



Suite 1150N
601 13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

“Safer Web = Safer World”

[Further Information Contact](#)
Amb. Marc Ginsberg, President
(202) 352-1995
Eric Feinberg, SVP
mginsberg@coalitionsw.org

“WARPED SPEED”
RIGHT WING SOCIAL MEDIA SPREADING VACCINE
MISINFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. (December 10, 2020): The Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW) (www.coalitionsw.org) - a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization based in Washington, D.C., New York, London & Paris revealed today that conservative and white nationalist groups have commenced a concerted social media campaign to undermine the scientific integrity and public support for promising Covid-19 vaccines on the Parler social media platform, which is bankrolled by the right wing Trump donor Rebekah Mercer.

CSW commenced an investigation into various mainstream and fringe social media platforms to assess whether right wing groups are spreading misinformation regarding the scientific bona fides and efficacy of new vaccines. We are uncovering the beginnings of an avalanche of false and misleading vaccine efficacy and safety misinformation which will greatly undermine public confidence in Covid-19 vaccination initiatives. These misinformation campaigns are coordinated by various right-wing personalities and organizations.

Here is a summary of CSW’s findings:

- **Parler** -- the conservative, right wing social media platform has predictably become a vector for QAnon crackpot conspiracies promoting wildly false allegations that the vaccine is derived from parts of fetuses.
<https://parler.com/search?hashtag=nocovidvaccine>, or,
<https://parler.com/post/4400caa8ca9340d0855e980e9edc4e>.

Parler is also serving as the principal social media super-highway to demonize President-elect Biden’s new health team and vaccine program by promoting

the lie that President Trump opposes the new vaccines:
<https://parler.com/post/bc796d2715fc470385974281fb8b71c3>. This account is also advising Parler account holders which hashtags to use to contaminate Parler's growing ecosystem against President-elect Biden's vaccination program.

- **Parler:** We also have uncovered hundreds of Parler posts falsely claiming that the Pfizer vaccine will cause female sterilization:
<https://parler.com/post/17feb0612c264bab8fa3883b1670f94e>
- **Telegram** – the favored mobile application for anti-Semitic neo-Nazi groups, has refused to delete at CSW's request videos issued by WALKNVT – a notorious trans-national neo-Nazi outfit – which was the focus of CSW's November 23, 2020 report entitled "Hatebook": Facebook's Neo-Nazi Shop Fronts Funding Far Right Extremism." <https://t.me/walknvtchat/4332>. We have also uncovered scores of false posts from the white nationalist Proud Boys alleging vaccines contain poison and will be harmful to children :
<https://t.me/ProudBoysUncensored/5840>
- **Instagram:** Although Instagram's parent Facebook declared it will commence removing false claims about Covid-19 vaccines to include any posts about vaccines that feature claims which have been "debunked by public health experts, CSW is locating on Instagram conspiracy theories – like vaccines containing microchips – and false claims about the safety, efficacy, ingredients, or side effects of vaccines.
<https://www.instagram.com/p/CIYgCV3gzah/?igshid=h2ss0qynmwcl>

Amb. Marc Ginsberg, President of CSW stated:

Uncontested, malicious misinformation regarding the safety and efficacy of Covid-19 vaccines super-spread by QAnon conspiracists and white nationalist groups on mainstream and fringe social media platforms pose a danger to public health and safety.

CSW calls on the Biden-Harris Transition and the CDC to urgently develop a public information campaign to rebut false vaccine accusations to ensure President-elect Biden's national vaccine distribution program is embraced by as many Americans as possible to vanquish the pandemic."

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