

AMENDED Exhibit 1031

PLAINTIFFS' OMNIBUS OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Case No.: 4:22-md-03047-YGR

MDL No. 3047

In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products Liability Litigation

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P R O C E E D I N G S

April 9, 2025, 10:07 a.m. PDT

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the record. My name is Alejandro Zamora Ruiz. I am the videographer for Golkow.

Today's date is April 9, 2025, and the time is 10:07 a.m. Pacific Time.

This video deposition is being held in Wilson Sonsini at 650 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, California 94304.

In the matter of In Re: Social Media Adolescent Addiction/Personal Injury Products, for the United States District Court, Northern District of California.

The deponent is James Beser as a 30(b)(6) witness. Counsel will be noted on the stenographic record, and the court reporter will now introduce herself and swear in the witness.

* * *

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1 There's -- it was early in the process. The
2 technology was not very good. But, of
3 course, we are going to comply with the law
4 and the markets where we operate. It makes a
5 lot of mistakes, which can be very
6 detrimental to users. For instance, if we
7 make a mistake for a user and they have an
8 android phone, it could disable the whole
9 phone and is very disruptive.

10 And so we did not feel that the
11 technology was ready to deploy to other
12 markets at that time.

13 BY MR. DRAPER:

14 Q. Did YouTube tell its users, or
15 others who read this blog post, that the
16 change to the more private -- sorry, to
17 the -- yeah, to the more private default
18 settings was required by new legislation?

19 MS. WADHWANI: Objection, form
20 and scope.

21 A. No.

22 BY MR. DRAPER:

23 Q. Do you agree that the blog post
24 is misleading because it suggests that
25 YouTube is implementing these changes to make

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1 things safer when in fact it was just to
2 comply with the law?

3 MS. WADHWANI: Objection,
4 argumentative and scope.

5 A. That's not what this blog post
6 says. This blog post is about a global
7 change for declared teens.

8 BY MR. DRAPER:

9 Q. Do these privacy settings vary
10 by device, sir?

11 A. Can you be more specific in the
12 question?

13 Q. Sure. Were the privacy
14 settings updated for declared teens on
15 Android devices?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. On declared teens on iOS, or
18 Apple devices?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. For declared teens on desktop?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. The next section of the blog
23 post covers digital well-being reminders.
24 And according to this blog post, YouTube is
25 turning on the take-a-break and bedtime

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1 reminders by default for all users age 13 to
2 17, correct?

3 A. I see the line.

4 Q. You see the line. I'm sorry --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- you dropped out. I didn't
7 hear you.

8 A. Yes, I see the line to which
9 you are referring.

10 Q. All right.

11 MS. WADHWANI: Hang on a
12 second. Mr. Beser doesn't appear to
13 be on camera. The document appears to
14 be on camera.

15 (Discussion off the record.)

16 BY MR. DRAPER:

17 Q. Okay, sir. When were the
18 take-a-break reminders first implemented on
19 YouTube?

20 A. Let me look at my document,
21 please.

22 [Document review.]

23 A. Take-a-break reminders were
24 implemented on YouTube since 2018.

25 * * *

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1 take-a-break and bedtime reminders?

2 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
3 form and scope.

4 A. I do not recall all the details
5 of the parent guides.

6 BY MR. DRAPER:

7 Q. Fair enough.

8 Sir, the next change discussed
9 in this August 10, 2021 blog post is the
10 autoplay setting in the YouTube Kids,
11 correct?

12 It's down in the paragraph
13 below -- there it is right there. Great.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. And then below that highlighted
16 portion, sir, do you see where it says:
17 We'll also be adding an autoplay option on
18 YouTube Kids?

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. All right. So since it says:
21 We will be adding an autoplay option on
22 YouTube Kids, I can assume that that wasn't
23 ready at the time that this blog post was
24 made public, sir?

25 A. That's what it says.

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1 Q. All right. And when was the
2 autoplay option finally added to YouTube
3 Kids?

