



**NUS**  
National University  
of Singapore

Centre for Family and Population Research  
Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences

2019 CFPR LUNCHTIME SEMINAR SERIES

## ONLINE INTERACTION, SOCIAL ENGAGEMENT AND OUT-GROUP TRUST

*The literature has documented conflicting evidence regarding the association between online interaction and social trust. To resolve the inconsistency, this study 1) makes a distinction between in-group and out-group online interaction, 2) uses a more refined measure of trust, out-group trust, and 3) investigates the joint effect between online interaction and offline social engagement. Online interaction may impair out-group trust when like-minded people congregate at the online echo chamber and breed intergroup prejudice. Online interaction in contrast may breed out-group trust if it facilitates intergroup contacts among heterogenous others. Additionally, online interaction and offline social engagement may reinforce, substitute, or supplement each other in their relationship with out-group trust. Data are from the 2006 United States Citizenship, Involvement, Democracy (CID) survey. The multiply-imputed linear regression shows that out-group online interaction is positively related to out-group trust, supporting the contact hypothesis. Conversely, in-group online interaction is negatively related to out-group trust, which reaffirms the echo-chamber perspectives. The interaction term reveals a supplementary role of out-group online interaction: out-group online interaction is more strongly related to out-group trust among those who lack social engagement.*



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Pildoo Sung is a PhD candidate at the department of sociology, National University of Singapore. His research interests include social capital, trust, volunteering, and social determinants of health. Currently, he is writing a dissertation in which he examines if and how in-/out-group trust is associated health around the world.

Chaired by: A/Prof Joonmo Son  
Dept of Sociology, NUS

Date: 22 Feb 2019 | Time: 1200noon - 130pm | Venue: Ventus Evans Room  
Light lunch will be served. Registrations is required.

Register at <https://tinyurl.com/yb2r5gbj>