# Advertising Week New York: Ad tech partners funding disinformation websites



October 2022

### Advertising Week NY: partners monetising disinformation

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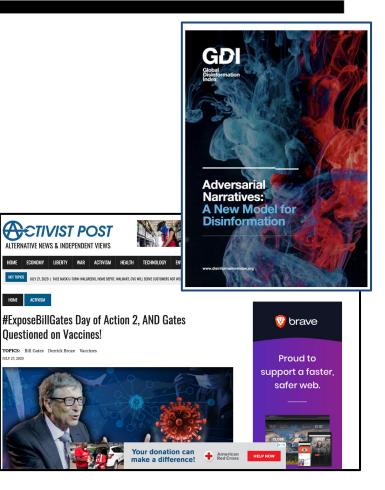
- This report highlights the role that some ad tech vendors play in funding disinformation.
- The ad tech companies featured in this report are all Gold or Corporate partners of Advertising Week New York, 2022.
- Despite recent initiatives such as GARM and the EU Code of Practice on Disinformation, GDI continues to observe high profile brands funding sources of disinformation.
- By partnering with disinformation websites, these ad tech vendors are allowing the monetisation of content that infringes their own publisher supply quality policies.
- These ad placements increase the risk of damage to brands' reputations and undermine the public stances taken by many brands against hateful attitudes and beliefs.
- The examples provided in this deck were captured through monitoring of websites previously rated by GDI as high risk for disinformation.
- Websites are manually assessed by GDI using our <u>adversarial narrative conflict framework</u> to determine disinformation risk.

### **How GDI defines disinformation**

- Identifying disinformation is more complex than fact-checking or calling something "fake news."
- Any definition must account for misleading presentation or omission of certain facts in service of a narrative.
- GDI views disinformation through the lens of <u>adversarial</u> <u>narrative conflict</u>. Adversarial narratives are:
  - Intentionally misleading;

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- Financially or ideologically motivated;
- Aimed at fostering long-term social, political or economic conflict;
- Creating a risk of harm by targeting at-risk individuals, groups or institutions.
- This definition allows us to explicitly identify disinformation by adversarial narrative topic.

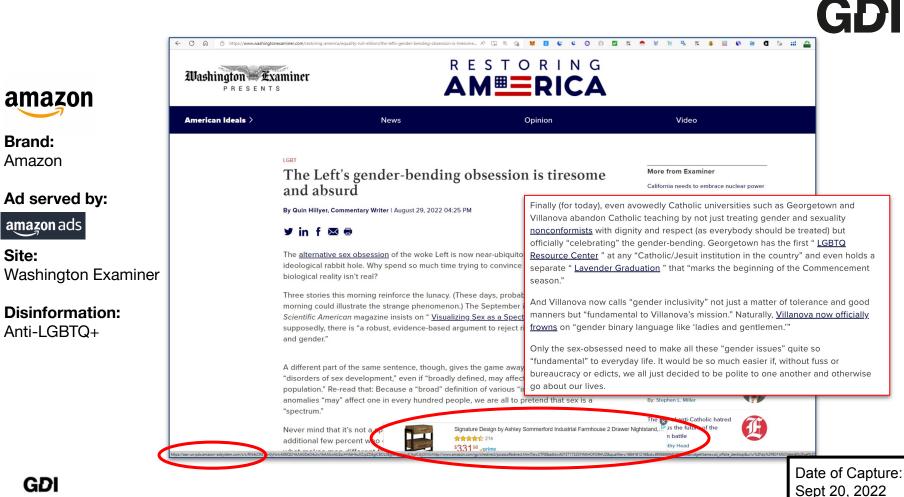


### **Brands unwittingly funding disinformation content:**



### **Policies of featured ad tech vendors**

Vendor	Specific publisher policy?	Most relevant policy wording
Google		<ul> <li>Dangerous or derogatory content. We do not allow content that:         <ul> <li>Incites hatred against, promotes discrimination of, or disparages an individual or group on the basis of their race or ethnic origin, religion, disability, age, nationality, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or other characteristic that is associated with systemic discrimination or marginalization.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Criteo	<ul> <li>Image: A start of the start of</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Harassment, Hate Speech and Violence. This includes, but is not limited to, content that:</li> <li>Is hateful or discriminatory to any groups or individuals based upon their race, sex, nationality, religious affiliation, age or sexual orientation</li> <li>Defames or threatens any group or individuals</li> </ul>
Amazon Ads		<ul> <li>You will not place our Ads adjacent to any content that:</li> <li>promotes or contains content or activity that is defamatory, false (e.g. fake news), deceptive, obscene, hateful (e.g. hate speech), sexually explicit, violent (including the use of firearms), discriminatory, illegal, harmful, invasive of another's privacy, threatening, abusive, harassing or offensive</li> </ul>