4 A. Let me consult my documents.
5 [Document review.]

6 A. 2022.

7 BY MR. DRAPER:

8 Q. All right. Does it say when in
9 2022, sir?

10 A. It does not.

11 Q. Prior to the implementation of
12 the autoplay option in YouTube Kids, YouTube
13 autoplay was on by default in YouTube Kids,
14 correct?

15 A. Correct.

16 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
17 form.

18 A. Correct.

19 BY MR. DRAPER:

20 Q. In fact, the autoplay setting
21 could not be changed by the user or the
22 parent, correct?

23 A. The tools we made available to
24 parents were the timer, which was a better
25 tool for managing screen time. So we did not

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1 provide parents this tool to change autoplay
2 until 2022.

3 Q. All right. How much of YouTube
4 Kids watch time was from autoplay videos
5 prior to this change being implemented?

6 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
7 scope.

8 A. We did not track that.

9 BY MR. DRAPER:

10 Q. The blog post also says: In
11 the coming months additional family controls
12 would be added so the parent could lock the
13 autoplay setting.

14 Do you see that, sir?

15 A. I do.

16 Q. When was that change
17 implemented?

18 A. 2022.

19 Q. Prior to that the parent might
20 turn off autoplay and the child could turn it
21 back on?

22 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
23 form, scope, calls for speculation.

24 A. The autoplay control is, across
25 YouTube, made very available, easily

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1 available directly in the UI, and we do not
2 know who is toggling it.

3 BY MR. DRAPER:

4 Q. All right. The next segment of
5 the blog post says that: We're making
6 changes to how we treat commercial content
7 for kids and families.

8 Do you see that, sir?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. All right. Specifically it
11 says that YouTube will: Begin to remove
12 overly commercial content from YouTube Kids.

13 Do you see that?

14 A. I do.

15 Q. Did YouTube develop a machine
16 learning classifier to identify overly
17 commercial content?

18 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
19 form, scope.

20 A. We developed several signals of
21 quality, such as low quality and high quality
22 content, made those resources available to
23 creators to understand what that meant, and
24 overly commercial content was a low quality
25 principle.

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1 It is the second paragraph of
2 page 2.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay.

4 BY MR. DRAPER:

5 Q. So when it says that these
6 changes are intended to benefit users under
7 the age of 18, it's talking about declared
8 users, correct?

9 A. In the U.S., yes.

10 Q. All right.

11 Does YouTube track the
12 effectiveness of these reminders, sir?

13 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
14 scope and form.

15 A. We track some information about
16 its usage. Effectiveness is difficult to
17 determine. Again, these are
18 abundance-of-caution approaches for the
19 potential risks. As we learn them, we try
20 and address those potential risks. So
21 effectiveness is very difficult to determine.

22 BY MR. DRAPER:

23 Q. Isn't it true, sir, that
24 YouTube defines the success metric for the
25 take-a-break and bedtime reminders as the

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1 number of times they're displayed?

2 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
3 scope.

4 A. No, I don't think that's
5 accurate.

6 BY MR. DRAPER:

7 Q. And, sir, YouTube does not
8 track whether the take-a-break or bedtime
9 reminders actually prompt users to take a
10 break or go to bed?

11 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
12 scope.

13 A. That is unknowable.

14 BY MR. DRAPER:

15 Q. Well, sir, certainly YouTube
16 knows if a user receives a bedtime or
17 particularly a break reminder and then logs
18 out in the next, two, three, four minutes,
19 correct?

20 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
21 scope and form.

22 A. YouTube can be used for lots of
23 things. They could be relaxing. Meditation.
24 It could be music to go to bed. You know, we
25 don't know what a user does.

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1 We can't know that, so it's
2 hard to answer your question.

