

# DIGITAL WEEDS

# 2021

Illegal and/or Illicit Activity  
On Social Media Platforms  
Never Goes Away



digitalcitizens  
alliance 





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# Executive Summary

The Digital Citizens Alliance (DCA) published its first report looking at videos on YouTube pushing illegal and/or illicit goods and services in 2013. Around the same time, Eric Feinberg launched the Global Intellectual Property Enforcement Center (GIPEC) with patented software he created to look at the sale of counterfeit items on Facebook. Feinberg would go on to help launch the Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW), where he has looked for everything from hate speech to violent crime videos downloaded to all the Internet platforms.

Many things have changed since 2013. Google, the parent of YouTube, is now Alphabet. Instagram came along and shot past its parent, Facebook, as a more popular destination for teens. Both Google and Facebook, once enormously popular, respected companies, are increasingly questioned by consumers as well as federal and state regulators for their business practices.

But one thing stays the same – today, researchers can still find criminals using the platforms to commit more crimes as the platforms seem unable or unwilling to stop them. In fact, for this report, researchers found many of the same kinds of illegal and/or illicit activity that was pushed by bad actors the organizations had previously identified years before.

In this research, DCA and CSW findings demonstrate the following:

- Criminal activity and/or illicit activity highlighted in previous research, such as the selling of opioids, steroids, and malware, can still be found easily today.
- Many videos and posts shared in prior DCA and CSW reports and/or with media contacts are still available across numerous social media platforms.
- The platforms still have advertising from premium, respected brands running next to videos and/or posts for illegal and/or illicit items.

- The platforms enable communications between drug pushers and potential buyers. Whether by containing phone numbers and emails in videos and/or posts or enabling for conversations to happen in chats.
- The platforms' algorithms amplify connectivity between potential buyers and sellers of illegal and/or illicit items. Researchers, acting as potential buyers looking for drugs, showed that when they look for drugs on Instagram, Instagram's algorithm will in turn begin directing drug sellers back to the potential buyer.
- When outed by media outlets, platforms will often take down specific videos mentioned by reporters, but not address the larger problem. This leaves consumers vulnerable to similar, or sometimes even the same scams, that inspired the news coverage in the first place.

Researchers looked at YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram. This report includes screenshots of illegal and/or illicit activity. Researchers strongly suggest you do not try to replicate this research without adequate protection and expertise.

# Digital Weeds 2021

Usually once every fiscal quarter, at least one of the major social media platforms will take some sort of step that seems to say “we get it. We need to do a better job protecting our users from criminals running scams.” Last September, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter made a promise to large advertisers to crack down on “harmful content online.”<sup>1</sup>

This year, a cabal of tech companies – including Google, Facebook, and Twitter – announced the “Digital Trust and Safety Partnership” which would allow the companies to share best practices designed to promote a safer and more trustworthy Internet.<sup>2</sup>

Yet the platforms’ concern always seems to come a bit too late and be way too little. There’s no better example than what we saw on January 6, 2021 when right wing extremists, Individuals, groups, and influencers ransacked the U.S. Capitol. These groups used the scale and reach of every popular social media platform to spread their ideology and bolster their ranks. Now, Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and others are attempting to put the three-headed genie of misinformation, disinformation, and extremism – that has spread on their platforms – back in the lamp. This issue will dog our society until the platforms commit to being part of the solution – even if there is some political and financial pain as a result.

While the battle over disinformation and extremism rules the public consciousness of today, researchers from DCA and CSW know this is just the latest symptom of a much broader illness afflicting major social media platforms and the consumers who use them. Major social media platforms either lack the capability or the will power to curb dangerous, illicit and illegal behavior on their sites.

Over the past seven years, DCA investigators have identified videos and posts pushing prescription drugs, counterfeits, steroids, stolen credit cards, remote access trojans (RATs)<sup>a</sup>, and extremism – all found on social media platforms.

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<sup>a</sup> RATs are malware used to control computers and webcams. They are frequently used to capture videos of young people on their devices when they don’t know they are being watched.

DCA, CSW and other organizations have shared the content pushing illegal and/or illicit goods and services in published reports. The platforms' responses are always the same – the videos and posts shared come down after news outlets report on researchers' findings. The platforms then talk a good game about the commitment to public safety when the companies are in the public eye. But instead of making needed systemic changes to the technology, the platforms treat the promotion of criminal activity as a PR problem – they tell the media that content shared by researchers like DCA and CSW has come down, but they do nothing to address the larger problem.

But what happens when that attention dies down?

Well, new posts – demonstrating the same behavior that inspired the original coverage (sometimes even coming from the same bad actors highlighted in the first place) are up replacing the ones that came down. That may in fact be the best-case scenario because there are some videos and posts that never seem to come down at all...as you'll see in the following research.

# Coronavirus Vaccines

Just last month, DCA and CSW published "A Shot from the Darkest Corner of the Internet" showing posts on Facebook and Telegram showcasing "vaccines." Some of the posts offered the vaccine. Other posts were more subtle, but investigators used information from the post to contact salespeople who'd discuss how someone could purchase the vaccine. In all instances, the sellers were dubious vaccines not approved for use in the US available or actually selling a "vaccine" that never made it to the purchaser.

The [CBS Evening News](#) and [Wired](#) reported on the research and those stories did push Facebook to take down the posts DCA and CSW shared. But, just weeks after that, researchers found other posts picking up where the previous shady operators left off, showcasing vaccines and testing kits for sale.

Also, in the research done in January 2021 – the "vaccine sellers" on Facebook were careful with their language, not necessarily saying the vaccines were for sale. The newest sellers, researchers found, are not nearly as cautious, as you can see in Images 1, 3 and 4, where the vaccines are clearly for sale.

## Vaccines” and “Testing Kits” For Sale on Facebook<sup>b</sup>

**Zhejiang Hongyu Medical Equipment Co.,Ltd**  
December 3, 2020 · 🌐

Preselling! #COVID19#vaccine 🤗🤗🤗

### 灭活疫苗的研发流程 R&D of Inactivated Vaccine

**01 获取免疫原**  
Obtaining Antigen  
根据疫苗的类型不同: 分为病毒、蛋白、基因片段、携带病毒基因的载体等。According to vaccine platform, it can be divided into virus, protein, gene fragment and viral vector gene.

**02 生产工艺研究**  
Production Process Studies  
发酵工艺、灭活工艺、纯化工艺等。Fermentation, inactivation, purification, optimization.

**03 质量研究**  
Quality Studies  
• 建立全面的质量标准  
• 实行全过程质量控制  
• 对全生命周期负责  
Comprehensive quality standards  
Comprehensive quality control  
Responsible for entire life cycle.

**04 动物体内评价**  
Animal *in vivo* Evaluation  
小鼠、大鼠、豚鼠、家兔、恒河猴、食蟹猴等。Mice, rats, guinea pigs, rabbits, rhesus monkeys, cynomolgus monkeys, etc.

**05 人体中的临床研究**  
Human *in vivo* clinical studies  
• I期: 初步安全性  
Phase I: preliminary safety  
• II期: 安全性和剂量探索  
Phase II: safety and dose exploration  
• III期: 大的安全性和有效性  
Phase III: expanded safety and efficacy

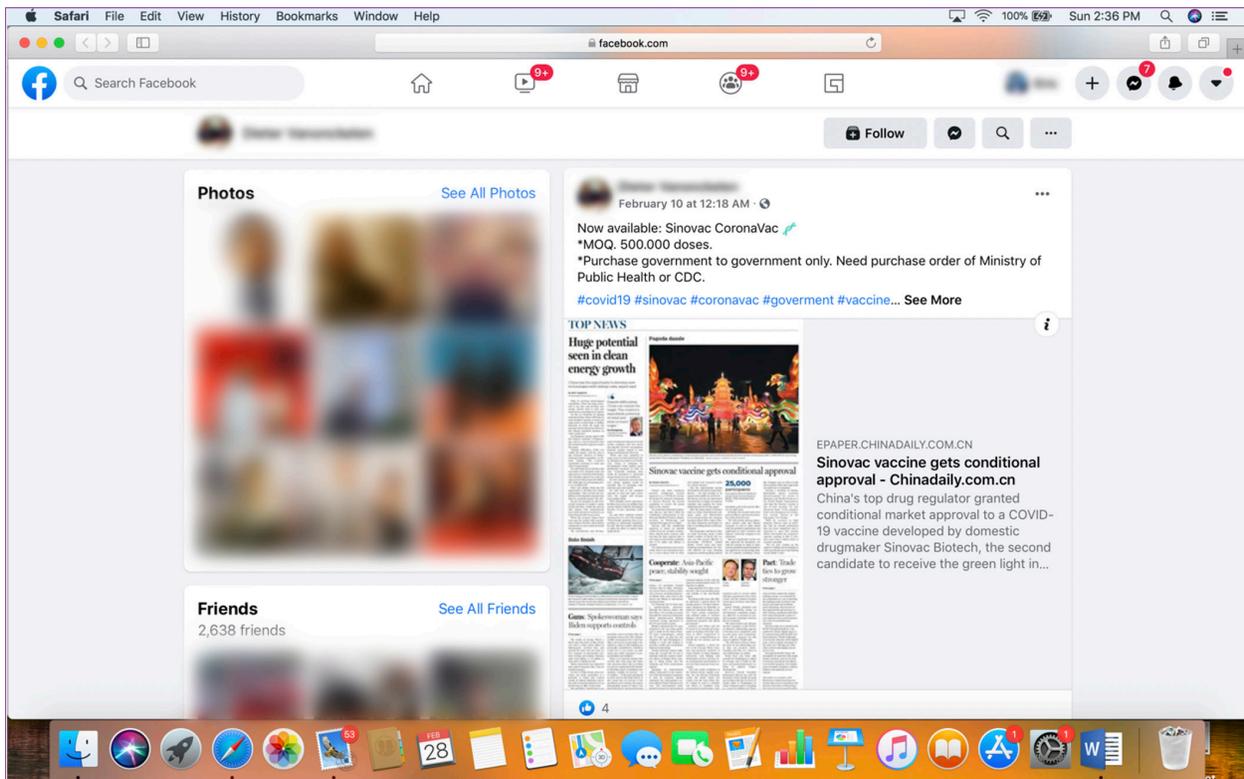
**Zhejiang Hongyu Medical Equipment Co.,Ltd**  
October 14, 2020 · 🌐

Are you from Euro countries? Do you plan to start the covid-19 antigen test? Now there is a good opportunity for you, 100 tests are free as samples for you to evaluate. Contact me to talk more! (Only keep 3 days)

Like Comment Share

IMAGES 1-2

<sup>b</sup> While there appears to be a real Chinese company named Zhejiang Hongyu Medical Commodity Co. Ltd., it manufactures wound care and personal care products. The posts depicted here appear to be from an imposter. In the previous DCA/CSW research, investigators found a Facebook post from “The Hongyu Medical Product/Service” but could not find any other record of that company even existing. And while the real Zhejiang Hongyu Medical has applied for FDA approval of some of its products — including KN95 masks — the real Chinese company has not applied for approval for a vaccine. Additionally, this Facebook page does not appear to have a link to the real company’s website.



