On-Screen Muslims: The Relation between Identity, Terrorism, and Public Policy
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Privacy Regulation and ‘Facebook’: An Application and Extension of Communication Privacy Management Theory
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INTRO: As the Internet increasingly infiltrates ad enriches our lives in new ways, threats to personal privacy swirl around digital networked technologies. Individuals battle to protect themselves from identity theft, credit card fraud, stalkers, workplace surveillance, and internet tracking ranging from cookies to “clicktrails,” all of which prompted Sun MicroSystems CEO Scott McNealy to declare that “privacy is dead” in the digital age (Froomkin, 2000; Meeks, 2000). Indeed, the recent appearance of social networking websites has increased the potential for exposing the private lives of individuals in a public realm. The popular social networking site Myspace.com boasts having approximately 35 million unique users, while Facebook.com has approximately 10 million registered users (Silverstein, 2006; Bogatin, 2006). As a college-oriented social networking site, Facebook typically attracts around 80 percent of a school’s undergraduate population and, via its users’ profiles, offers a wealth of personal data that is of potentially great value to external observers (Gross & Acquisti, 2005). While this new technological application allows millions of people to create accounts to form and maintain social contacts, more unconventional uses of these websites are surfacing, which include identity theft as well as physical and online stalking (Gross & Acquisti, 2005). Employers have also begun to screen job applicants’ Facebook profiles for clues about potential employees (Lewis, 2006). Many users of these technologies seem oblivious to the fact that they are creating public statements about themselves, and the potential consequences of the personal profiles they create, which often include suggestive photos and obscene comments, among other revealing information that may be accessed by co-workers, teachers, and employers in addition to peers.

Let’s Talk about Sex: The Effects of Implicit Theories of Relationships on Sexual Communication and Behavior in Couples
Alison McFerrin
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ABSTRACT: Despite the known impact of sexual decisions on individual and relational health, research on the role of sexual communication in romantic relationships has been limited by both theoretical and methodological shortcomings. To help address those concerns, this study applied the Implicit Theories of Relationships (ITR, individuals’ beliefs about the nature of relationship success), examined partners’ interactions about sexual topics, and assessed sexual decisions both prior and after the interaction. Forty-six undergraduate couples participated in the study. Initially, they each filled out a pre-questionnaire assessing sexual behavior, relationship views, knowledge of partner, health, etc. To assess actual communication, the couples were then videotapes discussing a variety of sexual topics. As a follow up, the couples came back two weeks later for a post-questionnaire, with many of the same assessments. Results showed a mixed support for the
utility of the ITR in this context, but offer considerable insight into the nature of sexual conversations between couples and their impact on safer-sex decisions.

Attitudinal and Behavioral Effects of Television Sex-Role Stereotyping
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ABSTRACT: This study investigated how adult viewers’ sex role attitudes and behaviors might be affected by exposure to sex-role stereotyping in mainstream television. In addition, the study sought to determine which genres of television might lead to the strongest attitudinal and behavioral effects. Hypotheses suggested that both viewers’ sex-role attitudes and behaviors would be stronger, or more traditional, with greater exposure to television. Additionally, research questions were posed asking the extent to which specific genres of television, like sports or reality programs, contributed to differences in sex-role attitudes and behaviors in viewers. Results indicate that some aspects of viewers’ sex-role attitudes are correlated with their television exposure, yet the relationship between television exposure and behavioral effects was not supported. Television genres were more indicative of viewer effects than total television exposure, though no clear pattern of effects emerged. Implications for future research are discussed.

Intercultural Communication: The Factors that Affect Abroad Students’ Perceived Acceptance into the Host Culture
Mary Shirley
Faculty Advisor: Howie Giles
ABSTRACT: Studying abroad is one of the most effective ways to achieve effective intercultural communication. This study aimed to test the factors that directly and indirectly affect a student’s perceived acceptance into the host culture, and further, measure their intent to have intercultural experiences once they are returned home. Through an online survey, 110 returned abroad students from UCSB rated their foreign language confidence, international awareness, integrative motivation, and willingness to communicate (WTC) in the language or dialect of the host country. It was hypothesized that these factors are both directly and indirectly related to perceived acceptance in the host culture. WTC, which measures the likelihood one would initiate communication given a chance, was hypothesized as the strongest of these factors in predicting a student’s perceived acceptance. It was also hypothesized that high perceived acceptance levels would lead to high intercultural intent. It was found that WTC is a very significant predictor of perceived acceptance into the host culture, and moreover, that perceived acceptance is a strong indicator of intercultural intent. Language confidence significantly predicted WTC, but there was no significant relationship found between integrative motivation and international awareness to wither WTC or perceived acceptance. These findings indicate that WTC is a very important component in the perception of acceptance abroad, and also that additional research is needed to uncover the additional factors that may affect the adaptation process for abroad students.