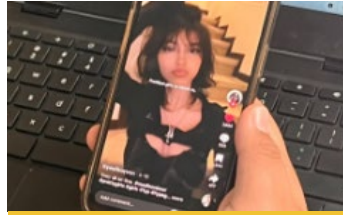


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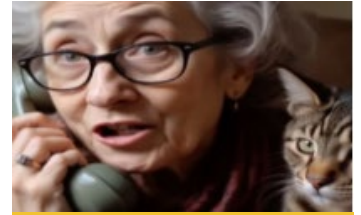
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Australia bans Social Media!

By Levi Dillard



Social Media apps

All leaders of the eight Australian states and mainland territories have come to a unanimous backed plan of banning social media from minors ages 16 and younger.

They've been discussing this plan since November, in order to protect minors from the harms of social media. They believe that social media is a risk to minors' mental health and also want to give peace of mind to parents, who have also voiced their concerns.

However, the leaders do not anticipate that the minors are planning to figure out a way around this ban, which may take effect early in 2025. Some minors that will be affected by this ban say "We'll find a way around this", and some agree that "the ban is good."

-Some minors that will be affected by this ban say "We'll find a way around this", and some agree that "the ban is good."

Teens 18 to 15 years old believe that the ban would actually be beneficial for children that are younger because they should "spend their time outside playing sports or games" rather than having a phone in their face

Others who are younger, believe that they can easily lie about their age online and that "social media is good for our mental health". There is a lot of discourse with this plan and the leaders will further discuss exactly how they will execute their plan.

TikTok Restricts Beauty Filters!?

By Sieanna Hall

TikTok is planning to ban beauty filters for anyone who is under the age of 18 in order to protect the mental health of their younger users.

There isn't a specific date as to when this ban will become effective, but it is expected to be soon as TikTok is trying to protect the youth on its app by banning filters that can alter their appearances; Filters that create bigger-looking lips, eyes, and smoother-looking skin, for those under 18.

When asked about how they feel about this beauty filter ban, Mikayla Adams, a 7th grade student at LLA, stated that they feel that "it's good in a way because it's easier to determine whether someone is faking their real appearance and even sometimes age, on the app."

Teenagers feel insecure about their appearance or the way they live when they see other kids their age that look conventionally attractive, which can potentially lead to them becoming depressed or overall selfconscious.

Due to there being many mental health related issues when it comes to teenagers and social media, TikTok is keen on preventing it from happening on their app, especially because of the amount of younger users it has.

OPINIONS & WORLD

Most American disapprove Biden's pardon to his son.

By Mario Robledo

Americans have mixed feelings about Joe Biden as he issues a pardon for his son in Washington.

On December 1, Joe Biden issued a full, unconditional pardon for his son, Hunter Biden, a man with multiple offenses who caused the democratic president to be placed under political scrutiny.

"I believe in the justice system," said Biden during his speech about the pardon, "but as I wrestled with this, I also believe raw politics has infected this

process and it led to a miscarriage of justice."

This order was sudden as Biden had claimed from the beginning of his presidency that he'll not be using his position to issue pardons to benefit his own family.

Hunter Biden was discharged from the Navy Reserve for cocaine consumption in 2014. As of recently, Hunter pleaded guilty on September 5 for multiple tax charges.

A survey was conducted

after the news came to light. The public reception to the pardon was mixed, with the majority of participants disapproving the act; some either approved or had no comment.



(Credit: AP Photo/Jose Luis Magana)

Daisy the AI chatbot combats phone scammer

By Caleb Sopacua



"It's showing me a picture of my cat, Fluffy - Daisy

UK-based telecommunications company O2 created a new AI chatbot to combat against phone scammers

O2 released a video introducing the "head of scammer relations," Daisy. A seemingly vulnerable old lady who is ready to frustrate and waste the time of phone scammers

The video by the company showcases an audio of Daisy chatting with many different phone scammers. In the video you can hear an array of different reactions from the phone scammers, while Daisy gives very confusing and hilarious responses. You can hear the scammers ask questions in confusion or respond with frustration where the conversations go for an hour.

While the video in question can give viewers a little chuckle, O2 created Daisy to combat phone scammers. The video mentions how "seven out of ten Brits [are] targeted by scammers" and the creation of Daisy targets scammers who attack mostly the elderly people.

"While they're busy talking to me, they can't be scamming you" - Daisy



Former Love Island contestant, Amy Hart

Former Love Island contestant, Amy Hart is the spokesperson for the promo video since she was a victim of one of these attacks and opened up about it back in November.