

Person giving the Flash talk: _____

Evaluator: _____

Practice PT - Flash Talk: The Internet and Society



Record your research in the organizer provided here:

My Selected issue: Internet Censorship
Focus of my flash talk: The importance of, implications of, and problems with internet censorship.
The position I will take in my talk: Problematic, but needed at times in certain cases where information is especially sensitive and a possible root of sedition, exploitation, et cetera.

What is the reference? What did I learn from this reference?	What are the positive (+) and negative (-) impacts on society, economy, or culture? What do I want people to know about this?	What are the connections can I make to what I've learned about the Internet so far?	What details have I learned that support the position I have taken on this issue?
<p>Reference 1 (wikipedia)</p>	<p>Positive Society: Society is protected from explicit and inappropriate material in certain places, such as libraries. Censorship of sensitive material during wartime is also important for the sake of prevention of sedition. Economy: Censorship protects economic transactions and goals through internet filtering. Culture: Translates the ideals and views of a nation to be more homogenous, as censorship prevents potentially divisive material from reaching the fragile unity of a public. Negative Society: Keeps people ignorant about world affairs and the workings of their own governing body. Censorship can keep people blind from the whole truth, garnering the support of the people for extrajudicial or morally wrong affairs. Economy: N/A Culture: N/A</p>	<p>Blocking connections and access to material through filters is a manipulation of both hardware and software that prevents the search of certain keywords or accessing of certain websites. This may be done by ISP's (Internet Service Providers), corporations, or individuals in their home.</p>	<p>Material restricted from minors or workers are necessary to prevent negative influences and unsafe environments with hate speech, pornography, or gambling sites. This is crucial to a productive and safe community within appropriate boundaries. However, some material restricted by the governments of China, Iran, Vietnam, etc. prevent criticizing of the government, and this leads to an authoritarian and artificial view of the world and its knowledge. For example, China's <i>Great Firewall of China</i> is</p>

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<p>Reference 2: http://computer.howstuffworks.com/internet-censorship.htm</p>	<p>Positive Society: Companies do not have to worry about lack of productivity due to distractions, or the unsafe environments from harassment. Harassment here can exist as viewing pornographic, racist, or sexual content in a working environment where people around the individual feel threatened or impeded upon by the viewer. Economy: Economic transactions are made possible and sensitive information is held. Culture: N/A Negative Society: Countries take control of what kind of information may be viewed, as content that mention human rights, religious movements, or other social causes may be in opposition to the government's policies. Economy: Material that mentions political dissent or criticism is blocked out in favor of a supporting nation. Culture: People are led to place shame of render taboo to certain topics that seem offensive to the government.</p>	<p>Advanced firewalls break the movement of data across the web, manipulating what may or may not be seen. Usually software, filters weed out specific domains and entire geographic regions from the viewable lists.</p>	<p>Companies and facilities block out material deemed inappropriate or offensive to their setting, and this is usually done to protect people, but trends in some radical countries abuse the power of internet censorship to keep their people blind, to keep their rule and followers in check. This latter part is why I do not completely support internet censorship, as it can be used to grossly misjudge situations and proves a lack of faith in the people to make good decisions with the information. Why hide information, unless it's something you do not want somebody to know?</p>
<p>Reference 3: https://opennet.net/about-filtering</p>	<p>Positive Society: Economy: Secures intellectual property rights and shields sensitive business information from prying eyes. Culture: Preserves cultural norms and societal values from deterioration or intermixing. Negative Society: N/A Economy: N/A Culture: N/A</p>	<p>Internet Censorship takes place in 4 ways: Internet Backbone(usually on international gateway), ISP (Governmental Filtering that is mandated and carried out by any of the technical ways) , Institutions(self-induced filtering or technical), Individual Computers (downloaded software that prevents certain material). IP blocking, DNS Tampering, and URL Blocking use a proxy to block web-</p>	<p>Taking on multiple forms and methods of blocking, internet censorship uses levels on the tcp/ip protocol to manipulate the information that passes to a device.</p>

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		<p>pages, domains, or IP addresses. Keyword blocking blocks information based on words in the URL or from searches. Denial of Service attacks are also used to prevent service from certain websites. Authorities can cease and desist information from websites to threaten legal action against the owners of a website if the party does not comply. This results in completely invisible websites and domains, which have been deregistered.</p>	
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Flash Talk:

Often times, the internet is regarded as a beacon of free knowledge-many times as an everlasting source of information that should not be restricted. This view has kept people worldwide aware and free of blind judgement, promoting their own will to think for themselves.

Internet censorship occurs in many forms, by ISP's, corporations, or individuals. This may be done through physical means or software on the TCP/IP level in 4 ways: internet backbone(usually on international gateways), ISP (governmental filtering that is mandated), institutions(self-induced filtering or technical), individual computers (downloaded software filters). IP blocking, DNS Tampering, and URL Blocking use a proxy to block web-pages, domains, or IP addresses. Keyword blocking censors information based on words in the URL or from searches by HTTP protocol manipulation. Denial of Service attacks on DNS are also used to prevent service from certain websites.

Internet censorship may be used to protect safe environments such as libraries and workplaces from hate speech forums, sexually explicit material, and gambling sites. However, many providers and governmental branches abuse this filtering system to limit the information that is able to be passed onto the people. While this may be argued as a method to maintain cultural and religious congruity, this xenophobic behavior does not excuse the deliberate cherry-picked knowledge only that the people see. If a nation such as China, Vietnam, Iran filters what it deems appropriate to keep economic transactions solid and prevent sedition, then this blocked information must be important enough to be an opposition to the fragile compliance of followers. This censorship may be seen in China's *Great Firewall of China*, used to actively cut connections in real time, posing a threat against free information and the well-being of the nation's people. Similarities are worldwide, as once internet censorship begins, where do we, as a network, decide to draw the line?

Through careful analysis, it is clear that while internet censorship shields minors and the sensitive from threatening content, internet censorship is a crippling power that cannot be wielded by any person without spreading to a larger scale. Therefore, Internet Censorship must stop at where it currently is, and be taken out of practice for the sake of our pursuit of the truth and free space.