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Part 1: intro! (short: 2 – 3 paragraphs) this is my issue <facebook making people sad without their knowledge>. These are the ways people respond to this issue (this is where people disagree): So the question is, was fb right to do this?? YES: <you agreed to it :O>, but NO: <come on man, did you really agree to it though?>.

Part 2: This is my argument! FACEBOOK IS NOT RIGHT TO DO THIS. it is NOT morally acceptable :< because…??? You didn’t actually agree to it!

P1: facebook’s thing they did counts as experimentation

Okay who would argue with this. Insert definition of experiment.

P2: you need to tell people before you experiment on them, or else that’s morally wrong

BECAUSE: otherwise, they don’t get to back out (stop using fb for the duration of the experiment) and that means you’re taking away their choice to control what happens to them. You’re making them unhappy without their consent. AS OPPOSED TO people being told “hey, you might be made sad in this experiment, opt out by clicking <here>.

P3: facebook didn’t tell people.

Fb’s user policy is way too vague to cover this. Nobody actually signed up for this when they decided to use facebook. Nobody thought this was a risk. Sure, we ‘agreed’ to it, but like, isn’t there an implied “we won’t fuck with you” when you’re about to use a website that’s so worldwide?? Like, there are regulations on user agreements for a reason, and this is it. So websites can’t take advantage of you.

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C: facebook was morally wrong to do the thing

Part 3: But tara! What about blah blah bleep bloop ()?? Well, here’s what I say to your bleep bloop!

BUT TARA THAT MIGHT INTRODUCE BIAS. Maybe fb didn’t want anybody to know because people react when you tell them theyre being watched. But you don’t have to tell them what they’re being observed for! Tell them “hey we’re doing a random study, you might be sadder, no biggie just opt out if you’re not into that” without hinting at them to watch out for if their newsfeed just got suddenly happier / sadder.