InfoWars' YouTube channel is about to be banned by Google

Expansi By Paul P. Murphy

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Shooting survivor: I'm not a crisis actor 02:24

(CNN)InfoWars, a far-right media organization run by Alex Jones and known for peddling unfounded conspiracy theories, is on thin ice with YouTube after it posted a video that portrayed the survivors of the Parkland school shooting as actors.

The Alex Jones Channel, Infowar's biggest YouTube account, received one strike for that video, a source with knowledge of the account told CNN. YouTube's community guidelines say if an account receives three strikes in three months, the account is terminated.

That video focused on David Hogg, a strong voice among survivors of the mass shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. The attention has given him a powerful platform -- but it has also made him the subject of demonstrably false

conspiracy theories that claim he is so simply too skilled as public speakers not to be a paid actor.

On Wednesday, YouTube removed the video from InfoWars' page for violating its policies on harassment and bullying. The video was titled, "David Hogg Can't Remember His Lines In TV Interview."

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It used screenshots of an interview Hogg did with with CNN affiliate KCBS, in combination with other images, in an attempt to suggest that Hogg and other students are "crisis actors."

The term refers to people who are paid to play disaster victims in emergency drills. More recently, though, the phrase has been co-opted by conspiracy theorists who claim mass shootings are events staged to achieve a political goal.

Trending YouTube video calls shooting survivor David Hogg an actor. That's a lie

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InfoWars repeatedly showed its 2.2 million YouTube subscribers the video before it was taken down.

"Last summer we updated the application of our harassment policy to include hoax videos that

target the victims of these tragedies," said a YouTube spokesperson. "Any video flagged to us that violates this policy is reviewed and then removed."

But CNN has identified three YouTube videos from InfoWars that cite such hoaxes and asked if they also violated YouTube's policies. The YouTube spokesperson said the videos sent in by CNN were flagged to the policy team for review on Thursday evening.

The mass shooting conspiracy theories that just won't go away (and why they should)

YouTube's community guidelines say if the account receives one more strike in a three-

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month period, it will not be able to post new content for two weeks.

If the account receives two more strikes in three months, it will be terminated.

A source with knowledge of InfoWars' account says all YouTube accounts, including InfoWars', are subject to the community guidelines.

InfoWars founder Alex Jones is known for spreading the conspiracy that the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting in Newtown, Connecticut, in 2012 was fake. Of Parkland, he acknowledges that "real people were shot." But Jones repeatedly implied Hogg and others are crisis actors. He also said in a February 15 video posted on YouTube that he could "officially say that it's about a 90 percent chance" the Florida shooting was a "deep state false flag operation."

Conspiracy believers think false flags are government operations that seek to divert or steer public discussion and policy.

CORRECTION: The headline of this piece has been updated to more accurately reflect the fact that InfoWars' main YouTube channel is two strikes away from being banned from YouTube.

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Watch: These Infowars Videos Were Banned By YouTube



YouTube is censoring videos more than ever and Infowars has become one of their main targets.

The internet giant nulled down the following videos on the

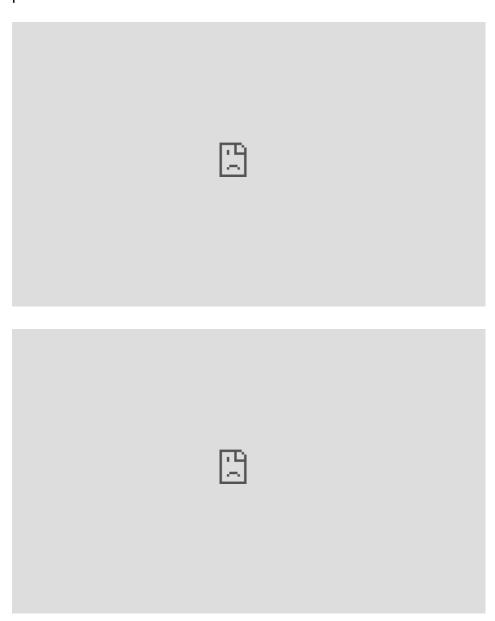
Parkland, Florida school shooting, and according to CNNYouTube will ban The Alex Jones Channel outright if two more videos receive strikes.

Watch the two videos YouTube does not want you to see:

David Hogg Can't Remember His Lines In TV Interview

Multiple Eye Witnesses Report More Than One Shooter In Parkland Florida Shooting

Below, Alex Jones explains how if Infowars is silenced the precedent will be set to remove any media from internet platforms.



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