R/LINUX

comments   other discussions (18)   Phreakiture (**3,508**) | | | | | **preferences** | logout

11.8k

Event I traced $2 billion in nonprofit grants and 45 states of lobbying records to figure out who's behind the age verification bills. The answer involves a company that profits from your data writing laws that collect more of it.

(self.linux)

submitted 1 day ago * by Ok_Lingonberry3296

EDIT/UPDATE:

New post and research at https://www.reddit.com/r/linux/comments/1rtd51g/update_i_pulled_irs_filings_for_the_org_that/

Website: https://tboteproject.com

Repository: https://tboteproject.com/git/hekate/attestation-findings

I've been pulling public records on the wave of "age verification" bills moving through US state legislatures. IRS 990 filings, Senate lobbying disclosures, state ethics

---

search

Submit a new link

Submit a new text post

linux

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☑ Show my flair on this subreddit. It looks like:

Phreakiture   (edit)

Please Read the full Rules here before posting or commenting

GNU/Linux is a free and open source software operating system for computers. The operating system is a collection of the basic instructions that tell the electronic parts of the computer what to do and how to work. Free, Libre and open source software (FLOSS) means that everyone has the freedom to use it, see how it works, and change it.

GNU/Linux is a collaborative effort between the GNU project, formed in 1983 to develop the GNU operating system and the development team of Linux, a kernel. Linux is also used without GNU in embedded systems, mobile phones, and more. These can include things like Android or ChromeOS. GNU itself is also used without Linux, some examples appear in projects like Debian/kFreebsd and Guix GNU/Hurd.

- What is free software? 🔗
- Basic history of GNU/Linux 🔗
- Linux announcement post from 1991
- The Linux Kernel 🔗

databases, campaign finance reco
registries, WHOIS lookups, Wayba
archives. What started as curiosity
pushing these bills turned into doc
coordinated influence operation th
privacy standpoint, is building sur
infrastructure at the operating sys
the company behind it faces zero
requirements for its own platforms

I want to be clear about what this
not the author of the earlier r/linu
aaronsb and I'm not affiliated with
this to draw attention on this subr
the privacy implications go well be
Every source cited here is a public

What the bills actually r
to hand over

Most reporting on these bills says
like "age checks at device setup."
language is more specific and mor
that.

California AB-1043, signed Octobe
effective January 1, 2027, defines
system provider" under Section 1
person or entity that develops, lice
the operating system software on
mobile device, or any other genera
computing device."

Every OS provider must then: pro
at account setup collecting a birth
expose a real-time API that broad
age bracket (under 13, 13 to 15, 1
any application running on the sys

Read that again. Every app on you
query a system-level API that retu
bracket in real time. This isn't age
the point of accessing restricted c
persistent age-broadcasting servic
operating system itself, queryable
installed application.

Colorado SB26-051 (passed the S
in the House) copies the same def
same order, same penalty structur
child for negligent violations, $7,5
ones), same exemptions. The tem

ICMEC "Digital Age Assurance Act,
introduced or is pending in Illinois
bills), New York, Kansas, South Ca
Georgia, Florida, and at the federal

New York's S8102A goes further. I
manufacturers to perform "comme
reasonable and technically feasible
at device activation and explicitly
reporting. The AG picks the appro
That means biometric age estimat
government ID verification before
device you purchased.

Exemptions in all of these bills cov
ISPs, telecom services, and physic
None contain any exemption for o
software, non-commercial projects
preserving verification methods.

The status right now:

State	Bill	Stat
CA	AB-1043	Enac Jan
CO	SB26-051	Pass Hou
LA	HB-570	Enac July
UT	SB-142	Enac natio
TX	SB-2420	Enjo judg
NY	S8102A	Penc
IL	HB-3304, HB-4140, SB-2037	Penc
Federal	KOSA, ASAA	Penc

The privacy architecture create

Here's what concerns me most fro
perspective. These bills don't just
They create a persistent identity l
operating system that applications
will.

Linux on Mobile:
- Android
  - Termux
- Jolla (SailfishOS)
- PostmarketOS
- Replicant🔗
- ZeroPhone

Movements:
- Free Culture
- Free Software
- Hack Bloc

Desktop Environments:
- Budgie
- Cinnamon
- Enlightenment / e17
- GNOME
- KDE
- LXDE / LXQt
- XFCE

Window Managers:
- awesomewm
- Openbox
- xmonad
- i3

Fluff
- LinuxMemes
- UnixPorn
- UsabilityPorn
- WildLinuxAppears

Learning/resources
- CommandLine
- Linuxadmin
- LinuxDev
- Linux From Scratch
- Linux Projects
- Software Freedom Law Center🔗
- Raspberry Pi Forums🔗
- OSdev

Creativity:
- Blender
- FOSSPhotography
- FreeCAD
- GIMP Chat🔗
- Krita Forums🔗/Chat🔗
- LibreDesign
- LibreOffice
- LibreStudio
- LinuxAudio
- LinuxFilmMaking

Help
- /r/linuxquestions
- /r/bash with [HELP] tag

Webcasts:
- Level 1 Techs🔗
- The Lunduke Hour🔗
- Linux Unplugged (formerly Linux Action Show)
- Bad Voltage🔗
- Hacker Public Radio🔗

The commercial age verification ve
would provide this infrastructure (
Jumio) charge $0.10 to $2.00 per
proprietary SDKs, demand API key
commercial accounts, and operate
no self-hosted option. Your age ve
goes to a third-party cloud service

Compare this to what the EU built
Identity Wallet under eIDAS 2.0 is
self-hostable, and uses zero-know
can prove you're over 18 without r
birth date, your name, or anything
check fees, no proprietary SDKs, r
a vendor's cloud. The EU's Digital
age verification obligations on Ver
Platforms (45M+ monthly users),
systems. FOSS projects that don't
intermediary services are explicitly
Micro and small enterprises get ad
exemptions.

The US bills assume every operati
built by a corporation with the infr
revenue to absorb these costs. Th
from the opposite assumption and
accordingly.

EU approach	US bills
Who's regulated	Platforms users
FOSS exemption	Yes, five mechanis
Verification method	Open-sou zero-knov
Cost to non-commercial projects	$0
Privacy architecture	Selective privacy b
Works offline	Yes

Who wrote the legislati

This is where it gets interesting. R
(R-Bossier City), the sponsor of Lo
570, publicly confirmed that a Met
brought the legislative language d
The bill as drafted required only a

- FaiFCast🔗

Other operating systems:

- AROS🔗
- BSD
- FreeBSD
- Genode🔗
- Haiku
- HelenOS🔗
- HURD
- Minix
- Plan 9

Rules

Please review full details on rules here.. All rules will be applied regardless of the number upvotes a post/comment has.

- **No support requests** - This is not a support forum! Head to /r/linuxquestions or /r/linux4noobs for support or help. Looking for a distro? Try r/findmeadistro.

- **No spamblog submissions** - Posts should be submitted using the original source with the original title. Posts that are identified as either blog-spam, a link aggregator, or an otherwise low-effort website are to be removed. Some reasons for removal are that they contain re-hosted content, usually paired with privacy-invading ads. If there's another discussion on the topic, the link is welcome to be submitted as a top level comment to aid the previous discussion. Please see: r/linux/wiki/rules/banneddomains

- **No memes, image macros, rage comics, overdone jokes** - Meme posts of any kind are not allowed in r/linux. Feel free to post over at /r/linuxmemes instead. This rule can also apply to comments, including overdone jokes, comment-chain jokes, or other redditisms that are popular elsewhere.

- **Reddiquette, trolling, or poor discussion** - r/linux asks all users follow Reddiquette. Reddiquette is ever changing, so a revisit once in awhile is recommended. Top violations of this rule are trolling, starting a flamewar, or not "Remembering the human" aka being hostile or incredibly impolite. Additionally, sexism/racism/other isms are not allowed. See also: /r/linux/wiki/rules/userconduct

- **Relevance to r/linux community / Promoting closed source applications over FOSS** - Posts should follow what the community likes: GNU, Linux kernel, developers of open source software, or other applications on Linux. Take some time

Google) to verify user ages. It did
social media platforms to do anyth

Meta deployed 12 lobbyists across
firms for this single bill, paying at
(described as a "very conservative
confirmed firms include Pelican St
(who also lobby for Roblox, letting
as "broad industry support" rather
company's project), Adams and Re
ranked Louisiana government affa
State Capitol Solutions.

