

# Big Tech's Tightening Grip On Internet Speech | ProMarket

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August 12, 2021

These two rights Americans hold dear: the freedom to speak their minds and the freedom not to listen when someone speaking her mind tries to tell them what to do. But over the last two years, social-media platforms have somehow managed to undermine both—curtailing Americans' power to express their views through well-intentioned, but too-powerful content nannying.

## Social Media's Dueling Interests in Free Expression

After months of unproven complaints by Republicans that online platforms censor conservative speech, the issue came to a head when the nation's leading social media platforms—Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter—all banned then-President Donald Trump. The platforms are in a tough spot: They face simultaneous pressure from Congress both to promote free expression and to remove harmful and offensive content. Their pattern of recent decisions shows, however, that they have chosen to prioritize the latter.

[...]

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