

## Assignment 9: Reflection

### Sociology 204: Social Networks

Due: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 11am.

*Please upload your homework to Canvas.*

Allcott et al. collected data from participants about one month after the treatment stopped. They called this the post-endline data collection. These responses were analyzed in their paper as well as Baym et al. (2020). You will now do the same thing, although a much shorter time window has passed since the treatment ended (in our case about two weeks).

First please fill out the "Evaluation survey" posted on Canvas. These responses are anonymous, and they will help us understand and improve this activity.

Please answer the following questions (about one paragraph each).

- 1) Restate your intervention and original hypothesis.
- 2) How has the way you used [the social media platform involved in your treatment (e.g., Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc)] changed, if at all, since taking part in this activity?
- 3) Baym et al. (2020) talk about changes in awareness and behavior. You have already described changes in behavior in question 2. How did this intervention change your awareness of the social media platform involved in your treatment? You should include both positive and negative awareness.
- 4) How, if at all, did learning about the Facebook Files change how you think your self-experimentation? Also, how, if at all, did your self-experimentation change you think about the Facebook Files?
- 5) How would you recommend that we improve this activity for future classes?

We will assess your responses using the following rubric.

Good answers will:

- Respond directly to the question
- Be clear and specific, using data as appropriate
- Avoid including unnecessary information
- Be easy to read and will not include typos or grammatical errors

100: all good answers

90: mostly good answers

80: many good answers

70: a few good answers

## Alternate assignment 9

Much of the popular discussion about the impact of social media on individuals is quite negative. However, there are some studies that find positive effects of social media in some situations. Find three studies that report that social media can be helpful or beneficial in some way. Summarize the design and findings of these studies. How do you reconcile these findings with all the negative findings about social media? Your write-up should be no more than 3 pages.