Nicole Lopez, Meta's Director of GI
Strategy for Youth, testified at the
Commerce Committee in support.
testified in South Dakota for a sim
Meta's national point person for th

HB-570 passed unanimously at ev
99-0, Senate 39-0. So why did Me
lobbyists? Because the votes were
concern. The lobbyists were there
text and block amendments.

The key amendment battle came f
Morris, who expanded the bill to ir
developers alongside app stores a
senior director of government affa
questioned why "Mark Zuckerberg
passing these bills." When Morris i
amendment, Meta went silent. The
committee compromise maintaine
responsibility but kept the primary
stores, which is what Meta wantec

At that same Senate hearing, Mor
questioned DCA Executive Directo
about who funds her organization.
deflected, said she "wasn't comfor
answering," then under continued
admitted tech companies provide
refused to name them.

The advocacy group tha
legally exist

The Digital Childhood Alliance pres
coalition of 50+ conservative child
organizations (later inflated to 14(
six have ever been publicly named

---

to get the feel of the subreddit if
you're not sure!

- **Spamming self-promotion, surveys, crowdfunding** - Submitting your own original content is welcome on r/linux, but we do ask that you contribute more than just your own content to the subreddit as well as require you to interact with the comments of your submission. We set that no more than 10% of your posts should be your content. Please be aware that this does not supersede other rules. Additionally, surveys for your blog/news source/paper/own use are not allowed. Please see /r/linux/wiki/rules/crowdfunding for those crowdfunding..

- **No misdirecting links, sites that require a login, or URL shorteners** - In short: if your link doesn't go right to the content it will be removed. Sites that require a login to view the content are not allowed in r/linux. Example: A private Facebook post or a news organization that doesn't have free article views. URL shorteners and links that misdirect users to ads/jokes are also banned. See a list here, although the mods will make a decision on a per domain basis as needed: /r/linux/wiki/rules/banneddomains

- **No NSFW** - No NSFW links or images without mod approval. No discussion that is overly-suggestive to what is normally considered NSFW.

- **Non-useful Image Upload/Fluff Image** - Images of "Linux in the wild", plushies, Tux, and more are not encouraged for posting as a top level submission. If necessary, this can apply to comments too at mod discretion. The image/video upload feature is for posts regarding features/guides/etc. See also: Meme rule.

See even more subreddit and external links over at the supplemental page

This subreddit is fan ran and not affiliated with any organization.

a community for 18 years

MODERATORS

MESSAGE THE MODS

Kruug
iamedwards
jampola
MarlinMr
AutoModerator
MAGIC_EYE_BOT

testifying in favor of these bills acr
is what public records show about

I searched all four regional extract
Exempt Organizations Business Ma
through eo4.csv), which cover eve
organization registered in the Unit
is not there. No EIN exists for this

I also searched for incorporation r
Colorado, DC, Delaware, and Virgi
OpenCorporates (200M+ compani
Nonprofit Explorer, GuideStar, and
Navigator. No incorporation record
them.

DCA's domain was registered Dece
through GoDaddy with privacy pro
four-year registration. The website
fully formed one day later: profess
statistics, testimonials from Herita
and NCOSE staff, ASAA talking poi
loaded. This is not a grassroots la
staging deployment of a pre-built
later, Utah SB-142 became the firs
signed in the country.

DCA processes donations through
(formerly Network for Good, EIN 6
which is a Donor Advised Fund. Fo
states in its documentation that it
(3) nonprofit organizations." DCA
status. DCA is classified as a "Proj
in the For Good system, not as a s
nonprofit. I searched all 59,736 Fo
recipients across five years, rough
disbursements. Zero grants to DC
or any related entity. The donatior
be cosmetic.

Bloomberg reporters exposed Met
funder in July 2025. The Deseret I
arrangement in December 2025. N
website, across 100+ Wayback Ma
has ever disclosed funding sources
post and testimony targets Apple
is never mentioned or criticized.

DCA's leadership traces directly to
(National Center on Sexual Exploi

Casey Stefanski, Executive Directo
at NCOSE as Senior Director of Gl
Partnerships. Unusually, she never

RECENTLY VIEWED LINKS

Discussion Follow-up to my bill text
comparison: I traced who wrote the OS-
level age verification template that
covers Linux. Meta, Google, and Snap all
supported it.
382 points | 37 comments

Discussion I pulled the actual bill text
from 5 state age verification laws.
They're copy-pasted from two
templates. Meta is funding one to dodge
~$50B in COPPA fines — and the other
one covers Linux.
1864 points | 239 comments

Awesome 💥 !! The best and creepiest
robot I've ever seen.
2494 points | 244 comments

Event I traced $2 billion in nonprofit
grants and 45 states of lobbying records
to figure out who's behind the age
verification bills. The answer involves a
company that profits from your data
writing laws that collect more of it.
11.8k points | 477 comments

clear

account activity

NCOSE 990 filing as an officer, key
among the five highest-compensa
senior director title at a $5.4M org
decade with no 990 appearance su
below-threshold compensation, an
something else about the arrange

Dawn Hawkins, DCA's Chair, simul
as CEO of NCOSE.

John Read, DCA's Senior Policy Ad
years at the DOJ Antitrust Division
app stores and Big Tech.

NCOSE's own 501(c)(4) structure
complicated. Tracing Schedule R fi
years reveals that NCOSE created
(EIN 86-2458921) as a c4 in 2021
from c4 to c3 in 2022, then create
new c4 called "Institute for Public
1180705) in 2023 with the same a
same principal officer (Marcel van
2024 the original entity had disap
Schedule R entirely.

Despite NCOSE's website describir
as "created by NCOSE," and Sched
Institute as a "controlled organiza
transaction indicators between NC
Institute are marked "No." No gra
employees, no shared facilities, no
reimbursements. Zero reported tr
between a parent and its own con
staff move freely between them. C
NCOSE's lobbying spending tripled
$204,000, coinciding with DCA's la
ASAA legislative push.

$70M+ in super PACs, deliberately

Meta poured over $70 million into
PACs and structured every one to
centralized, searchable database:

Entity	Meta's contribution	Typ
ATEP	$45M	Bipa 527
META California	$20M	Stat

Entity	Meta's contribution	Typ
California Leads	$5M	Stat
Forge the Future	Downstream from ATEP	Stat (TX
Making Our Tomorrow	Downstream from ATEP	Stat (IL)

By registering every PAC at the st
than federally, Meta scatters filing
of state ethics commission databa
formats, different disclosure timeli
centralized search. Each filing is te
Aggregating them into a coherent
manually querying each state. Thi
opacity by fragmentation.

Forge the Future's stated policy pr
"Empowering parents with oversig
online activities across devices and
environments." That is functionally
ASAA framing.

Of 20 Meta-backed candidates acr
North Carolina primaries, 19 won
Post, March 12, 2026).

The firm that bridges bc

This is the finding that connects tv
been tracking separately.

Hilltop Public Solutions, a Democra
firm, shows up in three distinct co

1. Co-leads ATEP, Meta's $45M
   PAC
2. Involved in DCA's messaging
   per investigative reporting
3. Connected to Forge the Futu
   downstream Texas PAC with

policy priorities

This makes Hilltop the first confirm
bridging Meta's political spending
the DCA advocacy campaign. The
Meta elect "tech-friendly" state leg
coordinates messaging for the nor
independent grassroots organizati
legislators to pass ASAA.

The dark money networ

Meta's Colorado lobbying runs thro
Strategies, paid $338,500 since 2(
monthly payments jumping from r
$5K/month to $14K-$30K/month s
2023 as state-level age verificatio
accelerated.

Headwaters co-founder Adam Eich
simultaneously serves as a registe
lobbyist in Colorado, as Chair of th
New Venture Fund (the flagship er
Arabella Advisors network, $669M
as founding board member of the
(another Arabella entity, $311M re
Arabella network operates four en
same building at 1828 L Street NV
DC, with combined annual revenu
billion. NVF transfers $121.3M per
Sixteen Thirty Fund, a 501(c)(4) v
disclosure requirements.

I parsed the IRS Form 990 Schedu
all five Arabella entities. That's 4,4
totaling approximately $2.0 billion
every child safety, age verification
organization I could identify. Zero
Schedule I grant pathway is defini
If Meta money flows through this
have to travel via fiscal sponsorsh
fees, or non-grant payments, whic
less transparent.

