


What Experts Are Saying About KOSA

The Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) violates conservative principles and fails children, parents, and Americans broadly with false promises. Here's what some groups said about the bill's many problems.

 **“In efforts to stop bullying, it is easy to imagine some Democrat-led states holding sites liable for instances of misgendering, as a Democratic legislator in Virginia has already suggested.”**
—Isaac Shick of The American Consumer Institute in a 2023 piece, “KOSA May Be Either Unconstitutional or Ineffective.”

“[KOSA] could easily become surveillance controls.”
—The Family Online Safety Institute in its 2022 report, “FOSI’s Views on the Kids Online Safety Act and CAMRA.” 

 **“The enforcement powers KOSA provides regulators should raise a red flag. Agencies like the Federal Trade Commission...or partisan state attorneys general could weaponize KOSA to censor and suppress ideological opponents and opposing viewpoints.”**
—Patrice Onwuka of the Independent Women’s Forum in “The Promise And Pitfalls Of The Kids Online Safety Act.”

“This chilling of speech is exacerbated by the enforcement mechanism. The FTC and any state attorney general may bring suit under the act, meaning platforms must block content that any of 51 jurisdictions may consider problematic.”
—The American Enterprise Institute’s Daniel Lyons in a 2024 piece, “Concern for Kids Prompts Problematic Internet Regulation, Take 27.” 



“Nothing disturbs me more than the notion that a child’s upbringing should be determined by some bureaucrat rather than by the child’s parents...It makes me want to throw up.”
—Sen. John Kennedy (R-La.) in an X post on February 28, 2024.

“No conservative should favor further emboldening left-wing bureaucrats and the Disinformation Brigade.”
—David McGarry of the Taxpayer Protection Alliance in a 2023 piece, “American Compass Points the Wrong Way on Online Regulation.” 

“The idea that a group of unelected bureaucrats in Washington DC know better than parents what’s best for their kids boggles the mind...If House Republicans think the current FTC will enforce a conservative ideological agenda they will be sorely mistaken.”
—Jessica Melugin of the Competitive Enterprise Institute in a 2024 piece, “Off-the-rails FTC wrong answer for keeping kids safe online.” 

“[KOSA] would significantly increase online surveillance and undermine privacy for youths and adults alike.”
—National Taxpayers Union 2023 letter to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, & Transportation. 



“The bill represents the worst kind of box-checking when it comes to public policy.”
—Stop Child Predators, on its website.

What Experts Are Saying About KOSA (continued)



“KOSA still presents significant concerns for free speech and privacy online.”
—Jeffrey Westling of American Action Forum in a 2024 brief, “KOSA Updates Seek To Address Critics’ Concerns.”

“KOSA would have curtailed digital freedoms for adults and left teens no safer online.”
—Edward Longe in the James Madison Institute’s 2023 report, “Keeping Teens Safe On Social Media: A Guide for Free-Market Lawmakers.”



“More concerning, can the FTC even be trusted to act in a dispassionate and scholarly way when enforcing KOSA? At least for the foreseeable future, probably not.”
—Lawrence Spiwak of the Phoenix Center in a 2024 article in the Yale Journal on Regulation, “The Costs of KOSA?”

“If Congress were to pass [KOSA], lawmakers would be aligning with the idea that the government should have the final say over young people’s access to the Internet, thus diminishing the role of parents in their kids’ lives.”
—Yaël Ossowski of the Consumer Choice Center in a 2024 press statement, “‘KIDS ONLINE SAFETY ACT’ IS A TROJAN HORSE FOR DIGITAL CENSORSHIP.”



“Amended KOSA Places Lina Khan in Charge of Deciding What’s Best for Our Kids Online.”
—Josh Withrow of the R Street Institute in a 2024 post.

“Parents know best for their kids. Not politicians, bureaucrats, CEOs, or anyone else. Sure, many parenting don’t make the ‘correct’ choices, as I make many mistakes, but government one-size-fits-none policies will make the situation much worse.”
—Vance Ginn, former Chief Economist for the White House Office of Management & Budget under President Donald Trump.

Parents—not politicians or regulators—should be making decisions for their families.

This gives a massive amount power and surveillance capabilities over to the government, taking that away from households. Meanwhile, kids will not be any safer online.

Conservatives should **oppose KOSA, and other bills like it, for its many flaws and inconsistencies.**