

Facebook Even Threatens Satire Sites Like Babylon Bee over CNN Story That Snopes Rated 'False'



BY [PAULA BOLYARD](#)

[CHAT 69 COMMENTS](#)

Christian satire site The Babylon Bee received a terse warning from Facebook this week after the "independent fact-checkers" at Snopes reported that one of the site's humor articles was "false."

Adam Ford, who runs [The Babylon Bee](#), was warned by Facebook that a recent satire article about CNN "contains information disputed by (Snopes.com) an independent fact checker." Repeat offenders, Ford was told, "will see their distribution reduced and their ability to monetize and advertized [sic] removed."



The story in question pokes fun at CNN with the headline: "CNN Purchases Industrial-Sized Washing Machine To Spin News Before Publication." Anyone with even a sliver of a funny bone tucked away behind their appendix would know that it wasn't a serious news piece, but, alas, the humorless dolts at Snopes [had to take spell out the obvious](#).

Claim: CNN invested in an industrial-sized washing machine to help their journalists and news anchors spin the news before publication.

Rating: False

"Although it should have been obvious that the Babylon Bee piece was just a spoof of the ongoing political brouhaha over alleged news

media 'bias' and 'fake news,'" Snopes explained, "some readers missed that aspect of the article and interpreted it literally."

'The Babylon Bee' Founder Wants to Change the Way You Get Your News

Is that so? Are we to believe there are people who really accepted at face value the claim that CNN bought a literal washing machine to literally "spin" their news? Highly doubtful. What more likely happened is that some trigger-happy activists who don't appreciate Christian and conservative satire reported The Babylon Bee to Facebook, setting off an investigation by Snopes.

Snopes conceded that "the site's footer gives away the Babylon Bee's nature by describing it as 'Your Trusted Source For Christian News Satire,'" and explained that the site "has been responsible for a number of other (usually religious-themed) [spoofs](#) that have been mistaken for real news articles."



Babylon Bee's Adam Ford told PJM that this isn't the first time Snopes has been "fact-checked" by Snopes. (You can read the other instances [here](#).) "But this is the first time Facebook has used that to threaten us with reduced reach and demonetization," Ford said. "Also it seems that anyone who clicked on the article got a notice that it was 'disputed.'"

Babylon Bee's Adam Ford told PJM that this isn't the first time Snopes has been "fact-checked" by Snopes. (You can read the other instances [here](#).) "But this is the first time Facebook has used that to threaten us with reduced reach and demonetization," Ford said. "Also it seems that anyone who clicked on the article got a notice that it was 'disputed.'"

Adam Ford @Adam4d

13h

Really, Facebook??
pic.twitter.com/HEtBc7C0Gz

Nathan Hall
@NateOfAmericans



I find this so funny.
pic.twitter.com/lfDBj4OVW7

7:09 PM - Mar 1, 2018

[View image on Twitter](#)

10 See Nathan Hall's other Tweets



Adam Ford @Adam4d
Really, Facebook??
pic.twitter.com/HEtBc7C0Gz

13h

Roger for Christ
@MrB_Loves_Jesus



So I clicked on the headline and Facebook gave me this.

pic.twitter.com/793CqTRwdB

8:14 PM - Mar 1, 2018

 [View image on Twitter](#)

 256  83 people are talking about this 

He said they also reduced the image size on the Facebook card after it was flagged, which "probably stamped out the reach" of the article.

While on the surface this may seem like nothing more than a silly misunderstanding or overreaction on the part of Snopes and Facebook, it's important to view the warning in the context of conservative groups and individuals being removed from Facebook

and other social media outlets at an alarming rate. Facebook claims that they're in the process of hiring thousands of fact-checkers along with ["professional" fact-checking organizations](#) that oh, by the way, happen to lean left.

This past December PolitiFact discussed its partnership with Facebook and explained how it works. "Our partnership with Facebook is part of a push by the social media company to clean up its news feed and become a more trustworthy platform," PolitiFact's [Aaron Sharackman wrote](#). "Facebook introduced a new tool after the 2016 campaign that allows users to mark a post as a 'false news story,' and if enough do, the post is sent to fact-checkers like PolitiFact, Snopes and Factcheck.org."

Sharackman continued:

If the fact-checkers find the story to be "false," a warning label is attached to the original post in Facebook's news feed, and Facebook's algorithm makes it more difficult for the disputed post to spread virally.

PolitiFact has been doing that work for a year now, and we have attached that false label to at least 1,722 individual URLs. That's nearly five articles debunked a day, every day for a year.

