

Increased democratic youth participation through social media?

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VANICH
NOW

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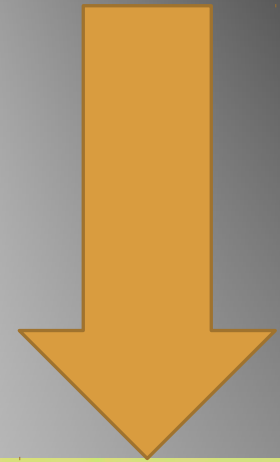
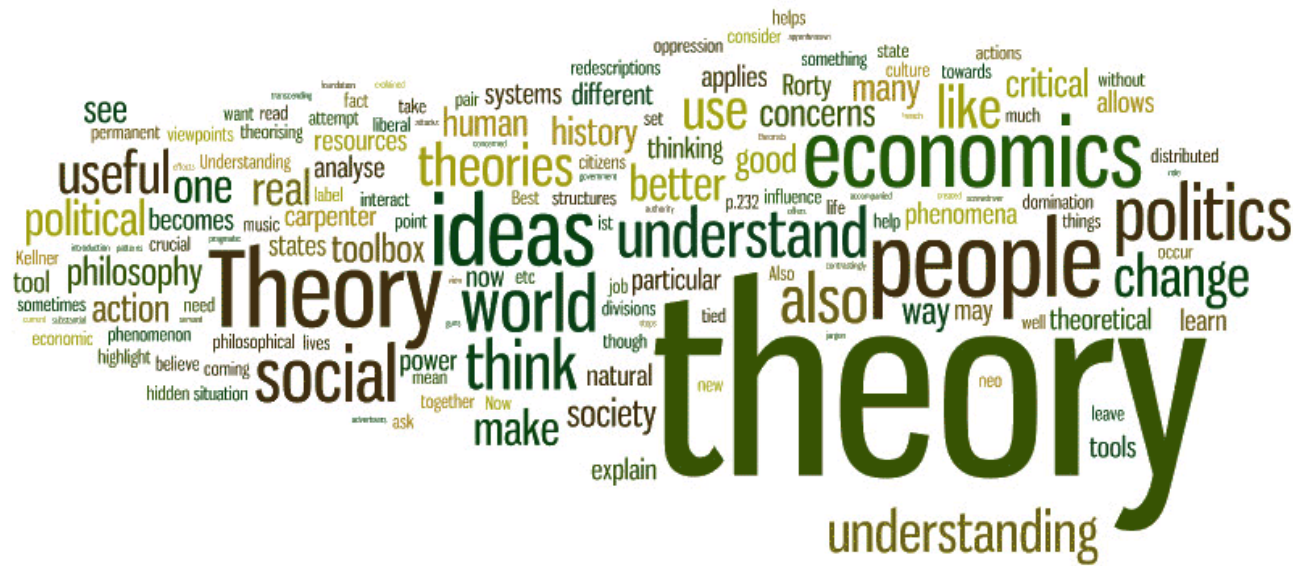
Background



New technologies:

- ❖ created new spaces for democratic participation?
- ❖ new challenges for participation?
- ❖ reshaping schools?
- ❖ Changing how we understand necessary basic skills?

Structure



Empirical evidence is that which is obtained through study, research, and observation.



Construction of democracy



- imaginary, an abstraction, a socially constructed phenomenon
- dependent on *human interaction* for its existence
- can make provisions for civic virtue or *areté*
- the negotiable abstraction of democracy is reified singularly in the citizenry
- individuals to propose new spaces for politics

