

Unpublished Blog Post From Deep in the Information War

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About a month ago my political account on Twitter was abruptly and permanently suspended, for “violations of the TOS” with no specific reason or rationale given. A dozen appeals were greeted with one of two different bot posts explaining that after further review it was permanent.

Almost all of my politics on social media were limited to that one account. But now I appear to be shadowbanned across facebook, instagram, youtube, google and my original twitter account. They’re all connected to the same phone number, including my now banned account. All of my google, facebook and twitter accounts are having me log in daily now from my laptop, using a two-step verification code sent via SMS to my phone. It wasn’t like this a month ago, I would always stay logged in to all of those accounts and set my preferences that way.

I had created the political account on twitter during the pandemic, largely so that I could heckle our power-crazed dictator governor during the shutdowns. Doing this from my normal social media accounts- which generally promote my creative work- wasn’t right for my personal brand, and could also result in professional reprisals against me or my wife, as I live in a liberal city. That twitter account was based around a cartoon avatar, used lots of humor, never was abusive, rude or threatening; often I behaved like an ombudsman. I created hundreds of memes. That account survived the covid era; the great twitter purge after Jan 6, and both the 2020 and 2022 elections. But it did not long survive the Linda Yaccarino era at twitter.

Since no reason was given other than ‘violations of the TOS’, I do not know specifically why my political account on twitter was banned. On my last day, I had made a fun one-liner at Adam Schiff’s expense that was getting hundreds of likes; I had made a meme criticizing support for the Ukraine War, and was promoting RFK Jr.’s run for the Democratic nomination. I was critical of Congressman Thomas Massie’s reluctance to censure Schiff. My main guess is that opposing the war effort was my main

thoughtcrime, although the sum of all of those positions shows a dissident or anti-establishment view. Apparently that is no longer allowed.

The sinking horror is that now my other accounts at google, meta, twitter- which don't delve into politics- are being shadowbanned. Yesterday I created a one minute children's video. I uploaded it to twitter, instagram, youtube, facebook. In seven hours, the video had zero likes or comments on the meta brands, this was absolutely unthinkable, I have thousands of followers. Nothing, zero? Instagram reels were all the rage not long ago as it's trying to morph into Tik Tok; yet my reel gets... nothing? With those clever hashtags? I had posted twice to twitter, each tweet got one like and that was it. One like each? What? My youtube post got one like. Having dealt with being shadowbanned multiple times on twitter before, it's pretty obvious to spot as a user. You go from having dozens of likes and a handful of shares and comments on each post to suddenly one or nothing. No engagement. Folks can't see my posts. And it was like this with other posts yesterday as well. I backtracked on my accounts and saw this trend has been in place for about two weeks now, I hadn't noticed.

My theory a month ago was that there was some sort of top-down request sent to twitter and google to permanently silence my twitter political avatar. I write this because my twitter account had all of its images instantly purged, from both twitter and google search results. Unpersoned. My images and tweets were still showing up on other search engines. That it happened so lightning fast was suspicious, usually link rot sits around for at least a few days. I had come to believe that either twitter sent instructions to google, or twitter and google were following the same instructions.

That theory has now expanded. Since my cell phone number is attached to all of the accounts, it appears there has been a top-down order to silence me across multiple accounts, even ones with zero political content. I have no other explanation for what appears to be a very coordinated and simultaneous effort.

Being silenced across the social media giants might not be as bad as not having a car or bank account, but it feels pretty severe. Is the punishment worth the crime? Are my first and eighth Amendment rights being violated? Sure feels like it. No way to prove any of it.

A month ago I made a decision to stop using social media for politics, interpreting the twitter cancellation as a warning shot. I didn't want to face further reprisals or consequences for my political views: for not supporting the war, the Biden regime or WEF globalists. But apparently I am being made to suffer further, with multiple major corporations punching down at me in unison.

I've been without a regular day job for over a year now. Not being able to reliably self-promote on social media makes freelancing or hunting for odd jobs far more difficult, if not impossible. I still haven't recovered financially from being labeled 'non-essential' during the pandemic.

Yesterday afternoon I felt like I was going to cry or vomit, for hours on end. I'm constantly applying for jobs online. I received two separate emails yesterday asking me to finish my job application. Both of these took about twenty minutes or more each, it was a lot of work. I was asked my sexual preferences (am I being hired to have sex at work?), my ethnicity, gender identity and more. I couldn't remember applying for these specific jobs, and was half thinking both were scams. Sure enough, hours later, I get texts saying I'm now a team member and can join the zoom meeting for a Christian Outreach program based in a string of inner cities on the other side of the country. These people think I need to find Jesus to solve my financial problems, when what I really need is a job or a thriving economy to navigate. Disgusted that they're data harvesting from job search sites to evangelize. Folks like this are going to make me stop liking the carpenter from Nazareth I've been a fan of.

This week I went to a drive in food bank for the first time and got a lot of cans of much-needed free food.

I'm facing a new horizon. How do I cope with this new social media landscape, where I have no voice? How much worse will the economy and my financial situation get? Do I get a new phone number and start over, or maybe a burner phone? Maybe I will finally join Tik Tok so I'm not subject to censorship for opposing the current US regime? These are not fun questions to ask.

Name and location withheld upon request.