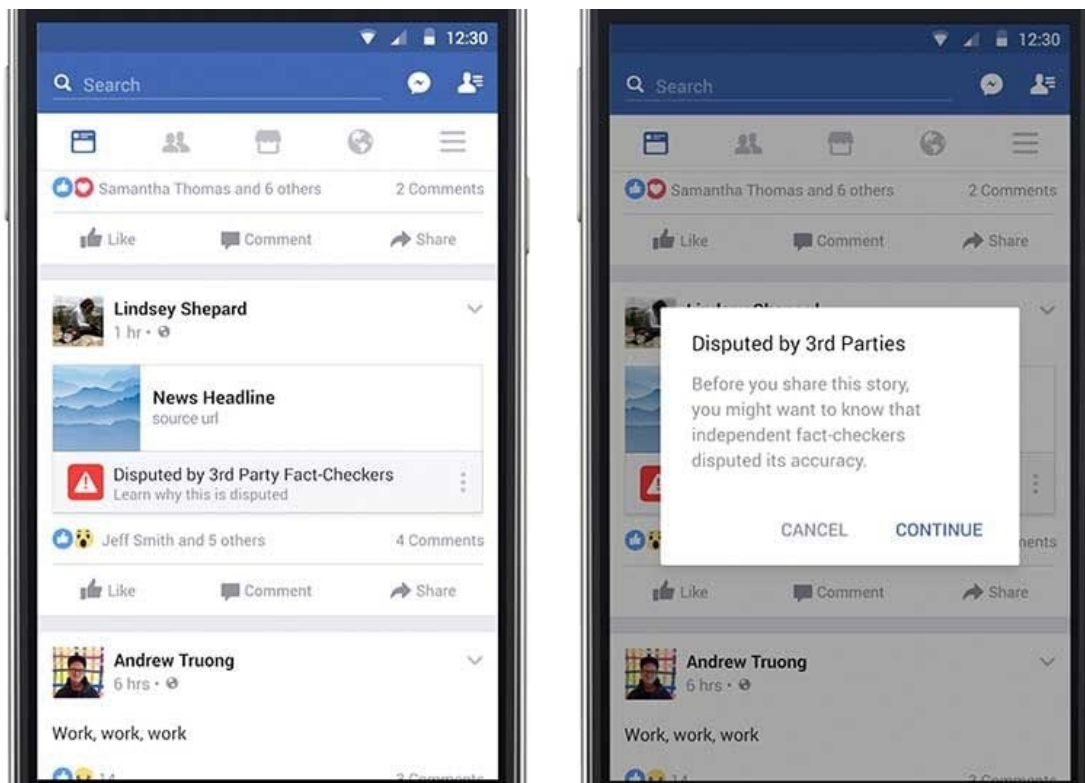# Facebook and Fake News

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. Disclaimer: I am a citizen of a quite different country, different in terms of ideology, in terms of media etc. The country is the Russian Federation. That is also the reason why I want to excuse me for possible typos and misprints.

       Idea of Five Rights is great in a hypothetical ideal society where all the citizens have enough commitment and critical thinking to determine what is fake, what is true, what is harmful and what is healthy. It feels like all the rules and laws are built in terms of that hypothetical thought experiment. And they work great in it; but that ideal society pretty much always has very few in common with the world we live in.

       And that is where dilemmas come in: can we (in terms of ethics) control information in such ways, that gullible and easily driven people won't have an access to misleading, lying and harmful information? Proposal 2 basically clearly preserves all the five rights and opportunities, if that is the question. But I guess it will have the greater impact on the war with fake news and misinformation in general. The question is what we value more: promoting the Rights or well-being of society even with the ways of shutting down the people who can spread misinformation. In my opinion, the balanced solution will be Proposal 1 with the addition of punishment of people who misinform intentionally. Suggested green/yellow/red flags is a good example of such punishment in the context of Facebook.
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, explained above
    b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
        i. Proposal 1, explained above
    c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
        i. Proposal 1, explained above
    d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
        i. Proposal 1, explained above
    e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
        i. Proposal 1, explained above