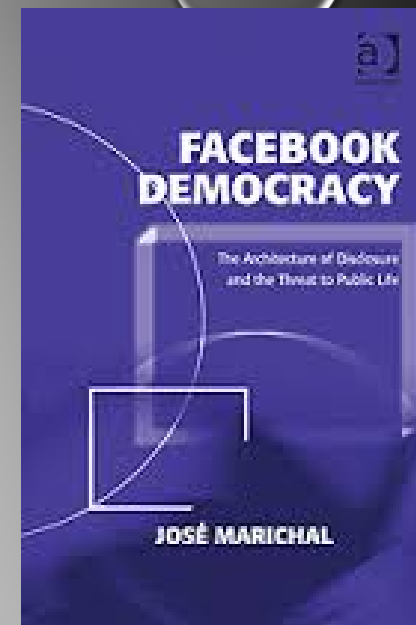
**The emerging model of the
digitally enabled citizen is
liquid and reflexive to
contemporary civic realities,
but also removed from civic
habits of the past**

Papacharissi, 2010, p. 19

Facebook in democracy

- ❖ a hybrid space
- ❖ the role of power may have been altered
- ❖ an architecture through which we are disciplined to become private and personal in a public or political sphere
- ❖ staging the presentation of our identities
- ❖ a new *agora*?

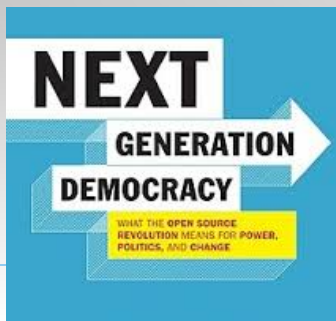
“NO, no!”



“Social media is nothing more than ...”

...social

- a need to challenge what we perceive as democratic activities?
- collective and democratic action is growing new roots?
- Critical voices more visible ([RADIAD](#))
- [#BringBackOurGirls](#) & [Refugees welcome to norway](#)
- a potential of mass-participation and for the citizens to seize power to shape social relations



The extent to which people use or are familiar with digital media and their level of internet skills may be among the **most important predictors of online political participation**

Jensen et al., 2012, p. 6

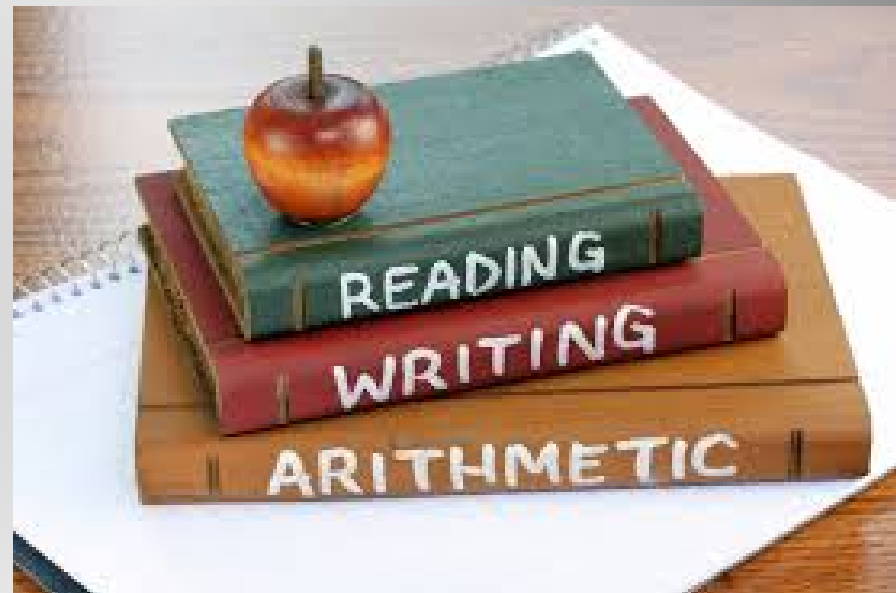
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In the modern *polis*

Norwegian education: five basic skills seen as fundamental to learning & citizenry

- ✓ Oral skills
- ✓ Reading
- ✓ Writing
- ✓ Digital skills
- ✓ Numeracy



And what did we do...?

Students' perception of democracy



Digital competence in democracy

- What is needed.... In school & society?
- Few students capable of searching and processing information at a high level
- Capable of using social media....., but....



In conclusion?

Thank you everybody!



Q & A TIME