



Nothing to see here, move right along folks

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Introduction:

Have you noticed how our freedom of speech has been fading away over the past few years? Social media companies such as YouTube, Twitter, and Facebook have taken censorship to a whole new level to silence the views that do not conform to the “official narrative.” A few years back, censorship may have seemed like a far-fetched conspiracy theory, but today it is blatant reality staring us down right in our faces.

Now we have a new lingo to learn and an information dystopia developing before our eyes.

- **Gaslighting** - a form of mental manipulation in which a person or a group covertly sows seeds of doubt in a targeted individual or group, making them question their own memory, perception, or judgment.
- **Shadow banning** - stealth **banning**, or ghost **banning** is the act of blocking a social media user's content without the user knowing.
- **Cancel culture** - the popular practice of withdrawing support for (*canceling*) public figures and companies after they have done or said something considered objectionable or offensive.
- **Fact checkers** - a process that seeks to verify information, in order to promote accuracy and correctness of reporting. (Question: Who fact checkers the fact checkers? most of whom are leftist leaning and promote an ideology besides pure reporting and journalism accuracy.)

- **Throttling** - claimed to be the deprioritizing or slowing down of information by big tech for the purpose 'hiding' undesirable content.
- **Misinformation warnings** - defined as inserts into ,mostly social media posts that pertain to 'supposedly' misleading information, either created or disseminated without manipulative or malicious intent.

Of course, depending on where you stand, you might think these measures and practices are needed to order our discourse and the way our society communicates. In a perfect world there may be some validity, but we don't like in an agenda free world.

Here's a sample of emails sent to 'offenders':

"Our team (YouTube in this example) has reviewed your content, and, unfortunately, we think it violates our medical misinformation policy. We've removed the following content from YouTube: (sample)

We know that this might be disappointing, but it's important to us that YouTube is a safe place for all. If content breaks our rules, we remove it. If you think we've made a mistake, you can appeal, and we'll take another look. Keep reading for more details.

How your content violated the policy:

YouTube doesn't allow claims about COVID-19 injections that contradict expert consensus from local health authorities or the World Health Organization (WHO)".

Here Youtube is acting as a 'publisher' with editorial privilege vs being a platform of communication where it does not have the right to editorialize or censor information.

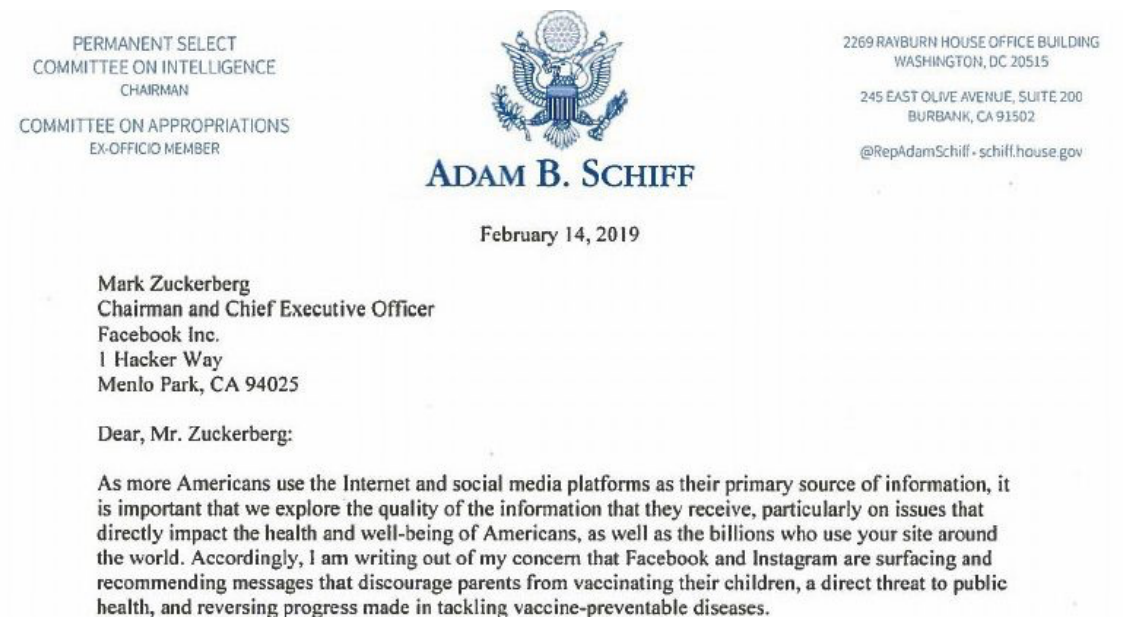


An interesting example of political pressure and communications:

Representative Adam Schiff (D-Calif.) in March 2020 pressed Amazon over popular anti-vaccination products sold on its online store, accusing the retail giant of allowing "harmful" content to "thrive and spread." Schiff's comments, made in a letter to CEO Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook, comes amid increasing scrutiny of tech giants over anti-vaccine content spreading on their platforms.

