Can $1 billion in verdicts stop lies?

1. What do these cartoons say about two juries ordering conspiracy theorist Alex Jones to pay more than $1 billion for promoting the lie that the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting rampage was a hoax?
2. Victims’ families suffered years of abuse and threats after Jones accused them of being actors in a plot to take away people’s guns. Is it fair to hold Jones accountable for the actions of his audience?
3. Could these verdicts reduce the spread of blatant falsehoods? Why or why not?
4. What conspiracy theories have led to abuse or violence?

Between the lines

“If this verdict shuts down Alex Jones, good. He’s been walking in the shadow of death to try to profit on the backs of people who have just been devastated. That is not a business model that should be sustainable in the United States.” - Josh Koskoff, lawyer for victims’ families.

https://apnews.com/article/shootings-school-connecticut-conspiracy-alex-jones-3f5793805155d66eb5f5fbf0e3b1c08f

Additional resources

- More by Bob Englehart
  https://www.cagle.com/author/bob-englehart/
- More by Jimmy Margulies
  https://www.cagle.com/author/jimmy-margulies/
- Editorial Cartoonists
  http://editorialcartoonists.com/