Tangled Web: The Network of Beliefs, Attitudes and Personality Factors Associated with Internet File-Sharing
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Ethnic Organizations and Victimization: Perceptions and Management Among Asian American Students
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ABSTRACT: A recent quantitative study found that ethnic minorities in college campus ethnic organizations feel an increased sense of “ethnic victimization” - the perception that the self and people of the same ethnic group are targets for discrimination - as a result of their membership in their organization. The current more qualitative project seeks to determine (by means of twenty-four one-on-one interviews) if this is also the case for Asian American ethnic organizations, while also investigating their expressed reasons for feeling this (if indeed they do), their ways of managing and coping with it communicatively, and why they joined the organization in the first place. Results indicate that Asian American students in ethnic organizations feel victimized, but not as a result of their membership in their organization. Students engaged in different communicative behaviors depending on whether the incident of victimization was directed toward the individual or Asian Americans as an ethnic group.

Effects of Political Knowledge, Interest, and Efficacy on College Voter Turnout
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ABSTRACT: For the past two decades, scholars, policy-makers, and activists have all decried the decline of voter turnout in American elections. College-aged turnout is the lowest amongst all eligible age groups. Thus, increasing youth voter turnout was the target of several communication campaigns in the 2004 presidential election. Building upon the work of Downs, Putnam, and Rosenstone and Hansen, this study examines the various factors that underlie voter turnout, and it explores the effectiveness of mobilization and information campaigns. It was hypothesized that political knowledge, interest, and efficacy would be heightened after viewing stimulus television material, and that these factors would in turn increase college voter turnout. These ideas were tested with a pre-test post-test model that measured subjects’ levels of political knowledge, interest, and efficacy before and after exposure to one of the three videos: 1) excerpts from the presidential debates that influenced political knowledge, 2) selections from MTV’s “Choose or Lose” campaign that targeting youth voter interest, and 3) news segments from the 2000 presidential election in Florida which highlighted the importance of individual votes, thereby stimulating a sense of efficacy. Data analysis revealed that the manipulations of videos did not significantly increase voter turnout, but that the debate video increased knowledge, which increased turnout. Additionally, knowledge influenced the subjects' favorability ratings of the presidential candidates. Efficacy and interest were not significantly related to the video conditions or to voter turnout. These findings can be partially explained by the high turnout rate of the entire sample, which gave little room for manipulation effects.
Technology and Health Information Privacy: Consumers and the Implementation of Digital Medical Records Technology
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Public opinion and research have demonstrated that “while organizations claim the right to use information technology to improve efficiency, consumers often exhibit the desire to control the flow and dissemination of their personal information” (Milber, Smith, & Burke, 2000, p. 36). As a result, new technologies’ ability to maintain information security and privacy, important values among today’s consumers (Alpert, 2003; Jeffords, 1999; Mandl, Szolovits, & Kohane, 2001). Medical information systems that combine digital technology with the highly personal and sensitive information contained in medical records, are increasingly examined as to their ability to achieve their stated medical function, while maintaining a level of privacy consistent with the government’s medical privacy legislation (Alpert, 2003).