Lawmakers and other public health advocates have pressured major companies such as YouTube and Facebook to crack down on medical misinformation, which they believe is empowering the anti-vaccine movement of people who do not vaccinate themselves or their children.

Censorship for sure. Heres' an excerpt (in similar vein) from his letter of 'concern' to Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook way back in Feb 2019. Perhaps prophetic of what was to come once Covid broke in 2020.



George Orwell, '1984' and Facebook / YouTube

Now, let's check in with novelist George Orwell and find out what he said about Facebook and YouTube.

Actually, he said nothing having written his novel in the 1940's, but prophetically this novel tells us a lot. Try this excerpt from my book *"Agenda - Socialism in the West, what is really going on"*.

John 8:32

"And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

Orwell published "1984 a Novel" in June 1949 dealing with the themes of government over-reach, mass surveillance and repressive regimentation by totalitarian authorities. These measures amounted to severe curtailment of individual freedoms and propaganda and official deception played a big role. The novel is set in a world of super states after a global war. Oceania has a party leader called 'Big Brother' whose henchmen can surveil all activity inside your home and out by means of two way 'telescreens'. Wow.

The Government (or Party) controls the people through the 'Ministry of Truth' which deals with news, entertainment, education and art (propaganda). Today we have a growing cooperation between Government and 'Big Tech' to censor and squelch free expression enshrined in the First Amendment by means of 'gaslighting, fact checking, mis information stamps on social media posts, cancel culture, and outright banning off the internet. All in the name of maintaining 'community standards, safety and responsible non extremist interaction (think 'Christian Nationalism').

Perhaps George Orwell would have used the term 'fake news' if he were to observe what is going on today.

In his novel, the 'Thought Police' ensured conformity to the party line, and a new language called 'Newspeak' was developed which corralled the masses into a reduced form of thinking and communication. The key word in Newspeak is 'black white' where the word has two mutually contradictory meanings. When applied to an opponent it contradicts the plain facts. It is what you want it to mean to suit your purpose. This system of thought is known as 'doublethink'. You may recognize some of this going on in our modern culture when it comes to gender matters, and certainly in politics and ethics. When someone is a bigoted fascist and they call you one..., you get the picture – classical psychological projection of your own actions onto others.

Censorship and surveillance are two aspects in Orwell's novel worth considering when it comes to our world today. Orwell also wrote "Animal Farm" in 1945 where he satirized the Russian Revolution and rise of Stalin into a repressive dictator. The line "some animals are more equal than others" is famous for its criticism of the whole socialist / communist endeavor to create a society where people can be free, equal, and happy. So much for equal 'outcomes'.

The hugely popular and influential platforms like YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and Google search engine have defined our modern lives and have most notably come to light recently as agents of socio-political change. The controllers of these enterprises have been accused of sophisticated forms of censorship through their algorithms, shadow banning, and removal of posts with which they disagree according to guidelines to supposedly protect viewers. Shadow banning occurs when a user or their content is blocked completely or partially from an online community in such a way that the user will not readily know it has happened.

It has become commonplace for mostly conservative accounts to be affected in this way. Commentators have said that Facebook has the capability to target an audience in such a way as to sway their opinions and actions. This includes posts that target specific demographics prior to an election. This has become a concern for the 2020 Presidential election especially.

Free speech norms have also been eroded through the newly defined 'hate' speech objections. So called 'hate' speech posts can be and are banned regularly. The top areas where persons or groups are 'attacked' are race, religion, ethnic origin, sexual orientation, disability, or gender. On the surface most of this is acceptable, but increasingly a 'leftist' and postmodern bias is driving this sort of censorship. A 'new morality' is being established which runs counter to the Judeo-Christian

worldview that seemingly most still adhere to at least in the USA. It may even be accurate to say that the worldview of most of the controllers of these modern information and communication platforms (YouTube, Facebook, Twitter, Google) tends towards leftist socialism and globalism.

In March 2020, during the Corona Virus Pandemic saga YouTube let its viewers know that it would resort more than normal to 'AI' (Artificial Intelligence) to moderate and take down videos that violate policy as many of its human reviewers have been sent home to limit the spread of the virus. YouTube admitted that many videos may be taken down that did not actually violate policy. 'Sorry, our censorship is not perfect at this stage', they said.

By the way, 'PragerU' an internet 'University' led by Denis Prager uses YouTube extensively to promote their 'conservative' agenda via short videos of a political, philosophical, environmental, and economic nature. A significant number of their YouTube posts have been taken down by YouTube as violating user policies. Prager has been forced to take the matter to court as he argues that his and his contributor's material is unfairly being censored. YouTube argues that it is not acting as a 'publisher', only as a responsible 'platform'. They want it both ways: when it suits them in protecting their leftist agenda they act as a publisher exercising the right to drop content, while acting like a platform in other situations where content is deemed suitable.

