

Journals review

TELOS: Cuadernos de Comunicación, Tecnología y Sociedad
Madrid: Editorial Fundesco. No. 88, July-September 2011. ISSN: 0213-084X



TELOS dedicates the monograph of this issue to digital culture. In its central *Dossier* we find an interesting introduction by Enrique Bustamante to the old and new culture, where new culture is not merely a prolongation of analogue culture. Among other articles, of note is the one by Lacasa and Villalonga on the digitalisation of opera with the proliferation of its secondary products (cinema, DVD, internet and television) and tertiary products (fragments), which stand out without diminishing the greatness of the genre. De Vicente Gómez looks at digitalisation's contribution to the plastic arts. García Cantero foresees the inevitable paths of cyberculture, imposing a transformation on the public's new artistic and cultural realities. Ramón Zallo also collaborates in this dossier by outlining the paradoxes of digital culture, highlighting the contrast between the opportunities offered by digital technology and the incapacity of the political and economic system to support them. As a guest author, Martín Becerra, a researcher from Quilmes University (Buenos Aires, Argentina), proposes the problem of "incubating a new digital culture in Latin America" and how technological convergence is constructing a new culture, both in terms of supply and social use. On the other hand, Pilar Carreras critically contextualises the new interactive practices of social network users with communication theories. And Anton Planells compares the languages of primitive cinema and the initial development of videogames in the 1970s. In the *Análisis* section we find an article by Juan José Muñoz, analysing Spanish law regulating the classification of feature films by age group. Manuel Armenteros analyses 3D stereoscope technology and reveals videogames and the internet as key elements in the future of the image. Finally, in the *Experiencias* section, a group of researchers from the Universidad Rey Juan Carlos analyses the self-regulation of communication, taking as their focus of analysis the experience of advertising (specifically baby food), highlighting the virtues of the doctrine and the practice of self-regulation, its European framework and adaptation to the Spanish case.

Derecho a Comunicar

México D. F., México: Asociación Mexicana de Derecho a la Información. No. 2, May-August 2011
ISSN: 2007-137X



Published by the Asociación Mexicana de Derecho a la Información [Mexican Association of the Right to Information], this second volume of *Derecho a Comunicar* is dedicated to communication and health, understood as messages within health-related institutions, information on medical issues from research centres and their communication to society, as well as doctor-patient communication. The volume contains a series of interesting articles. García Canclini presents a number of initiatives to reform the media, including the quality and diversity of the media as an expression of society made up of complex, active and critical publics that are increasingly less resigned to be mere receivers of content. Julio Amador Bech questions the perspective of authors such as Shannon and Weaver, whom he criticises for not studying the complexity of human communication. The author chooses a hermeneutic approach to human communication, especially interpersonal communication. Micheline Frenette and Pedro Reyes review different focuses for understanding the influence of the media and propose the use of marketing techniques in campaigns to promote public service messages, such as anti-smoking campaigns. Another article of note is the text written by Olga Bustos-Romero on the images of the body that exposure to advertising content can lead to among secondary students in Mexico City. The text underlines the differences between teenage men and women in appreciating their own body. Lucía Stella, Luz Elena Tamayo and Guadalupe Chávez present research into the formulation of political policies designed based on the concerns and condition of their beneficiaries. The article by Fernandes Araujo deals with the doctor-patient relationship, suggesting that doctors must see patients as interlocutors with a right to receive all the information and explanations to help them understand their illness. Finally, Carola García Calderón describes in her article the difficult relationships between the media, food manufacturers and regulatory authorities in Mexico and shows how the self-regulation of the media and manufacturers is totally insufficient.

Version available online:

<<http://www.derechoacomunicar.amedi.org.mx/pdf/num2/numero2.pdf>>

Journal of Communication

Malden, MA: Wiley-Blackwell. Vol. 61 (4), 2011
ISSN: 0021-9916 / 1460-2466 [online]



This issue of the prestigious *Journal of Communication* (it comes second in the ISI Journal Citation Reports Ranking) contains, among its articles, a study carried out by Malcolm R. Parks that examines how the theories of *taste performance*, *identity warranting* and *social capital formation* can be applied to behaviour found on the social network *MySpace*. The

article by Lee Humphreys then explores the issues of privacy and surveillance in new interactive technology. The project examines users' perceptions of mobile social networks regarding privacy and finds that a large number of the people studied were not concerned about privacy because they thought they had their personal information under control. The article by Druckman and Bolsen analyses how individuals form their opinions about new technologies and offer an idea of opinion forming over time. Another article, "A Communicative Approach to Social Capital", presents communication as a fundamental source of social integration. The authors offer evidence that the variables in communication, such as attention to news, foment social participation. The perception of risk of global warming and support for certain policies is tackled by Zhao, Leiserowitz, Maibach and Roser-Renouf. The authors assume that attention to news about science and the environment is associated to beliefs about global warming and a greater perception of risk. They have carried out an opinion poll among 2,164 adults that confirms their hypothesis and supports the cognitive mediation model of news learning. Hoffner and Rehkoff analyse hostile perceptions of the press and examine the media's influence before and after the 2004 US presidential elections among young Republican and Democrat voters. The study concludes that the perception of hostile media is greater among Republicans, especially among the followers of *Fox News*. Finally, Lee and Monge present research examining the evolutionary patterns and determinants of multiplex organisational communication networks.

