

Attention, Joe Rogan: Spotify now reserves the right to restrict the reach of misinformation | Nieman Journalism Lab

By Joshua Benton

April 19, 2022

After Spotify's Joe Rogan Experience released a widely derided episode that made covid vaccines sound as safe as Russian roulette — with a guest who argued the vaccinated were victims of “mass formation psychosis,” a thing that does not exist — there was pushback from many corners.

A group of doctors and scientists said Spotify enabled Rogan “to damage public trust in scientific research and sow doubt in the credibility of data-driven guidance offered by medical professionals.” Rocker Neil Young famously took his music off the service, saying, “They can have Rogan or Young. Not both.” Others with Spotify deals — Roxane Gay, Ava DuVernay, Brené Brown — ended or paused them. Even the White House got involved.

But one key source of resistance was internal — both from employees in general and from one of Spotify's *other* podcasts, Science Vs. And it appears that Spotify has made sufficient tentative progress on limiting the spread of misinformation to mollify at least one group's concerns.

[...]

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