The Eichberg connection matters r
proves a pipeline, but because the
Meta's lobbying payments chairs t
structure of the largest anonymou
advocacy network in US politics. T
overlap is documented regardless
money moves through it.

The company that benef

Meta's own Horizon OS (powering
headsets) already has Meta Accou
verification, a Get Age Category A
parental controls, Quest Store age
default minor account protections.
OS at 83% compliance readiness v
mandates.

Meta is not opposing these bills. Ir
pulled lobbying records from the S
State's SODA API and found Meta'
lobbyists on SB26-051 listed in a '
position. Not amending, not oppos

On every social media regulation k
Meta takes an "Amending" positior
fighting changes. Across 117 lobby
22 bills:

- Bills regulating social media:
  "Amending" (fighting)
- The one bill putting the burd
  providers: Meta position is "I
  (watching)

Meta fights bills that regulate Meta
bills that regulate everyone else.

In California, Meta spent over $1 r
lobbying in the first three quarters
publicly supported AB-1043, break
its own trade associations (TechNe
of Progress both opposed it). Meta
that creates surveillance infrastruc
level while leaving social media pla
untouched.

Meta's LD-2 filings with the Senate
H.R. 3149/S. 1586, the App Store
Act, as a lobbied bill. The filing na
"protecting children, bullying prev
safety; youth safety and federal p
youth restrictions on social media.
filing, Meta also lobbies on KOSA a
which would regulate Meta directly
the bill that burdens its competito
weaken the bills that burden itself
appear in the same quarterly discl

The privacy questions

I've tried to present findings here,
But from a privacy standpoint:

Why does the company that profit
user data draft legislation requirin
operating system to collect age da
it to every installed application via
API?

Why do these bills mandate comm
verification vendors (Yoti, Veriff, Ju
business model is collecting biome
the EU's equivalent uses open-sou
knowledge proofs that reveal noth
18"?

Why is there no data minimization
any of these bills for the age verifi
itself? AB-1043 creates a persister
Who governs what happens to the
through it?

Why does Meta fund an advocacy
legal existence in the IRS system
legislation that creates new data c
infrastructure at a layer below Met
products, while Meta faces zero ne

Why does the company whose lob
of these bills write it to specifically
media platforms from the age veri
mandate?

If the goal is child safety, why reg
operating system, which has no di
children, instead of the social med
where the documented harm occu

What you can do

If you're in CO, IL, or NY, these bil
committee. Comment on the recor
CEO met with the Colorado bill's s
9 and the sponsor suggested exclu
source software. The conversation
now.

Contact the EFF, FSF, and Software
Conservancy with the specific stat
and compliance gap numbers. The
these definitions cover volunteer-r
software with no exemption.

Read the actual bill text. CA AB-1(
on leginfo.legislature.ca.gov. CO S

leg.colorado.gov. The definitions a
not the news summaries.

If you maintain software that coul
an "operating system provider" un
definitions, start thinking about yc
now. CA AB-1043 takes effect Jan
Louisiana HB-570 takes effect July

Sources (all public recor

Bill text: CA AB-1043 (Chapter 6:
leginfo.legislature.ca.gov), CO SB:
(leg.colorado.gov), LA HB-570 Act
(legis.la.gov), NY S8102A (nysena
2420, UT SB-142 (le.utah.gov)

Federal lobbying: OpenSecrets N
(opensecrets.org, client ID D0000
LDA filing UUID b73445ed-15e5-4
aeb224755267

Colorado lobbying: CO Secretar\
API (data.colorado.gov, datasets v
9ifj, df5p-p6jt)

Louisiana lobbying: LA Board of
database (fminus.org/clients/pelic
partners-llc/, fminus.org/clients/m
inc/)

California lobbying: CalAccess (
access.sos.ca.gov), Bloomberg Go

Super PACs: Forge the Future
(texasforgefuturepac.com), Texas
Commission, Illinois State Board c
Politico (Feb 2, 2026), Washingtor
2026)

DCA records: WHOIS/RDAP (rda|
Machine CDX API (100+ snapshot:
(eo1-eo4.csv), OpenCorporates, P
GuideStar

NCOSE: IRS Form 990 FY2020-FY
Schedule R; NCOSEAction/Institut
Policy (EIN 88-1180705); original
(EIN 86-2458921) via Schedule R

For Good/Network for Good: fc
donation page source (targetable_
targetable_id=258136), For Good
ProPublica (EIN 68-0480736, 59,7
searched)

IRS 990 filings: ProPublica Nonp
NVF (EIN 20-5806345), STF 2024
(sixteenthirtyfund.org), DCI (EIN
Windward, Hopewell, North Fund,
2608326), ConnectSafely (EIN 47-

Campaign finance: CO TRACER
(tracer.sos.colorado.gov), FollowTl
FEC API (Meta PAC C00502906)

Reporting: Bloomberg (July 2025
(Dec 2025), The Center Square, A
Association, Dome Politics, Pluribu
Nola.com, Privacy Daily

EU framework: EUR-Lex (Digital
eIDAS 2.0 Regulation), EUDIW Git
T-Scy consortium

Technical: freedesktop.org, GNOI
documentation, Meta developer do
(developer.meta.com/horizon)

Full dataset, OSINT task
processed findings are p
with sources embedded
file: github.com/upper-
lobbying-and-other-find

This is an ongoing investigation. P
Ethics Commission records for For
expenditure recipients, NCOSEAct
filing, IRS Form 8872 for ATEP, an
from Colorado and Louisiana. If yc
lobbying data from states I haven
NY, UT, GA), I'd appreciate a head

I am not claiming Meta wrote ever
bills. Louisiana is confirmed by the
others use a shared ICMEC templa
claiming there is a direct Arabella-
pipeline; I checked $2 billion in gr
no evidence. I am not claiming ch
legitimate concern. What I am doc
company whose lobbyist drafted H
exclude its own platforms; the adv
pushing these bills nationally has i
existence and is confirmed funded
same consulting firm bridges Meta
DCA's messaging; none of these b
open-source or non-commercial sc
EU equivalent does; and the manc

API creates persistent surveillance
the OS level with no data minimiz
requirements. The records are abc
own conclusions.

This section documents what happ
investigation was posted to Reddit
context on Meta's documented his
astroturfing, coordinated reporting
manipulation to suppress unfavora

What happened

The original version of this investig
posted to [r/linux](), where it was ma
pulled down pending moderator re
upvotes, roughly 15k views be
pulled down some 40 minutes
posted)

The content that was suppressed
lobbying firms, traces documented
Senate LD-2 filings, and links to IF
identifies Hilltop Public Solutions a
confirmed entity bridging Meta's $
and the DCA astroturf campaign.
content that a well-resourced acto
reason to suppress.

I cannot prove the mass reports w
rather than organic. That is the po
Reddit's infrastructure makes it im
distinguish genuine community ob
manufactured ones, and it reward
either way by automatically remov

Meta has done this befo

In March 2022, the Washington Po
Meta hired Targeted Victory, one c
Republican consulting firms in the
nationwide astroturfing campaign
Internal emails obtained by the Po
campaign:

- Placed op-eds and letters to
  regional news outlets across
  none of which disclosed the
  Meta or Targeted Victory
- Promoted stories about danc
  "trends" that had actually or
  Facebook

- Pushed local politicians and p
  to frame TikTok as a threat t
- In an internal email, a camp
  wrote that the "dream would
  with headlines like 'From dar
  how TikTok has become the
  social media space for kids'"

Meta's spokesman defended the c
saying "all platforms should face a
consistent with their growing succ
not deny hiring the firm or directir
The story was confirmed by the W
Fortune, Variety, CBS News, Enga
Media, the Boston Globe, and Tecł
others.

This is not speculation about what
This is what Meta has been publicl
doing: hiring firms to plant stories
public concern about competitors
as the framing, and conceal the cc
the messaging. The Targeted Victc
the DCA campaign use the same p
outside entity to push messaging †
Meta's commercial interests while
involvement.

Reddit's bot and astrotu
problem is structural

Research published in Nature (Sci
documented coordinated political a
patterns across platforms includinç
separate study found that at least
in surveyed subreddits was postec
trolls or bot accounts designed to
public opinion.