IMAGES 3-4

Investigators found images 1-4 on Facebook after the first DCA/CSW COVID-19 report was published on February 9, 2021. The Modernatx shop page seen in image 4 is still up even though the site, modernabiotech.org, is no longer operating.

## Vaccines” and Remdesivir Offered On Instagram



**FARMAVIP**

Si Tenemos Stock

+593 96 377 2721

**farmacias\_farmavip** • Follow  
Guavaquil, Ecuador

La inyección de #remdesivir se usa para tratar la enfermedad por coronavirus 2019 (infección COVID-19) causada por el virus SARS-CoV-2 en adultos y niños de 12 años o más que pesan al menos 88 libras (40 kg) hospitalizados. El remdesivir pertenece a una clase de medicamentos llamados antivirales. Actúa deteniendo el virus que

1 like  
FEBRUARY 19

Log in to like or comment.



**Instagram** Search Log In Sign Up

**notipascua** • Follow

**notipascua**  
@farmasaludvital  
Disponible 🙌

— Remdesivir  
100mg

solicitar disponibilidad  
escribir al DM o  
WhatsApp 📞 +58 412-  
777449

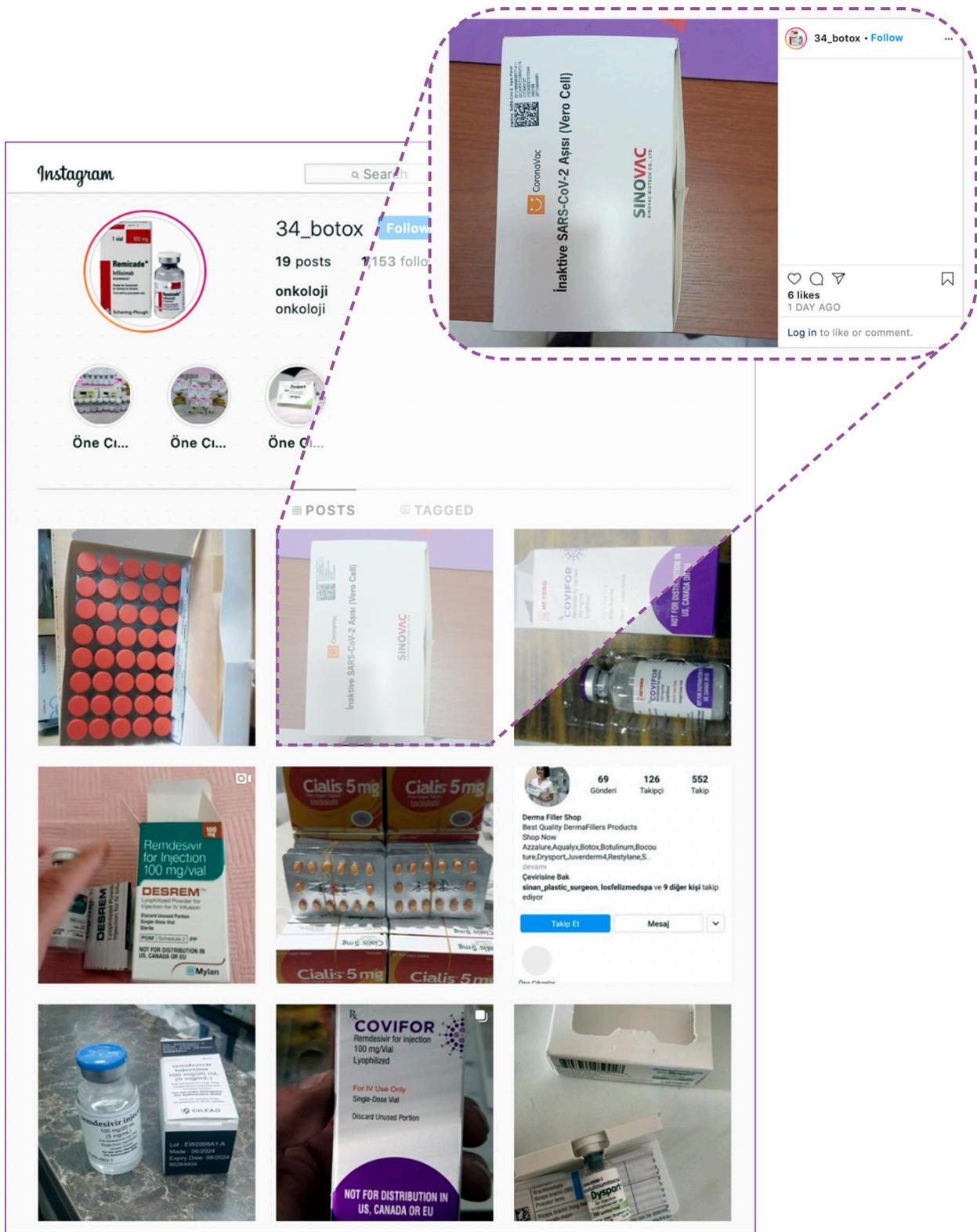
⌚ Horario de atención:  
8am a 8pm de Lunes a  
Domingo 📍  
¡Ahora! Con #delivery  
➔Síguenos:  
@farmasaludvital ✓

1 like  
5 DAYS AGO

Log in to like or comment.

### IMAGES 5-6

In the previous research, CSW did not find vaccines on Facebook-owned Instagram. But in this round of research, investigators did find vaccines as well as posts on Instagram offering Remdesivir, the antiviral medication and the first FDA-approved drug for the treatment of COVID-19. People need a doctor’s prescription to get Remdesivir but there is no sign that sellers on Instagram are asking for anything before a sale.



IMAGES 7-8

Remdesivir and the Sinovac COVID vaccine for sale on Instagram.

Much like Facebook, Telegram responded to the DCA/CSW research by taking down the pages shared in the report, but not taking on the larger problem across the platform. The screen shots below come from posts that were published before the DCA/CSW COVID-19 report and still up now.

## Vaccines” and “Testing Kits” For Sale on Telegram

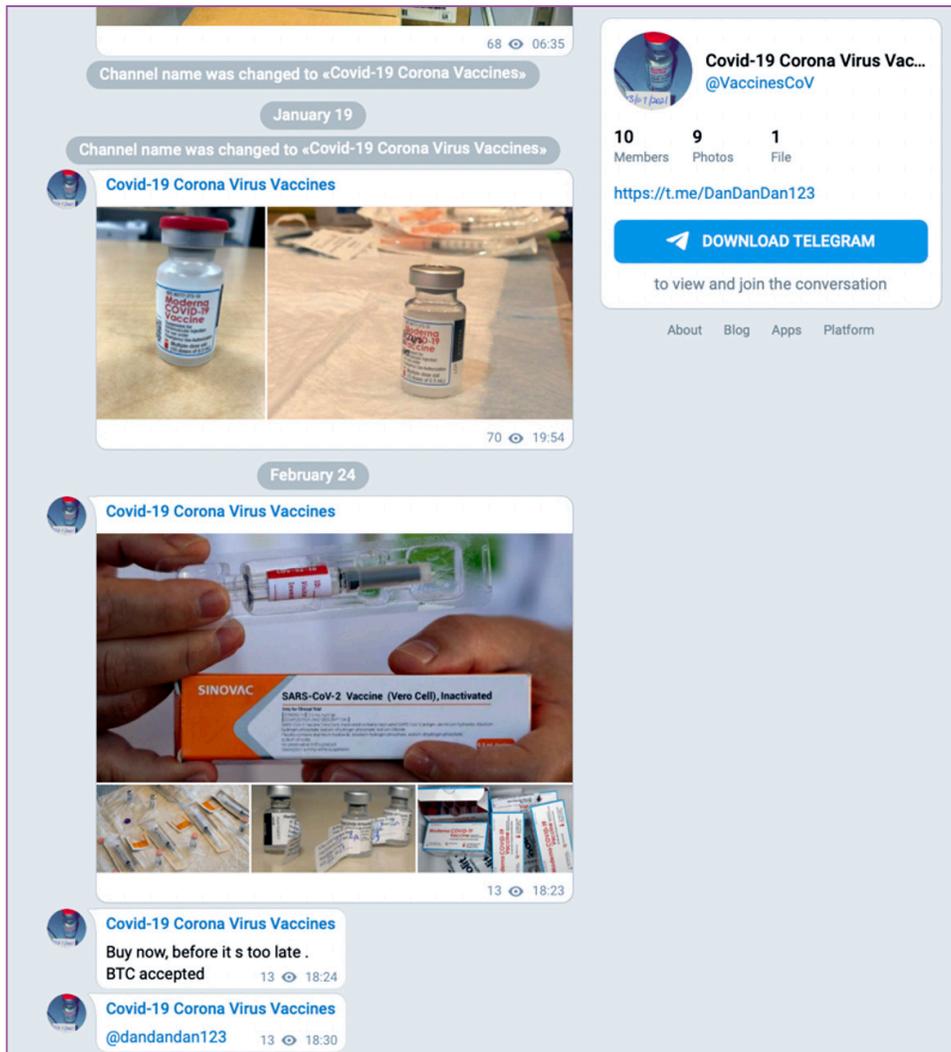


IMAGE 9

Telegram took down the accounts shared in previous DCA/CSW research, but other pages offering Moderna (approved in the US) as well as Sinovac and AstraZeneca (not approved in the US) are still available on the site. (See image 10 on next page).

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
92 members

January 30

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
Both the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna vaccines require two doses to offer the full benefit. The first dose helps the immune system create a response against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. 183 16:50

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
The second dose further boosts the immune response to ensure long-term protection. 188 16:51

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
The vaccines are more than 50% effective 10 days or so after the first shot and nearly 95% effective several days after the second. 190 16:55

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
A COVID-19 vaccine might prevent you from getting COVID-19. Or, if you get COVID-19, the vaccine might keep you from becoming seriously ill or from developing serious complications. 198 16:56

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**  
Getting a COVID-19 vaccine can help protect you by creating an antibody response in your body without you having to become sick with COVID-19. 204 17:00

February 10

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES (COVID-19 treatment)**



COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca  
solution for injection  
COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) 5 ml  
Intramuscular use  
10 multidose vials  
(10 doses per vial - 0.5 ml per dose)  
AstraZeneca

**CORONAVIRUS VACCINES ...**  
@covid19\_vaccines

92 Members 28 Photos 4 Videos 1 Link

-Pfizer- BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine  
Moderna Covid 19 Vaccine,  
Astrazeneca Covid 19 Vaccine,  
Remdesivir.