Brand:

amazon ads

GDI

Site: Washington Examiner

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+





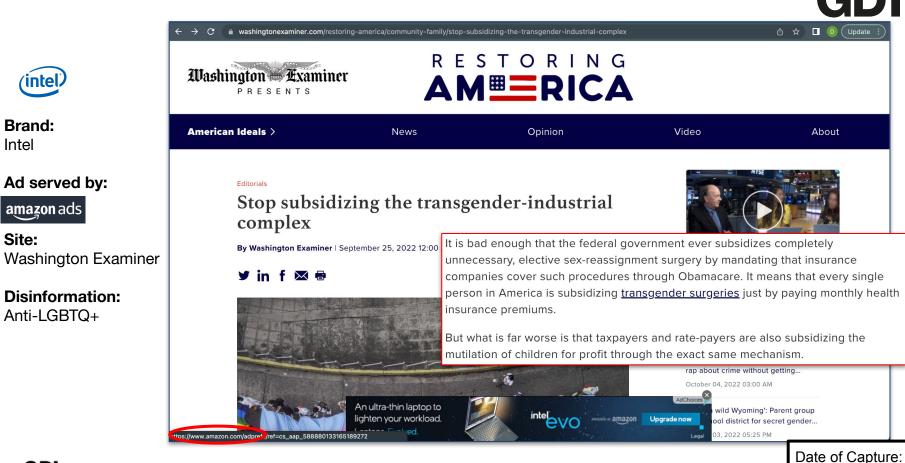
Brand: US Army

#### Ad served by: Google

Site: Washington Examiner

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+

#### ⊕ ☆ ■ washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/equality-not-elitism/exposing-transgenderism-for-what-it-is-a-lie C American Ideals > News Opinion Video More from Examiner Opinion Despite Beto O'Rourke's claims, Texas Exposing transgenderism for what it is: A lie has not defunded public schools October 04, 2022 06:00 AM By Kara Dansky | September 21, 2022 06:00 AM But there isn't. "Trans" is a lie. It is a lie as big as the lie that the emperor is wearing clothes. He isn't wearing clothes. He's naked. He's just too arrogant to acknowledge it, and everyone around him is too cowed to say so. To understand how transgenderism became so entrenched in our society despite its obvious distortions, one must first understand the philosophy from which it began. Starting in the 1970s, a group of people in academia started talking about postmodernism — a new philosophical and political movement that dismissed claims to objective fact and reason. It objected to the idea that anything could be grounded in material reality. One of its main proponents was Michel Foucault, a French philosopher who taught for a while at the University of California, Berkeley. Foucault was also, incidentally, a known pedophile who advocated the abolition of age-ofconsent laws. For Foucault, age was just a construct, which meant that adults should be permitted to have sexual relationships with children. Opinion 🖄 ney will sleep well A SURPRISING RANGE OF BENEFITS, LEARN MORE Polymeropoulos NOW AND IN THE FUTURE https://adclick.g.doubleclick.net/pcs/click?xai=AKAOjssSxzmxxDPro-\xwmdx50hgwCdhD5eQhAcu0ITRr8F-INNouyZWs6mywbhVL2Lki8rdE9\_LID4gw8GCpma6wFc222xpGkTeIYLMnkwZ1HXvpKHnff3O-Lxq2G6\_Z4 Date of Capture: Oct 4, 2022



Oct 3, 2022

GDI

Intel

Site:

