

News Item

Twitter Still Won't Remove Trump's Tweets that Violate Its Rules. But it Might Label Them | The Washington Post

By Faiz Siddiqui March 28, 2019

The next time a politician, dignitary — or perhaps a president — makes an utterance that violates Twitter standards, the message might be accompanied by a note that expands on the 280-character tweet, a top official with the company said Wednesday.

Twitter is exploring how it can annotate offensive tweets that break its rules but remain in the public interest, said Vijaya Gadde, the company's head of legal, policy, and trust and safety. It's an effort to stem offensive content and hate speech and follows comments last year by chief executive Jack Dorsey, who said he is rethinking core parts of the platform to stem harassment and other abuses.

"One of the things we're working really closely on with our product and engineering folks is, 'How can we label that?' " Gadde said in a response to questions from the Post's Silicon Valley correspondent, Elizabeth Dwoskin. "How can we put some context around it so people are aware that that content is actually a violation of our rules and it is serving a particular purpose in remaining on the platform."

Gadde revealed the initiative at the Technology 202 Live, a Washington Post Live forum in San Francisco that serves as an extension of The Post's tech newsletter. Gadde said the efforts to provide context will serve to maintain Twitter's community standards while keeping the platform a place for policy revelations and public conversation that may be in the public interest.

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