Literature Review Notes

* **Polarization (This is the area of primary contribution) -** Beginning in the 1990’s, there has been an ongoing discussion of political polarization in the US (Fiorina and Abrams). Polarization within congress had surfaced in the literature as early as 1984 (Poole and Rosenthal).
  + Polarization of the elite–
  + Polarization of the masses - Studies have found little evidence of mass polarization (Fiorina and Abrams) – sort of
  + Po
* **Media Slant** – First to compare across time? Getnzkow uses a single year
* **Effect of News** – The news effects voting behavior, and to some extent public opinion (Gerber, Karlan and Bergan)

Strategy

* Polarization is occurring among the elite, in parties, unclear in the mass media
* Negative effects of polarization
  + Creates policies that create income inequality
* “even a short exposure to a daily newspaper influences voting behavior as well as some public opinions”

Keep for later possible use

* **Segregation (Less important)**  - Blogs are ideologically segregated (Lawrence, Sides and Farrell), but it does not appear that other internet news is (Gentzkow and Shapiro).