

Northeastern University
Department of Political Science

2024 Constitution Day Lecture:
Free Speech versus Public Health



Social media is the new public health battleground. Three current examples highlight the building clash between free speech and public health playing out in connection with social media: the rapid spread of health mis- and disinformation on social media; the extent to which public health officials can influence social media's role in spreading potentially harmful health advice to the public; and, finally, the harmful effect of social media itself and what the government may do about it. A look across these three scenarios vividly illustrates the theoretical and doctrinal weakness of current First Amendment jurisprudence, its ill fit with online speech, and its potentially detrimental effects on public health.

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Claudia E. Haupt teaches a range of constitutional law courses at Northeastern both in the School of Law and the Department of Political Science, College of Social Sciences and Humanities. A First Amendment scholar whose current work is situated at the intersection of free speech, health, and technology, Professor Haupt has published extensively on professional speech.

Tuesday, September 17
1pm -3pm EST

440 Egan

Email [Claudia Haupt](mailto:c.haupt@northeastern.edu) at c.haupt@northeastern.edu with any questions.



Scan the QR code or register [here](#) for the event