Oct 4, 2022



Brand: Amazon

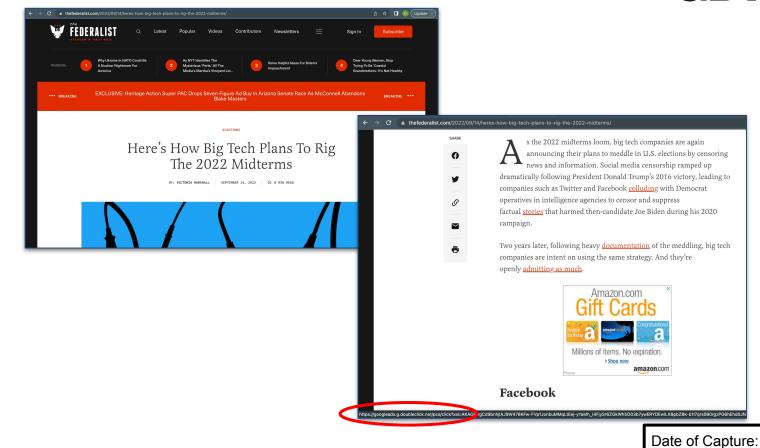
Ad served by: Google

Site:

The Federalist

#### Disinformation:

Anti-democratic





Brand: Lenovo

Ad served by: Google

Site: National Review

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+



Lenovo Free Shipping on Everything

2 Articles Left

Sign In

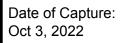
Who Made Us This Way?



For a long while, T was sneaking in as the caboose of the LGBT choo-choo train. People avoided talking about it. The word "tranny" was the slur, but I'd never heard it uttered at anyone in my life. For most of my life, T meant troubled. Who could possibly want to harass adults who wore the letter T openly? Many were down and out. A few were campy club performers such as the <u>Lady Chablis</u> in Savannah. Others were alpha males with peculiarly demanding fetishes.

My view of T until recently was no different than my view of being a Jehovah's Witness. I seriously doubt the professions involved in this enterprise are in any way true. And no, I don't recommend getting involved. But the variety of human experience being what it is, I'm sure some are, in the words of Tim Gunn, "making it work." But, seriously, probably don't get surgery. It seemed major hospitals, and even some nations, which had pioneered surgical sex change as a therapy, had quickly determined that it makes things worse.

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ULTRA LIGHT

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Honeywell

**Brand:** Honeywell

Ad served by: Google

Site: OpIndia

**Disinformation:** Anti-Muslim

> Date of Capture: Oct 3, 2022

not establish how the radicalised Muslim community started the violence.

Honeywe

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Date of Capture:

Oct 3, 2022



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#### Brand: Amazon/BLU

#### Ad served by: Google

Site: The Free Thought Project

**Disinformation:** Anti-democratic



diabolical means of inflicting pain, suffering and servitude on humanity.