[DOWNLOAD TELEGRAM](#)

to view and join the conversation

About Blog Apps Platform

IMAGE 10

# Opioids

In 2018, researchers for the Global Intellectual Property Enforcement Center (GIPEC) found a series of posts selling opioids (including Xanax and Oxycodone) on Instagram. While many of the sellers the GIPEC researchers (who now publish their findings with the nonprofit, the Coalition for a Safer Web (CSW)) found are gone, new sellers have jumped in to take their place. Most of the posts that researchers discovered are ads running on the page.

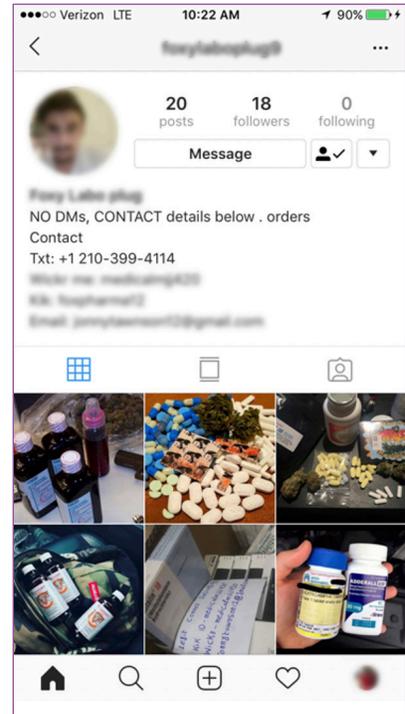
Facebook-owned Instagram is the [second most popular social media app with teens](#)<sup>3</sup> and the home to dealers peddling opioids. CSW shared research that highlighted opioid sales on Instagram with multiple news outlets, including [The Washington Post](#), the [New York Post](#), and [FoxNews.com](#). Many of the posts included ads from major advertisers, including images 11-13 below.

Particularly troubling was the fact that as researchers followed more drug dealers, Instagram's algorithms didn't stop it. Rather, the platform amplified the problem – pushing more drug sellers toward the researcher's account. GIPEC developer and CSW Vice President Eric Feinberg refers to this as "algorithmic amplification."

Although Instagram's spokesperson did acknowledge the platform has some "work to do,"<sup>4</sup> Instagram criticized the Post's story and Feinberg's methods which included the creation of an "artificial Instagram feed by following only objectionable content and some brand accounts." Instagram's claims can be debated, but everyone knows that a drug addict desperate for a fix will take extreme measures to get what they want. Allowing this activity to go on puts users with addiction in grave danger.

In new research conducted almost two years later, Feinberg again found opioids on Instagram (see images 14-16 on the next page). The platform cleared off the previous offenders, but that hasn't prevented new sellers from jumping back in to take their place.

## Past and Present: Opioids Apparently Available on Instagram



IMAGES 11-13

Advertising for CVS running by posts selling drugs found on Instagram in 2018



IMAGES 14-16

Advertising for Chanel and The New York Times running by posts selling drugs found on Instagram on September 4, 2020 and August 21, 2020

Feinberg found one seller who went further than just using Instagram to market drugs. Bismarck4716 used Instagram chat to discuss selling drugs.

## An Attempted Drug Sale in Progress on Instagram

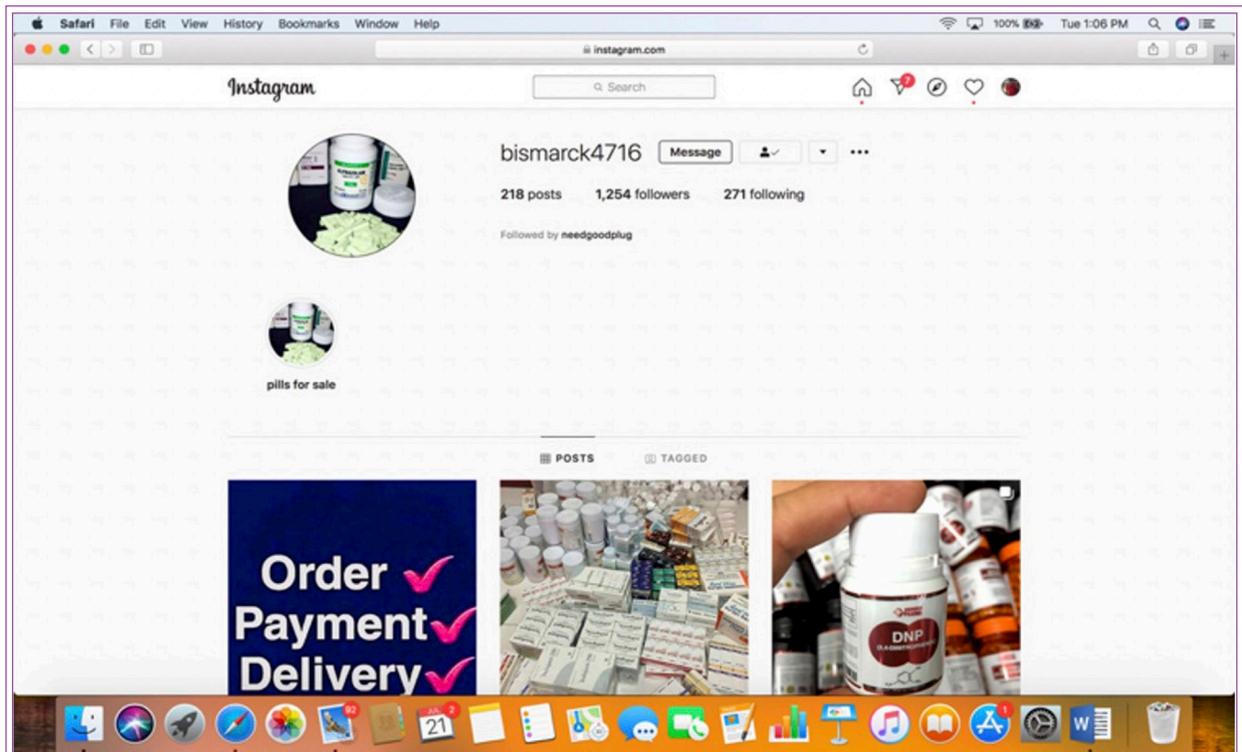
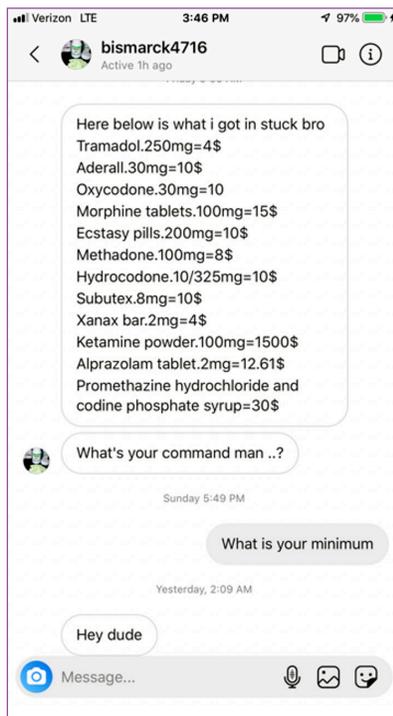
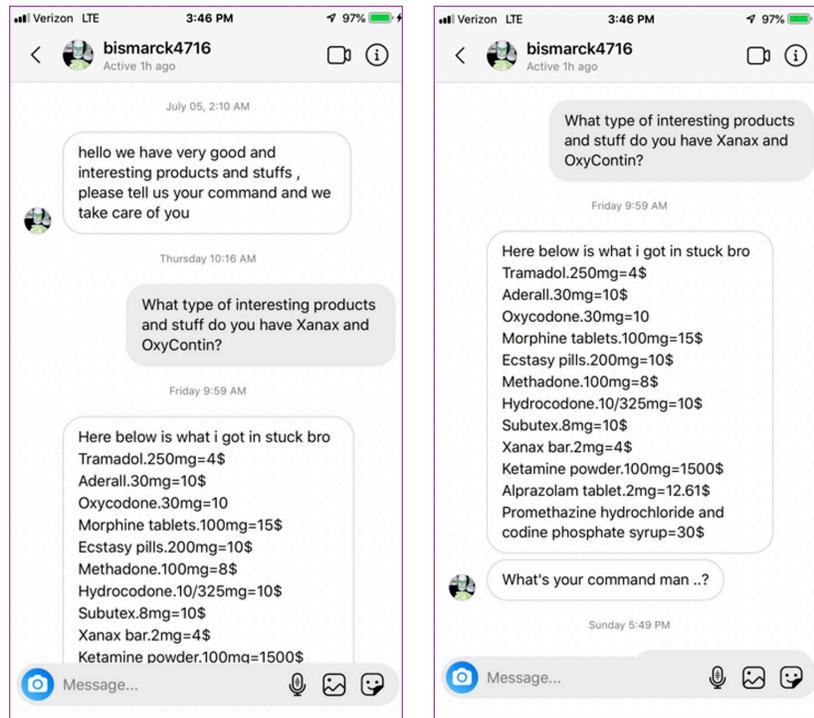


IMAGE 17

This account had 1,254 followers when it was found on July 21, 2020. It is still up today. After connecting with the CSW researcher, the account operator started a chat in which opioids were made available (see the chats on the next page).