Factcheck.org, PolitiFact, and Snopes all have reputations for being biased in favor of liberals, so it's no wonder Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg, a flaming liberal himself, is relying heavily on these organizations to be arbiters of truth in the Facebook universe. The company that [utterly failed at keeping Russian bots from interfering in the 2016 election](#) now has apparently set its sights on conservative websites.

Follow me on Twitter [@pbolyard](#)

■ Satire Is Now Being Shamed as Fake News

Snopes invested in a high-capacity dipshit factory.

Rating: True

26 | • Reply • Share ›

 **CanYouHearUsNow?** Allston • 6 minutes ago

vat They are so pathetic.

ar | • Reply • Share ›

 **Deimie** • 3 hours ago

atar I think this is worth a t-shirt. Walk around all day and see if I get a warning from facebook...will they shut me down? Cut off my revenue?

Where is P.J. O'Rourke when you need him....

"If we're looking for the source of our troubles, we shouldn't test people for drugs, we should test them for stupidity, ignorance, greed and love of power."

2 | • Reply • Share ›

 **lilwren** Deimie • 14 minutes ago


vat ...& lacking a sense of humor (which allows you to laugh @ yourself)...

| • Reply • Share ›

 **John C. Stephens** Deimie • 8 minutes ago

vat P. J. O'Rourke came out for Hillary. To Hell with him.

ar | • Reply • Share ›

 **Deimie** John C. Stephens • 4 minutes ago

vat No one is perfect...

ar | • Reply • Share ›

 **Scott Roberts** • 28 minutes ago

atar Will Snopes and Facebook do the same for any liberal satire piece from The Onion? Yeah...that's what I thought.

21 | • Reply • Share ›

 **Voxhalyn Rakkasan** Scott Roberts • 22 minutes ago

vat How about when liberals use "satire" to portray the violence against conservatives? "Oh, we didn't mean someone should actually kill Trump.. it was a JOKE"...

12 | • Reply • Share ›

 **Strebs** Voxhalyn Rakkasan • 15 minutes ago

vat **The digital brown shirts of the left have virtually fire bombed another ideological opponent.**

All hail the Global Socialist order!
where the only freedom available
is the freedom it's fascist programmed algorithm
allows.

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›



John (MAGAnum) Voxhalyn Rakkasan • 15 minutes ago

FAKEbook

Never have - never will !

..
.

Thumbnail

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›



Liberalism is a cancer ✓ genius • 27 minutes ago

Who is fact checking Snopes?

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›



ShockTheVote Liberalism is a cancer ✓ genius • 21 minutes ago

Democrat National Committee

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›

One other person is typing...



skcoop ShockTheVote • 16 minutes ago

Bingo!

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›



InternetSavage • 27 minutes ago

Reminds me of when the dumb asses at Wapo fact checked if
there was actually a red button in the oval office to launch
nukes.

⌵ | • Reply • Share ›



supernonhero • 27 minutes ago

LOL that Snopes is considered a "fact-checker"

24 | • Reply • Share ›



Attorney guy supernonhero • 21 minutes ago

facebook's days are numbered. The controversy is what drives their readership. If they're going to silence one side, it merely becomes an echo chamber which interests no one.

10 | • Reply • Share ›



Brent Long Attorney guy • 10 minutes ago

No. Liberals don't mind echo chambers. That's why they want to shut everyone up who disagrees with them. Facebook would just become their utopia.

1 | • Reply • Share ›



Strebs Attorney guy • 7 minutes ago

Use Facebook and post the news ignored by the MSM.

| • Reply • Share ›

Show 1 new reply



mcc985 • 26 minutes ago

ever see a picture of the dork brigade that runs SNOPEs?

12 | • Reply • Share ›

One other person is typing...



MoeDaRat mcc985 • 17 minutes ago

Ever seen a picture of the dork that runs Facebook?

7 | • Reply • Share ›



Bill C mcc985 • 12 minutes ago

Isn't it no longer a brigade? I seem to recall it ended in an ugly divorce when the husband embezzled company money to spend on hookers and blow and got caught.

4 | • Reply • Share ›



lysosome • 24 minutes ago

Wow, leftist site snopes selected as the arbiter of truth. Better to just avoid faecesbook.

16 | • Reply • Share ›



Thomas The Paine lysosome • 12 minutes ago

I deleted my page months ago!

2 | • Reply • Share ›



Tenley • 24 minutes ago

Snopes is actually awful. I mean it is often factually inaccurate. It is driven by far leftist activists who insist on stamping everything with their spin and needs to be discredited as an "independent" fact checker.

14 | • Reply • Share ›



Bob Nix Tenley • 16 minutes ago

But Snopes IS "independent." They're independent of facts, reality, and lack of bias.

