

The COVID-19 pandemic is one event that we all know about. With almost the entire world being in a lockdown, bored people everywhere looked to social media to entertain themselves. Tiktok, as we all know, became one of the biggest and fastest-growing social media platforms to soar to popularity within the years of 2019-2020. With the popularity of Tiktok, the toxicity of it came to rise as well.

But today, we will focus mainly on "cancel culture." "Cancel culture" is nothing but the internet's way of "canceling" or invalidating an influencer or celebrity for saying something or acting in a controversial way. This means that haters will do anything in their possession to bully, hurt, or even remove a person's account from social media.

How far is too far? Cancel culture has introduced a plethora of ideologies in this generation. Inclusivity is the center of what it fights for— from body positivity, racism, feminism, equality, the debates are endless. But this inclusiveness leaves no room for other people to have their own individual opinions. Through the positivity that is trying to be spread through the media, people have been taking it too far by the idea of "normalizing" unhealthy and toxic things. In a way, it has turned into "toxic positivity."

Very obese people who decide to ignore their health are encouraged and supported because everyone is "required to show body positivity." Feminism's ideas originally were for women to have equal rights as men, to empower them in their own ways that make them different from men— but now feminism has turned into a way for women to prove that they are "better" than men physically and mentally, dismissing the whole point of equality.

If anyone in the media decides to speak up against these opinions, the hate will spread within days to weeks. This can be super damaging and debilitating to their mental health.

These are just very, very few of the many examples, but Tiktok has definitely taken a huge toll on our generation. It's almost as if the platform started off with light-hearted and simple dance videos but slowly became a platform with so much negative energy— influencing and shaping our generation's ideologies today.