## An Attempted Drug Sale in Progress on Instagram (July 21, 2020) continued



IMAGES 18-22

## Algorithmic Amplification Feeding Addiction

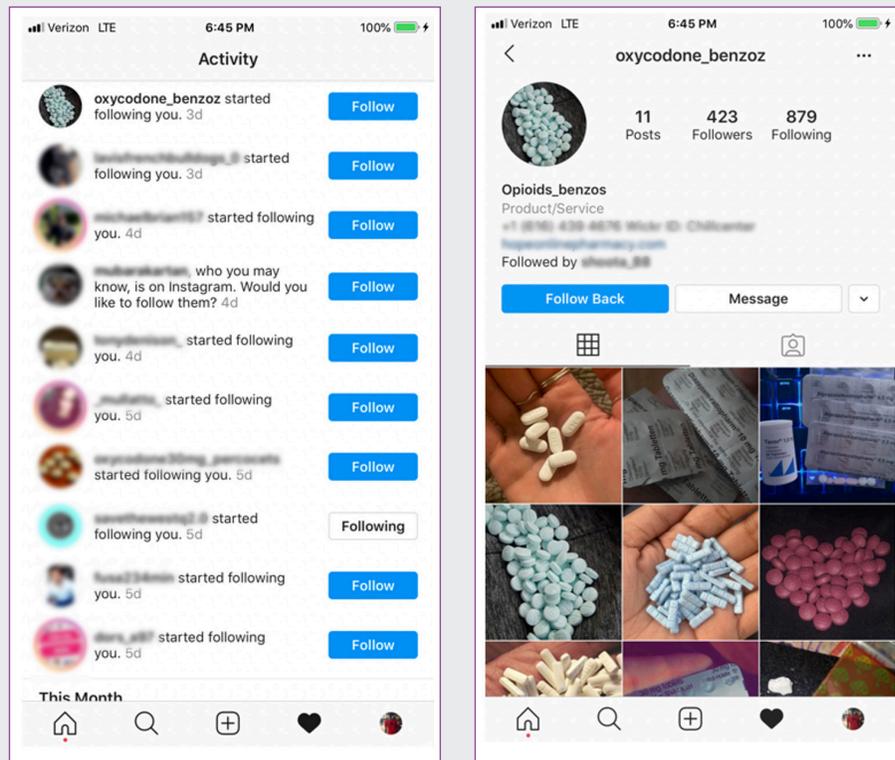
In a 2017 New York Times story by David Streitfeld about Twitter founder Evan Williams, Streitfeld describes a point that Williams made about how the internet works:

“The trouble with the internet, Mr. Williams says, is that it rewards extremes. Say you’re driving down the road and see a car crash. Of course you look. Everyone looks. The internet interprets behavior like this to mean everyone is asking for car crashes, so it tries to supply them.”<sup>5</sup>

What Williams describes is algorithmic amplification. As CSW researchers connected with other users that had the term “opioids” in their names, the platform begins suggesting other such users to the research. Researchers didn’t have to search for drugs anymore, the drugs found them.

On a platform, it can look like this:

### Algorithmic Amplification in Progress



IMAGES 23-24

After searching for something long enough, the platform user doesn't have to search for the object anymore. Because of the way the platforms' algorithms work, the object – in this case opioids – “starts looking” for platform user. (The example above is no longer up on Instagram.)

Algorithmic amplification is the fuel that keeps the platform's engine, the recommendation systems, running. Algorithms are built to promote and amplify an activity. Initially, algorithms expand a user's potential audience, connecting users with other like-minded users.

A 2019 story from *The Conversation* pointed out that algorithms go beyond just connecting users and the content they want: "Feedback loops in algorithms amplify chosen content, to the exclusion of others."<sup>6</sup> Allison Chaney, Brandon Stewart, and Barbara Engelhardt at Princeton University have studied this phenomenon that they call "algorithmic confounding." Chaney told *The Conversation*: "As users within these bubbles interact with the confounded algorithms, they are being encouraged to behave the way the algorithm thinks they will behave, which is similar to those who have behaved like them in the past."<sup>7</sup> In their research report, the Princeton researchers said: "recommendation systems change not only what users see first but can fundamentally alter the collection of content from which users can choose."<sup>8</sup>

Getting trapped in a feedback loop can put a consumer already engaging in troubling behavior in a deeper hole. Algorithms are, as Jon Evans in *TechCrunch* said, "content-agnostic."<sup>9</sup> It doesn't matter what kind of business it is as long as it keeps you on the platform. There is no judgment as to whether the conversations, interactions, and transactions are either socially beneficial or harmful. In other words, users looking for "bad" content will start seeing more of it, just as users looking for "good" content are pointed in the same direction.

Illegal and/or illicit activity like this is spreading to other platforms. CSW researchers found APED pushers posting their goods on Telegram: Telegram is best known as an encrypted messaging service like Signal or WhatsApp from which you can converse 1:1 or in groups. But Telegram also offers what it calls "channels" which allow users to broadcast posts to subscribers more like Facebook, twitter, or well-known social media platforms.

CSW researchers also found many public Telegram channels with users peddling illegal drugs and APEDs. On the next page are screenshots from pages researchers spotted on January 18, 2021. The disturbing assortment of drugs for sale includes Adderall; cocaine; fentanyl; oxycodone; tramadol and Xanax.

# Opioids offered on Telegram

**pills/drugs pharmacy** 92.3K members

302 01:02

**pills/drugs pharmacy**

**pills/drugs pharmacy** @adderrall\_xanaxfentanylshro...

92.3K Members 1.83K Photos 164 Videos 5 Links

We supply different recreational drugs such as

- Cannabis
- CBS
- LSD
- Dmt
- Shrooms
- Xannex
- Oxy
- Roxy
- And more

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to view and join the conversation

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Order ur meth at @pillsupply 313 01:03

**pills/drugs pharmacy**

#Xanax/benzos available 305 01:05

**Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg** 59.1K members

1.4K 10:02

**Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg** @oxycodone30

59.1K Members 36 Photos

Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg  
Oxycodone 80mg  
Oxycodone .20mg  
Oxycodone .10mg

DOWNLOAD TELEGRAM

to view and join the conversation

About Blog Apps Platform

**Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg**

Oxycodone 80mg sandoz available now. Message @tgboys 1.5K 10:02

**Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg**

Oxycodon-HCl HEXAL 80 mg  
100 sublingualtablets N3

1.6K 10:03

**Oxycodone and Adderall 30mg**

Pharmacy oxy. Pure no fent no poison. No Mexican nonsense message @tgboys 1.6K 10:04

**Xanax Diazepam and Oxycodone** 10.7K members

38 22:57

**Xanax Diazepam and Oxycodone**

**Xanax Diazepam and Oxycodone** @pilldrugscoaineweediaz...

10.7K Members 745 Photos 71 Videos

we sell weed pills drugs cocaine and many different stimulants  
Fast and secured delivery guaranteed  
next day delivery Loyalty

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to view and join the conversation

About Blog Apps Platform

**Xanax Diazepam and Oxycodone**

hash 39 23:00

January 18

**Xanax Diazepam and Oxycodone**

January 19

**Fentanyl/Oxycodone for sale**

**Fentanyl/Oxycodone for sale** @fentanyloxycodone

39.5K Members 169 Photos

Best shop to order pills, psychedelics and buds on telegram

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Tramadol 30 04:58

**Fentanyl/Oxycodone for sale**

Add up telegram @webshop99  
Or wicker @paulbryan  
Add up snapchat @kushblaze101  
Whatsapp @+12706812213  
To get connected 30 04:59

IMAGES 25-28

*It's worth noting that all CSW can see are the public channels. Telegram users can also set up encrypted private channels and researchers have no idea what might be shared and discussed in those rooms.*

*Advertisers are victims of this activity too. Here are a few of the companies researchers found with ads randomly positioned near opioid posts on Instagram –*

- Toyota (Friday, September 11, 2020 at 6:39 PM)
- Chanel (Friday, September 4, 2020 at 6:48 PM) oxycodone
- Allstate (Thursday, August 27, 2020 at 12:55 AM) oxycodone
- Marriott (Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 9:42 AM) oxycodone
- Disney (Tuesday, August 18, 2020 at 9:34 PM) oxycodone
- Walgreens (Monday, August 17, 2020 at 6:45 PM) oxycodone
- AT&T (Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 3:06 PM)

#### Xanax Posts

- Starbucks/Uber Eats (Friday, September 11, 2020 at 1:09 PM)
- The New York Times (Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 8:54 AM)
- US Bank (Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 1:11 PM)

# Steroids

Digital Citizens Alliance and CSW researchers found videos pushing Appearance and Performance Enhancing Drugs or APEDs on YouTube in 2013, 2014 and working with CSW researchers in 2019. The most recent round of research also discovered APED-pushing posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. Page operators from which DCA bought APEDs previously are still up today. While advertising doesn't run rampant like it did previously, some pages are still running with ads.

In 2019, The Digital Citizens Alliance found "Landmark Nutraceuticals," a company promising to sell steroids on Facebook. DCA bought what a Landmark employee said was two vials (200iu) of Human Growth Hormone (HGH) and three vials (300iu) of Deca Durabolin (also known as Nandrolone).<sup>c</sup> More than one year after DCA "outed" the Facebook page, sharing it with reporters and the public, pages showing Landmark's products (featuring the same "company" logo) are still offering HGH and raw chemicals used to produce APEDs – like in this screenshot from September 29, 2020.

## More Than One Year Later, "Landmark" Facebook Pages Still Soliciting Steroid Buyers



IMAGE 29

In 2019, Digital Citizens Alliance researchers purchased chemicals that a seller claimed to be APEDs. Researchers found the chemicals on a Facebook page using the "Landmark Nutraceuticals" logo. Also two years later, multiple pages claiming to offer "Landmark's products" remain up on Facebook (see image 30 on the next page).

<sup>c</sup> DCA sent the two unopened packages to Illinois-based lab Microtrace for testing. Microtrace reported the HGH was not detected in the sample alleged to be HGH, while traces of Nandrolone in the sample marked as Nandrolone. Deca Durabolin is supposed to be available only with a prescription because of the potential side effects, including liver damage.

Below is another Facebook page with the same Landmark logo that is even less subtle about what they do.

