

Google Moving to Shut Down Alternative Media by Ranking Sites on "Facts" Rather than Popularity

Wants To Cross Check Websites Against Debunking Sites Such As Snopes.com

By Steve Watson

Global Research, March 02, 2015

Infowars

Theme: Media Disinformation, Police State & Civil Rights

Search Engine giant Google, the major driver of traffic to the majority of media portals is moving to change the way it ranks websites, declaring that it intends to use known partisan debunking outlets to <u>determine the "truthfulness"</u> of content.

Currently, Google rankings are determined by the number of incoming links to a web page, meaning that if a story becomes popular it can be driven to the top of search results, and by viewed by millions of people.

However, this is a little too democratic for the liking of some, who only like to get their "facts" from pre-approved sources.

The proposed solution, according to a Google funded research team is to compute a "Knowledge-Based Trust score" for every web page, based on Google's own "Knowledge Vault", an automated database that determines "facts the web unanimously agrees on," according to the New Scientist.

"A source that has few false facts is considered to be trustworthy," says the research team.

In short, any web pages that provide information that contradicts or questions Google's own established "truth", will be bumped down the rankings.

In addition, some of those working on "truthfulness" ranking technology have expressed a desire to verify or rebut web pages by cross-referencing them to other sources, such as Snopes, PolitiFact and FactCheck.org. These websites exist and profit directly from debunking anything and everything. What's more, they have been <u>previously exposed as highly partisan.</u>

It is a move that will set alarm bells ringing for fans of alternative media websites, <u>such as Infowars</u>, which are regularly attacked by the professional debunking websites merely for questioning official narratives, and popularising underreported information.

Presumably, the meters of truthfulness and trustworthiness ultimately implemented by Google will stem from government accounts and it's mouthpiece mainstream media reports. The rise of the alternative media has directly correlated with the routine exposure of misinformation, propaganda, and outright lies emanating from these institutions.

Steve Watson is a London based writer and editor for Alex Jones' Infowars.com,

and <u>Prisonplanet.com</u>. He has a Masters Degree in International Relations from the School of Politics at The University of Nottingham, and a Bachelor Of Arts Degree in Literature and Creative Writing from Nottingham Trent University.

The original source of this article is <u>Infowars</u> Copyright © <u>Steve Watson</u>, <u>Infowars</u>, 2015

Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page

Become a Member of Global Research

Articles by: **Steve Watson**

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca

www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca