

Feedback For Everyone on Social Media: Am I Fair Enough To Twitter?

By Rev. Angela Smith of COPE (<https://www.cope.church>) Date: March 22nd, 2021

This may arguably be considered as much a defense of myself, COPE, and the HEAL Mission as it is of Twitter. No one is forcing you to read this, fund COPE & HEAL Mission, contribute in-kind content, nor sign up for Twitter. I joined or created an account on Twitter of my own volition and understand the user agreement to be an "at will" contract where either Twitter or myself may excommunicate and discontinue any involvement through each other's platforms at our own volition whether mutual agreement is express, implied, or recognized as a matter of law. My recent suspension is absurd in my opinion, but, the cause was another user's complaint and not a decision made by Twitter personnel beyond their permitting a single individual user officially representing a corporate brand to censor someone they feel subjectively offended by in any way.

Enter contracts/agreements at your own risk is or can be #TaoFu if you fairly consider the risks and benefits and choose to sign up anyway. As a "user" or "member", do I assume the risk of penalty for my potential tweets on a platform on a domain I don't own that is owned by the host? Is this a term to which I've agreed or which any court of law would believe I knew or had reason to know? In what sense is Twitter a democracy? In a Free Market sense?

So, likening their for-profit with my nonprofit church the CEO and/or board of directors makes the decisions sometimes considering input from investors and consumers/users/members? How seriously do I consider those receiving free services who only contribute to the overall number of users which may help with raising awareness of how many complaints are properly reported and how many are not? Do I give them the right to set church and mission policies or bylaws? Are their voting rights limited to polls and e-mail surveys? Is it hypocritical to hold Twitter to another standard under the circumstances?

Should Twitter be on the watch-list since they permit the community to regulate itself by reporting tweets that allegedly violate Twitter's terms of service? Has Twitter ever censored me without someone else reporting one of my Tweets as violating Twitter rules? Do I encourage people to report violations of rules and laws properly as part of my work as a victim and consumer advocate?

Is the Kool Aid Man @koolaid on Twitter within his rights to report my tweet making a #Jonestown joke on which @koolaid was expressly referenced, mentioned, and therefore notified of the comment they identified as "hate speech", "abuse", and/or "harassment"? Is the Kool Aid Man @koolaid in a position to judge since he appears to break and enter into other people's homes with an unusual interest in their children or just concern because the parents or caregivers do not run into the room to make sure the kid is okay? Was @koolaid defending Flavor Aid because the comment that was reported clarified it was Flavor Aid laced with cyanide used in the massacre at Jonestown and not @koolaid

which is incorrectly referenced by some who say "don't drink the Kool Aid" when it was Flavor Aid in the first place?

From my perspective I was defending Kool Aid and making some #TaoFu suggestions about alternative beverages other than alcohol while advising people to drink responsibly on St. Patrick's Day with a bit of humor, historical facts, clarifications, in celebration of a holiday, and in full context in support of Kool Aid. But, I have reason to believe @koolaid reported the tweet, which is why I was suspended from Twitter 3/17/21-3/24/21 around 9pm Pacific. I tweet some very critical and/or humorous tweets and many objectively more offensive than the Kool Aid tweet. Sometimes I openly support the death penalty for child rapists and celebrate when one gets murdered by another inmate in prison. I've said some shit about things in the political realm I seem to get away with and believe @koolaid and the Kool Aid Man are in fact public figures. But, the government didn't suspend me, a private entity did.

And, while I do not wish to excommunicate anyone from my church with few exceptions, I'm always willing to talk things out as long as everyone is willing to do that. So, I feel reporting that tweet was passive aggressive and believe a comment or even DM with link to that tweet asking I delete it should have come first or at least an opportunity for dialogue to resolve any concerns about the tweet while considering full context. Was the Kool Aid Man @koolaid power-tripping because reporting and getting me suspended was an option available in the terms of service to which they agreed too?

I've only reported one tweet and didn't block the "user". I knew who reported one of my tweets responding to one of their tweets calling me a CUNT using an acrostic poem and I said they were the CUNT and called them out for the acrostic poem. They reported that response. So, once my account was restored I reported the tweet I was responding to and they got in trouble. However, I think that is entirely juvenile and also part of the arguable draw to Twitter because who doesn't want to have a virtual schoolyard jam session or brawl for entertainment or catharsis from time to time? And, in such a safe space too because it is virtual.

Is Twitter a release valve for societal tensions? If so, do they retain the right to set standards and terms of service? If Twitter is acting as a recess monitor for those on Twitter who feel like it is recess, are they too punitive? Look, I'm not paying for it but have been willing to if that becomes an option and it opens more leeway for my tweets or protects them forcing those who wish not to see to "block" rather than report. I think blocking should be the only option unless someone has committed a crime (i.e. child porn) and posted evidence of it and then I think there should be a reporting feature for that, but, for everything else, I think block should be the only option which is why I respect James Woods so much or one of the reasons. I love his #INSTABLOCK. This is I believe my third or fourth time in "Twitter Jail". And, this time I got 7 days or 6 days and 23 hours as a time-out from Twitter. All because @koolaid can't take a joke/compliment combo. What's up with that?