

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 feel Proposal 1 is better. We don't know who these third party fact checkers are. What are their agendas? With what party do they align themselves with, etc. Everyone interprets "facts" differently these days. I feel that blocking/limiting content at all is wrong as a particular user is essentially silenced if they write something that is not valid from a third party fact checker perspective.
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. As the user is at least able to express their opinion. The second proposal violates the first, second and third rights.
 - b. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Opportunity for Expression? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1 for the same reason above. It allows people to still express and participate.
 - c. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Access? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1. Access is prevented in the second proposal (if the fact checker deem it to be fake news, it doesn't make it to the platform altogether).
 - d. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Diversity? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1. This is because people can at least see/read a wide spectrum of views even if the fact checkers deem it to not be accurate.
 - e. Which proposal best preserves or promotes Communicative Power? Why?
 - i. Proposal 1. Because users have equal chances to express their interests and ideas about topics that are not obfuscated by Proposal 2.