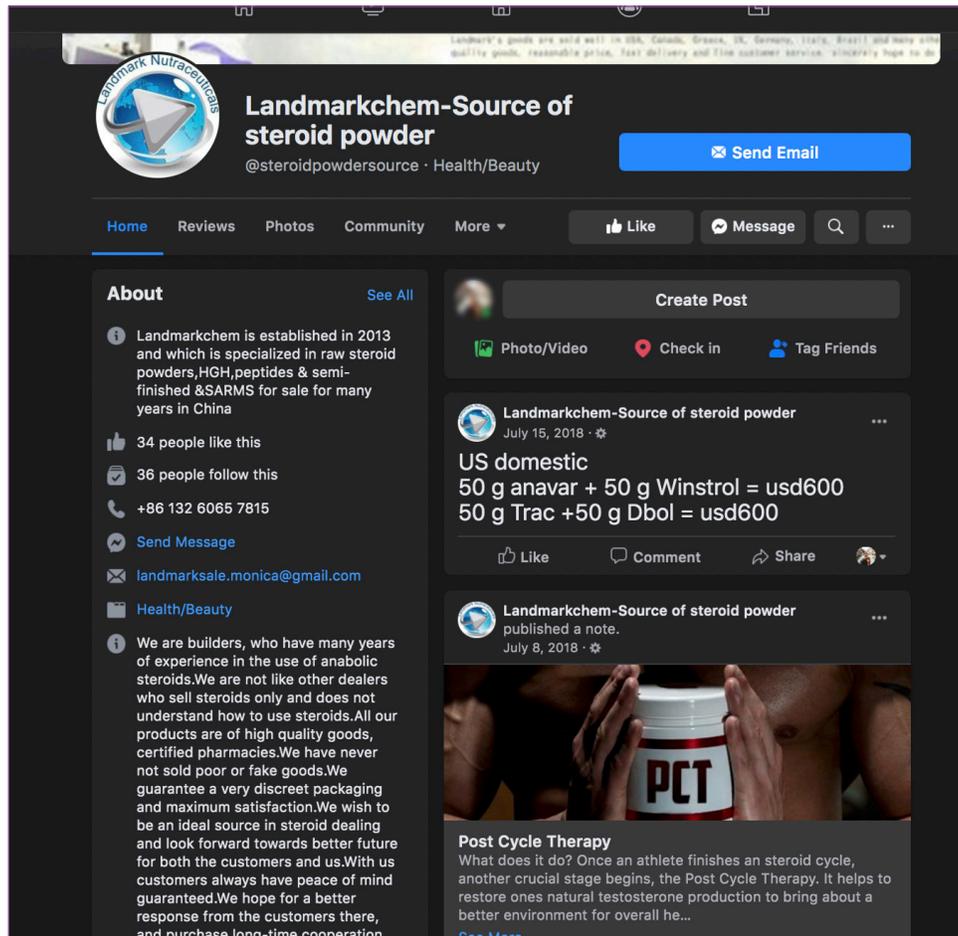
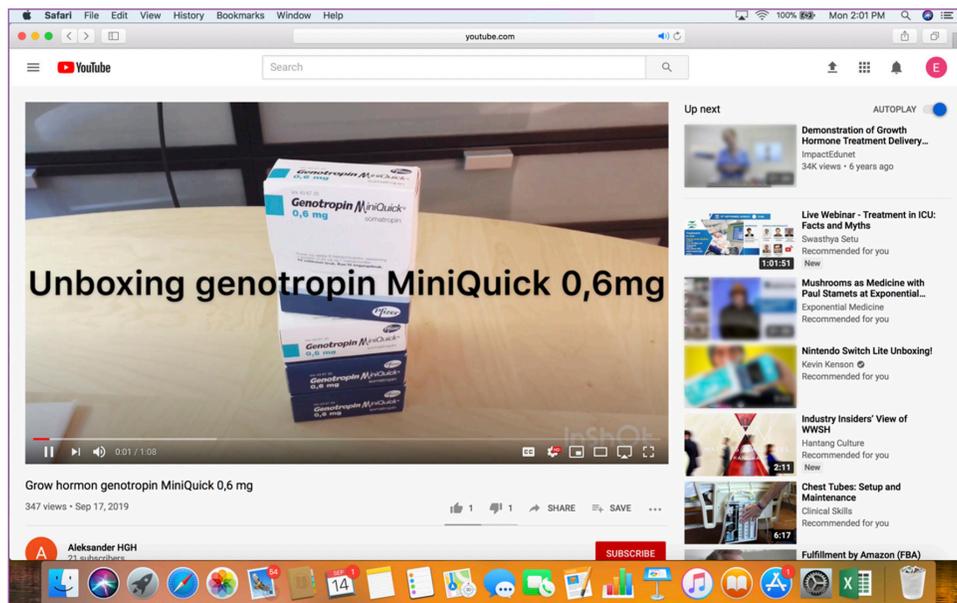
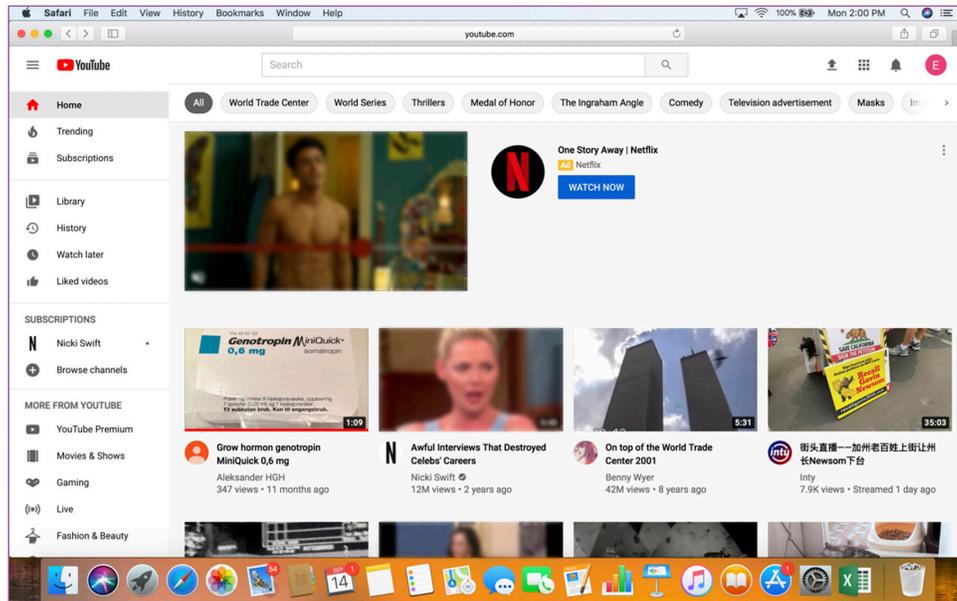


IMAGE 30

2019 was not the first time DCA searched for APEDs. In 2013, DCA worked with The Taylor Hooton Foundation, the leading anti-APED advocacy group in America, to find dozens of videos on YouTube demonstrating how to acquire and use APEDs. The findings reported in 2013 led to a national broadcast news story. YouTube took down the videos shared in that report, but DCA and CSW researchers found similar videos in 2019 year and again in 2020 – including the video below on September 14, 2020.

## Steroids on YouTube

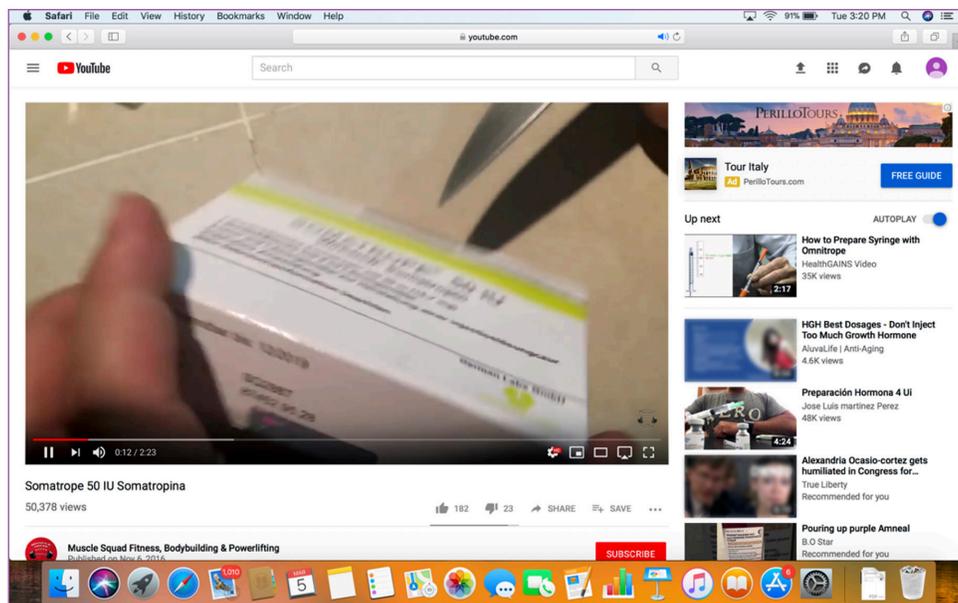
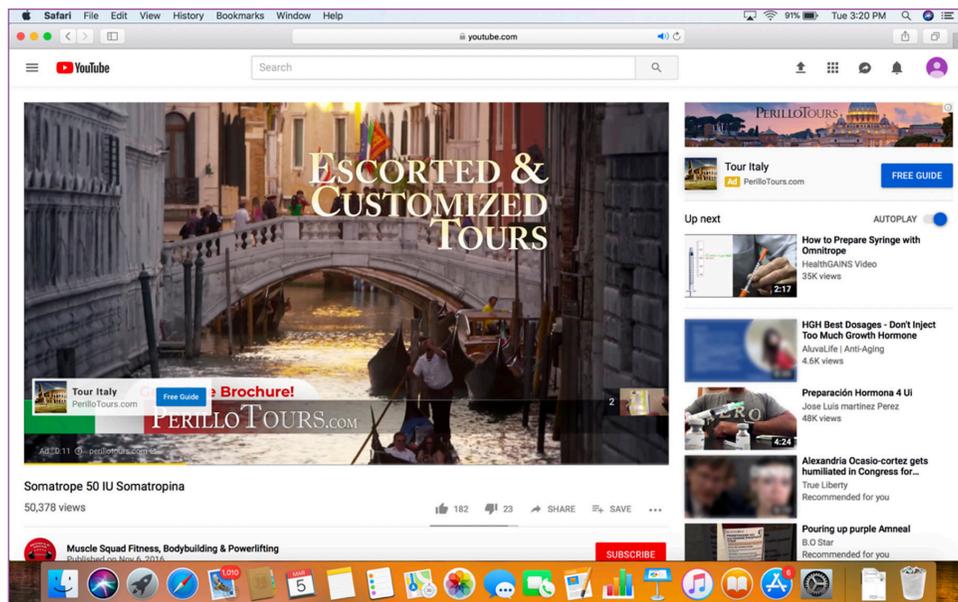


IMAGES 31-32

YouTube "recommends" APED video promoting the APED Genotropin, posted by Aleksander HGH on September 14, 2020.

While YouTube has cleaned up many of the issues with advertising next to steroids videos that we've documented in previous reports, researchers found some examples, like this one with a random ad for Perillo Tours running before and alongside it on July 27, 2020.

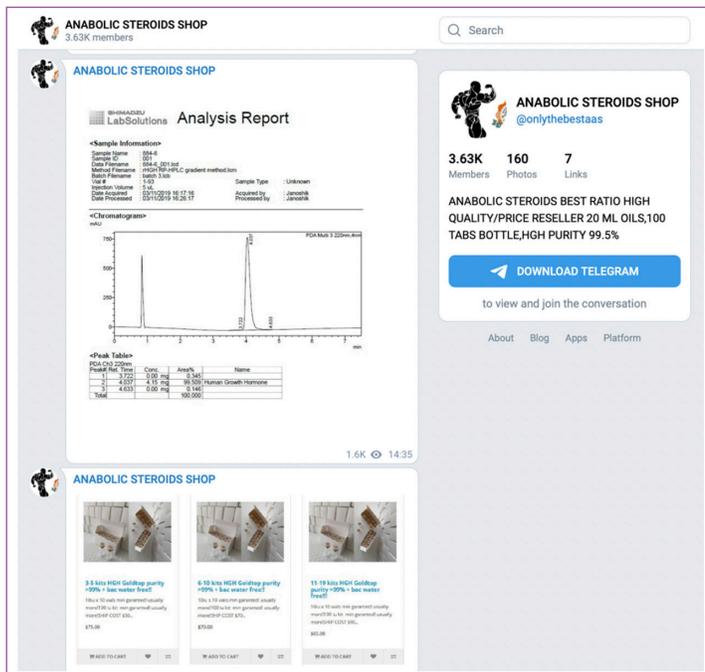
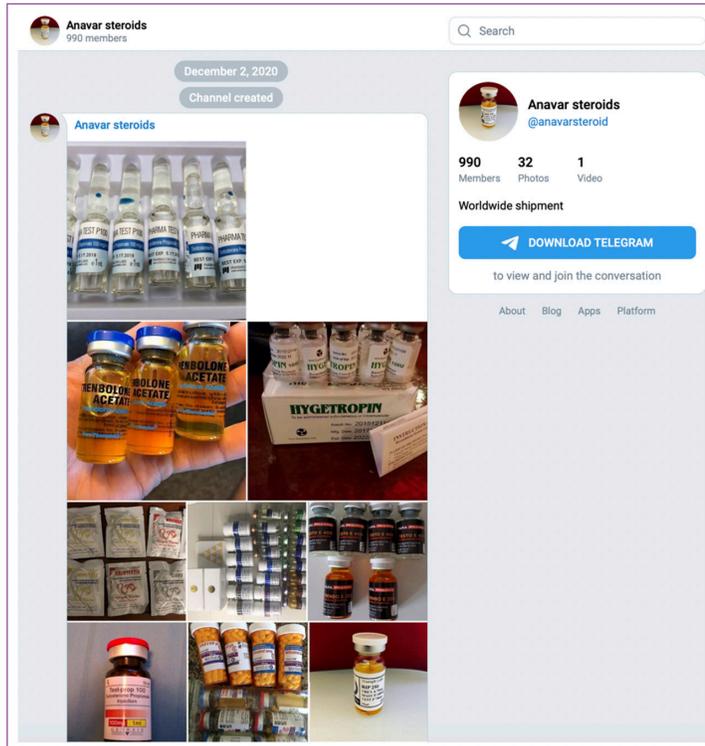
## Ads Running In Front of Steroids Videos



IMAGES 33-34

Additionally, researchers searching through Telegram posts on January 14, 2021 found multiple channels offering APEDs for sale. Anabolic steroids like Anavar, Winstrol, Trenbolone Acetate, and Stanozolol are peddled openly as well Hygetropin, a specific type of Human Growth Hormone.

## Steroids for sale on Telegram



IMAGES 35-36



**ANABOLIC STEROIDS SHOP**  
3.58K members

Q Search

BUY 3 GET 1 FREE FOR OILS AND TABS  
BUY 10 GET 1 FREE FOR HGH  
ONE STOP SHOP  
WITH US IT'S CHRISTMAS ALL YEAR ROUND!  
[ONLYTHEBESTAAS.COM](http://ONLYTHEBESTAAS.COM)

2.9K 👁 13:08

December 17, 2020



**ANABOLIC STEROIDS SHOP**

THE PRODUCTS YOU CAN CHOOSE FOR FREE ARE AMONG THESE

20 ML OIL :

TNE,PROPITEST,CYPIOTEST,ENANTEST

SUSTAN250,STANOZOIL,WINSTROL WATER

2.2K 👁 12:22

January 14



**ANABOLIC STEROIDS SHOP**

We are a GMP FACTORY with multiple labs, specializing in injectable and oral steroids, HGH and peptides.

We have been in the wholesale anabolics business for many years, with our great prices and high quality gears  
We always do HPLC, to test our products to ensure the quality and safety to our customers!

REAL USA WAREHOUSE 3-5 DAYS (EXCLUDED HOLIDAYS)  
NO CUSTOMS,NO SIGNATURE  
FAST SENDING 24-48 HOURS  
P.O. BOX ACCEPTED

616 👁 12:02



**ANABOLIC STEROIDS SHOP**

NEW HPLC TEST REPORTS

[https://janoshik.com/tests/9689-PROPITEST\\_200\\_mg\\_ml\\_LEZ1XH5T19JM](https://janoshik.com/tests/9689-PROPITEST_200_mg_ml_LEZ1XH5T19JM)

[https://janoshik.com/tests/9687-STANOZOIL\\_50mg\\_ml\\_UMIN9V4SE4Y6](https://janoshik.com/tests/9687-STANOZOIL_50mg_ml_UMIN9V4SE4Y6)

[https://janoshik.com/tests/9692-SUSTAN250\\_250\\_mg\\_ml\\_PIWPUJ2B81Q6](https://janoshik.com/tests/9692-SUSTAN250_250_mg_ml_PIWPUJ2B81Q6)

[https://janoshik.com/tests/9693-ENANTEST\\_250\\_mg\\_ml\\_9GAEPGVPVTTU](https://janoshik.com/tests/9693-ENANTEST_250_mg_ml_9GAEPGVPVTTU)

[https://janoshik.com/tests/9695-DECA\\_300\\_mg\\_ml\\_RKUBCXACQRJA](https://janoshik.com/tests/9695-DECA_300_mg_ml_RKUBCXACQRJA)

605 👁 12:07



**ANABOLIC STEROIDS SHOP**  
[@onlythebestaas](https://t.me/onlythebestaas)

3.58K Members
160 Photos
7 Links

ANABOLIC STEROIDS BEST RATIO HIGH QUALITY/PRICE RESELLER 20 ML OILS,100 TABS BOTTLE,HGH PURITY 99.5%

**DOWNLOAD TELEGRAM**

to view and join the conversation

About Blog Apps Platform

IMAGE 37

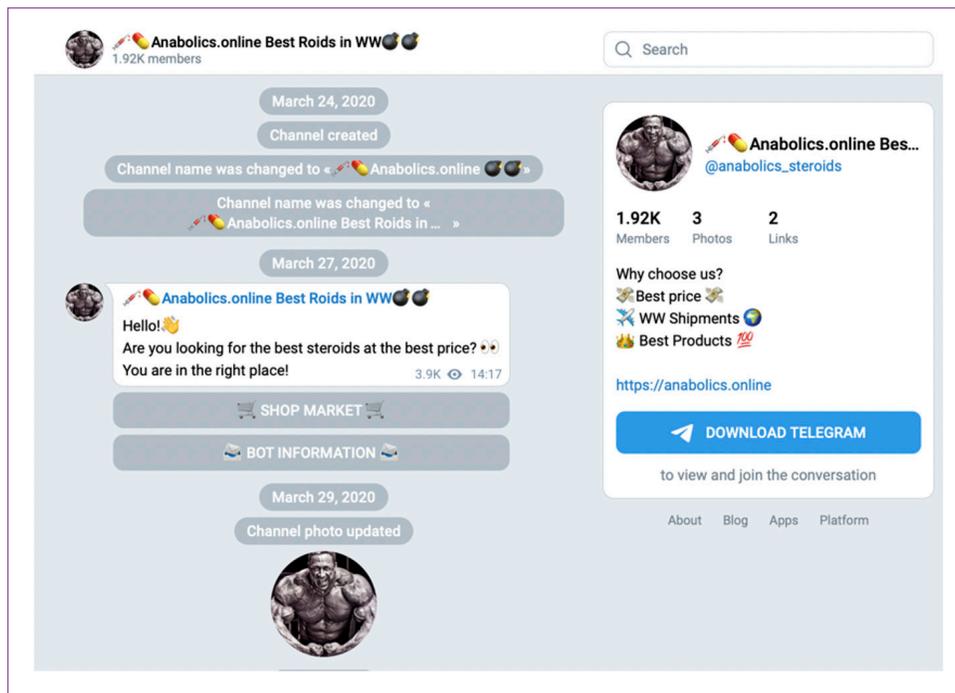


IMAGE 38

**Advertisers randomly on same pages as steroids posts on Instagram –**

- Hyundai (Saturday, September 12, 2020 at 1:32 PM)
- Sabra (Friday, September 4, 2020 at 9:19 PM)
- KFC (Friday, August 28, 2020 at 1:16 PM)
- Truvia (Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 1:00 PM)
- Best Buy (Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 9:51 PM)

**Advertisers randomly on same page as steroids videos on YouTube –**

- Netflix (Monday, September 14, 2020 at 1:59 PM) *\*suggestion to video, not video itself*
- Perillo Tours (Monday, July 27, 2020 at 3:09 PM)

# What does it take to get a bad page down?

The platforms often treat reports demonstrating criminal behavior on their sites more like a public relations problem than a technology problem. As a result, some of the platforms' problems, usually as a result of political or consumer pressure, will get addressed. When researchers looked for some of the sellers pushing fraudulent N95 masks and vaccines to consumers looking for COVID-19 protection in November 2020, our team didn't find the same results that were found earlier in the year in March and April. Clearly the pressure from consumer groups, regulators, lawmakers, and consumers produced some results. However, that doesn't mean it was perfect. In fact, researchers found one example that was as egregious as any single example they've seen in seven years of looking.

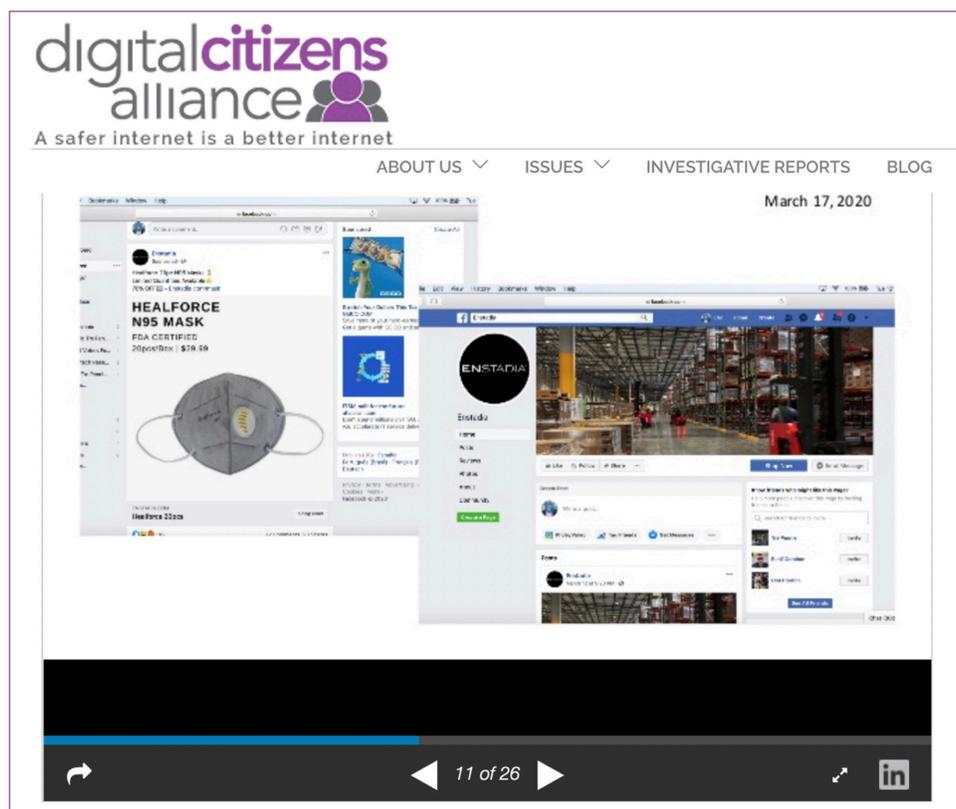


IMAGE 39

On March 17, 2020, DCA researchers identified a Facebook page for a merchant named Enstadia that appeared to be fraudulently advertising the sale of Covid-19 masks. DCA published the screenshots depicting possible scams on March 19.

