Principles of Digital Community

To the Tech Industry
Effectively monitor the content of your platforms.

- Ban and block violent posts before they are distributed.
- Stop cyber bullying.
- Delete posts that use hate speech.

Be transparent and intentional in how you present information.

- Make user agreements easier to understand: Be clear on what you have access to and explain WHY. Don't present this information in a million words so we get bored or bypass this information. Increase font size and legibility.
- Protect our privacy and personal data—and be clear how you are doing so.

Engage your users. Involve us in the design process.

- Survey and conduct research based off of youth input—and make changes to your platform when needed.
- Incorporate Youth Advisory Boards in your design process.
- Be transparent about your algorithms. We want to know why we see what we see.
- Have diverse groups present when you design and build the platforms we use.

To Our Communities
We respect the privacy of others.

- No sharing others private data (i.e. phone numbers, emails, or locations of others without permission).
- No screenshotting or recording private messages, or distributing this information to others.

We take action when needed and responsibility for others.

- Report posts that are hateful or violent.
- Don't simply scroll past someone being bullied, say something to bring attention to the situation—do not be a follower.
- Speak up and use your voice to support others—open your arms to individuals and groups that are marginalized or left out.

We value the identity and uniqueness of others.

- No plagiarizing the ideas, words, or statuses of others.
- No impersonating another person's identity (i.e. catfishing, stealing photos).

We advocate.

- Stand up for what you believe in, and what your community values are.
- What you put out there represents your community—for better or worse, it influences how the entire community is viewed by others. Post thoughtfully, critically, and joyously.

As Individuals
Be a leader.

- Respect everyone.
- Don't put people down because of your own insecurities.
- Speak up—do not be afraid to say something because of backlash.
- Report hateful, threatening, or violent speech.

Do not use speech intended to harm, or promote hate.

- No cyberbullying—do not harass others who may dress, look, or act differently than you.
- Do not belittle others because their words, dreams, or identities do not fit what is right for you.

Be aware.

- Think about what you post—know that once you put it out there it can never be taken back.
- Recognize that not everything belongs on the Internet.
- Acknowledge that your words affect others:
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  - Don't use trigger words as jokes (i.e. “go kill yourself”).
  - Do not post material that harmfully embarrasses your friends (i.e. drunk photos, private messages, etc.).
  - Take other identities and perspectives into account before you post.
  - Use kind language because you never know what someone else is going through, or how they might react.

Know yourself.

- Own your personality and respect it. If you'd be too nervous or hesitant to say something to someone's face, then don't scream it on the Internet.
- Seek out your own happiness.
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Be aware.
Know yourself.

We define the tech industry as those companies who design, host, and sell digital products and spaces. You design and build the platforms we use.
We define community as those persons and groups who are connected to one another in a digital space.
As individual members of digital communities—we are each participants and not bystanders in this space.