

Changes from Preregistration

Theoretical Background

Hypotheses

- We changed the order of the hypotheses.
- We changed the wording of the hypotheses (but not the content)
 - o Before: “H1: People are more likely to communicate actively on the website, the less they are concerned about their privacy.”
 - o Now: “H1: People are more likely to self-disclose on a website when they are less concerned about their privacy.”

Methods

Participants

Exclusion criteria: Initially, we planned to exclude all participants who finished the questionnaire in less than 6 minutes. However, we realized that this would lead to the deletion of participants who provided answers that seemed perfectly fine. In conclusion, we loosened the criterion to 3 minutes, which led to the exclusion of 27 participants. Results changed only marginally and do not hinge on exclusion.

Material

Expected Benefits

In the preregistration, we stated that we will measure expected benefits by means of 5 general items (“Using the participation platform had many benefits for me”). However, we had also designed additional items for more specific gratifications that we did not include in the preregistration (the preregistration stated that additional variables that one does not plan to analyze do not need to be preregistered). These specific measures of gratifications were hence used for additional analyses.

Trust

Originally, we operationalized trust for three entities (i.e., provider, website, and other users) with four subdimensions (i.e., general trust, ability, benevolence, and integrity). Only later did we realized that the literature differentiates between general and specific trust beliefs, which we could conceptualize with the items we measured. As a result, in the paper we differentiated both dimensions.

Self-Disclosure

We planned to operationalize self-disclosure by counting words plus likes/dislikes (the latter multiplied by two). However, for time constraints we have not yet implemented this operationalization, which we will do as a next step.

Results

Given that we found not apparent effects of the three websites on the privacy calculus, we did not test for indirect effects as proposed in the preregistration. We additionally also controlled for education (we probably forgot to explicitly mention it; results do not differ, but we think it should be included).