

‘Slavery Simulator’ game removed from Google app store

1 Google took down the controversial game “Slavery Simulator” from its Brazilian online store. The Portuguese-language game was developed by Magnus Games. The game enabled players to purchase, sell, and torture black characters.

2 At the start of the game, the players could choose one of two goals: ①the Path of the Tyrant or the Path of the Liberator. “Become wealthy slave owners, or work to abolish slavery. Everything is in your hands,” the game’s description said. The game simulated ②what the South American nation looked like in the 1600s, which used to be a Portuguese colony and major hub of the Atlantic slave trade. The game continuously sent players messages such as “You need guards to prevent the slaves from running away or rebelling. One guard is enough for 30 slaves.”

3 The game has been downloaded over 1,000 times since its launch on April 20th. It received an overall 4-star rating out of 5. One user, who gave a 5-star review, has commented, “Great game to pass the time, but it lacks more torture options.” One user wrote, “They could also include an option to whip a slave, too. Other than that, the game is perfect.”

4 The game quickly went viral on social media and faced harsh criticism in Brazil. A lawmaker Denise Pessoa wrote on Twitter: “IT IS ABSURD that a game that spreads cruelty and hate speech against black people is available. ③Our country was built with the blood of the black population. People were killed, tortured. A ‘Slavery Simulator’ is no joke.”

slavery 奴隷制・奴隷の身分 take down 下げる・降ろす controversial 物議を醸している purchase=buy
torture 拷問する path 道 tyrant 暴君 liberator 解放者 abolish 廃止する simulate 真似る
hub 中心地・拠点 continuously ひっきりなしに prevent A from ~ing: A が~するのを防ぐ rebel 反逆する
launch 開始・立ち上げ rating 格付け・評価 go viral 急速に広まる harsh 厳しい cruelty 残酷な行為
available 入手可能の ★このニュースで覚えた言葉()

Q1 What is the biggest problem about the “Slavery Simulator”?

Q2 What is the most widely spoken language in Brazil ? Why?

Q3 下線①を具体的に言い換えた部分を、同じ段落から抜き出しましょう。

Q4 下線②「1600 年代のブラジル」は、どのような世界でしたか。同じ段落の内容を参考に説明しましょう。

Q5 How many times has the game been downloaded since its launch, and how do the players like it?

Q6 このゲームについて、プレーヤーから、どのような残酷なコメントが出ていますか。

Q7 Denise Pessoa 議員は、何について「馬鹿げている」(absurd)と言っていますか。

Q8 下線③の意味を具体的に説明しましょう。

5 On May 24th, a federal lawmaker Orlando Silva and the racial justice advocacy group Unegro filed a complaint with the nation's Public Prosecutor's Office. The complaint accuses Google of violating a Brazilian law that bans "practicing, inducing or inciting discrimination or prejudice of race, color, ethnicity, religion or national origin."

6 In response to this, Brazil's Public Prosecutor Office opened an investigation into how and why the game was made available on the Google Play Store in the first place. Brazil's Ministry for Racial Equality also stepped in, and arranged a meeting with Google to build moderation policies "to filter out content containing hate speech and racism" and "to prevent it from spreading so easily".

7 Within the mobile app, Magnus Games said, "The game was created solely for entertainment purposes. Our studio condemns slavery in any form. All game content is fictional and not tied to specific historical events. All coincidences are accidental".





federal 連邦国家の lawmaker 政治家・議員 racial justice 人種の平等 advocacy 支持・弁護
file a complaint 告訴する Public Prosecutor's Office 検察庁 accuse A of B: B のことで A を非難する
violate (法律に) 違反する practice 実行する induce 誘発する incite 扇動する discrimination 差別
prejudice 偏見 ethnicity 民族性 religion 宗教 national origin 出身国 investigation 取り調べ
Ministry 省 moderation 直訳は「節度」。ネット上の記事を管理者がチェックし、不適切な投稿を除外する仕組み
solely=for condemn 非難する specific 特定の coincidence 偶然の一致 accidental 偶然の

Q9 Orland Silva 議員と、人種の平等擁護団体 Unegro(ウネグロ)は、検察庁に告訴した際、Google がどんな法律に違反していると糾弾しましたか。

Q10 Brazil's Ministry for Racial Equality and Google will build moderation policies.
What are the two purposes of the moderation policies?

