



Jennifer Pan

Sir Robert Ho Tung Professor of Chinese Studies, Professor of Communication, Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies and Professor, by courtesy, of Political Science and of Sociology

Bio

BIO

Jennifer Pan is a political scientist whose research focuses on political communication, digital media, and authoritarian politics. She is the Sir Robert Ho Tung Professor of Chinese Studies, Professor of Communication and (by courtesy) Political Science and Sociology, and a Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute.

Dr. Pan's research uses experimental and computational methods with large-scale datasets on political activity to answer questions about the role of digital media in politics, including how political censorship, propaganda, and information manipulation work in the digital age and how preferences and behaviors are shaped as a result. Her work has appeared in peer-reviewed publications such as the American Political Science Review, American Journal of Political Science, Journal of Politics, Science, and Nature.

She graduated from Princeton University, summa cum laude, and received her Ph.D. from Harvard University's Department of Government.

ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

- Professor, Communication
- Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies
- Professor (By courtesy), Political Science
- Professor (By courtesy), Sociology
- Faculty Affiliate, Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence (HAI)

PROGRAM AFFILIATIONS

- Center for East Asian Studies

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- BA, Princeton University , School of Public and International Affairs (2004)
- PhD, Harvard University , Government (2015)

LINKS

- jenpan.com: <http://jenpan.com/>

Teaching

COURSES

2025-26

- Censorship and Propaganda: COMM 158, COMM 258 (Aut)
- Communication Research Methods: COMM 106, COMM 206 (Aut)

2024-25

- Communication Research Methods: COMM 106, COMM 206 (Aut)
- Technology and Governance in China: OSPBEIJ 50 (Spr)

2023-24

- Censorship and Propaganda: COMM 158, COMM 258 (Aut)
- Communication Research Methods: COMM 106, COMM 206 (Aut)

2022-23

- Communication Research Methods: COMM 106, COMM 206 (Aut)
- Digital Repression: COMM 383 (Aut)

STANFORD ADVISEES

Doctoral Dissertation Advisor (AC)

Matt DeButts

Master's Program Advisor

Samuel Garewal, Ella Genasci Smith, Mobina Riazi, Nate Viotti, Hongmei Yu

Doctoral (Program)

Matt DeButts, Emily Zou

Publications

PUBLICATIONS

- **How deceptive online networks reached millions in the US 2020 elections.** *Nature human behaviour*
Appel, R. E., Kim, Y. M., Pan, J., Xu, Y., Nimmo, B., Thomas, D. R., Allcott, H., Barberá, P., Brown, T., Crespo-Tenorio, A., Dimmery, D., Freelon, D., Gentzkow, et al
2026
- **The effects of political advertising on Facebook and Instagram before the 2020 US election.** *Nature human behaviour*
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2026
- **Political censorship in large language models originating from China.** *PNAS nexus*
Pan, J., Xu, X.
2026; 5 (2): pgag013
- **Disguised Repression: Targeting Opponents with Nonpolitical Crimes to Undermine Dissent** *JOURNAL OF POLITICS*
Pan, J., Xu, X., Xu, Y.
2026
- **Gauging preference stability under authoritarianism** *RESEARCH & POLITICS*
Pan, J., Xu, Y.