Since June 2025, bot networks ha
systematically exploiting Reddit ar
moderation systems through mass
Thousands of legitimate Facebook
deleted after coordinated bot repo
automated enforcement. The sam
tactic works on Reddit: a small nu
can file reports, trigger automatec
flag the poster's account for site-v
filtering, all without engaging with

Venture-backed firms like Doubles
astroturfing-as-a-service across R

and Instagram, operating physical
bypass platform detection. The inf
suppressing content through coord
inauthentic behavior is commercia

What this means for this
investigation

Meta spent $26.3 million on federa
2025 and deployed 86+ lobbyists
It funded a nationally active advoc
with no legal existence in the IRS
Hilltop Public Solutions to simultar
$45M super PAC and coordinate D
It previously hired Targeted Victor
astroturfing campaign against TikT
safety as the narrative frame.

This investigation documents all o
primary sources. A post containing
was mass reported on Reddit with
suppressed site-wide by automate
Whether the reports were organic
the outcome is the same: the cont
removed from the platform where
the motive and the documented ca
suppress it.

The research is published in a git
every source embedded. It does n
Reddit's infrastructure to survive.

Sources

- Washington Post, "Facebook
  strategy firm to malign TikTo
  2022): https://www.washing
  hnology/2022/03/30/faceboc
  targeted-victory/
- Fortune, "Meta paid a Repub
  firm to turn the public agains
  31,
  2022): https://fortune.com/
  book-meta-paid-republican-c
  targeted-victory-turn-public-
  tiktok/
- Variety, "Facebook Parent Cc
  Its PR Campaign to Portray T
  to American Children" (Marc
  2022): https://variety.com/2

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  2025): https://thehackernew
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477 comments   share   save   hide   report   cro

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sorted by: **top**

[   ]

save   content policy   formatting help

[−] **bio3c** 709 points 1 day ago

I'm not from the US, but great work on that research, this is insanity.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **NoFap_FV** 110 points 1 day ago
>
> This is what money does
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [−] **ScreamThyLastScream** 62 points 1 day ago
> >
> > People like to blame money, but I think this is what being a greedy immoral piece of shit does.
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply
> >
> > > [−] **wonklebobb** 33 points 1 day ago
> > >
> > > it's ouroboros: money is both the goal and the tool to get there
> > >
> > > permalink embed save parent report reply
> > >
> > > [−] **NoFap_FV** 15 points 1 day ago
> > >
> > > Ehm... So.. being greedy about money... And money is not the problem?
> > >
> > > permalink embed save parent report reply
> > >
> > > **load more comments** (12 replies)
> > >
> > > [−] **SkyNice2442** 9 points 1 day ago
> > >
> > > Immoral people will always exist, but money expands the amount of damage that they can inflict towards a populace.
> > >
> > > permalink embed save parent report reply
> > >
> > > **load more comments** (2 replies)
> > >
> > > [−] **woah_haha_lmao** 3 points 18 hours ago
> > >
> > > ~~capitalist~~ most (now that i'm thinking about it) systems tend to reward sociopathy by way of letting you win with "any means possible" even if it means doing immoral and/or unethical things, the people that accumulate the most money usually "win" it by making sure competition doesnt get in their way, or by being a successor or descendant of that rich person
> > >
> > > the ratio of moral to immoral rich people is very heavily skewed to the wrong side. it's just good business, y'know?
> > >
> > > permalink embed save parent report reply
> >
> > **load more comments** (4 replies)
>
> [−] **SkyNice2442** 48 points 1 day ago
>
> The damage that billionaires do this is country is far too great. All of them should be severely taxed so that they can no longer negatively impact country through their selfishness.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **Technical-Seaweed808** 15 points 20 hours ago*

How did this post end up hidden behind moderator approval? Had i not left this in a tab in my browser i could not even get back to the subs. But the info in the post is now being hidden. Where do we question the mods intentions and goals?

Edit: The post is back. Mods here seems to have deem the post legit information. And I salute them for it.

permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **Ok_Lingonberry3296** [S] 702 points 1 day ago

Full dataset, OSINT tasklist, and all processed findings are published with sources embedded in each file: github.com/upper-up/meta-lobbying-and-other-findings

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

> [–] **hursofid** 160 points 1 day ago
>
> Github, owned my microslop? They'll happily turn it down
>
> permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply
>
> > [–] **Ok_Lingonberry3296** [S] 231 points 1 day ago
> >
> > For security and integrity reasons, an independent website with it's own repository, email, and domain will be setup soon.
> >
> > permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply
> >
> > > [–] **RileyGuy1000** 118 points 1 day ago
> > >
> > > An independent website would be good. If you want another git solution that's *not* scummy, I can also recommend Codeberg.
> > >
> > > permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply
> > >
> > > load more comments (1 reply)
> >
> > > [–] **Cute-Percentage-6660** 3 points 16 hours ago
> > >
> > > Do you think these figures are also responsible for hte age verification pushes in non US spaces like the EU and the UK and such?
> > >
> > > permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply
> >
> > load more comments (12 replies)
>
> load more comments (3 replies)

[–] **move_machine** 70 points 1 day ago

Anthropic donated $20 million to Public First Action, a PAC that promotes Republican Senator Marsha Blackburn and her sponsored Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA), a bill that will force everyone to scan their faces and IDs to use the internet under the guise of saving the children.

The legislative angle taken by companies like Anthropic is that they will provide the censorship gatekeeping infrastructure to scan all user-generated content that gets posted online for "appropriateness", guaranteeing AI providers a constant firehose of novel conte they can train on and get paid for the free training. AI companies will also get paid to trair on videos of everyone's faces and IDs.

As for why Blackburn supports KOSA:

> Asked what conservatives' top priorities should be right now, Senator Blackburn answered, "protecting minor children from the transgender [sic] in this culture and that influence." She then talked about how KOSA could address this problem, and named social media platforms as places "where children are being indoctrinated."

If Anthropic, the PACs it supports and Blackburn get their way with KOSA, the end result will be that anything posted on the internet will be able to be traced back to you. Web platforms will finally be able to sell their userbases as identifiable and monetizable human to their partners/advertisers/governments/facial recognition systems/etc. AI companies w legally enshrine themselves as the official gatekeepers and censors of the internet, and th will be paid to train on the totality of novel human creativity in real-time.

permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

[–] **thesaddestpanda** 14 points 18 hours ago

"indoctrinated" says a lot. When this stuff finally happens any leftist or pro-queer or pro-feminist speech will be marked 18+. Toss in the SAVE act or its successor, and now you have an iron grip on both elections and the marketplace of ideas.

permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

[–] **move_machine** 16 points 18 hours ago

Yup, the Heritage Foundation is clear in their Project 2025, of which *half* of its provisions were already implemented in the first year of Trump's administration, that they want to define LGBT topics and people as "sexually explicit", especially if they're visibly out in public or around children, which they want to make a sex crime.

Note that they want to make sex crimes punishable by death, the implication is clear: they are determined to put visibly LGBT people in prison or death row.

permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

[–] **EmbarrassedHelp** 7 points 16 hours ago

One of the groups supporting mandatory age verification requirements, is already close to putting LGBTQ to death in Uganda. National Center on Sexual Exploitation (NCOSE) likely already has blood on their hands.

- https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/30/us-far-right-group-influencing-anti-gay-policy-africa

permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

load more comments (1 reply)

load more comments (4 replies)

[−] **ChaosDaemon9** 49 points 1 day ago

Post on Hacker News as well.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **SkyNice2442** 13 points 1 day ago

are you thinking of sending your findings to propublica or wired?

https://propublica.org/tips

permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **WoodenInternet** 10 points 1 day ago
>
> /u/Ok_Lingonberry3296 please do reach out to ProPublica and Bellingcat about this too.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> **load more comments** (1 reply)

[−] **Substantial-Pop-2702** 5 points 20 hours ago

Please don't use Reddit for these types of posts, this site is completely compromised.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (7 replies)

[−] **FaultyPly** 651 points 1 day ago

If children's safety was truly a concern, 80% of the political and elite class would be arrested tomorrow. It's about money, control, and surveillance.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **ICookWithFire** 96 points 1 day ago
>
> Always has been
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [−] **MidnightBlue5002** 17 points 1 day ago
> >
> > It's like people on Reddit have never heard of FVEY. They've been doing this for decades.
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply
> >
> > **load more comments** (4 replies)
>
> > [−] **DISCONNECTIE** 11 points 1 day ago
> >
> > 🌍👩‍🚀🔫👩‍🚀
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **NdoplasmicRocketfish** 27 points 1 day ago

This. If we gave a real shit about kids we'd be jailing all these pedos first

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **Old_Movie_Fan_Ted** 8 points 20 hours ago

The state is the biggest bully of them all.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **3m3raldTux** 8 points 23 hours ago

It is the spearhead of an information war where the general populace of the world is finally becoming aware of the most evil group of people in the world.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (3 replies)

[−] **viera_enjoyer2** 471 points 1 day ago

I hope this would be picked up by sites that talk about tech or linux. It's looks really well researched.