3 BY MR. DRAPER:

4 Q. Well, YouTube notes whether a
5 user is continuing to use the app or not,
6 right?

7 MS. WADHWANI: Objection, form
8 and scope.

9 A. A user can use the app to go to
10 bed.

11 BY MR. DRAPER:

12 Q. Well, sir, I'm just asking
13 you -- it's a really simple question. Does
14 YouTube track the number of people who
15 receive a take-a-break reminder and then,
16 within any small amount of time turn off the
17 YouTube app?

18 MS. WADHWANI: Object to the
19 form, asked and answered and to scope.

20 A. We don't track that.

21 BY MR. DRAPER:

22 Q. There's no technical reason
23 that YouTube couldn't track that, correct?

24 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
25 form, foundation, asked and answered, and

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1 scope.

2 A. Your question was whether we
3 know if a user takes a break or goes to bed.
4 That -- what you referred to here as, you
5 know, is a very simplified way of trying to
6 proxy that, which we determined was
7 ineffective.

8 BY MR. DRAPER:

9 Q. So did YouTube actually study
10 whether it could measure the effectiveness of
11 take-a-break or bedtime reminders by tracking
12 how many users leave the app after receiving
13 it?

14 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
15 scope.

16 A. We didn't track the amount of
17 users that left the app.

18 BY MR. DRAPER:

19 Q. Isn't it true, sir, that these
20 bedtime and take-a-break reminders were
21 designed so as not to impact watch time,
22 YouTube time, or any other metric that
23 measures how long users spend on YouTube?

24 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
25 form and scope.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

IN RE: SOCIAL MEDIA)
ADOLESCENT) Case No.
ADDICTION/PERSONAL) 4:22-md-03047-YGR
INJURY PRODUCTS)
LIABILITY LITIGATION) MDL No. 3047
-----)
)

CONFIDENTIAL PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO PROTECTIVE ORDER

ORAL VIDEOTAPED 30(b)(6) DEPOSITION OF
Google/YouTube by and through its representative
JAMES BESER

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

Video-Recorded Oral 30(b)(6) Deposition
of Google/YouTube by and through its
representative JAMES BESER, held at the
offices of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati,
650 Page Mill Road, Palo Alto, California,
commencing at 10:06 a.m. PDT on the above
date, before Debra A. Dibble, Fellow of the
Academy of Professional Reporters, Certified
Court Reporter, Registered Diplomate
Reporter, Certified Realtime Reporter and
California CSR #14345.

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GOLKOW - VERITEXT
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1 controls exist.

2 Q. So whether the parent is on an
3 Apple device, Android device, or desktop,
4 these controls, time limit controls are
5 available to them?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Does the parent have the
8 ability to turn off recommendations for SUPEX
9 users?

10 A. A parent can go in and pause
11 watch history, and that will effectively
12 remove recommendations from the home screen.

13 Q. Will that remove
14 recommendations or just personalized
15 recommendations? In other words, sir, with
16 watch history off, will the SUPEX user still
17 receive recommendations, they just might not
18 be as personalized as they were before?

19 A. So recommendations is a broad
20 term. It can mean different things per
21 service, right?

22 So Home is, as you mentioned,
23 that is correct, personalized recommend --
24 it's personalized, therefore they will not
25 get recommendations on the home screen.

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1 When they're watching a video,
2 they will get recommended videos that are not
3 personalized, if watch history is off. They
4 are going to be based on the video.

5 So if you're watching an
6 algebra video, the trail will be related to
7 algebra videos.

8 Q. All right.

9 Are usage statistics available
10 to parents for SUPLEX accounts?

11 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
12 form.

13 A. Can you be more specific?

14 BY MR. DRAPER:

15 Q. Sure. Can a parent in a SUPLEX
16 account see how many hours per day the child
17 is using?

18 A. Family Link provide several
19 usage statistic reports, et cetera.

20 Q. All right. And that's
21 available, since we're talking about unicorn
22 accounts, to Apple phone users as well as
23 Android users?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Do SUPLEX accounts receive

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1 notifications, sir?

2 A. They receive notifications that
3 are -- they receive different notifications
4 than nonSUPEX users, but they will receive
5 some notifications.

