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## **Prager University (PragerU) Takes Legal Action Against Google and YouTube for Discrimination**

*“This is speech discrimination plain and simple, censorship based entirely on unspecified ideological objection to the message or on the perceived identity and political viewpoint of the speaker”*

*36th Governor of California Pete Wilson  
Browne, George, Ross LLP*

**LOS ANGELES, Calif.** — Prager University (PragerU) has filed a lawsuit in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California to stop Google and YouTube from unlawfully censoring its educational videos and discriminating against its right to freedom of speech.

The lawsuit cites more than fifty PragerU videos which have either been “restricted” or “demonetized” by Google/YouTube on various subjects presenting a conservative point of view, including a video by noted Harvard Law Professor Alan Dershowitz on the founding of Israel. PragerU previously compiled a complete list of their restricted videos [here](#), which includes: “Why America Must Lead,” “The Ten Commandments: Do Not Murder,” “Why did America Fight the Korean War,” and “The World’s Most Persecuted Minority: Christians.”

In correspondence cited in the filing, Google/YouTube made it clear that the censorship of certain videos was because they were deemed “inappropriate” for younger audiences.

“Watch the videos and you’ll realize how totally absurd this is. We produce educational content on various subjects and Google, and their wholly owned company YouTube, apparently believe they can pick and choose who has free speech in this country,” stated PragerU founder Dennis Prager.

Prager added, “We believe they are engaging in an arbitrary and capricious use of their ‘restricted mode’ and ‘demonetization’ to restrict conservative political thought. Their censorship is profoundly damaging because Google and YouTube own and control the largest forum for public participation in video-based speech in not only California, but the United States, and the world,” said Prager.

The total number of people who currently use YouTube exceeds 1.3 billion people. Google and YouTube advertise YouTube to the public as a forum intended to defend and protect free speech where members of the general public may express, and exchange their ideas. They have represented that their platforms and services are intended to effectuate the exercise of free speech among the public. According to Google and YouTube: “voices matter.” YouTube states that it is “committed to fostering a community where everyone’s voice can be heard.”

“However,” said Eric George of Browne George Ross, the firm representing PragerU, “Google and YouTube use restricted mode filtering not to protect younger or sensitive viewers from ‘inappropriate’ video content, but as a political gag mechanism to silence PragerU. Google and YouTube do this not because they have identified video content that violates their guidelines or is otherwise inappropriate for younger viewers, but because PragerU is a conservative nonprofit organization that is associated with and espouses the views of leading conservative speakers and scholars.”

“This is speech discrimination plain and simple, censorship based entirely on unspecified ideological objection to the message or on the perceived identity and political viewpoint of the speaker,” said former Governor Pete Wilson of Browne George Ross “Google and YouTube’s use of restricted mode filtering to silence PragerU violates its fundamental First Amendment rights under both the California and United States Constitutions. It constitutes unlawful discrimination under California law, is a misleading and unfair business practice, and breaches the warranty of good faith and fair dealing implied in Google and YouTube’s own Terms of Use and “Community Guidelines” added George.

“There is absolutely nothing ‘inappropriate’ about the content of the PragerU videos censored by Google and YouTube; the videos do not contain any profanity, nudity, or otherwise inappropriate ‘mature’ content and they fully comply with the letter of YouTube’s Terms of Use and Community Guidelines,” says Marissa Streit, PragerU’s chief executive officer who has engaged in a year-long-effort to try and persuade Google to stop censoring PragerU content. Streit continues, “it is clear that someone doesn’t like what we teach and so they intend on stopping us from teaching it. Can you imagine what the world would look like if Google is allowed to continue to arbitrarily censor ideas they simply don’t agree with?”

“It is regrettable that we are compelled to seek legal action to have our constitutionally guaranteed First Amendment rights protected, but Google and YouTube have compelled us to do so,” Prager concluded.

The lawsuit filed in the Northern District of California is available [here](#).

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***PragerU***, founded by Dennis Prager in 2011, is a not-for-profit organization that helps millions understand the values that shaped America and provides millions of Americans and people around the world with the intellectual content they need to advocate for limited government, individual responsibility and economic freedom. In 2017 alone, PragerU videos have over 500 million views - with over 60% of the audience being under the age of 35. PragerU is a resource for all who value liberty. It is a threat to all those who do not.

Website | [www.PragerU.com](http://www.PragerU.com)

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