

# Beware of the "BOTS"!



From iCivics "NewsFeed Defenders" Lesson

- **Bots are computer code** (algorithms) pretending to be real people in social media networks.
- **They are programmed to like, follow, and comment** on our posts as if they were real people, with names, photos, and followers.
- Bots can be designed to **carry on chat conversations**; engaging us with computer generated comments!
- They also can be used to **follow your actions online**, and suggest things (products, services, content) based on your behaviors.
- They use "spam words" that work to get you to **click on links** within a post. (ex: deals, debt)
- They have **hidden URLs**.

***Beware:*** Armies of bots engage with Social Media content on a particular topic like an upcoming election, or climate change, or other important issues.



***Be part of the solution-  
Don't share!***

