



Comm Skills Virtual Learning

Legal Communications I & II

#FreeSpeech

May 20, 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

What challenges do social media platforms face when moderating content on the internet?

Lesson/Activity

Tarleton Gillespie, author of *Custodians of the Internet: Platforms, Content Moderation, and the Hidden Decisions That Shape Social Media*, talked about issues relating to how social media platforms moderate content.

[Watch](#) and then answer the following:

1. What is meant by content moderation? What are examples of content moderation?
2. According to Mr. Gillespie, how are these social media platforms both private companies and public squares?
3. How do social media platforms serve a public role?

Lesson/Activity

Create a Survey- Develop a survey that asks five questions about companies removing content on social media.

Practice

Write a mini-essay responding to one or more of the following prompts. Use the videos and article for as evidence to support your claims.

Is content moderation by social media platforms censorship?

What is the most effective way for social media platforms to moderate content?

Is artificial intelligence an effective way to moderate content on these social media platforms?

What might have if Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act is repealed?

Additional Resources

[Free Speech and the Regulation of Social Media Content](#)

[Notable 1st Amendment Court Cases](#)

[SCOTUS Unlikely to Extend First Amendment Protections](#)