

News Item

Newsletter company Substack profits off misinformation | The Washington Post

By Elizabeth Dwoskin January 27, 2022

Joseph Mercola, a leading anti-vaccine advocate whose screeds have been restricted by YouTube and Facebook, this month warned that the unvaccinated might soon be imprisoned in government-run camps. The week before, he circulated a study purporting to use government data to prove that more children had died of covid shots than from the <u>coronavirus</u> itself.

Shut down by major social media platforms, Mercola has found a new way to spread these <u>debunked claims</u>: on Substack, the subscription-based newsletter platform that is increasingly a hub for controversial and often misleading perspectives about the coronavirus.

Substack, which researchers from the nonprofit Center for Countering Digital Hate say makes millions of dollars off anti-vaccine misinformation, on Wednesday defended its tolerance for publishing "writers with whom we strongly disagree."

[...]

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