

'Self-censorship is needed in the digital age.' Discuss.

Examine the justification of censorship in our modern society

Type: Paragraph Development

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Album: Social Media

1) Topic Sentence

General Focus: Explain how self-censorship is important in maintaining social stability.

1. Derive the category
2. Set the perspective
3. Provide a conceptualized idea that depicts the point
4. Include the intensification of the effects due to the conceptualized idea

Student Answer

Based on government intervention, there is no need for self-censorship in this digital age as the laws and administrative body in the country will prevent any manipulation by social media, preventing individuals the harm from social media.

Tutor Answer

From the social perspective, self-censorship is needed in the digital age to prevent the spread of offensive remarks that threaten social stability.

2) Elaboration

Explain how the main idea stated in the topic sentence can affect social stability.

- Focus on how the supporting elaboration sentences show how the point creates the effect

Student Answer

Legislation introduced by the state ensures that individuals who attempt to manipulate the society will face harsh punishment while the administrative set standards on the kind of information that the public will access. This helps the less educated or ill-informed individuals from being given wrong information to distort their opinions, preventing them from making bad judgements.

Tutor Answer

The lack of self-censorship is problematic as people who post racially offensive or culturally insensitive views on social media may spark social outrage. As a result, victims of hate speech may retaliate aggressively, thus giving rise to social division. This sparks controversy in our diverse society when not managed can turn into violent conflicts that disrupt social stability.

3) Example

Support your argument by providing a news report that relates to the consequence of absent self-censorship in causing greater social instability.

- An example to prove why the evidence to supports the point of discussion

Student Answer

According to Irish Social Journalism Survey in 2014, 64% of Irish journalists shared that information on social media is not trustworthy.

Tutor Answer

In September 2012, the French satirical weekly magazine, Charlie Hebdo, published controversial cartoon depictions of the Prophet Muhammad. It sparked a major outrage, as seen by the Charlie Hebdo shooting in January 2015, in which two gunmen killed twelve people.

4) Concluding Sentence

Link back to the main idea in your topic sentence to show that self-censorship in the digital age is necessary.

- To conclude the paragraph and summarise the points that makes the argument

Student Answer

Hence, there is no need for self-censorship if our society is ready to ensure there is no falsehood and manipulation from social media.

Tutor Answer

Hence, the outbreak of social tensions and violence highlight the importance of self-censorship in the digital age as people should refrain from passing off offensive and insensitive remarks.
