

Examining Political Polarization and Social Network Dynamics on Social Media

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Summary of the Proposal

Social media has changed the way people communicate and consume news and political information. However, it has been accused of aggravating political polarization and creating echo chambers that reinforce people's preexisting beliefs. The purpose of this literature review is to investigate research on political polarization and social network dynamics on social media platforms. The review will specifically examine the role of social networks in shaping political attitudes and behaviors, the impact of algorithmic curation on polarization, and the efficacy of intervention strategies to mitigate the effects of polarization.

Goal and Objectives

The literature review will employ a systematic search of seven articles whose names can be found in the annex. However, the search will be limited to articles published between 2010 and 2022. The review will include empirical studies, reviews, and meta-analyses that address the topic. The review of the literature is expected to provide a comprehensive overview of research on political polarization and social network dynamics on social media platforms. It will highlight promising intervention strategies to mitigate the effects of polarization and identify key research gaps. Furthermore, the review will provide insights into social media's potential as a tool for promoting political engagement and promoting deliberative dialogue.

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