## **Common Sense**



## Google Confesses All

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Google is <u>no longer silent</u> about whether the Biden administration pushed Google to censor customers for their viewpoints.

Under Biden, Google censored YouTube content creators under federal pressure, specifically about COVID-19. But Google did muzzle discourse on other matters, such as disputes about the legitimacy of the 2020 election, as a result of its own policies that it now says are "sunsetted" along with policies resulting from its submission to a rogue administration.

Its own role is important because we know that a tech giant can effectively resist federal pressure to censor on the basis of the principles of the company's leaders.

The proof is how Twitter changed course while Biden or his autopen was still the president. Twitter revamped its policies after Elon Musk ascended to the helm, starting to welcome back those who had been censored under the previous owners.

Yes, Elon Musk found himself under assault from every direction from a variety of federal agencies; which, it seemed, were acting as if in concert with and at the behest of a foiled Biden administration. Musk's opposition to censorship and documentation of administration pressure to censor was not risk-free.

Now Google is following suit. When restoring freedom of speech is lots less risky.

Let's hope Google's words now decrying censorship, and its still-in-progress efforts to make things right—inviting the return of former YouTubers whose channels it had censored, for example—will render the company less eager to cooperate when the next pro-censorship administration takes power.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.