Conceptualizing and Testing a Social Cognitive Model of Digital Divide

Digital divide has loomed as a public policy issue for over a decade. Yet, a theoretical account for the effects of digital divide is currently lacking. This study examines three levels of digital divide.

Digital access divide (the first level digital divide) is the inequality in access to information technology (IT) in homes and schools. Digital capability divide (the second level digital divide) is the inequality in capability to exploit IT arising from the first level digital divide and other contextual factors. Digital outcome divide (the third level digital divide) is the inequality in outcomes (e.g., learning and productivity) of exploiting IT arising from the second level digital divide and other contextual factors. Drawing on social cognitive theory and computer self-efficacy literature, we developed a model to show how digital access divide affects digital capability divide and digital outcome divide among students.

簡介:

Dr Kwok-Kee Wei is Dean and Chair Professor of Information Systems in the Faculty of Business at the City University of Hong Kong. He is Fellow of the Association of Information Systems (AIS). He has developed a strong research culture and initiated major research efforts that resulted in both NUS and CityU IS Departments being placed among the Top 15 IS departments worldwide. Dr Wei has published more than 150 journal and conference papers. Based on Social Science Citation Index, his works have been cited over 780 times. He is actively pursuing research on e-commerce, knowledge management and supply chain management systems.