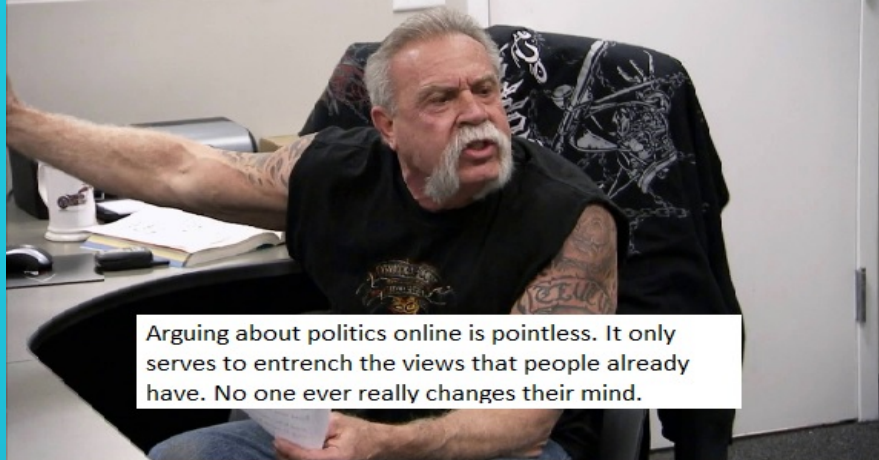


# DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY IN THE NETWORKED PUBLIC SPHERE

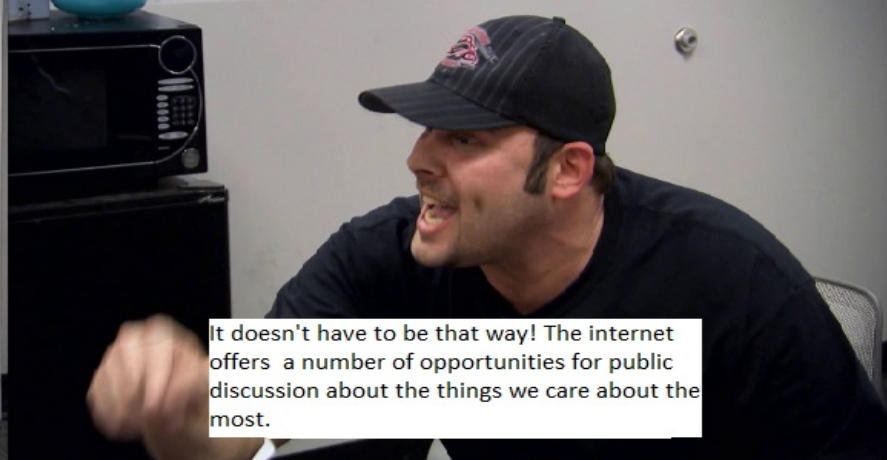
USING SOCIAL MEDIA TO TALK POLITICS

RUSSELL HANSEN

UWT - MAIS



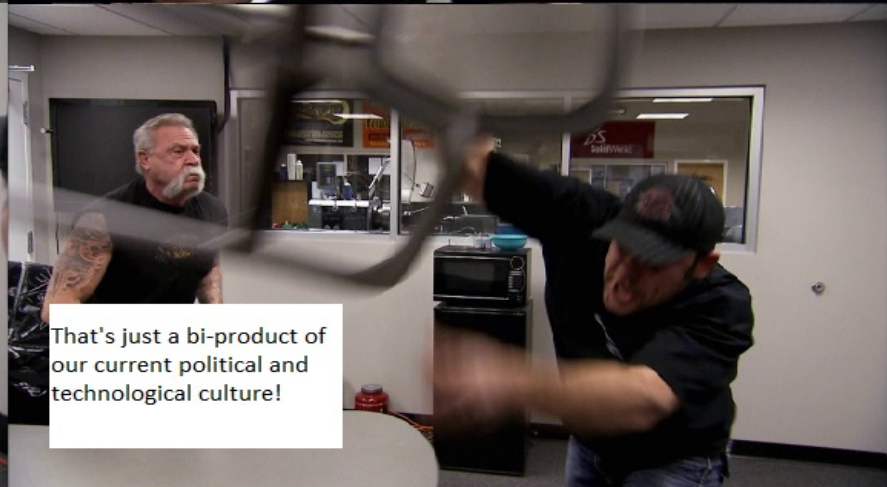
Arguing about politics online is pointless. It only serves to entrench the views that people already have. No one ever really changes their mind.