And also hope it doesn't get taken down again by corporate shills.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **Coded_Kaa** 43 points 1 day ago
>
> Well it got taken down 😭
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
>> [−] **viera_enjoyer2** 19 points 1 day ago
>>
>> Meta is working over time.
>>
>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
>> [−] **NoJunket6950** 9 points 23 hours ago
>>
>> Epstein guy moderators
>>
>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>
>> **load more comments** (1 reply)
>
>> [−] **Ghost-Mech** 9 points 18 hours ago
>>
>> Which part? The post and git is still visible to me.
>>
>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>
>>> [−] **BackoffD** 7 points 7 hours ago
>>>
>>> They took it down and when they realized the info breached containment on the internet they put it back up to keep pretending they're not working for shady interests
>>>
>>> permalink embed save parent report reply
>>
>>> [−] **Coded_Kaa** 3 points 15 hours ago
>>>
>>> It's back 😭😂
>>>
>>> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **AwareOfAlpacas** 5 points 1 day ago

I hope that's due to the content and the work involved rather than the clean form and presentation.

I feel like a lot of people rely on the latter, then skip reading in favor of a quick summary. "Looks well researched" means as much as "sounds well spoken".

We're in such a rush to move on to the next thing that we no longer take time to digest and comprehend the information on offer.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (2 replies)

[−] **Coaxalis**   278 points 1 day ago*

Didn't read, but more than sure it's fucking zukerberger

edit

Suckerberg

edit 2

FUCKING Suckerberg.

edit 3

Fuckerberg.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **husky_whisperer** 68 points 1 day ago
>
> fuckerberg was right there
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [−] **Coaxalis**   19 points 1 day ago
> >
> > edited.
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> **load more comments** (1 reply)

[−] **Content_Chemistry_44** 25 points 1 day ago*

Fuckerberg = METAführer

Corrupt pedophiles are just making the new PedoReich, while they are saying that this is "democracy".

"Democracy"? Do you really think that this is democracy? You damn don't decide anything. And this people are just selling your ass.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **SamosaSniper** 14 points 1 day ago

Why doesn't no one read anymore?

permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **fannyrosebottom** 6 points 1 day ago

> Why doesn't no one

-_-

permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **Chary-Ka** 3 points 1 day ago
>
> I don't not read every day.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> **load more comments** (1 reply)

[−] **imnotmarvin** 3 points 1 day ago

Short attention spans due to a constant barrage of media tuned specifically for short attention spans. It really got going with 30 minute television shows. Now we're at 30 second videos. People used to read for hours. Listen to hours long speeches. They did these things fully engaged. Minds have been reshaped by the content we have at hand now. A lot of people are incapable of paying enough attention to read for an extended period. Not so much by choice as by conditioning. The world would be a better place if cell phones suddenly vanished. I'm not a Luddite, I just hate where we're at with attention spans.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (6 replies)

[−] **ZJL1986** 3 points 1 day ago

I still regret signing up for Facebook years ago to see who was single at my college. Like zero clue Zuker would cause so much pain in my life.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

load more comments (4 replies)

[−] **KingdomBobs** 201 points 1 day ago

Thank you for your service good sir

Fuck meta and fuck our sellout government

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **roidrole** 73 points 1 day ago
>
> America isn't even sold to the highest bidder. It's sold for pennies
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [−] **i_likebeefjerky** 18 points 1 day ago
> >
> > I see reports of politicians taking bribes, and it's like 5 thousand dollars. It's not always the super rich making bribes, most people would come up with 5k if it meant a law swung their way and made them more money long term.
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply
> >
> > > [−] **g4nk3r** 9 points 1 day ago

Its probably also high paying jobs, lucrative consulting contracts, board seats and other benefits that aren't cash transfers

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **Oorangootang** 6 points 1 day ago

You can add being paid huge amounts for speaking at private events and book deals to the list. Oh, and crypto of course.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

load more comments (4 replies)

[–] **bobdobalina** 3 points 1 day ago

no wonder we're all out

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (4 replies)

[–] **Any_Worry_2471** 173 points 1 day ago

Good work and it's a strong warning for us in the EU (again).

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **CarefulSignal9393** 26 points 1 day ago

Yall have the GDPR, we don't. America isn't gonna last much longer without one

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **dupontping** 34 points 1 day ago

We have the constitution, see how much that is helping us?

Laws don't mean anything to these people.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **CarefulSignal9393** 9 points 1 day ago

Touché

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **SeldenNeck** 10 points 1 day ago

common sense doesn't mean much either. If I buy a computer for my house, eventually my kids borrow it. Verifying owner age does not 'solve' a real world problem.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **mackrevinak** 10 points 1 day ago

my 100% uninformed and cynical opinion about all this is that its just a way for them to get their foot in the door. if this becomes a thing then they will wait a few years for most people to acclimatise to it

then "ah dam the children still arent safe so now we need to encrouch your privacy just a bit more". rinse and repeat every few years

permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **SeldenNeck** 3 points 1 day ago
>
> What this comes down to at the very end is " Elon can spy on everything *you* do as long as *I* get to supervise Elon and forcibly change his behavior when the mood strikes me."
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (3 replies)

load more comments (5 replies)

[−] **rnnn** 149 points 1 day ago

https://web.archive.org/web/20260313090844/https://www.reddit.com/r/linux/comments/1rshc1f/i_traced_2_billion_in_nonprofit_grants_and_45/

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **CouchMountain**   34 points 21 hours ago
>
> Commenting with keywords for people to find it easier:
>
> mirror backup archive deleted removed link
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **remmus2k** 12 points 1 day ago
>
> Thank you for this
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (2 replies)

[−] **Franko_ricardo** 123 points 1 day ago

What a based post.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **muwtant** 113 points 1 day ago

This needs more attention.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **aReasonableStick** 73 points 1 day ago

I'm not in the USA but its still highly concerning especially when theres connections to the Heritage Foundation. I wonder if they put their silly bills in states controlled by Democrats to also try and push people away from potentially voting for the Democrats. It honestly wouldnt surprise me if these same people are also pushing for age verification in the EU and UK.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Ok_Lingonberry3296** [S] 92 points 1 day ago

The Heritage connection is documented and it goes deeper than most people realize. Heritage Foundation funded three of the six named organizations in the Digital Childhood Alliance coalition, which is the group pushing these bills nationally.

Those three are NCOSE (National Center on Sexual Exploitation), the Institute for Family Studies, and the Ethics and Public Policy Center. The last two received $50,000 each specifically for a "Protect Kids Online" initiative that produced the policy research underlying the ASAA framework.

There's also a direct personnel pipeline. Annie Chestnut Tutor worked as a legislative assistant to Senator Mike Lee, where her portfolio included tech and telecom policy. Lee introduced the federal ASAA. Tutor then moved to Heritage Foundation as a policy analyst, where she now publishes reports advocating for the same bill her former boss introduced. Her testimonial was on the DCA website from its very first day of existence, before the organization was even publicly announced. She shaped the bill in Lee's office, advocates for it at Heritage, and endorsed the coalition pushing it from launch day.

On top of that, Tiffany Justice, co-founder of Moms for Liberty (another DCA coalition member), was hired as Executive Vice President of Heritage Action for America in July 2025. So two of DCA's six named members are now functionally the same organization at the leadership level.

Meanwhile, a Heritage Foundation fellow named Dustin Carmack, who authored the Intelligence Community chapter of **Project 2025**, was hired by **Meta** in **May 2024**. So there's personnel flowing in **both** directions.