The Enstadia page was removed by Facebook after the screenshot was published, but the page went right back up on March 25, 2020 (see image 29)– trying to sell masks to consumers.

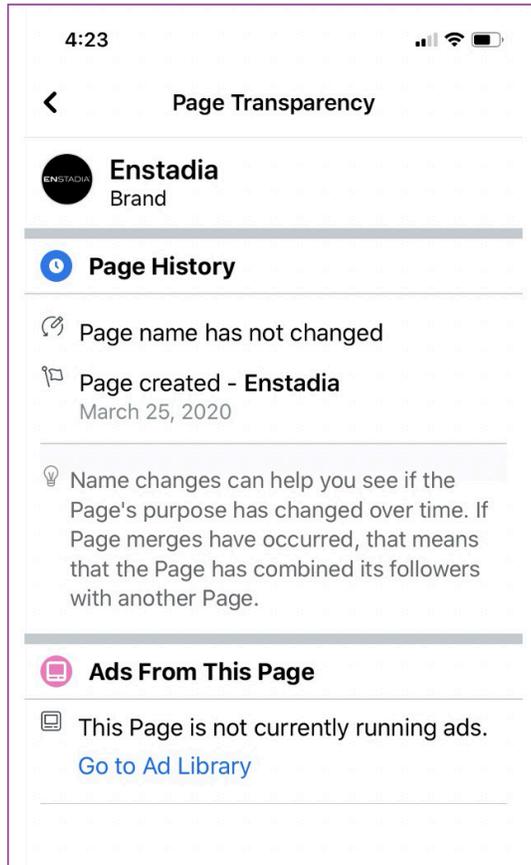


IMAGE 40

And consumers did try to buy masks from Enstadia. We know because we can see complaints from customers (see Image 41).

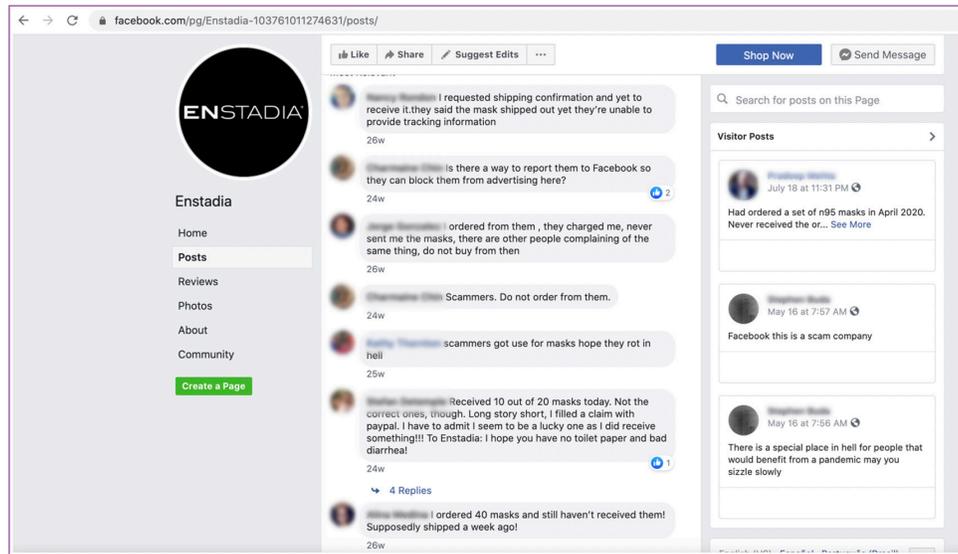


IMAGE 41

Between March 31 and April 21, the Better Business Bureau took 20 complaints about Enstadia, with most saying they paid for something, but never received anything.

The screenshot shows the Better Business Bureau (BBB) website. At the top, there is a search bar with 'enstadia' entered. Below the search bar, there is a map of the United States with several red pins indicating the locations of the reported scams. To the left of the map, there is a search filter section with fields for 'Keyword', 'Scam Type', 'Country', and 'Date Reported'. Below the search filter, there is a 'PROTECT YOURSELF' banner with the text 'Learn more about scams'. To the right of the map, there is a table showing 20 results sorted by date. The table has columns for 'Date', 'Scam Type', 'Postal Code', 'Dollars Lost', and 'Details'. The data in the table is as follows:

Date	Scam Type	Postal Code	Dollars Lost	Details
Apr 21, 2020	COVID-19	60614	\$37.69	View
Apr 15, 2020	COVID-19	17402	\$37.00	View
Apr 14, 2020	COVID-19	78229	\$60.00	View
Apr 13, 2020	COVID-19	91601	\$300.00	View
Apr 13, 2020	COVID-19	52601	\$35.00	View
Apr 12, 2020	COVID-19	10017	\$200.00	View
Apr 09, 2020	COVID-19	95054	\$150.00	View
Apr 08, 2020	COVID-19	92880	\$201.84	View
Apr 07, 2020	COVID-19	34953	\$59.98	View
Apr 07, 2020	COVID-19	06360	\$113.13	View

IMAGE 42

# Remote Access Trojans (or RATs)

In 2015 and 2016, DCA's researchers reviewed hundreds of videos on YouTube that explained to viewers how they could spread an Internet vulnerability called a RAT (Remote Access Trojan). While YouTube pulled those videos down, the operators' other pages remain live, even though those videos contain Personally Identifiable Information and potentially the faces of unsuspecting victims who have no idea their computers are now controlled by cyber threat actors.

Criminals find that RATs are effective for delivering botnet/ phishing attacks, spreading SPAM, and storing illegal data. Additionally, RATs can be used to set up software for mining data and cryptocurrency such as bitcoin.

For consumers, RATs are one of the most basic attack tools in cybercriminals' playbook. An "entry level threat actor" can use RATs to:

- Download, upload and delete your files (potentially even clearing a hard drive completely)
- Steal passwords, credit card numbers, emails and files
- Watch you type and log your keystrokes
- Watch your webcam and save videos
- Listen in on your microphone and save audio files
- Take control of your computer
- Overclock your CPU to physically destroy it
- Install additional tools including viruses and worms
- Edit your Windows registry
- Use your computer for a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack

To be clear, the platforms are not used to actually spread RATs. Instead, criminals use platforms to show wannabe threat actors how to spread them. Additionally, threat actors often show-off their conquests, humiliating victims with everything from video of them picking their nose to naked pictures or making sexually suggestive comments while peering in on unsuspecting users. DCA found one YouTube video so troubling that researchers shared it with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children to notify them about the incident.

## Remote Access Trojans on YouTube

**Fun With CyberGate**  
2,009 views • Jun 24, 2012

7 likes 1 dislike SHARE SAVE

**HackMilan97**  
583 subscribers

Forum: <http://balkan-paradise.org/>  
IRC: <http://balkan-paradise.org/chat/>

SUBSCRIBE

IMAGE 43

Other videos contain personally identifiable information (PII), like the video "Fun with CyberGate" (see image 43 on previous page). This video has been up for eight years. DCA shared another video from the same person who posted this video, HackMilan97, publicly five years ago. Like many videos outed in the Selling "Slaving" report, "Fun with CyberGate" exposes IP addresses cyber threat actors found during their attacks. Sharing these IP addresses is like telling criminals that a homeowner left the back door open. Even if the first attack didn't cause a problem for the computer user, a criminal could use the numbers you would see here (the numbers have been hidden to protect the victims).

There is nothing fun about CyberGate. Reportedly, this RAT was used in 2011 to attack Epsilon, the world's largest email service provider. The breach put as many as 50 prominent companies at risk from targeted phishing attacks, or spear phishing<sup>10</sup> including some of America's largest banks, like JP Morgan Chase, Citibank and US Bank.<sup>11</sup>

Digital Citizens also included a video posted by "HackerBlackLiNe" in the Selling "Slaving" report. YouTube did pull down the video, called "Victims NjRaT" after the report, but HackerBlackLiNe's channel remains live. The operator hasn't posted anything new in several years, but a video with instructions (in Arabic) shares information about njRaT in that account has been viewed more than 2,400 times. njRaT has been one of the most popular RATs, particularly with "script kiddies" (relatively inexperienced users).<sup>12</sup> But njRaT is also a favorite tool of Iranian cyberattack groups focusing on "financial, energy, telecom" targets, according to research from KnowBe4.<sup>13</sup> HackerBlackLiNe's account and four RAT videos are still up today:

**آثبات فقدان ضحايا انجيرات**  
 2,476 views • Jan 2, 2013

HackerBlackLiNe  
 221 subscribers

☆•❄️ Hæcker Black Liline ❄️•☆

Name	IP	PC	User	Overall Rate	Country	OS
Windows 8_BCFB...	192.168.1.100	Windows 8	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 8
FBI_المركز الوطني...	192.168.1.101	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_FAD...	192.168.1.102	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
AssesT_20K4360	192.168.1.103	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
hackerpshy_F00M...	192.168.1.104	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
AssesT_CC740000	192.168.1.105	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
AssesT_20K4360	192.168.1.106	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.107	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.108	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.109	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.110	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.111	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.112	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.113	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.114	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.115	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.116	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.117	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.118	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.119	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7
Windows 7_404...	192.168.1.120	Windows 7	Admin	2012-12-18	USA	Windows 7

IMAGE 44

The concern about the information shared on these sites is not new. But despite DCA's best efforts to get these videos down, they remain up and available to anyone who takes the time to find them.

# Conclusion

Let's say your neighbors allowed illegal drugs to be sold in their homes. It doesn't matter whether or not they actually sold them or financially benefited from the sale, just allowing the sale to occur is a crime. Your neighbors might try to argue that they didn't know the sales were happening or perhaps they didn't know the person in their homes was a drug dealer – that might be a reasonable defense. But what if your neighbors were cleared of criminal activity once and then continued to invite same drug dealer to their homes, or police continually arrested people who acknowledged getting drugs from your neighbors' homes, sooner or later their ignorance defense would not hold up.

