



The issue of cancel culture has been highly debated in scholarly, political, and social media spheres. Advocates argue that cancel culture offers a means of social responsibility, allowing the social group to criticize bad conduct on a public scale and amplify the voices of the oppressed. According to its critics, though, cancel culture poses a danger to free speech and open dialogue by promoting self-censorship, reputational harm, and excessive punishment. It has been proposed based on the analysis of peer-reviewed studies and scholarly critique that the concept of cancel culture is a multidimensional, multi-layered concept, both accountable and dangerous to free speech, which must be understood in a balancing and circumstantially specific manner. To begin with, the concept of cancel culture has come about in the digital age as a decentralized form through which individuals and communities may employ to cause or call attention to perceived injustices and hold those responsible to account. In qualitative studies, cancel culture may act as a kind of digital accountability, especially in the absence of traditional institutional channels through which power inequities or discrimination should be addressed (Wong, 2022). For example, the research reports the strengths of social media activism in exposing bad practices, sensitizing individuals to social concerns, and pushing individuals and institutions to resolve wrongdoing (Lev-On, 2022). At the same time, empirical studies indicate that there are major psychological and social processes behind cancelled culture. When cancellation is carried out, there is often mobilization of collective indignation by quickly sharing, critiquing, and ostracizing those who are perceived to have wronged them (Traversa et al., 2023). These processes may enable the agenda of the underprivileged groups to seek justice and expose injustices that have hitherto been overlooked by the mainstream institutions. These dimensions show the potential of the cancel culture as a means of social



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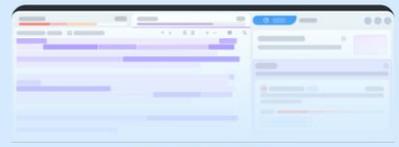
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