On your point about the EU and UK: the comparison actually helps illustrate the problem. The EU's Digital Services Act and related frameworks include explicit exemptions for open source software. None of the US bills do. California AB-1043 defines "Operating System Provider" as anyone who develops, licenses, or controls an OS on any general purpose computing device. That language covers volunteer-maintained Linux distributions.

Six US states have enacted or introduced bills from the same template and not one contains a FOSS carve-out. Whether that's intentional or just negligent drafting, the effect is the same. We will upload more files regarding the Heritage Foundation later this week.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **Thundachid** 6 points 1 day ago

Yoti, Veriff, Jumio are the companies doing age verification in the UK, & the UK is not using the EU framework.

you can pretty much guarantee that the same people are behind the UK legislation.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[–] **trashtruckelmo** 3 points 1 day ago

I think they push it in States like NY and Cali hoping that other states just follow the trend and they can just watch the fire spread.

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **CyberAttacked**   60 points 1 day ago

Tldr ; It's Mark CUCKerberg (META)

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

> [+] [deleted] 1 day ago (5 children)

[–] **dorfsmay**   51 points 1 day ago

Amazing work!

Definitely worth posting on /r/privacy

Have you contacted organizations and individual fighting for privacy rights like:

- the Electronic Frontier Foundation (u/EFForg)
- the American Civil Liberties Union
- TechFreedom
- the Center for Democracy & Technology
- the Surveillance Technology Oversight Project
- The Intercept_
- Senator Ron Wyden
- Senator Marsha Blackburn

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

> [–] **powertoast**   3 points 12 hours ago
>
> One of these is not like the others. Senator Blackburn has and continues to be one of the worst examples of how to create internet law.
>
> permalink   embed   save   parent   report   reply

[–] **BigReception26**   50 points 1 day ago

someone with spare points boost this post i dont want to give money to reddit

this needs to make front page

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

[–] **AgainstScum**   42 points 1 day ago

Of course it's corporate capitalist.

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

[–] **hikeit233**   32 points 1 day ago

TL:DR citizens united ruling ruined the US and now meta and others fully own it.

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

[–] **BothDivide919**   34 points 1 day ago

Removed by mass bot reports. Heres a link:

https://web.archive.org/web/20260313143853/https://www.reddit.com/r/linux/comments/1rshc1f/i_traced_2_billion_in_nonprofit_grants_and_45/

permalink   embed   save   report   reply

[–] **Deadmanjustice** 27 points 1 day ago

Mods, get this shit restored.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **NoJunket6950** 23 points 1 day ago

Why are the mods being pieces of shit and censoring this post?

permalink embed save report reply

> [–] **HiddenKrypt** 22 points 1 day ago
>
> Why do you think? Reddit is owned by the same forces implicated here.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [–] **NoJunket6950** 9 points 23 hours ago
> >
> > Make them disable the whole reddit. Fuck these people.
> >
> > permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> **load more comments** (1 reply)

[–] **githman**   19 points 1 day ago

This is an absolutely outstanding investigative work. OP deserves a medal.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **d33pnull**   19 points 1 day ago

mfw not r/conspiracy

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **donut4ever21** 17 points 1 day ago

I wonder why Meta's competitors aren't fighting this? Also, I fucking always hated that lizard dude and this makes me hate him even more now. It's insane to me how people in the US allow this blatant bribery in their political system in a society they claim to be democratic with "no one is above the law" motto??

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (2 replies)

[–] **l8s9** 13 points 1 day ago

Corporate Congress! Companies run America not the gov-ment or the people. (The people haven't run nothing since the 1770s)

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **mackrevinak** 13 points 1 day ago

archived version:
https://web.archive.org/web/20260313143853/https://www.reddit.com/r/linux/comments/1rshc1f/i_traced_2_billion_in_nonprofit_grants_and_45/

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **UnfilteredCatharsis**   11 points 1 day ago

Commenting for the alg, good work OP

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **DR_CAWK** 12 points 1 day ago

Man. Fucking bravo! I saved this to a document in case it gets deleted again.

Normally when I see a well researched post it's in r/wallstreetbets for some DD. This is way better.

Everyone please upvote, share, and more importantly; send it to the media. If they keep getting contacted and pointed to this post then there is a chance they might pick it up.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Winter-Ad843o** 12 points 1 day ago

It was definitely malicious mass reporting. My post in this sub was also opening people's eyes to the whole situation, and after racking up a ton of likes and views, it got nuked because of mass reports.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **silenceimpaired** 11 points 1 day ago

This is also building infrastructure to censor. If someone chooses to not participate due to privacy concerns and selects the lowest age bracket … they will lose access to content that is deemed to be only for adults.

Now you're probably think "adult content"… but YouTube has already labeled content they do not agree with as for adults only. Content that many parents would not mind their child seeing. Nothing will stop these platforms from labeling everything but cat pictures and the like as adults only.

For example… No political discussions… in other words this post on Reddit… adults only. "Children should not be involved in political decisions." A somewhat reasonable stance… not old enough to vote… Maybe you even agree with this, but think… what of those of adults who verified to participate? Well eventually we will also have to verify our identities when facial scanning and IDs become mandatory to make this work… then the government won't have to do any work to know who is a dissident posting on a political topic. And we already know government organizations that handle taxes have been weaponized… imagine them bringing other branches in… sorry but your land has been designated as a refuge for the Robin and Bluejay.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **MattsyKun** 6 points 1 day ago

This.

Adult content has been purposefully made difficult to defend. As someone that posts and exists in adult spaces that are pretty well moderated to keep kids out, we've experienced a lot of "Well, they're censoring XYZ content, so that's good" and "Why do you want to not censor this, gooner, check your hard drives". I think someone else described it as a self-terminating position; You can't debate it because the other side immediately jumps

to "Why don't you want to protect the kids, pedo?" and makes it difficult to present nuanc to the discussion.

As you said, nothing will stop these platforms. Once you hand those keys over, there's really no getting it back.

permalink embed save parent report reply

> [−] **Ok-Win355** 5 points 1 day ago
>
> the term you're looking for is "thought-terminating cliche"
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **Searching4Scum** 10 points 1 day ago

Mark Zuckerberg should be placed on a deserted island and forced to play The Most Dangerous Game. He is a power crazed narcissist and lunatic and he deserves your red hot contempt

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **sk0t_** 4 points 1 day ago
>
> Perhaps we can entice Iran to bomb his Hawaiian outpost
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> **load more comments** (1 reply)

load more comments (2 replies)

[−] **roidrole** 10 points 1 day ago

Engagement, go

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **n3tninja1** 9 points 1 day ago

Fucking research Chad bro right here 🫡

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Rookvrouw_Joke** 10 points 1 day ago

OP time to clarify you are not suicidal. This is phenomenal.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **3krok** 10 points 1 day ago

taking the post down after many people already screenshotted it and mirrored it seems like an incredibly smart decision that definitely won't inadvertently verify the claims being made

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **metux-its** 10 points 1 day ago

Why has this post been censored ? Someone here doesn't want us to know that Facebook/Meta is trying to destroy GNU/Linux ?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Cliler** 9 points 1 day ago

"This submission has been removed due to receiving too many reports from users."

It would be interesting to see what type of "users" are those. Even more knowing reddit admins are watching the thread.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **DaftPump** 13 points 1 day ago
>
> Hacker News picked up this story and they mention the archive copy.
>
> https://news.ycombinator.com/item?id=47362528
>
> They won't delete it due to politics like this sub probably did.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **MichaelTunnell** 8 points 1 day ago

Why did you delete this thread mods?

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **Express-Cucumber-364** 5 points 1 day ago
>
> welcome to reddit!
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (2 replies)

[−] **Andreus** 8 points 1 day ago

Every single executive at all of these companies, every single astroturfing PAC employee, they all have to be jailed for life. Even the slightest association with these anti-privacy laws must be punished so severely that nobody dares propose them ever again.

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **duplicati83** 6 points 1 day ago

Thank you for doing this work.

