Common Sense

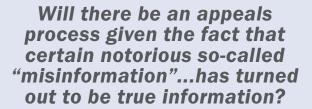
The FBI Is Misinformed

November 1, 2022

The FBI is misinformed if it thinks that prosecuting persons who misinform solely for misinforming is consistent with freedom of speech.

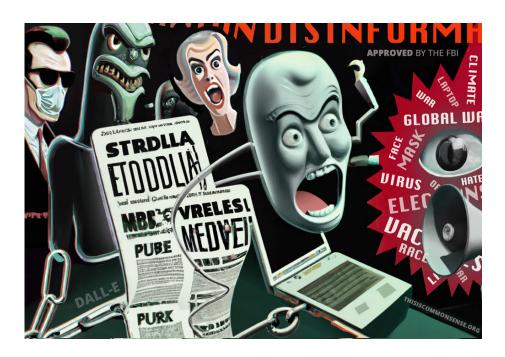
The utterance of false statements, whether unknowingly or willfully, is nothing new in human history. And such utterances are impossible to avoid in any kind of discourse

 for example, political debates — in which people disagree with each other about facts as well as values.



Indeed, one often hears both true things and false things. We must evaluate claims as best we can, using observation, logic, common sense and so forth.

But, somehow, the FBI has decided that "misinformation" and "disinformation," chronic in campaign ads, political pronouncements, and domestic quarrels, are a crime when communicated in the context of an election.



An FBI document leaked to Project Veritas wants to explain "What Are Election Crimes." This document lumps misleading speech with such actual crimes as electoral fraud and intimidation of voters.

Robert Spencer has questions about this assumption for the FBI's, ahem, Election Crimes Coordinator, Lindsay Capodilupo. For example, how does the FBI determine what is and is not misinformation? Will there be an appeals process given the fact that certain notorious so-called "misinformation" — like the once-upon-a-time contested claim that Hunter Biden's laptop is indeed Hunter Biden's laptop — has turned out to be *true* information?

And — most important — how can wrongspeak as such be classified as any kind of crime in light of the First Amendment?

Stay tuned for the FBI's answers. But not with bated breath, okay?

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.