Facebook, with founder Mark Zuckerberg at the helm, adopts community standards to process and sometimes delete or censor posts deemed racist or sexist, hate speech, deemed to be terrorist by nature and so on. Where things get trickier is in its privacy practices.

Facebook has also been accused of censoring 'conservative' content, and even having the computing ability to specifically target sensitive voters in an election towards a desired result.

In April 2020, when people in the US began to tire of State Governor overreach in implementing lock down guidelines, Facebook began to take down posts that promoted and organized protests.

Facebook's Zuckerberg in an interview with CNN's George Stephanopoulos called such posts 'harmful misinformation'. This must point toward totalitarianism at its 'capitalist' worst! After all, the first amendment has been shredded in the name of medical mitigation against Covid19.

*As a reminder **the first amendment of the US constitution** states:*

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances".

Sadly, Facebook and YouTube have been marching in lockstep with an ideologically driven mainstream media, not in pursuit of speaking 'truth to power' but rather speaking to empower increasingly powerful political / economic elites who largely lean left and might well be called socialist if you go back say 20, 30, 40 years in America.



People were censored in the Bible:

Acts 4:16-20

¹⁶ "What are we going to do with these men?" they asked. "Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a notable sign, and we cannot deny it.

¹⁷ But to stop this thing from spreading any further among the people, we must warn them to speak no longer to anyone in this name."

¹⁸ Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.

¹⁹ But Peter and John replied, "Which is right in God's eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!

²⁰ As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard."

A miracle was performed and it could not be denied. However, the disciples had become a threat to the control the religious leaders held over the people. So they threatened the disciples and tried to censor their speech. Yet the disciples were not deterred, and resisted their authority, saying that they 'cannot help' but speak about what they had seen and heard.

In our world today, there are many scientists worldwide who cannot but speak what their research and the data shows. Yet the authorities are seemingly desperate to have their influence unchallenged. So today we have censorship all in the name of 'protecting' the public from 'misinformation' even when it is clear to anyone who wants to follow the truth that the science is '**not** settled'.

Dig deeper and you will find in the medical world that Big Pharma has an agenda to protect and expand their 'turf' - your health and sickness.

Then in Acts 7 Stephen, an ardent follower of Christ and deacon in the early church performs great signs and wonders among the people and is unjustly set up by the threatened religious leaders who secretly induced men to lie about what Stephen had been saying. Kind of like various agenda driven so called news outlets have done to leaders they don't like. These corrupt leaders even set up false witnesses against Stephen who was brought before the council and interrogated. He bravely outlined the back story to his preaching, but get this: when Stephen zeroed in on their hypocrisy and spoke directly of the Holy Spirit and Jesus, they went ballistic. They gnashed their teeth, stopped their ears and ran at him forcefully casting him out of the city. They proceeded to stone him to death.

(Acts 7:54-58)

So much for free speech. It obviously did not exist back then, and sadly in many places today the freedom to air your opinions is being systematically stifled. By those who claim to Know better and see themselves as custodians of the public discourse. You can say what you want as long as our fact checkers Ok it. It's ridiculous. Which leads me to these examples of censorship.



Speakers corner, safe spaces at college and echo chambers.

In London, England they have a spot on the NE corner of Hyde Park in called 'speakers corner' where you can literally get up on your soap box and spout of on any topic of your choice. People have done so since the 1860's at least. Karl Marx, Lenin and George Orwell all spoke there at one time.

Today, however, you almost take your life in your hands if you dare speak against the current narrative. Since about 2018 people have been branded as hate 'preachers' by outspoken and sometimes roughhousing radical Muslims who have even spread out large prayer mats and conducted prayer meetings in opposition to the normal practice of free speech at speakers corner. At times speakers have had to be escorted out of the area by police for their own safety. This is somewhat like various conservative speakers being banned and kept from speaking on many US campuses whose authorities have even set up 'safe places' to protect students from being exposed to anything but the indoctrinating narrative they espouse.

Many colleges have become 'echo chambers' where students are hardly taught **to think** anymore only **what to** think. Perhaps this is why so many of the new generation coming up in society seem so willing to act in authoritarian ways in concert with many societal overlords who are reluctant to subject themselves to the accountability of we the people through the US Constitution.

A person placed in authority has a solemn responsibility to serve and lead, not to manipulate and control.

1 Peter 5:3

Nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples...

The best example to follow is Jesus who loved and served His followers. He guided them into the truth as He lived before them as the embodiment of truth. He did not dictate to them from afar. He opposed religious control, lies and corruption at every turn, even exposing those in government over the people: both the Jewish and Roman authorities, yet keeping to His main mission which was to seek and save the lost.

Luke 19:10

¹⁰ for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

What you can do with all this?

If you are 'lost' not only in sin but also in a web of lies and deceit weaved around you by those who claim to be your guardians, I encourage to ask God in a simple prayer to save you and show you what's really going on. Then ask questions. That's how you break free. See this website for question we must ask on the Health and Freedom page.