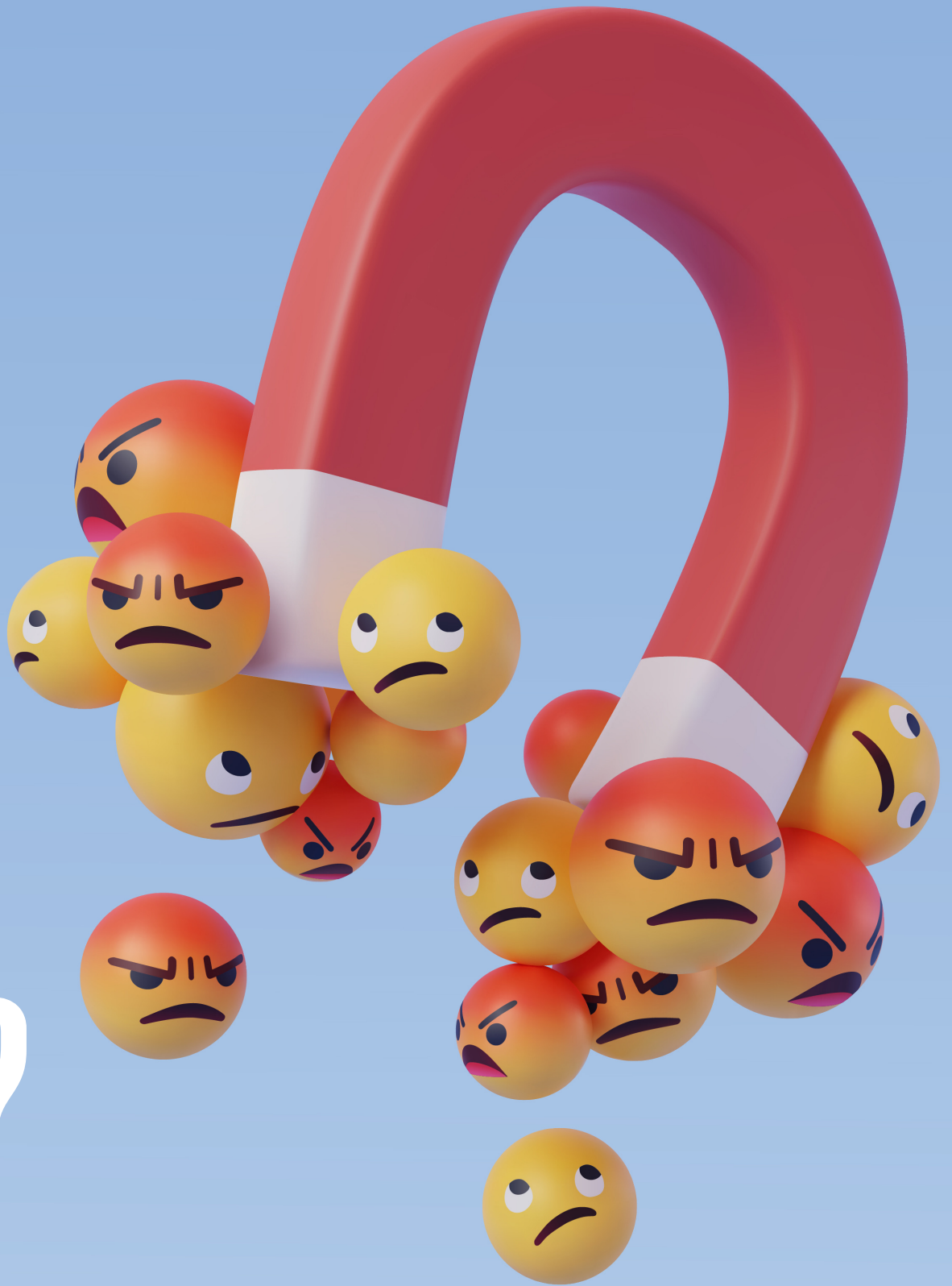


IS FREE SPEECH NOW HATE SPEECH?



Edition 11

Have the tables turned?



On the Rise

Before Elon Musk bought Twitter, slurs against Black Americans showed up on the social media service an average of 1,282 times a day. After the billionaire became Twitter's owner, they jumped to 3,876 times a day.

Slurs against gay men appeared on Twitter 2,506 times a day on average before Mr. Musk took over. Afterward, their use rose to 3,964 times a day.

And antisemitic posts referring to Jews or Judaism soared more than 61 percent in the two weeks after Mr. Musk acquired the site. – NY Times

By the numbers: One racial slur was used 26,228 times in tweets and retweets in Musk's first week, which was triple the 2022 average, according to the new report. – AXIOS

Hate Speech's Rise on Twitter Is Unprecedented, Researchers Find

Problematic slurs and formerly barred accounts have increased sharply since Elon Musk took over, researchers said.

Hate speech increased on Twitter after takeover, study finds

After Musk's acquisition, hate speech was tweeted about 4,778 times in 12 hours.

Twitter saw an "immediate, visible and measurable spike" in hate speech after Elon Musk takeover, researchers find

Hate speech dramatically surges following Elon Musk takeover, new report shows

Why is Elon Musk's Twitter takeover increasing hate speech?
Rashawn Ray and Joy Anyanwu - Wednesday, November 23, 2022



According to the United Nations

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers. – UN.org

Seems simple, but it isn't

There are negatives to Free Speech on a social media platform



What can happen

1. Spread of misinformation: Free speech on social media can allow for the spread of false or misleading information, which can have serious consequences such as damaging public health or causing harm to individuals or groups.
2. Hate speech and harassment: Free speech on social media can also lead to the proliferation of hate speech and harassment, which can create a toxic and unwelcoming environment for users.
3. Disruptive content: Free speech on social media can also allow for the dissemination of disruptive or inappropriate content, which can be harmful or disturbing to some users.
4. Misuse of platforms: Free speech on social media can also be used to spread spam or engage in other forms of misuse, which can be annoying or disruptive for users.
5. Limited moderation: Social media platforms may have limited moderation capabilities or may be slow to remove harmful or inappropriate content, which can lead to negative consequences for users.
6. Limited accountability: Social media users may feel less accountable for their actions or words due to the anonymity and distance provided by the platform, leading to more harmful or inappropriate behavior.
7. Negative impact on mental health: Exposure to harmful or inappropriate content on social media can have negative impacts on users' mental health and well-being.



The need to moderate

Social media moderation helps in reducing offensive, profane, and hateful comments thus making the platform safe for everybody which eventually helps brands in enhancing their online presence.



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This hybrid article was prompted and written by ChatGPT

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