



October 29, 2020

Dear Mr. Pichai,

I'm writing to inform you that The Heritage Foundation will not accept the donation of \$225,000 Google offered this year. We cannot in good conscience take money from a company that repeatedly, and blatantly, suppresses conservative speech on your platforms.

As you know, we have tried in the past to work with Google to address complaints about bias against conservatives in how they enforce community standards. We approached this work in hopes that your company's leadership was serious about applying uniform standards for political speech. Unfortunately, Google has proved time and again that our efforts are pointless. We sometimes get apologies, but nothing changes.

I don't think I need to recite the many examples of bias against conservatives on your platforms. But I will note that your YouTube subsidiary has twice censored videos produced by The Heritage Foundation and our news site, The Daily Signal. Most recently you added a prominent label to our election integrity video that was clearly meant to cast doubt on the credibility of our well-sourced claims about the risks of voting by mail. You've in effect handed discriminatory authority to a group that is biased against our view on election fraud. Our detailed complaint to Susan Wojcicki was met with a shrug.

As you know, there is a growing momentum in Washington to rein in Google and other technology companies, either through antitrust action or changes in liability protections you enjoy. Heritage is in the midst of reviewing these proposals, and the last thing we need is for anyone to think our conclusions have in any way been influenced by a relatively small donation from Google.

I have to say that I'm deeply saddened by these developments. Google has become a vital part of how we share information. But instead of being a true friend of free speech, you are increasingly using your market dominance to act as partisan censors eager to suppress speech with which you don't agree. Isn't this the sort of evil Google once foreswore?

Until that changes, we will no longer be able to accept donations from Google.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kay James".

Kay C. James
President