Communication Research

London [United Kingdom] / Thousand Oaks [United States]: SAGE Publications. Vol. 38 (4), 2011
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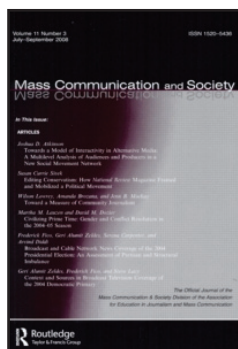
This issue of the journal *Communication Research* has six articles of great quality. Firstly, the article by Bakker and de Vreese analyses the role of the traditional media and the internet in relation to the political participation of young people aged between 16 and 24. The starting point for this article is the idea of *differential media use* to analyse the relationship between media use (press, television and the internet) and offline and online forms of political participation.



The authors show that internet use is related to different forms of political participation, while the relationship between most uses of traditional media and participation is weaker. Grabe and Samson then present an experimental study where they analyse the influence of news anchor sexualisation on audience evaluations of a female anchor as a professional and their memory for the news she presents. Male participants saw the sexualised version of the anchor as less suited for war and political reporting and retained less information. Women participants, on the other hand, did not vary in their assessments of the anchor's competence to report on war and political news between a sexualised and an unsexualised presenter, although they retained more information when it was presented by a sexualised anchor. A third article, written by Ramasubramanian, examines how media exposure to stereotypical African Americans influences real-world stereotypical beliefs of Afro-Americans, prejudicial feelings towards this group and lack of support for pro-minority affirmative action policies. The article discusses the implications for entertainment studies and political communication. The other three articles in the volume tackle issues related to social interaction (how individuals detect others' goals), emotions (the article uses the "relational turbulence" model) and interpersonal communication (analysing the associations between relational uncertainty, sexual communication and sexual satisfaction for husbands and wives).

Mass Communication and Society

Oxford [United Kingdom]: Routledge. Vol. 14 (4), 2011
ISSN: 1520-5436 / 1532-7825 [online]



Of note in this issue of *Mass Communication and Society* is the article by Jung, Kim and Gil de Zúñiga, investigating the role of political knowledge and efficacy as mediators between communication and online/offline political participation. The findings suggest that political knowledge and efficacy function as significant mediators. In addition, results expound the increasing importance of the internet

in facilitating political participation. Shortell deals with the controversy between creationists and biologists via a discourse analysis of their coverage in the press between September and December 2005. The article by Callister, Stern, Coyne, Robinson and Bennion analyses the representation of teenage and adult sexual conduct in teen-centred films from 1980 to 2007. The analysis shows that these films are replete with passionate kissing and sexual dialogue yet contain only a modicum of implicit sex. The study also reveals that these films are impoverished when it comes to messages dealing with safe sexual practices and information on the health risks associated with sex. Aubrey and Frisby develop a coding system to measure sexual objectification and its correlate in music videos. The study finds that female artists are more sexually objectified compared to male artists. Kim, Scheufele and Han introduce the concept of *discussion orientation* (one's willingness to express and listen in political discussion, even when disagreement exists) as a predispositional explanation of the impact of discussion heterogeneity on political participation. Finally, Wojcieszak presents a study based on data obtained from members in neo-Nazi discussion forums and builds on evidence that participation in these forums exacerbates false consensus, i.e. overestimating public support for own views. The study analyses whether contacts with dissimilar offline social networks as well as exposure to ideologically dissimilar news media attenuate false consensus and its association with online participation. Contrary to predictions, politically dissimilar networks do not reduce false consensus but can even exacerbate it.

Chinese Journal of Communication

Oxford [United Kingdom]: Routledge. Vol. 4 (3), 2011
ISSN: 1754-4750 / 1754-4769 [online]



The aim of the Chinese Journal of Communication (CJoC) is to boost Chinese communication studies via theoretical, empirical and methodological dimensions. The first three articles in this issue focus on China's coverage in TV news. The first article, by Willnat and Luo, analyses how China is represented in the media of 15 different countries and concludes that only a small percentage of foreign TV channels talk about China in their news and the topics dominating coverage focus principally on the country's internal politics, foreign policy and economic affairs. A second article by Lee, Chan and Zhou carries out a comparative analysis of data from 14 countries and analyses how television in these countries has covered the events and controversies regarding the Beijing Olympic Games and principally focuses on notions of *domestication* and *politicisation*. The third article, by Lin, Lo and Wang, investigates whether there is any bias in television foreign news in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan. An analysis of 565 items shows how foreign news focuses mainly on one country, the United States, concentrating on political issues and those of international interest, which are presented in a considerably sensationalist tone. The other block in the journal is made up of three articles with research carried out in Canada, Belgium and Germany including, in addition to television, the press and online media. Goodrum, Godo and Hayter examine how China is represented in Canadian media and de Swert and Wouters present an interesting article comparing the different coverage on the two Belgium television channels: public television had a correspondent in China while private television did not have one. The authors conclude that, while foreign correspondents deliver news coverage quality on many fronts at the same time, significant differences were not found in the news items. Finally, Wilke and Achatzi analyse how two German newspapers covered Chinese news from 1986 to 2006 and point out the significant rise in the economy as the main theme in the news and how both newspapers differ in their coverage according to their ideological lines.