

# What is Section 230? An expert on internet law and regulation explains the legislation that paved the way for Facebook, Google and Twitter | The Conversation

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Almost any article you read about Section 230 reminds you that it contains the most important [26 words in tech](#) and that it is [the law that made the modern internet](#). [This is all true](#), but Section 230 is also the most significant obstacle to stopping misinformation online.

Section 230 is part of the [Communications Decency Act](#), a 1996 law passed while the internet was still embryonic and downright terrifying to some lawmakers for what it could unleash, particularly with regard to pornography.

[...]

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