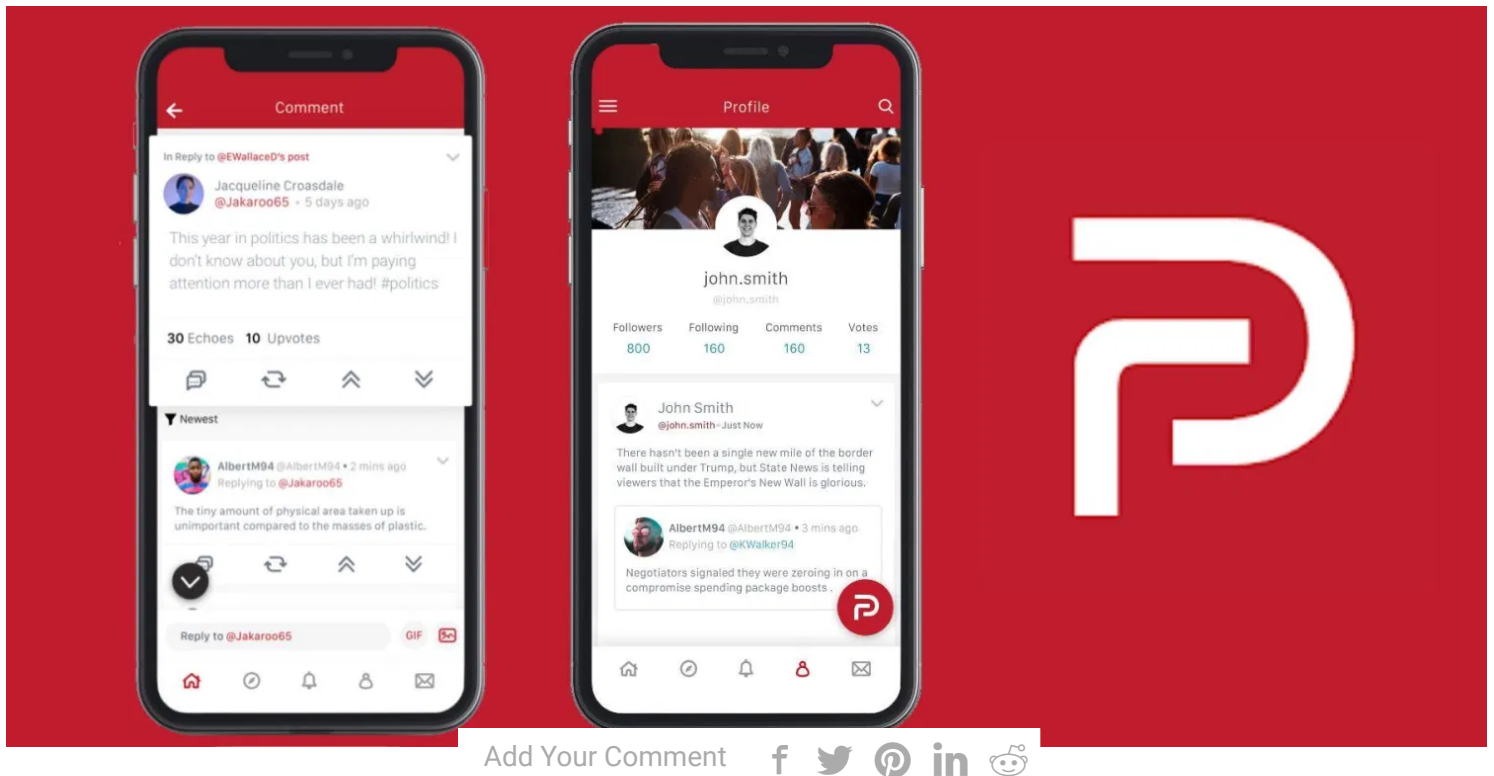


JANUARY 11

Parler app and website go offline; CEO blames Apple and Google for destroying the company

Ben Lovejoy - Jan. 11th 2021 4:41 am PT  @benlovejoy



The Parler app is non-functional, and [parler.com](#) has gone offline, as Amazon Web Services discontinued service to the company. Both the website and the app relied on AWS for content distribution.

The social network was set up after Twitter started clamping down on disinformation and hate speech. However, both Apple and Google dropped the apps after it was revealed that Parler was used to help plan the attempted coup at the Capitol, and was being used to plan a second armed attack in DC ahead of the inauguration ...

Background

[Apple first gave Parler 24 hours](#) to begin properly moderating posts, to remove harmful content.

We have received numerous complaints regarding objectionable content in your Parler service, accusations that the Parler app was used to plan, coordinate, and facilitate the illegal activities

dangerous activities.

This included calls to execute US vice-president Mike Pence as part of a second, armed attack in DC.

When the social network's response proved weak, [Apple removed Parler from the App Store](#).

We have determined that the measures you describe are inadequate to address the proliferation of dangerous and objectionable content on your app.

Parler has not upheld its commitment to moderate and remove harmful or dangerous content encouraging violence and illegal activity, and is not in compliance with the App Store Review Guidelines.

Google also removed the Android version from [the Play store](#).

Parler app and website go offline

[CNET](#) reports that Amazon followed Apple's example in pulling the service, following an earlier report that it would do so.

Parler Chief Executive John Matze posted on his service late Saturday that Amazon had informed him it would no longer host his service on its Amazon Web Services platform [...]

"This was a coordinated attack by the tech giants to kill competition in the marketplace," Matze wrote, adding that his service had become "too successful too fast." He didn't initially address his platform's comparatively lax moderation rules or its use by extremists ahead of the Capitol Hill riot. He also didn't mention increasing concerns that social media apps, including Parler, were being used to organize another attack in the coming weeks.

While Matze had earlier been dismissive of Amazon's decision, claiming that other companies would be lining up to take their money, [Deadline](#) reports that he was forced to backtrack after learning that nobody else wanted to touch Parler either.

Parler CEO John Matze said today that his social media company has been dropped by virtually all of its business alliances after Amazon, Apple and Google ended their agreements with the social media service.

"Every vendor from text message services to email providers to our lawyers all ditched us too on the same day," Matze said today on Fox News.

Matze conceded that the bans could put the company out of business while raising free speech issues, calling it "an assault on everybody."

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...not just these three companies. Every vendor from text message services to email providers to our lawyers all ditched us too on the same day" [...]

He added: "We're going to try our best to get back online as quickly as possible. But we're having a lot of trouble because every vendor we talk to says they won't work with us. Because if Apple doesn't approve and Google doesn't approve, they won't."

Separately, the [WSJ](#) reports that Stripe has stopped processing payments for the Trump campaign website.

Stripe Inc. will no longer process payments for President Trump's campaign website following last week's [riot at the Capitol](#), according to people familiar with the matter.

The financial-technology company handles card payments for millions of online businesses and e-commerce platforms, including Mr. Trump's campaign website and online fundraising apparatus. Stripe is cutting off the president's campaign account for violating its policies against encouraging violence, the people said.

[Five people died](#) in the Capitol attack, including a police officer.

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