

--Question Starting--

3. Which of the following statements best captures the contrasting effects of hashtag activism and slacktivism in the context of networked social movements?

I. Hashtag activism often catalyzes offline mobilization and policy change, whereas slacktivism primarily involves minimal online activities that rarely translate into concrete action.

II. Hashtag activism relies on high levels of digital engagement and collective identity, whereas slacktivism is characterized by superficial participation with low emotional investment.

III. Both forms of activism depend heavily on social media platforms, but only hashtag activism emphasizes sustained participatory engagement beyond online signatures.

IV. Slacktivism tends to create a sense of empowerment among users by enabling quick and easy participation, while hashtag activism often leads to burnout due to its high demands for sustained effort.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I and II only

(2) I, II, and III only

(3) II and III only

(4) I, III, and IV only

Answer Key: 3

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): Hashtag activism has been linked to offline protests and policy discussions, exemplified by movements like #MeToo or #BlackLivesMatter, which transcend digital boundaries. Slacktivism, on the other hand, involves superficial online actions like liking or sharing without real-world impact.

? Statement II(Correct): Hashtag activism often fosters a sense of collective identity and mobilization through shared narratives, whereas slacktivism involves minimal effort with low emotional or cognitive investment, such as viewing a post without further engagement.

? Statement III(Incorrect): While both rely on social media, slacktivism can sometimes be limited to superficial online interactions, and sustained participatory engagement is more characteristic of more organized or campaign-driven activism, not solely hashtag activism.

? Statement IV(Incorrect): Slacktivism's ease can create a false sense of empowerment but may also foster disengagement due to its superficial nature, and hashtag activism demands significant effort, especially when it involves organizing offline actions.

Hence, Option (3) is the right answer.

--Question Starting--

4. Considering the debates surrounding Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) and Voter Verified Paper Audit Trail (VVPAT), which of the following statements most comprehensively addresses the issues of trust, transparency, and auditability?

I. EVMs, combined with VVPAT, enhance electoral transparency by providing a physical record that can be cross-verified, yet skepticism persists due to concerns about potential tampering during electronic transmission.

II. VVPATs increase trust in the electoral process by allowing voters to verify their choices physically, but their manual counting process introduces delays that might undermine the perceived efficiency of elections.

III. Critics argue that EVMs are inherently vulnerable to hacking, and VVPATs, while adding a layer of auditability, do not fully eliminate the risk of manipulation, leading to ongoing debates about the overall integrity.

IV. The integration of EVMs with VVPATs has significantly reduced electoral disputes and increased public confidence, as the physical paper trail offers tangible evidence, although technical glitches can occasionally compromise trust.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I, II, and III only

(2) II, III, and IV only

(3) I, III, and IV only

(4) I, II, III, and IV

Answer Key: 1

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): The combination of EVMs with VVPATs does improve transparency by providing a verifiable paper trail, but concerns about security vulnerabilities, such as hacking or tampering during electronic transmission, persist, fueling skepticism.

? Statement II(Incorrect): While VVPATs do allow voters to verify their choices, the manual counting process can cause delays, but this does not necessarily undermine the overall trust if the process is transparent and well-managed; the statement overemphasizes delays as a primary concern.

? Statement III(Incorrect): Though vulnerabilities exist, the statement suggests that VVPATs do not fully eliminate manipulation risks. However, this is a debated point, and many studies show that combined use significantly enhances election integrity.

? Statement IV(Incorrect): The presence of technical glitches and occasional errors in VVPATs can undermine confidence temporarily, but overall, their contribution to reducing disputes is significant; the statement overstates the degree of absolute trust.

Hence, Option (1) is the right answer.

--Question Starting--

5. Which of the following statements best illustrates the interconnectedness and collective nature of networked social movements as explained by Castells, Bennett, and Segerberg?

I. Networked social movements operate through dense online and offline networks that facilitate rapid information dissemination and decentralized participation.

II. Connective action emphasizes personalized, issue-specific engagement that relies on digital media to mobilize individuals without requiring formal organizational structures.

III. Castells highlights the importance of network logic in social movements, where social media acts as a platform for social integration and collective identity formation.

IV. Bennett and Segerberg argue that connective action diminishes the role of individual agency by promoting uniform participation through institutional channels.

Choose the correct answer from the options given below:

(1) I, II, and III only

(2) I, III, and IV only

(3) II and III only

(4) I, II, III, and IV

Answer Key: 4

Solution:

? Statement I(Correct): Networked social movements are characterized by decentralized, flexible networks that facilitate rapid diffusion of information and coordination across various nodes, both online and offline.

? Statement II(Correct): Bennett and Segerberg's concept of connective action emphasizes personalized engagement, where digital media enables individuals to participate based on personal issues without the need for centralized organizations.

? Statement III(Correct): Castells emphasizes the importance of network logic, where social media platforms enable social integration, identity building, and collective action in a fluid, networked environment.

? Statement IV(Correct): Bennett and Segerberg argue that connective action enhances individual agency by allowing flexible, issue-based participation, reducing dependence on formal organizations and fostering personalized activism.

Hence, Option (4) is the right answer.