5 | • Reply • Share ›



idontknow • 24 minutes ago

LOLOLOLOL

They will also threaten National Lampoon and Mad Magazine...

7 | • Reply • Share ›



Bruce Darling idontknow • 14 minutes ago

If National Lampoon were still around, it would rank at the top of Facebook's "Index Expurgitorius".

2 | • Reply • Share ›



Oh Snap • 23 minutes ago

Only in our liberal clown world would this be done. Facebook has become DisgraceBook.

10 | • Reply • Share ›



Paul Hinson Trump Enforcement Oh Snap • 22 minutes ago

It will fade away some day like all fads.

2 | • Reply • Share ›



Jojo DeMarco • 23 minutes ago

Snopes.com....aka...a 300 lb. disgusting libtard woman and her 7 cats.

7 | • Reply • Share ›



Chuck Howard • 22 minutes ago

What part of Satire are they confused about: the use of humor, irony, exaggeration, or ridicule to expose and criticize people's stupidity or vices, particularly in the context of contemporary politics and other topical issues.

4 | • Reply • Share ›



Paul Hinson Trump Enforcement • 22 minutes ago

Poor libs.

It's all unraveling.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



ShockTheVote • 22 minutes ago

So Trolled

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



factscount • 22 minutes ago

It is no wonder that the liberal Snopes site and Facebook cannot distinguish between truth and lies when they confuse an obvious humorous satirical spoof with real news. This should bring a skeptical ear when listening to their drivel.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



gerald sornee factscount • 20 minutes ago

no one likes to be made to resemble a fool so by pretending it wasn't satire gave them an out!

1 | • Reply • Share ›



gerald sornee • 22 minutes ago

It seems that this so-called 'independent' fact-checker now controls Facebook's content....does Zuckerberg realize that he gave such control to someone else, or is he intending to buy Snopes!!!

I don't know anything about the Bumble Bee website but I do know that Snopes is run by a Leftwing adherent.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



Paul Hinson Trump Enforcement • 21 minutes ago

Libs seem to have a problem with reality.

Libs are reality deniers.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



John • 21 minutes ago

When enough people wake up and care about what is going on, they will realize that social media monsters Facebook, Twitter, and the rest are anti free speech, un American fascists. Wait , that'll never happen, we all use Facebook every day like a THOUSAND times a day. They got you folks, they got you.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



gerald sornee John • 15 minutes ago

Let's stop the nonsense ... The Constitution guarantees the Right of Free Speech ONLY against (unreasonable implied) Government impingement. Private citizens -

including companies, have the right to say almost anything or prevent others from using their facilities to push private agendas.

Recourse is based in laws imposing monetary damages for defamation or privacy violations.

| • Reply • Share ›



Karl Kolchak gerald sornee • 4 minutes ago

vat
ar The internet was created by taxpayer dollars (i.e., public funding). So there is a legal argument for applying the First Amendment to any company using the internet.

| • Reply • Share ›



idontknow • 21 minutes ago

They also gave Hustler a warning because Snopes said the scratch and sniff issues didn't really smell like what they claimed to smell like...

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



BruthaV • 21 minutes ago

Snopes has about as much credibility as the Southern Poverty Law Center -- zero. When will ~~Peter Thiel and other~~ Libertarians/Conservatives create web sites to compete with YouTube, Google and other bastions of the radical left?

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



idontknow BruthaV • 20 minutes ago

vat
ar Thiel is not on our side. As of this second, Palantir is logging what we say to be used against us by the police state if necessary...

| • Reply • Share ›



BruthaV idontknow • 3 minutes ago

vat
ar Thanks for the heads-up. Do you have more information -- namely, and objective sources -- on this? Thanks.

| • Reply • Share ›



martynW • 20 minutes ago

I wouldn't mind seeing a list of those 1,722 "false" sites. A tally of their political orientations would probably be quite instructive.

↻ | • Reply • Share ›



Alan • martynW • 7 minutes ago

And visiting them might be a lot more entertaining than spending time on FB!

| • Reply • Share ›



Swordie • 20 minutes ago

Fact-checking exposes the facts.

Rating: False

› | • Reply • Share ›



Vectormanic • 20 minutes ago

Facebook Boycott starts with me TODAY! Let's Paaarty...

1 | • Reply • Share ›



jbeny Vectormanic • 7 minutes ago

My Boycott started 70 years ago ... It is possible to survive without using "Social" media.

| • Reply • Share ›



WaitingForTheStorm • 19 minutes ago

What a maroon!

| • Reply • Share ›