

S. 427 The PROMISE Act

WHAT BIG TECH LEADERS ARE SAYING

Jack Dorsey, CEO of Twitter

– “We don’t consider political viewpoints, perspectives, or party affiliation in any of our policies or enforcement decisions. Period. Impartiality is our guiding principle.”

– “Let me be clear about one important and foundational fact: Twitter does not use political ideology to make any decisions, whether related to ranking content on our service or how we enforce our rules.”

– “We build our policies and rules with a principle of impartiality, objective criteria rather than on the basis of bias or prejudice.”

Mark Zuckerberg, CEO of Facebook

– “We believe in giving people a voice, even when that means defending the rights of people we disagree with. Free expression is central to how to we move forward as a society together.”

– “We’ve built Facebook to be a platform for all ideas ... It doesn’t make sense for our mission or our business to suppress political content or prevent anyone from seeing what matters most.”

– “Increasingly, we’re getting called in to censor a lot of different kinds of content that makes me really uncomfortable. It feels like the list of things that you’re not allowed to say socially keeps on growing. And I’m not really ok with that.”

Sheryl Sandberg, COO of Facebook

– “I think the responsibility of an open platform is to allow people to express themselves. We don’t check the information people put on Facebook before they run it, and I don’t think anyone should want us to do that.”

– “When you cut off speech for one person, you cut off speech for other people.”

Sundar Pichai, CEO of Google

– “I can commit to you and I can assure you, we do it [our work] without regards to political ideology. Our algorithms do it with no notion of political sentiment.”

– “Let me be clear: We approach our work without political bias, full stop.”

WHAT THEY’RE DOING

Twitter displayed warning labels on – and then blocked – two damaging exposés from the New York Post on Hunter Biden’s dealings with Ukrainian and Chinese firms. *Twitter* also locked or suspended the accounts of the Trump reelection campaign, White House Press Secretary Kayleigh McEnany, and the House GOP Judiciary Committee for sharing the story, and froze the NY Post’s *Twitter* account for weeks.

Twitter has labeled, filtered, or tagged as “disputed” countless tweets from conservative or Republican figures, while taking no action against their high-profile progressive or Democratic counterparts for similarly contentious claims.

Twitter has prohibited the pro-life group Live Action from running ads for four years and running, deeming their content “offensive,” “inflammatory,” and “abusive,” while Planned Parenthood promotes itself freely on the site.

Facebook censored pro-life ads from the Susan B. Anthony List after they were “fact-checked” – only for the “fact-check” piece to be debunked and withdrawn days later. For five years and counting, *Facebook* has blocked content and ads from Students for Life of America, Live Action, Choose Life Marketing, and other pro-life groups.

Facebook tagged, and then blocked, an ad in Michigan that critiqued Senator Gary Peters’ and Joe Biden’s support for laws that allow biological males to compete in women’s sports. The left-leaning PolitiFact said the ad “lacked context,” (quite the novel standard for *political ads*) despite admitting the actual claims couldn’t be disproven. *Facebook* allowed Gary Peters and Joe Biden to run ads with claims that PolitiFact and its affiliates also rated as “lacking context” and “mostly false,” including Peters’ false claims about his opponent’s position on abortion and Biden’s false claims that President Trump wanted to defund social security.

Facebook deleted posts from The Babylon Bee – a conservative satire site – which quoted the famous Monty Python scene about witch-burning. *Facebook* deemed the satirical piece “incitement to violence.” Meanwhile, *Facebook* allowed satirical articles from The Onion of Senator Mitch McConnell beheading judges to run on their site, as well as Black Lives Matter leaders’ calls to “burn down the system.”

Google targeted the conservative site The Federalist for demonetization over a comments section The Federalist wasn’t responsible for, while *Google*’s subsidiary *YouTube* placed videos from the conservative site PragerU under “restricted mode.”

Help us hold Big Tech leaders responsible for their deceptive corporate promises.

MIKE LEE
US SENATOR for UTAH