



Comm Skills Virtual Learning

**Legal Communications I & II**

**#FreeSpeech**

**May 18, 2020**



Lesson: May 18, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target: Students will examine the intersection of social media and the 1st Amendment.**

# Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

Choose the statement with which you most agree and then free write for two minutes explaining why you support that statement.

**Social media companies should remove any content that is offensive, inaccurate or illegal.**

**The government should remove content for social media platforms that is offensive, inaccurate or illegal.**

**Social media platforms should be open without restrictions on content.**

# Lesson/Activity

Define these terms and phrases before reading the background article or using the videos. Try searching Google or a dictionary for a definition.

**Algorithm**

**Bias**

**Censorship**

**Conspiracy Theory**

**Content Moderation**

**Disinformation**

**Factchecking**

**Fake News**

**Liability**

**Private Sector**

**Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act**

# Practice

[Read](#) this article over social media, and answer the following:

1. Describe how the Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act benefits social media platforms. What are limitations to this law?
2. How does Section 230 relate to the First Amendment?
3. What are current exceptions to Section 230 protections?
4. Choose three of the proposed changes and exceptions to this law and explain the reasoning behind them.
5. Summarize how technology companies view this issue.

# Practice

Additionally, you should look for references to the vocabulary terms, and write quotes of the terms being used in your notes.

# Additional Resources

[First Amendment Encyclopedia](#)

[In the Age of Social Media, Expand the 1st Amendment](#)

[Should the First Amendment Apply to Facebook?](#)