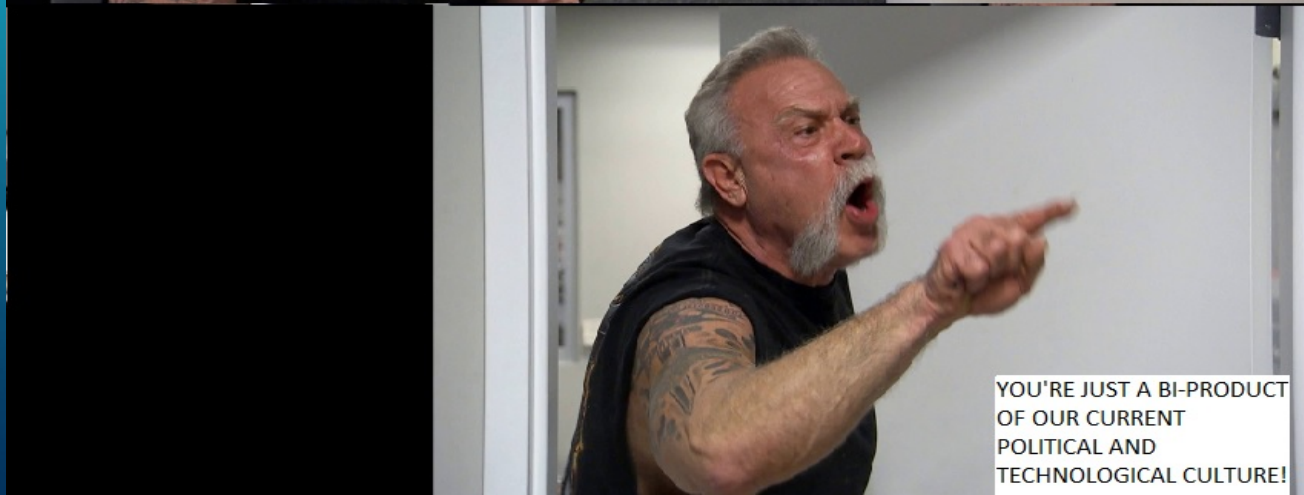
It doesn't have to be that way! The internet offers a number of opportunities for public discussion about the things we care about the most.



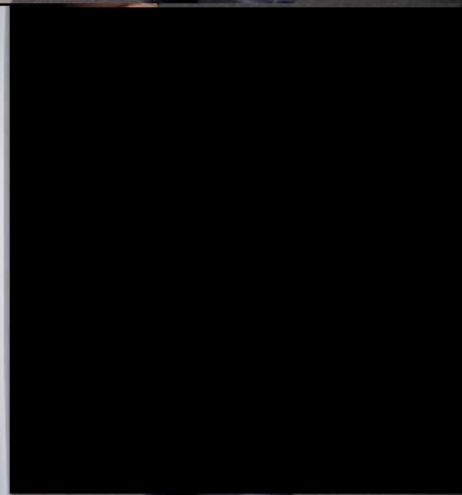
Anonymity makes people monsters! How do you expect people to be respectful when they aren't held personally responsible for what they say? Have you ever SEEN 4chan?!



That's just a bi-product of our current political and technological culture!



YOU'RE JUST A BI-PRODUCT OF OUR CURRENT POLITICAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL CULTURE!



