EVIDENCE AND EXPERTS IN A POST-TRUTH WORLD

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The post-truth world where reality becomes fungible

- Virality seems privileged over quality in the distribution of information
- Truth and fact are losing currency

Scarcity of attention and abundance of information

- Algorithms sort us into groups of like-minded individuals create echo chambers that amplify our views, leave us uninformed of opposing arguments, and polarise our societies
Voter turnout
Civic knowledge proficiency

International Civics and Citizenship Study, 2016
Digital reading skills

Students below Level 2

Students at or above Level 2
ESCS and digital skills

Variation in digital reading performance explained by socio-economic status, 2012

ESCS and attitudes & motivation towards ICTs

The Internet is good resource for obtaining practical information, 2015

Feeling bad if not connected to the Internet (PISA)

Boys

Girls
What skills?

Civic competence

- research, critically assess and use sources of information
- engage in public deliberation with informed and critical viewpoints and respectful attitudes
- produce civic-related content and effectively distribute and communicate it
- build networks for civic and political mobilisation
Open questions

• Are we in the same game, or has the paradigm shifted?

• Is this an “evidence backlash” or is this something more?

• Who are the major players and how do we reinforce the relationships and structures that matter?
Knowledge networks

Policy-makers ↔ Researchers

Practitioners

Leaders

Media

Parents

School boards

Capacity: strengths/weaknesses of each link?
Role of brokerage agencies?
Thank you!

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