

Does Political Knowledge Still Matter in the Internet Age?

Séance du 15 mai 2018 : Richard R. Lau

Resum

We try to answer that question first with survey data, providing a generational explanation for some of the important contingencies. But then I will describe the results of a major (DPTE) experiment where we actually manipulate the presence of the internet, and try to delve more deeply into some of the important mechanisms that may be at work. "Offloading" specific information to the internet can provide significant cognitive savings, which citizens can "cash in" and translate into the type of political benefits that, a generation ago, people could only get from political knowledge stored in long term memory.