Fuck Meta. Fuck the republicans. Fuck them allllllll.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **DamnGoodCovfefe** 8 points 1 day ago

Remarkable research. Thanks for your work.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Fant_Aztic** 6 points 1 day ago

Unblock the post

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **bboozzoo**   8 points 1 day ago

Why has the post been removed?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Express-Cucumber-364** 4 points 1 day ago

First time on reddit? lol

permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **DarthCloakedGuy** 7 points 23 hours ago

Why are the moderators hiding this post

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **AlexMullerSA** 6 points 1 day ago

Upvote

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **SayY3sSir** 7 points 1 day ago

Having worked for a company in this space, I can promise you this is all part of the panopticon surveillance state being built. They have to retain records like your driver's license and the US government knows people don't want this so they're hiding it behind long user agreements you don't read. Most people don't realize how suspicious the timing of the creation of "Facebook", now Meta, was with a government contract that intended to collect peoples' information.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **ViegoBot** 6 points 22 hours ago

Lol mods doing some coverups, unless it got reported and auto removed.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Marble_Wraith** 5 points 18 hours ago

What in the Orwell...

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **No_Wishbone3298** 6 points 16 hours ago

It's time for Meta to labeled a terrorist organization. This company needs to be torn down. It adds zero value to society...

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **bixtuelista** 6 points 15 hours ago

oh my god I am so sick of being a product.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **CandlesARG** 7 points 1 day ago

israel?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **binlin** 6 points 1 day ago

This could really use a TLDR at the top.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **cyh555** 5 points 1 day ago

thanks for looking into this

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **JohnLambda** 6 points 1 day ago

Good work

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **apxseemax** 6 points 1 day ago

I actually read most of your post, but I will not pretend that I understand half of it.

For now: thank you for pouring so much energy into this investigation! I hope sincerely, that it will lead somewhere and magazines and news will pick up on it.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **catinterpreter** 6 points 1 day ago

It's international. You're missing a lot of it if you've limited yourself to the US.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **nandru** 4 points 1 day ago

Impressive investigation!! This should reach r/all!

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **critacle** 6 points 1 day ago

Fuck the GOP. They are pushing this the most.

But fuck every democrat who voted for it.

Fuck the Zuck while we're at it. Harvard boys love ruining the world.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **Board_Game_Nut**   10 points 1 day ago
>
> When it comes to privacy and controlling the population in general, there isn't that much difference between the GOP and the Dems, especially because most are technologically ignorant. Anything tagged with "protect the children", doesn't get much scrutiny.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply
>
> > [−] **MadeByTango** 5 points 1 day ago
> >
> > It's always about corporations. The GOP exists to strip regulations. The DNC exists to prevent corporate liability. Both are mandated to insert private equity into public services anywhere there is an opportunity. All of the protect the children, identity politics, and faith based stuff is used to wedge it through.
> >
> > While we spend our time protecting the social issues that are simpler to grasp they bury the real fuckery in the bottom of the bills.

permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **Strict-Carrot4783** 6 points 1 day ago

Are you available to run for office?

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (3 replies)

[−] **random_hitchhiker** 4 points 1 day ago

I'm worried this might expand to other countries

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **Life_Detail_5471** 3 points 1 day ago
>
> Watch the fire spread, anything that happens in the US as long as it would help other authoritarian governments, they quickly adopt it and use the US as a playbook
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **ArZeBeatRd** 5 points 1 day ago

> California AB-1043, signed October 2025 and effective January 1, 2027, defines "Operating system provider" under Section 1798.500(g) as "a person or entity that develops, licenses, **or controls** the operating system software on a computer, mobile device, or any other general purpose computing device."

I don't quite understand. Aren't we - as users - in control of our operating system software?

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (6 replies)

[−] **_shoegazi** 6 points 1 day ago

Why was the post deleted? I read it earlier and it was great research

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **_dotdot11** 5 points 1 day ago

So tech company shareholders in the US are trying to kill open source software by bankrupting open source devs through an endless firehose of "negligent child endangerment" fees. Ignoring the fact that their software is built upon open source contributions. Classic shareholder-focused mindset of "win now, dont care about later". Can't wait to see how that turns out for them.

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **aginglifter** 4 points 1 day ago
>
> It was basically just Meta.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **OkDesk4532** 6 points 1 day ago

F*ck the USA

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **doskeyslashappedit** 6 points 1 day ago

yo why did mods remove this post

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **mr_MADAFAKA** 4 points 23 hours ago

"Post is awaiting moderator approval." why wtf?

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **very-urgent-chicken** 6 points 12 hours ago

Thanks for this coherent information.

One of the things that disturbs me about all of this which I'm not hearing talked about much is not the thing the bills themselves purport to be about - age verification of users.

It's the idea of a government requiring a non-profit FOSS project to code *anything.*

Before now, if you were coding for a non-proprietary arch like x86, on a non-proprietary OS like Linux or BSD, there really only existed two enforceable legal requirements: Don't violate someone else's license terms, and don't hack someone else's system.

Aside from that, code what thou wilt. Write a whole operating system from the kernel up if you're brave enough. The precedent that this sets, that FOSS projects must contain code that the author didn't have any say about, goes far beyond the "age verification" issue that is being talked about so much here.

The precedent from this can be used to require virtually anything from FOSS in the future.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Aromatic-Sense-4276** 4 points 1 day ago

Thank you for sharing

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **lightwhite**   3 points 1 day ago

This is top-tier due diligence done on the topic. You have done well!

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **NfamousFox** 5 points 1 day ago

Based post. Commenting for engagement.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Tea_Buddy06** 3 points 1 day ago

Nice work. This need to be on the news.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **mjb2012** 4 points 1 day ago

Not sure what good it'll do, but I'm pinging Colorado news outlet u/thecoloradosun, which might want to report on and further investigate this. Maybe u/The__Newsman Kyle Clark as well.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **why_cant_i_** 3 points 1 day ago

Already mass-reported and removed. Very telling.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **aPOPblops** 4 points 1 day ago

could you post this in places other than an a niche OS forum? Maybe on politics, or law, or something more mainstream

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **usa_reddit** 5 points 1 day ago

Unblock this POST MODS!

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **sterlingemc** 5 points 1 day ago

"Removed"

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Rudd-X** 4 points 1 day ago

Why was this deleted???

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **ckay1100** 4 points 23 hours ago

Removed? Bruh

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **IndigoGouf** 4 points 20 hours ago

I wonder which specific involved party paid off the mods.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **DepartmentChemical54** 4 points 19 hours ago

one interesting thing i discovered is that the company who does the age verification for bluesky is a subsidiary of Epic Games - the publishers of Fortnite and the same company who were fined $520m by the FTC for violations of children's privacy. lol.

https://bsky.social/about/blog/09-10-2025-age-assurance-approach

https://www.kidswebservices.com/en-US/services/age-verification

https://find-and-update.company-information.service.gov.uk/company/13351982

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Epic_Games#FTC_child_privacy_settlement

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **images_from_objects**   4 points 17 hours ago

Please crosspost this to r/privacy. Excellent work.

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **SpeedyTheQuidKid** 4 points 17 hours ago

Maybe this can be the last push I needed to ditch f/b, I already cut back my use and half of my use of it was arguing with probably bots, against my better judgement. That company has been nothing but trash producing a trash website, stealing data and getting it breached while selling our data for profit, astroturfing and widening a much deeper political divide than would have happened otherwise, and generally being incredibly scummy.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **supercheetah** 3 points 16 hours ago

You should see if you can get in touch with Taylor Lorenz, the journalist. This is the kind of thing she likes to expose.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **elemepep-ton** 5 points 16 hours ago

Remember, op is in good health and they aren't planning any trips

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Greeny1225** 3 points 16 hours ago

fuck each and every person involved in any of this

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **zandarthebarbarian** 4 points 16 hours ago

So they get paid every time someone uses age verification

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Ziprasidone_Stat** 4 points 15 hours ago

Bastards. I don't know how we fight this and other corruption.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **aphilentus**   4 points 15 hours ago

This is amazing work. I need to go through your sources but this looks put together very well. Thank you for taking the time to do this. I will be saving it to a document as well in case it gets taken down

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **envilZ** 3 points 13 hours ago

Call your representatives and tell them to fight back AGAINST THIS BS.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Ok_Lingonberry3296** [S] 4 points 12 hours ago

More research will be posted soon, as will a website with it's own repository.

