

News Item

One woman's Orwellian experience with disinformation | The Record

By Dina Temple-Raston and Sean Powers August 10, 2023

A little over a year ago, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security created a new advisory board aimed at better understanding and countering disinformation. They called it the Disinformation Governance Board, and DHS tapped an expert in the field, Nina Jankowicz, to lead it.

Almost the moment her appointment was announced, however, Jankowicz became a lightning rod and found herself on the receiving end of a very specific kind of online abuse: the kind that seems to be reserved for women. The attacks against her were as much about the idea of disinformation itself as they were about her qualifications.

Jankowicz resigned, and the board never actually met. Jankowicz has now filed a defamation lawsuit against her tormentors, including Fox News, in a case that looks a lot like the Dominion Voting Systems suit that was settled earlier this year. The Click Here podcast team sat down with her to discuss her case and the way women are attacked differently online than men.

The interview has been edited for length and clarity.

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Source: One woman's Orwellian experience with disinformation