Information literacy as a policy of promoting citizen participation and wellbeing

ANNA-AURORA KORK

TUULI TURJA

KAISA KURKELA

MARJAANA JONES

ANNI JÄNTTI

Advancing information literacy (IL) of citizens is considered an objective of welfare policy bringing socio-political and techno-economic advantages. This study contributes to the policy discussions of IL, connecting it with citizen participation. We ask what kind of participation is attached to IL policy and how its relevance is justified. Rhetorical political analysis is applied to the content of Finnish policy documents. The results suggest that – depending on the political context – IL is linked to citizen participation arguments by advocating citizens' empowerment and involvement in their own affairs, customer co-creation of public services, citizens' active involvement in digital society and civic participation. IL policy is justified through the rhetoric of democracy, equality, motivation and interaction. Concurrently, IL is described as promoting social inclusion, joint decision-making, digital participation and citizens' engagement in socio-political activities. This study enhances the understanding of IL as building participatory politics and society.

Instagram as a platform for gendered politics

HANNA YLÖSTALO
HEINI KINNUNEN

The article examines Instagram as a platform for gendered politics and asks what kind of politics Instagram represents. It uses as data Sanna Marin's government's five key ministers' Instagram images and captions from 2021 (N=915) and Instagram stories from April 2022 (N=550). It combines quantitative and qualitative content analysis. The article employs the notions of depoliticization and politicization as a conceptual framework for analyzing gendered politics in Instagram. It shows that politics in Instagram materializes through tensions between the private and the public, the masculine and the feminine, political differences and collaboration, depoliticization and politicization. It is built on the masculine practices of parliamentary politics, while also drawing from a range of feminine forms of everyday politics typical of Instagram. It diversifies gendered political representation, but lacks concrete gender equality policy content.

Key words: depoliticization, Instagram, social media, gender, gender equality policy