Hearing 3: "Digital Education, Parental Controls and Inclusion" - June 11, 2025

Event ID: 76693 Time: 3:30 PM - 8:08 PM Location: Anexo II, Plenário 11 Request: REQ 9/2025 CCOM (by Dep. Jadyel Alencar) Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w64FybZifnw

Invited Speakers (10 confirmed):

- **Roberta Rios - Manager of Public Policy, GOOGLE**
- **Taís Niffinegger - Manager of Public Policy, META**

5. KEY HEARING REQUEST AUTHORS (WHO INVITED TECH COMPANIES)

Deputy	Party/State	Action
Jadyel Alencar	REPUBLICANOS/PI	Filed REQ 7, 8, 9, 21/2025 (rapporteur). REQ 9 directly invited **Meta** representative. REQ 21 added IDEC + Ricardo Campos
Marangoni	UNIÃO/SP	Filed REQ 13/2025 adding **Google**, **YouTube**, and STRIMA to hearing 3
Cleber Verde	MDB/MA	Filed REQ 16, 17/2025 adding **ESA** to hearings 2 and 3

What happens in the dark always comes to light

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **nandospc** 3 points 11 hours ago

Wow, this is a massive work. I will send all these informations to my local and national representatives in Italy and to the "Garante della Privacy". This is insane.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Elkanterax** [   ] 4 points 1 day ago

Chat is this real

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[–] **BetaDeltic** 3 points 1 day ago

That looks like a lot of work. I'll read it later, but you might want to crosspost this to r/privacy, if you haven't already.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **RayneYoruka**   3 points 1 day ago

Wild.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **andyjustice** 3 points 1 day ago

I think it's because once you have to have any data point such as your age verifiable. Basically all The anonymity goes away. At least at the big bulk level which is what they would care about on tracking in manipulating and processing your data.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **phrendo** 3 points 1 day ago

What do we peasants do?

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **10StringsTooMany** 3 points 1 day ago

Thank you for sharing your research. It is very enlightening post.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **L1qu1d_Gh0st**   3 points 1 day ago

That's very impressive work for a reddit post. Kudos, OP.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **TheLegNBass** 3 points 1 day ago

If you haven't, you should reach out to Coffeezilla on YouTube. He does investigative journalism and this is the type of story that he'd be able to follow up with research, get professionals involved, and help bring this to a wide audience.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Complex_Union_5132** 3 points 1 day ago

Besides contacting representatives what else can we do?

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **omnicidial** 3 points 1 day ago

So this is like if a night club got caught serving underage kids and endangering them, so to solve that problem instead of the night club paying for their own bouncer they required the parents of every child in the area to come check IDs outside their club every night even if they didn't ever go to the club.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **Apostle_B** 3 points 1 day ago

This is higher quality investigative reporting than most of what I've seen in mainstream media... keep that up! And thanks, this is extremely interesting and very, very important information.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **YMK1234** 2 points 1 day ago

To me this screams: move the Linux Foundation and any dev possible to Europe. Plain and simple as that.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Fade78** 3 points 1 day ago*

You should edit your post and put an executive summary so when we share the link, we could paste it, so people would know it's worth reading.

With moltbook acquisition, Meta can sense what's going on and can influence agent discussions, therefore agent actions. So meta is making a power move on influence and privacy. With this, they can protect whatever activity and put whatever they wish on the throne, has demonstrated in the Cambridge Analytica case.

Also, with this architecture in place with this justification, it would be so easy to say "well we protected the children from the content but maybe we must protect them from suicidal attempts or depression or violence so lets profile them, for their good" and add more field to be required. Once the structure is in place, there is no limit. Then of course "wait, why should the children be profiled, when we could profile criminals, terrorist, and people who recognize that billionaires are using power to deprive the rest of humanity of its wealth? Let's just profile everybody".

permalink embed save report reply

[+] *[deleted] 1 day ago* (8 children)

[−] **basilosarus** 3 points 1 day ago

this is just for censorship, control the narratives, information flow. despite all their attempts, people started thinking independently. WEF Clowns never wanted this. so much for lectures of democracy and freedom of west. Frank Zappa is way ahead of his time in this prediction!!

"The illusion of freedom will continue as long as it's profitable to continue the illusion. At the point where the illusion becomes too expensive to maintain, they will just take down the scenery, they will pull back the curtains, they will move the tables and chairs out of the way and you will see the brick wall at the back of the theater."

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Odd_knock** 3 points 1 day ago

Wtf "post awaiting moderator approval?" Mods are shit.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **thecrius** 3 points 19 hours ago

From the UK here, I'm sure we will see something similar, we are already quite fucked with Palantir but there is no limit to worse.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **T8ert0t** 3 points 19 hours ago

You should be getting this to EFF, Arstechnica, Hackernews, and other places.

This is great work

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Mental-Ask8077** 3 points 18 hours ago

Excellent work, thank you.

I would not be surprised either to learn that Thiel/Palantir is somewhere deep in the shadows behind this too, because it fits far too well with his aims.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **GlitchyRobo** 3 points 18 hours ago

Thank you for writing this up, this is vitally important work.

I think it's worth noting that the "National Center on Sexual Exploitation" is the 2015 rebrand of the organization Morality in Media, which, as wikipedia notes, is conservative "anti-pornography" organization known for their stances against queer people, sex education, and various other topics.

Their rebranded acronym, NCOSE, is seemingly designed to resemble that of the (more legitimate, though not without it's own problems) NCMEC.

I think it's also worth repeating that there is no evidence accepted among experts that pornography is harmful to individuals or society. This is not to say that some pornographic works cannot reflect bigoted worldviews, but this is true of *all* media

Morality in Media is absolutely not a trustworthy source and it's disgusting (though unsurprising) that American legislatures are buying into their nonsense so willingly

permalink embed save report reply

> [−] **EmbarrassedHelp** 3 points 16 hours ago
>
> NCOSE is also behind Uganda's attempt to execute all LGBTQ people in the country: https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/may/30/us-far-right-group-influencing-anti-gay-policy-africa
>
> They literally have blood on their hands.
>
> permalink embed save parent report reply

[−] **mrsenchantment** 3 points 17 hours ago

screenshotting every bit of this in case its gone forever 🙏

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **manual_combat** 3 points 16 hours ago

If only our major news outlets write articles that were this well researched and written…

Thank you for posting this. Do you have a website or Substack / somewhere we can read more of what you've read up on/ will continue to read up on?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **ChaoticJanie21** 3 points 16 hours ago

I can only hope that CA AB-1043 will get struck down because it infringes upon free speech and privacy rights in court.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Narrow-Ad6797** 3 points 15 hours ago

Tl;dr : mark zuckerburg

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Njuh_0** 3 points 13 hours ago

Every time It's getting harder to distinguish west from china

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **djpeluca** 3 points 12 hours ago

Awesome work, this is amazing, congrats.

Do you thinks this lobby strategy was to actually impose the age verification agenda or to actually move the responsibility to the OS layer to avoid further work? Can't connect the dots on my side, can anyone point me to the correct direction? Were any other attempts before that would affect meta's social networks or this is the first attempt? Maybe the answer is that they did both, the knew the agenda and tried to manipulate it from the beginning. Anyone thinking something similar to this?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **OrinSorinson** 3 points 11 hours ago

And when you think you're somewhat knowledgeable of the scum in question, they go and prove they're even worse.

Meta, Zuck can go to hell. No wonder the bastard's building bunkers on remote islands.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **Maskdask** 3 points 11 hours ago

Fuck these corrupt people

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **GodDogBanana** 3 points 8 hours ago

So, will people delete their meta accounts?

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **FewChar** 3 points 8 hours ago

I think Zuckerberg wants to push the responsibility of online safety on to anyone else.

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **IGetHypedEasily** 3 points 7 hours ago

404media will want to talk to you. They love this kind of journalism.

permalink embed save report reply

load more comments (1 reply)

[−] **DankeBrutus**   2 points 1 day ago

As always one must ask "cui bono?"

permalink embed save report reply

[−] **dont-email-dont-call** 2 points 1 day ago

Can you repost this on a substack? Also I recommend reaching out to Taylor Lorenz she might b interested in amplifying this research.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **silenceimpaired** 2 points 1 day ago

This is probably driven to get identity tracking into Linux since so many are abandoning Windows.

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **fioletowy_zolw** 2 points 1 day ago

Whoah great research, hope it gets much more public resonance

permalink embed save report reply

[–] **phoenixero**   2 points 1 day ago

Make sure to save your references just in case "by chance" they become offline

permalink embed save report reply

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