So, why does feigning ignorance continue to work for the platforms?

Certainly, social media companies, despite their technological wizardry, are unable to find every illegal and/or illicit activity taking place on their platforms. But the platform's protection from prosecution for the criminal activity of users doesn't give them license to promote and amplify those illegal and/or illicit activities. It doesn't give them license to make money off of those activities. While the volume of advertising on pages that promote illegal and/or illicit activity is not what researchers found seven years ago, criminal activity is still so prevalent that legitimate companies should worry about their products being lumped together with illegitimate ones. The platforms make it impossible for consumers to tell what's legitimate and what's not.

The platforms have had a chance to correct this problem. When called to the carpet, Alphabet and Facebook will say all the right things and work out arrangements with others. Their executives will tell Congress how sorry they are for their previous mistakes. This is clear because it's what they've done so many other times before.

How much more evidence do we need to present before someone says 'enough is enough' and takes the action the platforms themselves have not been able to take?

- 
- <sup>1</sup> [Martinne Geller. Advertisers agree to deal with social media on steps to curb harmful content \(Reuters, September 23, 2020\)](#)
  - <sup>2</sup> [Digital Trust & Safety Partnership. \(n.d.\). Retrieved March 08, 2021, from <https://dtspartnership.org/>](#)
  - <sup>3</sup> [Instagram Makes Strides Among Teen's Favorite Social Media Platforms \(Marketing Charts, April 15, 2019\)](#)
  - <sup>4</sup> [Monika Bickert. How We Enforce Against Illicit Drug Sales \(Facebook, September 25, 2018\)](#)
  - <sup>5</sup> [David Streitfeld. 'The Internet Is Broken': @ev Is Trying to Salvage It \(The New York Times, May 20, 2017\)](#)
  - <sup>6</sup> [Swathi Meenakshi Sadagopan. Feedback loops and echo chambers: How algorithms amplify viewpoints \(The Conversation, February 4, 2019\)](#)
  - <sup>7</sup> [Swathi Meenakshi Sadagopan. Feedback loops and echo chambers: How algorithms amplify viewpoints \(The Conversation, February 4, 2019\)](#)
  - <sup>8</sup> [Allison J.B. Chaney, Brandon M. Stewart, and Barbara E. Engelhardt. How Algorithmic Confounding in Recommendation Systems Increases Homogeneity and Decreases Utility \(Princeton University, October 2-7, 2018\)](#)
  - <sup>9</sup> [Jon Evans. Facebook isn't free speech, it's algorithmic amplification optimized for outrage \(TechCrunch, October 20, 2019\)](#)
  - <sup>10</sup> [Mathew J. Schwartz. Epsilon Fell to Spear-Phishing Attack \(DARKReading, April 11, 2011\)](#)
  - <sup>11</sup> [Brian Krebs. Epsilon Breach Raises Specter of Spear Phishing \(KrebsonSecurity, April 04, 2011\)](#)
  - <sup>12</sup> [Charlies Osborne. NjRat secures top spot as most active network malware in 2017 \(ZDNet, January 23, 2018\)](#)
  - <sup>13</sup> [Jai Vijayan. DHS Warns of Potential Iranian Cyberattacks \(DARKReading, January 7, 2020\)](#)

## Addendum A

# What You Can Do To Stop Criminals on Social Media Platforms

If you are a victim of fraud or see behavior that is concerning, there are places you can report it:

### Better Business Bureau

Consumers can start a complaint with the Better Business Bureau (BBB) for disputes that relate to marketplace issues experienced with a business.

### DEA

Consumers can send tips for illegal prescription drug sales or suspicious pharmacies on the Internet to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). To report illegal drug trafficking, [submit a tip online](#) or [call your local DEA office](#).

### FTC

To report a health-related online fraud, consumers can report it to the [Federal Trade Commission \(FTC\)](#), [your state Attorney General](#), and your county or state consumer protection agency. For complaints about foreign companies, report to [econsumer.gov](#).

## FBI/IC3

Suspected violations of federal law, including cybercrime, can be reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [Submit a tip online](#), [contact your local FBI Office](#), or call toll-free at 1-800-CALL FBI (1-800-225-5324). [The Internet Crime Complaint Center \(IC3\) also submits information to the FBI over concerns of suspected Internet-facilitated criminal activity.](#)

## DOJ

You can report scams or attempted fraud involving COVID-19 by calling the Department of Justice's National Center for Disaster Fraud Hotline at 866-720-5721 or [via the NCDF Web Complaint Form](#).

## NCMEC

Consumers use the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC)'s [CyberTipline](#) to report the online exploitation of children.

## ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) investigates violations of criminal law, including commercial fraud and cybercrimes. Consumers can [send a tip online](#).

## YouTube

[To report illegal and/or illicit activity on YouTube, you must sign in to YouTube and manually report the content.](#) Consumers can report videos, links, channels, etc.

## Instagram

If you have an Instagram account, you can report illegal and/or illicit activity from [within the app](#). If you don't have an Instagram account, you can report [using a form](#).

## Facebook

[You can manually report illegal and/or illicit activity on Facebook.](#) Consumers are able to report profiles, posts, photos and videos, pages, groups, sellers and products on Marketplace, etc.

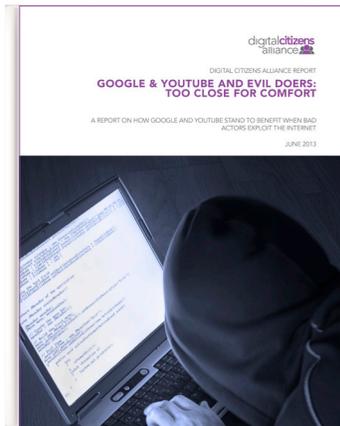
## Addendum B

# A History of Problems That Never Seem to Go Away

This is not the first time Digital Citizens has published a report showing how YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram can't seem to solve their problems with illegal and/or illicit goods being made available. Here's a look at issues researchers have studied previously and how many reports have been written about those problems.

### Prescription Drugs

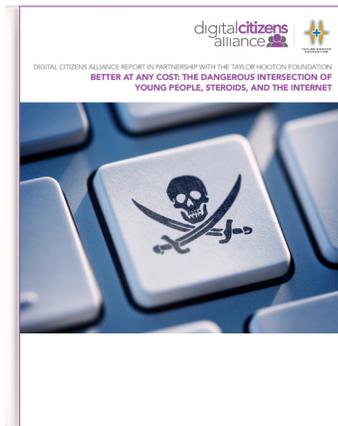
YouTube,  
2013



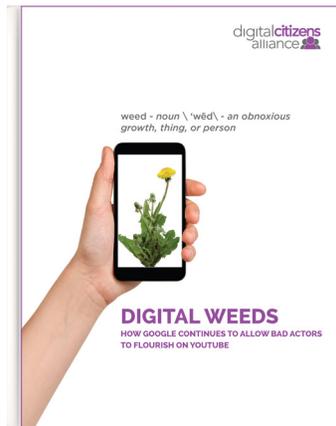
YouTube,  
2014



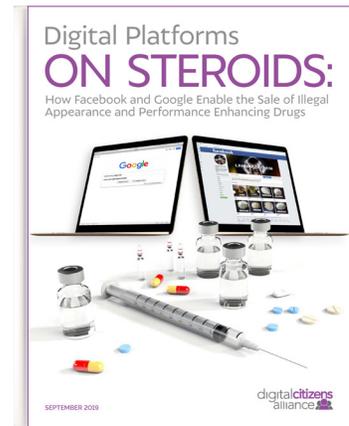
### Steroids



YouTube, 2013

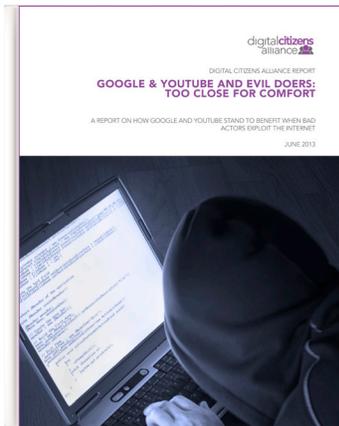


YouTube, 2014

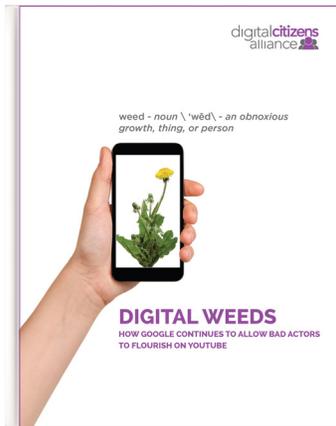


YouTube, Facebook,  
Instagram & Twitter, 2019

# Financial Fraud: Counterfeits, ID Theft and/or Stolen Credit Cards)



YouTube, 2013



YouTube, 2014

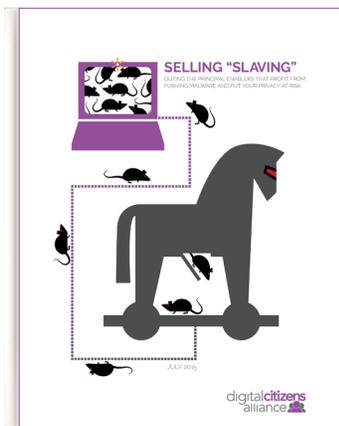


YouTube, 2015



YouTube, 2016

# Remote Access Trojans (RATs)



YouTube, 2015



YouTube, 2016



## About Digital Citizens Alliance

The Digital Citizens Alliance is a nonprofit, 501(c)(6) organization that is a consumer-oriented coalition focused on educating the public and policymakers on the threats that consumers face on the Internet. Digital Citizens wants to create a dialogue on the importance for Internet stakeholders—individuals, government, and industry—to make the Web a safer place.

Based in Washington, DC, the Digital Citizens Alliance counts among its supporters: private citizens, the health, pharmaceutical and creative industries as well as online safety experts and other communities focused on Internet safety. Visit us at [digitalcitizensalliance.org](http://digitalcitizensalliance.org)

## About The Coalition for a Safer Web

The Coalition for a Safer Web is a non-partisan, not-for-profit advocacy organization whose mission is, inter alia, to promote new public/private partnerships to facilitate the expeditious removal of extremist & terrorist incitement and instruction content from social media platforms. Visit us at [coalitionsw.org](http://coalitionsw.org). CSW uses technology from The Global Intellectual Property Enforcement Center (GIPEC). GIPEC Worldwide is a cyber intelligence company that uses patented tools to interrogate the deep web and social media. To learn more about GIPEC visit [www.gipec.com](http://www.gipec.com).

