

YouTube Bans Rand Paul Over Anti-Mask Video

YouTube has sidelined Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky.—at least temporarily—after he posted a video urging Americans to “resist” mandates and calling into question the usefulness of most masks in fighting against COVID-19.

Paul, however, isn’t bothered by the seven-day ban from the platform. In a tweet posted Tuesday, the senator called it “a badge of honor.”

In response to YouTube’s censorship of Paul, journalist Glenn Greenwald pointed out the Republican lawmaker simply echoed sentiments voiced last week by President Joe Biden’s former COVID-19 adviser, epidemiologist Dr. Michael Osterholm, who told CNN cloth masks are ineffective against the latest delta variant of the novel coronavirus.

Dr. Zeke Emanuel, who served on Biden’s COVID-19 advisory board prior to Inauguration Day, reiterated the same message on MSNBC, where he said cloth masks “are not good enough” to stop the spread of the virus.

White House press secretary Jen Psaki, it should be noted, dismissed their comments by telling reporters they are no longer government advisers.

Nevertheless, YouTube is standing by its decision to single out Paul.

In a statement to CNN, the platform described the ban against the Kentucky senator as a “first strike” in its “three-strikes policy.”

Paul defended his earlier video, saying its content “is actual science.”

“Censorship by YouTube is very dangerous,” he said, “as it stifles debate and promotes groupthink, where the truth is defined by people with a political agenda.”

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