# THE PUBLIC SPHERE: NORMATIVE AND EMPIRICAL CONCEPTIONS

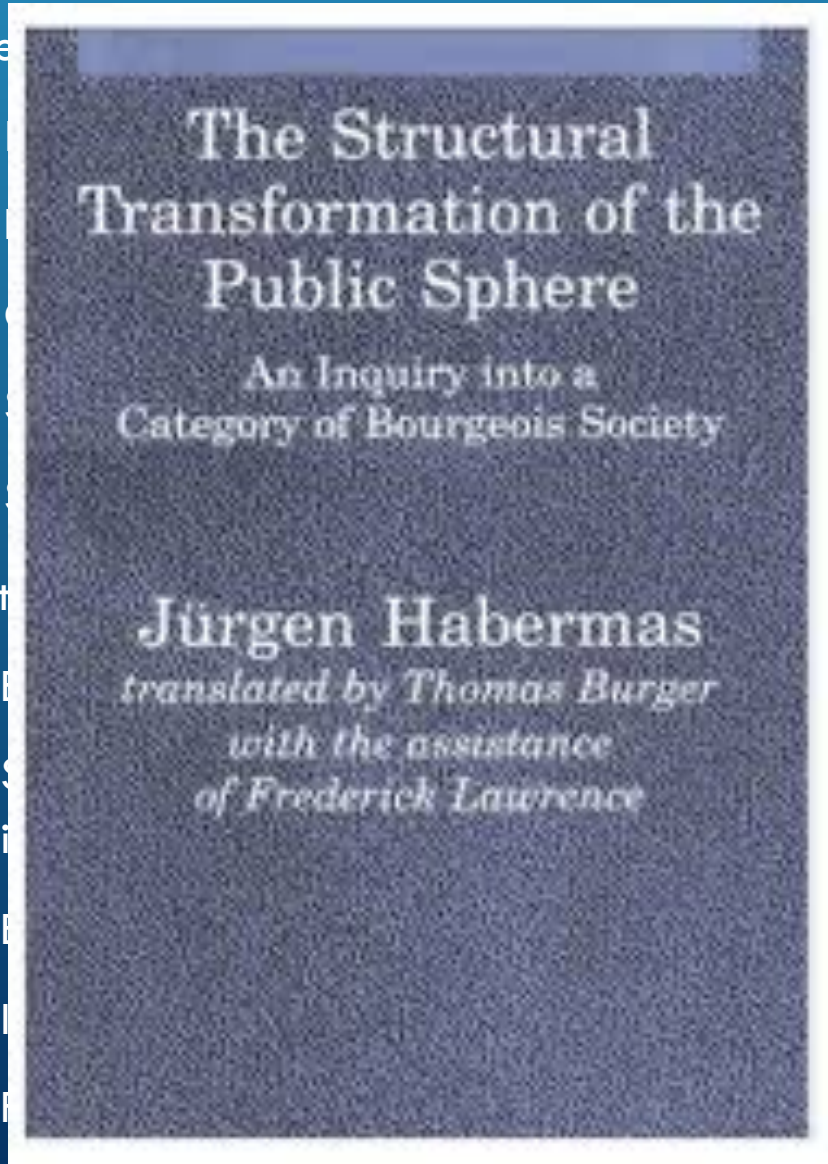


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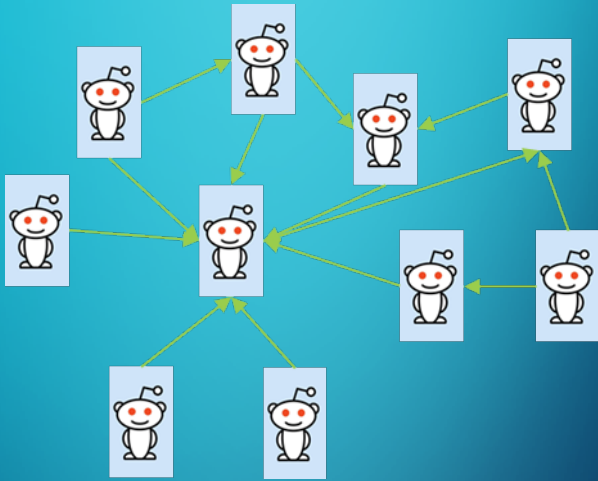
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# THE NETWORKED PUBLIC SPHERE



## What is it like?

Global/ transnational

Digitally networked ICTs

Publics and Counterpublics

## What forms does it take?

Videos, articles, podcasts, documentaries, music, etc... (mass and mass personal communication)

Often linked through social media platforms through posting, retweets, @'s

Also includes discussions on social networking sites, forums, and comment sections (interpersonal or mass personal communication)



## SUPPORTING DELIBERATIVE DEMOCRACY

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Deliberative democracy requires a healthy public sphere.

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Voting isn't enough. Decisions are best made when we deliberate about them first.

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Legitimacy is dependent upon popular sovereignty (the people rule themselves).

# DISRUPTION IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE



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Structurally fragmented, effectively mute

---

Bots, and trolls, and partisans, oh my!

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Disinformation (the real “fake” news)

---

Eroding faith in journalism (the fake “fake” news)

---

Narrowcasting and Big Data



## TOWARDS SOLUTIONS AND UNDERSTANDING

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How do the features offered by social media platforms affect the quality of deliberation?

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How well does political discussion on each site cohere to the public sphere ideal?

---

How should we approach these questions as researchers?

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What responsibilities do we have to support political discussion in online spaces?



**THE END**



# REFERENCES

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