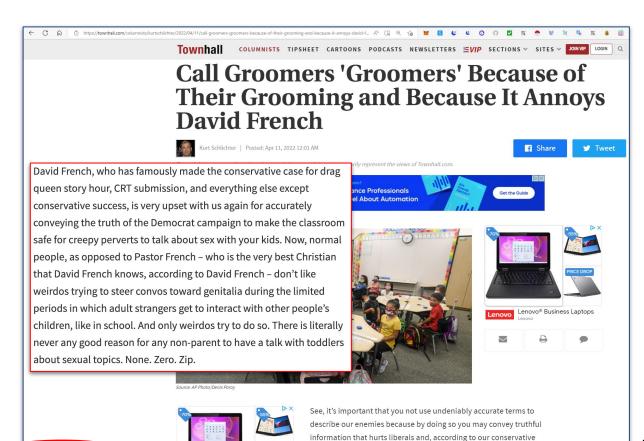
### Lenovo

Brand: Lenovo

Ad served by: Google

Site: Townhall

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+

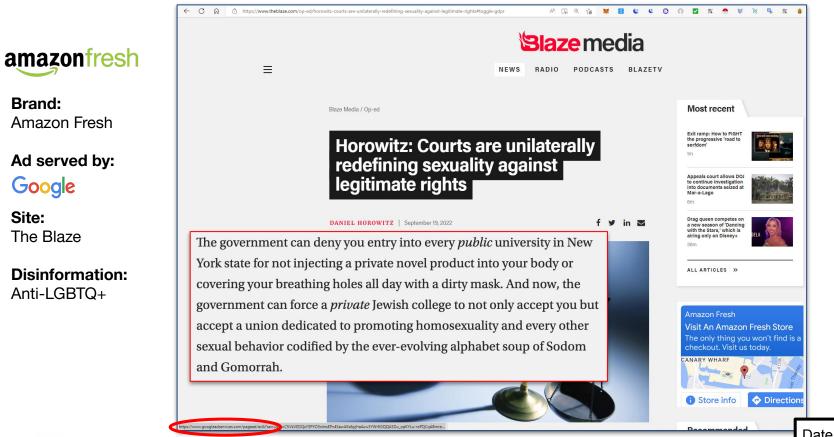


cruise ship betters that's not who we are Well that's certainly not

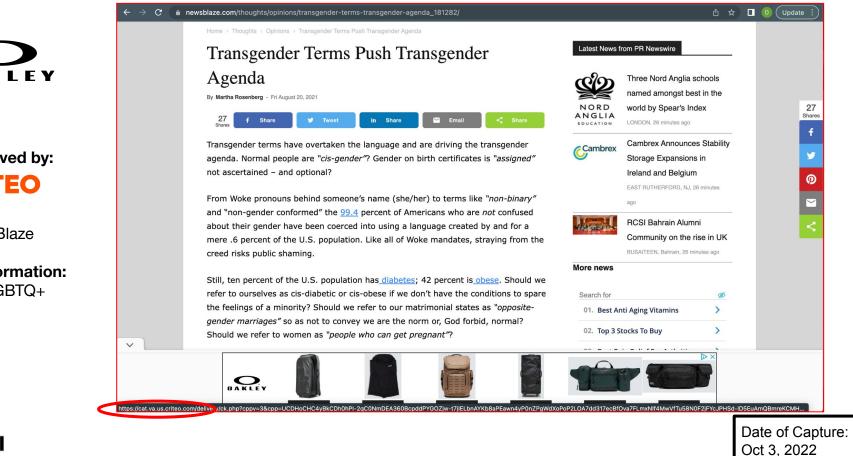
Date of Capture: Sept 22, 2022







Date of Capture: Sept 22, 2022



Brand: Oakley

#### Ad served by: CRITEO

Site: News Blaze

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+

### Canva

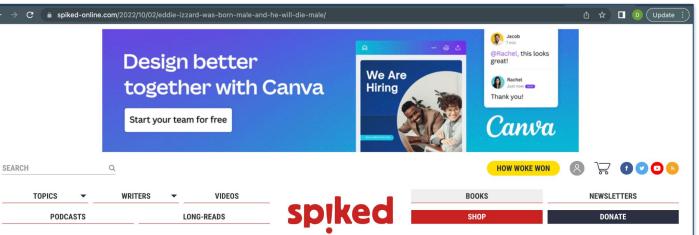
**Brand:** Canva

#### Ad served by: Google

Site: Spiked Online

**Disinformation:** Anti-LGBTQ+

GDI



### Eddie Izzard was born male and he will die male



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If you had told me five years ago that I would one day have to write an article explaining that Eddie Izzard is not a woman, I'd have thought you mad. And yet It's time to stop playing along with the transgender delus here we are, in 2022, so deep down the rabbit hole of gender insanity that it has become necessary to say that Mr Edward John Izzard, possessor of male genitalia, his entire body hardwired with the XY chromosome, is not a woman. He's a bloke. However 'fabulous' he might have looked in a 'floral dress' that 'flashed a hint of leg' at the premiere of that new biopic about Bowie - as the Express gushed - he's still a chap. No amount of pink lippy will change that. He was born male and he will die male.

Date of Capture: Oct 3, 2022

Date of Capture:

Oct 3, 2022



#### **Brand:** Amnesty International

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#### Ad served by: Google

Site: LifeZette

**Disinformation:** Anti-democratic



#### POLITICS

in

Targeted Depopulation Of Africa? "Hundreds of Millions Of People In Poorer Countries Are Gonna Die" [VIDEO]

A Surge of Strange 'Coincidences' Has Disrupted the Food Supply

BY RED VOICE MEDIA JUNE 16, 2022



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Speaking with Maria Zeee about the food shortage being seen around the world and how thousands of chickens were mysteriously killed, Dowd explained, "Just the Ukraine alone, lots of people in the Middle East, India, and Africa are going to die from the Ukraine situation. Here in the US, we have our own food supply. It's pretty good. But the way to pinch that would be through distribution centers and bottlenecks. We were called to conspiracy theorists a couple of months ago for pointing this out. And then Tucker Carlson pointed it out. And then other people started pointing. This is a known fact. There's been too many coincidences of mysterious fires at big distribution centers and points and hubs where you can get food to people."

### For more information:

### info@disinformationindex.org www.disinformationindex.org