Q11 「このゲームが人種差別的である」という批判に対して、Magnus Games 社はどのように反論していますか。

★参考動画

	Google Pulls Slavery Simulator Game from Play Store in Brazil【News in Minute】 ★ゲーム “Slavery Simulator”の配信が停止された、というニュース番組です。 このゲームの映像を少しでも見ることができます。
	Juneteenth: アメリカの新しい祝日・・・ アメリカで奴隷制が廃止されたのは1865年6月19日。 その日はアメリカでは国民の祝日になっています。
	Mono mono.. "monkey..." Vinicius jr Racially abused by Valencia fans ヴィニシウス選手に対するヤジ “Mono...” (mono はスペイン語で猿の意味)
	Vinicius Jr: La Liga club Valencia fined after racist abuse of Real Madrid forward - BBC News コルコバードのキリスト像のライトが消される様子、ヴィニシウス選手にヤジを飛ばした Valencia のファンが逮捕される場面が報道されています。

8 A spokesperson for Google Brazil said, “We have a robust set of policies that are designed to keep users safe and that all developers must follow. We don’t allow apps that promote violence or incite hatred against individuals or groups based on race or ethnic origin, or that depict or promote gratuitous violence or other dangerous activities. Anyone who believes they have found an app that violates ④our rules can file a report. When we identify a policy violation, we take appropriate action”.

9 Racism has always been a serious problem in Brazil. In 1888, Brazil became the last nation in ⑤the Americas to formally abolish slavery. Black people make up the majority in Brazil. Over half of the nation’s 215 million inhabitants, which is 56% or about 120 million people, are Afro-Brazilian.

10 Recently, discriminatory “monkey” insults were hurled against Vinicius Junior, a Brazilian soccer star playing for Real Madrid in Spain. In solidarity with Vinicius, the statue of Christ the Redeemer in Rio de Janeiro turned off its lights for one hour.

11 A lawmaker Orlando Silva said, “It’s something unbelievable that in a country where racism is a crime, a country that lived through the wounds of slavery, a digital platform makes a macabre and barbaric game like this one. Young teens are the ones who consume the most games. It’s unacceptable that something like this happened.”

robust 強固な	developer 開発者	promote 促進・助長する	individual 個人	depict 描写する
gratuitous 根拠のない	file a report 報告する	identify 確認する	appropriate 適切な	formally 公式に
make up～:～を占める	inhabitant 住民	discriminatory 差別的な	insult 侮辱	hurl 投げつける
solidarity 団結・連帯	Christ the Redeemer コルコバードのキリスト像	wound 傷	macabre ぞっとする	
barbaric 野蛮な	consume 消費する	unacceptable 受け入れ難い	★()

Q12 下線④について：Google の広報担当社は、どんなアプリを許可しないと表明していますか。
2 点の条件を、具体的に説明しましょう。

Q13 下線⑤the Americas とは何を指しますか。

Q14 Brazil abolished slavery in 1888, so when did the U.S. abolish slavery?

Q15 What percentage of people are black in Brazil?

Q16 The Brazilian soccer star Vinicius Junior got racially abused in Spain last month. What happened to him?

Q17 What did the statue of Christ the Redeemer do in response to this?

Q18 Why are violent video games harmful? Please tell your opinion.

Q19 Martin Luther King Jr. said, "The ultimate tragedy is not the oppression and cruelty by the bad people but the silence over that by the good people." Do you agree with this opinion?

★次の文を3回ずつ読んで暗唱しましょう。

1. The game enabled players to purchase, sell, and torture black characters.
2. The game continuously sent players messages such as “You need guards to prevent the slaves from running away or rebelling.”
3. A lawmaker Denise Pessoa wrote on Twitter: "IT IS ABSURD that a game that spreads cruelty and hate speech against black people is available.
4. The complaint accuses Google of violating a Brazilian law that bans “practicing, inducing or inciting discrimination or prejudice of race, color, ethnicity, religion or national origin.”
5. In 1888, Brazil became the last nation in the Americas to formally abolish slavery.

1. このゲームでは、黒人の登場人物たちを（奴隷として）買ったり売ったり、拷問したりすることができる。

★enable ～ to 動詞の原形：～が～することを可能にする

2. このゲームは、「奴隷が逃げたり反乱を起こしたりするのを防止するために、守衛が必要です」などといったメッセージを、プレイヤーたちにひっきりなしに送り付けてきた。

3. デニス・ペソア議員は、このようにツイートした。「黒人に対する残酷な行為とヘイトスピーチを広げるゲームが入手可能だとは、馬鹿げている。」

4. その訴状は、「人種・肌の色・民族・宗教・出身国に関する差別や偏見を実行し、誘発し、扇動すること」を禁ずるブラジルの法律に、グーグルが違反していると糾弾している。

5. 1888年、ブラジルは南北アメリカ大陸の中では、最後に奴隷制を正式に廃止した国となった。