Twitter Thread by Justin Baragona



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NEW from me:

Right Wing Watch's Kyle Mantyla told me that YouTube issued a final strike against RWW's channel and removed its account based on a video that had been up for 8 years.

The ban removes a deep archive of thousands of clips exposing

“The number of times our video has gotten flagged and removed and the video from which we took it is still up on YouTube, you’re just like, well, something is wrong with your system here,” Mantyla said about YouTube's uneven and broken enforcement policy.

UPDATE

YouTube has now reinstated Right Wing Watch's channel, chalking it up to a mistake.

"Right Wing Watch’s YouTube channel was mistakenly suspended, but upon further review, has now been reinstated," a YouTube spokesperson told the Daily Beast.

Right Wing Watch Director @AddieStan released the following statement after YouTube's reinstatement:

"We hope this is the end of a years-long struggle with YouTube to understand the nature of our work."

“We are glad that by reinstating our account, YouTube recognizes our position that there is a world of difference between reporting on offensive activities and committing them. Without the ability to accurately portray dangerous behavior, meaningful journalism and public education about that behavior would cease to exist. We hope this is the end of a years-long struggle with YouTube to understand the nature of our work. We also hope the platform will become more transparent about the process it uses to determine whether a user has violated its rules, which has always been opaque and has led to frustrating and inexplicable decisions and reversals such as the one we experienced today. We remain dedicated to exposing threatening and harmful activities on the Far Right and we are glad to have YouTube again available to us to continue our work.”