Saudi Arabia blocks Facebook over moral concerns

November 14 2010, By ABDULLAH AL-SHIHRI , Associated Press

(AP) -- An official with Saudi Arabia's communications authority says it has blocked Facebook because the popular social networking website doesn't conform with the kingdom's conservative values.

The official says Saudi's Communications and Information Technology Commission blocked the site Saturday and an error message shows up when Internet users try to access it.

He says Facebook's content had "crossed a line" with the kingdom's conservative morals, but that blocking the site is a temporary measure.

The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to the media.

Saudi Arabia follows a strict interpretation of Islam and religious leaders have strong influence over policy making and social mores.

Pakistan and Bangladesh both imposed temporary bans on Facebook this year.

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Citation: Saudi Arabia blocks Facebook over moral concerns (2010, November 14) retrieved 17 July 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2010-11-saudi-arabia-blocks-facebook-moral.html

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