

Thesis Portfolio

PowerShare
(Technical Report)

Technology and Social Media's Impact on Politics
(STS Research Paper)

An Undergraduate Thesis

Presented to the Faculty of the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences
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In Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree
Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

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Technology and Social Media's Impact on Politics

Social media and technology has a significant impact on politics. The technology that I am creating to address this problem is a cross-platform mobile application that bridges the gap of communication between voters and elected officials. It is built with a React Native front end and a Firebase backend. The human and social dimensions of this technology is important to consider because this technology shows the impact that technology has on voter communication and politics as a whole. One theory that I might use to analyze my problem solving approach is that of techno-politics. Techno-politics is the theory that technological artifacts themselves have political properties, and this will likely be highly pertinent to my research. I will first be giving out surveys to voters in order to gain an initial understanding of how social media impacts their politics. I will then be diving into more detail through interviews. Through my research, I expect to find that social media and technology are highly interconnected with politics. My technology will show one of the many ways that social media and Internet can impact politics, which is through it facilitating voter and elected official communication.