

News Item

Replatforming Unreality | Journal of Design and Science

By Julie Ebner September 10, 2019

> Beyond the familiar Twitter debates, Facebook invitations and Instagram selfies, an entirely new digital universe has emerged. Extremists have built their own parallel online world — a self-contained echo chamber complete with ultralibertarian social media sites, extremist crowdsourcing platforms, disinformation encyclopedias, and white nationalist dating apps. The rise of these alternate platforms in the last few years has not only allowed extremist propagandists to escape takedown measures and circumvent conventional information ecosystems. This parallel online world has also effectively given rise to an alternative reality for its users, one that the average digital citizen might find both disturbing and surreal.

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