

Notecards

Why They Censor

title your card with the main idea from the text

Source:

Xu, Beina, and Eleanor Albert. "Media Censorship in China." *Council on Foreign Relations*, 17 Feb. 2017, www.cfr.org/china/media-censorship-china/p11515. Accessed 31 Mar. 2017.

URL:

<http://www.cfr.org/china/media-censorship-china/p11515>

Link to your source

Quote:

Specific material considered a **threat to political stability** is also **banned**, including controversial **photos** and **video**, as well as **search terms**. The government is particularly *keen* (vocab) on **blocking** reports of **issues that could** **incite** (vocab) **social unrest** (vocab), like official **corruption**, the **economy**, health and environmental **scandals**, certain **religious groups**, and **ethnic strife** (vocab).

Paraphrase:

Why China censors the Internet = control

*Basically, this is about **government control** - controlling what Chinese people see, read, hear about, search so that the government always appears to be good and powerful*

- **government reputation** - bans/blocks things that might cause problems for the government; for example, people might get angry or dissatisfied with the government. The government “looks bad”
- **"controversial" information** :
 - **photos & videos**
 - **search terms** - this surprises me!!!
 - about
 - political corruption
 - the economy - what does this mean???
 - scandals re health and environment
 - certain religious groups - which ones???
 - ethnic problems - specific ethnic groups???

My Ideas:

My main takeaway:

Chinese government doesn't trust the Chinese people with information - not trusting people to be able to make good decisions is definitely a Legalist principle

This article has strong specifics about **what is restricted** on the Internet

I'll use this in a part of my essay about the government needing to control information. Strong government control is Legalism.

My claim: this is Legalism at work today.

Questions I still have:

1. which religious groups is China concerned about?
2. which ethnic groups?
3. Why block information about the economy? – need more info
4. HOW do they block the Internet???
5. Can people get around it?

vocab:

1. keen - having or showing eagerness or enthusiasm
2. incite - urge or persuade (someone) to act in a violent or unlawful way
3. unrest - a state of dissatisfaction, disturbance, and agitation in a group of people, typically involving public demonstrations or disorder
4. strife - angry or bitter disagreement over fundamental issues; conflict