

“Constitutional Expert” Barack Obama Doesn’t Believe in the First Amendment

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SUMMARY

Former President Barack Obama's speech at Stanford University highlights the complex relationship between technology, free speech, and accountability. He emphasizes the need for tech platforms to take responsibility for content moderation while also warning against government overreach in regulating speech, arguing that the pursuit of truth requires open discourse and the ability to challenge prevailing narratives.

- Obama calls for tech companies to recognize their influential role in shaping public discourse and the need for accountability.*
- He argues that the First Amendment does not apply to private companies in the same way it does to government actions.*
- The speech suggests that content moderation is necessary but should not be solely in the hands of private interests.*
- Obama emphasizes the importance of public oversight and regulation of tech platforms to ensure they serve the public good.*
- The speaker critiques the notion that certain prevailing beliefs, such as rising global poverty and overpopulation, are often misconceptions that hinder progress.*
- He warns against the dangers of suppressing dissent and the need for open dialogue to pursue truth.*
- The discussion reflects concerns about the potential for misinformation and the role of government in shaping narratives.*
- The speaker encourages critical thinking and discourse as essential for societal advancement and avoiding mass delusion.*

now I thought I'd end this little Exploration sli raade with a look at a speech that former president Barack Obama gave at this um cyber policy Center at Stanford University which is a hub for Silicon Valley it is really the leading educational institution that's connected to the valley and to Big Tech it really gives you a microcosmic snapshot of where our technocratic Elite wants to take us and frankly I think

it's really creepy and should be alarming to us all those of you in the Tech Community soon to be in the Tech Community not just its corporate leaders but employees at every level have to be part of the solution the first amendment is a check on the power of the state correct it doesn't apply to private companies like Facebook or Twitter unless the state twists their arm and then it very much does apply any more than it applies to editorial decisions

made by the New York Times or Fox News any rules we come up with to govern the distribution of content on

the internet will involve value judgments so right away what are the rules what are these rules we're going to come up with to govern speech on the internet this is it is taken for granted that there will be a regime of rules to govern our speech this is the Vanguard of our Elite none of us are perfectly objective that

is true what we consider an unshakable truth today may prove to be totally wrong tomorrow but that doesn't mean some things aren't truer than others here we go you following some things have more truthiness than other things which are less truthy Tech platforms need to accept that they play a unique role in how we as a people and and people around the world are consuming information and that their decisions have an impact on

every aspect of society he's not wrong about that with that power comes accountability accountability to whom accountability to the state or accountability to those of us who use and ultimately pay for the platforms this accountability question is socialized under we there's a lot of we under the surface of Barack Obama uh rhetoric where the the Royal we is

really the government that's you know whenever you hear kind of the embedded we it's the government and in democracies like ours at least the need for some democratic oversight this is profoundly false and we've been told this man was a constitutional uh Professor but in specifically our Democratic Republic the United States of America we have a First Amendment that says the Congress shall pass no law which does

anything of the sort we as in our Democratic vote put into action by our government don't get to set the rules for speech we don't it's what makes America great it's what makes America special in a time when the the UK has thrown people in jail for tweets and Facebook posts and hate speech laws or sweeping the West we the United States are the last Beacon of Hope for freedom

of expression and Barack Obama seems to think otherwise and that is a tragic and I think intentional position he's now occupying the now the good news is is that almost all the big Tech platforms now acknowledge some responsibility for content on their platforms and they're investing in large teams of people to monitor it isn't that great isn't that the good news but while content moderation can limit the distribution of clearly dangerous content apparently

like our interview with Cheryl it doesn't go far enough ah doesn't go far enough no but I also think decisions like this shouldn't be left solely to private interests these decisions affect all of us and just like every other industry that has a big impact in our society that means these big platforms need to be subject to some level of public oversight and regulation it is a chance for all of us

to fight for truth to fight for truth this is the claim is this the truth the only pandemic we have is among the unvaccinated is that the truth is is this the Arbiter of Truth whoever happens to be in the White House and his administration that that is what Barack Obama and those that want to undermine the First Amendment and use the force of the state both through Regulatory and other means to make these platforms we

use Bend to their will and comply with their vision of the truth and what is or isn't misinformation want and the reason this is so profoundly dangerous is pretty simple we don't know what the truth is at any given moment Obama was right about that the truth needs to be pursued and the way we pursue the truth is through discourse through exploring the outer edges the entire history of

science and technological Discovery is people realizing that something that they thought was false turned out to be true this is the way real material progress actually happens and the it's also the way we avoid Mass delusion I want to give you two examples of mass delusion number one you get 100 people in a room together randomly in this country and frankly around the world and you ask them what has happened to

Poverty on planet Earth since 1980 has it gone up or gone down 80% of them and as you're watching 80% of you will think it's gone up this is about as false as false can get you can go back to the '90s and 40% of the planet is living in Desperate poverty desperate grinding less than \$2 a day poverty that rate of poverty has fallen dramatically in the past couple decades to the point where it is below

9% now I'm not saying the world is perfect I'm not saying that you yourself might not be living a hard and challenging life but the notion that Global poverty has gone up instead of collapsing at the fastest rate anyone has ever seen before just goes to show you how much of a problem it is when the discourse isn't allowed to really flourish the second one which is even more obvious because it's even starting to get talked about

is if you ask people are there too many humans on the planet a similar number and this is around the world say yes they've bought into this big lie from people like Paul Erick that the planet faces overpopulation this is false the biggest threat we face is populations going down this is actually how we go way off track trying to crush descent trying to solidify incorrect consensus in kind of

Amber and fossilize it to the benefit of a small group of powerful people will leave all of us and our futures in Peril and that's why this is such an important thing for us to Grapple with and understand and understand the causes and try to Grapple with where we can go from here but before we can understand what should be done right we need to understand why and how we have gotten to this place that has gone so wrong if you

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