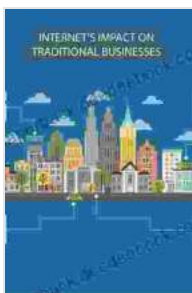# How Internet Use Changes Citizens' Views of Their Government

The internet has become an integral part of our lives, and it has had a profound impact on the way we interact with the world around us. This includes the way we view our government.

In this article, we will explore how internet use changes citizens' views of their government. We will examine the positive and negative effects of the internet on political participation, trust in government, and government responsiveness.

**Democracy's Double-Edged Sword: How Internet Use Changes Citizens' Views of Their Government** by Ira Progoff

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

| | |
|---|---|
| Language | : English |
| File size | : 3406 KB |
| Text-to-Speech | : Enabled |
| Screen Reader | : Supported |
| Enhanced typesetting | : Enabled |
| Word Wise | : Enabled |
| Print length | : 222 pages |
| Lending | : Enabled |

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**Positive Effects of Internet Use on Citizens' Views of their Government**

- **Increased political participation.** The internet has made it easier for citizens to participate in the political process. In the past, citizens had

to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about politics. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about politics online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and participate in online discussions about politics. This increased access to information and opportunities for participation has led to an increase in political participation.

- **Increased trust in government.** The internet has also helped to increase trust in government. In the past, citizens had to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about government. These sources often presented a negative view of government. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about government online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and share their experiences with government. This increased access to information and opportunities for sharing has led to an increase in trust in government.

- **Increased government responsiveness.** The internet has also made it easier for citizens to hold their government accountable. In the past, citizens had to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about government. These sources often presented a negative view of government and were not always responsive to the concerns of citizens. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about government online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and share their concerns with government. This increased access to information and opportunities for sharing has led to an increase in government responsiveness.

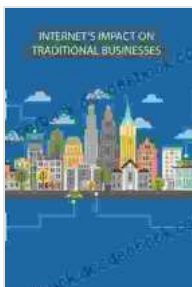**Negative Effects of Internet Use on Citizens' Views of their Government**

- **Increased political polarization.** The internet has also contributed to increased political polarization. In the past, citizens had to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about politics. These sources often presented a balanced view of politics. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about politics online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and participate in online discussions about politics. This increased access to information and opportunities for participation has led to increased political polarization.

- **Decreased trust in government.** The internet has also contributed to decreased trust in government. In the past, citizens had to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about government. These sources often presented a negative view of government. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about government online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and share their experiences with government. This increased access to information and opportunities for sharing has led to decreased trust in government.

- **Decreased government responsiveness.** The internet has also made it easier for citizens to hold their government accountable. In the past, citizens had to rely on traditional media sources, such as newspapers and television, to get information about government. These sources often presented a negative view of government and were not always responsive to the concerns of citizens. Today, citizens can access a wealth of information about government online. They can also use the internet to connect with other citizens and share their

concerns with government. This increased access to information and opportunities for sharing has led to decreased government responsiveness.

The internet has had a profound impact on the way we view our government. It has made it easier for us to participate in the political process, increased our trust in government, and made government more responsive to our needs. However, the internet has also contributed to increased political polarization, decreased trust in government, and decreased government responsiveness.

It is important to be aware of both the positive and negative effects of the internet on our views of government. We need to use the internet to our advantage to participate in the political process, increase our trust in government, and hold government accountable. However, we also need to be aware of the potential negative effects of the internet and take steps to mitigate them.

The internet is a powerful tool that can be used to improve our democracy. However, it is important to use it wisely.
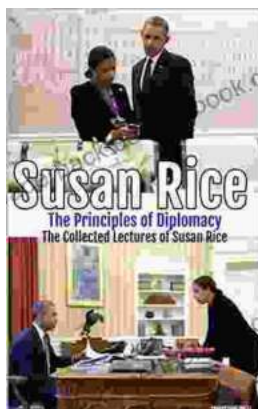


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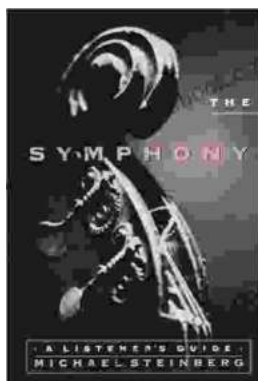| | |
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