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- **Decentralized propaganda in the era of digital media: The massive presence of the Chinese state on Douyin** *AMERICAN JOURNAL OF POLITICAL SCIENCE*
Lu, Y., Pan, J., Xu, X., Xu, Y.
2025
- **Across the firewall: Foreign media's role in shaping Chinese social media narratives on the Russo-Ukrainian War.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*
Hanley, H. W., Lu, Y., Pan, J.
2025; 122 (1): e2420607122
- **Biased LLMs can Influence Political Decision-Making**
Fisher, J., Feng, S., Aron, R., Richardson, T., Choi, Y., Fisher, D. W., Pan, J., Tsvetkov, Y., Reinecke, K.
edited by Che, W., Nabende, J., Shutova, E., Pilehvar, M. T.
ASSOC COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS-ACL.2025: 6559-6607
- **Position: Political Neutrality in AI Is Impossible - But Here Is How to Approximate It**
Fisher, J., Appel, R. E., Park, C., Potter, Y., Jiang, L., Sorensen, T., Feng, S., Tsvetkov, Y., Tsvetkov, Y., Roberts, M. E., Pan, J., Song, D., Choi, et al
edited by Singh, A., Fazel, M., Hsu, D., Lacoste-Julien, S., Berkenkamp, F., Maharaj, T., Wagstaff, K., Zhu, J.
JMLR-JOURNAL MACHINE LEARNING RESEARCH.2025: 81315-81374
- **The Diffusion and Reach of (Mis)Information on Facebook During the U.S. 2020 Election** *SOCIOLOGICAL SCIENCE*
Gonzalez-Bailon, S., Lazer, D., Barbera, P., Godel, W., Allcott, H., Brown, T., Crespo-Tenorio, A., Freelon, D., Gentzkow, M., Guess, A. M., Iyengar, S., Kim, Y., Malhotra, et al
2024; 11: 1124-1146
- **China's internet controls: What if citizens disengage?** *COMMUNICATION AND THE PUBLIC*
Debutts, M., Pan, J.
2024; 9 (4): 431-435
- **Gender and Political Compliance Under Authoritarian Rule** *COMPARATIVE POLITICAL STUDIES*
Fan, Y., Pan, J., Zhang, T.
2024
- **January 6 arrests and media coverage do not remobilize conservatives on social media.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*
Dahlke, R., Pan, J.
2024; 121 (23): e2401239121
- **The effects of Facebook and Instagram on the 2020 election: A deactivation experiment.** *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America*
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- **Reporting after removal: the effects of journalist expulsion on foreign news coverage** *JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION*
Debutts, M., Pan, J.
2024
- **Partisan conflict over content moderation is more than disagreement about facts.** *Science advances*
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- Guess, A. M., Malhotra, N., Pan, J., Barberá, P., Allcott, H., Brown, T., Crespo-Tenorio, A., Dimmery, D., Freelon, D., Gentzkow, M., González-Bailón, S., Kennedy, E., Kim, et al
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- **Asymmetric ideological segregation in exposure to political news on Facebook.** *Science (New York, N.Y.)*
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 - **How do social media feed algorithms affect attitudes and behavior in an election campaign?** *Science (New York, N.Y.)*
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 - **Like-minded sources on Facebook are prevalent but not polarizing.** *Nature*
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 - **Strategies of Chinese State Media on Twitter** *POLITICAL COMMUNICATION*
Fan, Y., Pan, J., Sheng, J.
2023
 - **How Information Flows from the World to China** *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PRESS-POLITICS*
Lu, Y., Schaefer, J., Park, K., Joo, J., Pan, J.
2022
 - **How government-controlled media shifts policy attitudes through framing** *POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND METHODS*
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 - **The digital repression of social movements, protest, and activism: A synthetic review.** *Science advances*
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 - **Selectively localized: Temporal and visual structure of smartphone screen activity across media environments** *MOBILE MEDIA & COMMUNICATION*
Muise, D., Lu, Y., Pan, J., Reeves, B.
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 - **Does ideology influence hiring in China? evidence from two randomized experiments** *POLITICAL SCIENCE RESEARCH AND METHODS*
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 - **Response to Manfred Elstrom's Review of Welfare for Autocrats: How Social Assistance in China Cares for its Rulers** *PERSPECTIVES ON POLITICS*
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 - **Response to Manfred Elstrom's Review of Welfare for Autocrats: How Social Assistance in China Cares for its Rulers** *PERSPECTIVES ON POLITICS*
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 - **Workers and Change in China: Resistance, Repression, Responsiveness (Book Review)** *PERSPECTIVES ON POLITICS*
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 - **How Saudi Crackdowns Fail to Silence Online Dissent** *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
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 - **Censorship's Effect on Incidental Exposure to Information: Evidence From Wikipedia** *SAGE OPEN*
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 - **How the Market for Social Media Shapes Strategies of Internet Censorship** *DIGITAL MEDIA AND DEMOCRATIC FUTURES*
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 - **Screenomics: a framework to capture and analyze personal life experiences and the ways that technology shapes them** *Human-Computer Interaction*
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 - **CASM: A DEEP-LEARNING APPROACH FOR IDENTIFYING COLLECTIVE ACTION EVENTS WITH TEXT AND IMAGE DATA FROM SOCIAL MEDIA** *SOCIOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY, VOL 49*
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 - **Concealing Corruption: How Chinese Officials Distort Upward Reporting of Online Grievances** *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
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 - **China's Newsmakers: Official Media Coverage and Political Shifts in the Xi Jinping Era** *CHINA QUARTERLY*
Jaros, K., Pan, J.
2018; 233: 111–36
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ASSOC COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS-ACL.2018: 3570-3580
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- **Conditional Receptivity to Citizen Participation: Evidence From a Survey Experiment in China** *COMPARATIVE POLITICAL STUDIES*
Meng, T., Pan, J., Yang, P.
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- **How Market Dynamics of Domestic and Foreign Social Media Firms Shape Strategies of Internet Censorship** *PROBLEMS OF POST-COMMUNISM*
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King, G., Pan, J., Roberts, M. E.
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- **How Censorship in China Allows Government Criticism but Silences Collective Expression** *AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE REVIEW*
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