6 Q. Does the parent have any
7 controls available to control the timing of
8 the notifications or disable them altogether?

9 A. Just let me check.

10 [Document review.]

11 A. I do not believe they can
12 control the notifications.

13 BY MR. DRAPER:

14 Q. Are any of the answers you gave
15 with regard to parental controls in SUPEX
16 device dependent?

17 So are all of the parental
18 controls we discussed available on all types
19 of devices?

20 MS. WADHWANI: Object to the
21 form.

22 A. So for SUPEX controls, like the
23 corpus choice, right? Sorry, the library of
24 content that the parent chooses when they
25 onboard, that applies irrespective of device.

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1 BY MR. DRAPER:

2 Q. What about the other controls
3 that we talked about? For example, the
4 ability to turn on or off personalization?

5 A. Irrespective of device.

6 Q. Autoplay. Is that controllable
7 by the parents regardless of device?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. All right. Digital well-being
10 reminders, are those settings device
11 dependent at all?

12 MS. WADHWANI: Objection to
13 form.

14 A. No device dependency.

15 BY MR. DRAPER:

16 Q. All right. All right. Let's
17 go ahead and talk about teen supervised
18 accounts.

19 Can the parent in a teen
20 supervised account set limits on what can be
21 viewed by the teen?

22 A. Today, no. Teen supervision
23 addresses what was flagged as the top
24 potential areas for risk by experts, and from
25 talking to parents, the areas they were most

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1 concerned, which was about the public persona
2 for their teens. So it is focused on
3 uploading publicly or commenting publicly.

4 Q. Are teens supervised users
5 defaulted out of autoplay?

6 A. All teens today are default off
7 for autoplay.

8 Q. Can the parent change that
9 setting in a teen supervised account?

10 A. No.

11 Q. So teen supervised users are
12 going to be defaulted into the digital
13 well-being reminders, because they're teens,
14 right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Does the parent have any
17 control over the timing of the digital
18 well-being reminder in a teen supervised
19 account?

20 A. The parent does not have
21 control in a teen supervised account over
22 their digital well-being reminders.

23 Q. We talked about SUPLEX accounts,
24 the unicorn accounts, and therefore having
25 some time of day and time limits available to

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1 them, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Are those same time of day and
4 time limits available to a parent in a teen
5 supervised account?

6 A. So teen supervision is focused
7 on, you know, the potential for risk on
8 public, the purpose persona for a teen, and
9 that -- that is what it covers today.

10 So the answer --

11 Right, so no.

12 Q. So, for example, the parents in
13 a teen supervised account cannot lock the
14 teen out of YouTube from, say, 10:00 p.m. to
15 5:00 a.m. or during school hours?

16 A. So parent has a lot of options
17 available to them outside of YouTube. To
18 remove the device or to set device level, you
19 know, using Apple or Android controls that
20 exist on the device. But for -- just for
21 YouTube, no, that is not available.

22 Q. Does the parent have the
23 ability to turn off personalized
24 recommendations for a teen supervised user?

25 A. No.

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1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2

3 I, DEBRA A. DIBBLE, RDR, CRR, CRC,
4 Notary Public, do hereby certify:

5 That JAMES BESER, the witness
6 whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth,
7 was duly sworn by me and that such deposition
8 is a true record of the testimony given by
9 such witness;

10 That pursuant to FRCP Rule 30,
11 signature of the witness was not requested by
12 the witness or other party before the
13 conclusion of the deposition;

14 I further certify that I am not
15 related to any of the parties to this action
16 by blood or marriage, and that I am in no
17 way interested in the outcome of this matter.

18 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
19 hereunto set my hand on this 10th day of
20 April 2025

21



22

Debra A. Dibble
23 Fellow of the Academy of Professional
Reporters
24 Registered Diplomate Reporter
Certified Realtime Reporter
25 Notary Public 11/17/2027
CA 14345