

Shawn Goh

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I am a policy researcher studying the social impact of digital media and the internet.

Education

Bachelor of Science (Honours), December 2016
Double Major in Life Sciences & Sociology, Highest Distinction (4.75/5)
National University of Singapore (NUS)

Advanced Diploma in Data Analytics and Machine Learning, June 2021
Singapore Management University (SMU)

Research interests

mis/disinformation; digital literacy and inclusion; online civic engagement; policy and political communications; social data science; digital ethnography

Selected publications

Academic publications

- [Goh, S.](#), & Soon, C. (2021). Singapore's fake news law: Countering populists' falsehoods and truth-making. In Tumber, H. & Waisbord, S. (Eds.), *The Routledge Companion to Media Disinformation and Populism* (pp. 459-469). Routledge.
- [Goh, S.](#), & Soon, C. (2019). Governing the information ecosystem: Southeast Asia's fight against political deceit. *Public Integrity*, 21, 523-536.
- Soon, C., & [Goh, S.](#) (2019). 5Cs to combat deliberate online falsehoods [Paper presentation]. 69th Annual International Communication Association Conference: Fake News Beyond Boundaries: Misinformation, Disinformation, and Challenges to Democracy in Asia, Washington, D.C.

Op-eds and commentaries

- Soon, C. & [Goh, S.](#) (2021, Feb 12). Let's build immunity against vaccine falsehoods. *The Straits Times*.
- Soon, C. & [Goh, S.](#) (2021, Jan 17). Singapore needs a new Smart Nation vision that doesn't leave any citizen behind. *Channel NewsAsia*.
- Goh, S. (2020). Tweeting Singapore's general election 2020: The July 1st political debate. *IPS Commons*.
- Soon, C. & [Goh, S.](#) (2019). Fake news law: Calibrated approach, but nimbleness needed. *The Straits Times*.
- [Goh, S.](#), & Soon, C. (2018). To tackle deliberate online falsehoods, look also to non-legislative efforts. *Channel NewsAsia*.
- Soon, C., & [Goh, S.](#) (2018). 5Cs to fight online falsehoods. *The Straits Times*.
- Goh, S. (2017). Fake news tells more than just lies. *TODAY Online*.

Professional experience

Research Assistant, Institute of Policy Studies, NUS

2017 – current

- Designed and conducted empirical research using a range of methods, including surveys, in-depth interviews, and experiments. Key projects include (1) assessing the influence of family environment on ICT use among children and youths; (2) understanding Singaporeans' susceptibility to false information; (3)

examining the impact of message design on attitudes towards ambivalent policy issues; (4) investigating civic engagement among youths on social media.

- Led computational communication research collaboration with SMU data scientists. Key projects include (1) mapping Singaporeans' news information consumption patterns on Twitter and Facebook; (2) sentiment analysis of online political discourse in Singapore.
- Conceptualised and organised events that convened experts from the public, private, and people sectors to deliberate on key policy issues. Examples include the IPS-MCI Roundtable on Hostile Information Campaigns, IPS-MLC Better Internet Workshop, and the IPS-SAM Spotlight on Cultural Policy Roundtable Series.
- Presented research findings at various platforms, including the 2018 Singapore Parliamentary Select Committee on Deliberate Online Falsehoods, several high-level Ministerial Policy Meetings, as well as to local mainstream media outlets.
- Authored a wide range of publications to communicate research findings, such as journal articles, book chapters, op-eds, and research papers.

Community research & engagement

Community research

- Conducted ethnographic research on Chinese house temples in Singapore as an independent researcher, studying the production of sacred space including in digital spaces, which led to a journal paper titled, "Making space for the gods: Ethnographic observations of Chinese house temples in Singapore", published in *Religions*.
- Volunteered in the 2019 and 2021 nation-wide research on rough sleepers in Singapore, which led to methodological and policy contributions on the issue of homelessness.

Community engagement

- Contributed to developing two products by better.sg, a non-profit civic tech organisation that builds digital tools to solve societal problems in Singapore — (1) Verifact, a community-based fact-checking platform that crowdsources corrective information to debunk falsehoods; (2) Grave Matters, a story bank on end-of-life issues to encourage better conversations about death and dying.
- Contributed to community development through community mapping of rental flat neighbourhoods in Singapore, and mentored polytechnic students on using interview and ethnographic methods for community mapping.

Awards

Placed on the Dean's List in 2015 and 2013 for outstanding academic performance.

Skills

- Qualitative research (interviews and ethnography)
- Quantitative research and statistical analysis (SPSS proficient)
- Experimental research
- R and Python (data mining, wrangling, visualisation and statistical analysis)