

Presentation

Crossing Politics and Political Communication in Latin America

The articles published in this issue of the Journal of Latin American Communication Research problematize media and communication politics and political communication in the region. Reaching over academia, crossing over print media coverage of political campaigns and extending over popular and media cultures, the articles cover a wide span of topics relating politics and political communication.

Crossing Politics and Political Communication in Latin American opens with Andrés Cañizales' review of media or communication centrality in politics in Latin-American. The author shows the complex relationship between media and politics in Latin America. Having Venezuela as case study, he focuses in the country's academic production during the "Bolivarian Revolution", spanning from 2000 to 2012.

The news coverage of the 2002 Luiz Inácio "Lula" da Silva's presidential campaign is the subject of Tania Cantrell Rosas-Moreno paper. Through a triangulation methodology, she analyses 285 US and Brazilian newspaper accounts from the 2000 US and 2002 Brazilian presidential elections to compare Bush and Lula's campaigns, respectively. The paper offers insight into media and political nation building through news mythmaking while complementing other cross-cultural comparisons that analyze the relationships among national media practices and presidential elections.

The politics of social media is theme of Manuel G. Avilés-Santiago's analysis of the ways social media demonstrates an unexpected networked power vis-à-vis the entrenched power of a major media corporation. Using as case study the role played by social media in the boycott and eventual cancellation of Puerto Rico's highest rated TV gossip show, titled *SuperXclusivo*, Avilés-Santiago also demonstrates the ways social media reconfigures cultural citizenship. Through online ethnography and close textual analysis the author offers a close reading into an event that embodied larger social and political phenomena.

Rubén Ramírez-Sánchez examines the politics of punk culture in punk culture in shaping the emergence of *rock en español* in Puerto Rico. Ramírez-Sánchez argues that while a long history of *rock en español* has been strongly present in Latin America for decades, the phenomenon is historically recent in Puerto Rico, despite a deeply rooted rock culture. The author analyses fanzines, media artifacts, first-hand accounts, and interviews to a sketch of the emergence of both rock culture and punk culture in Puerto Rico.

Overall, the articles serve to problematize media and communication politics and political communication in Latin American. Hopefully, you will be encourage to accept our future call for papers and join the Journal's interest in the development Latin America's critical thought in the field of communication studies.

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Editor