

## Study shows people think less of co-workers who share political beliefs on social media

May 23 2016

---



Credit: Florida Institute of Technology

Think twice before posting anything to do with politics on Facebook, it could harm your reputation at work.

"Most [employees](#) know that talking politics at work is not a good idea,"

said Erin Richard, an associate professor of Psychology at the Florida Institute of Technology who worked on the research project with PhD graduate student, Felicia Kaloydis. "But they might forget that their posts on Facebook can be seen by their [coworkers](#).

"Our study found that the more employees disclosed their political [beliefs](#) on Facebook (through posts, shares, likes, etc.), the more disliked they were by coworkers who viewed this information."

In turn, Richard continued, the poster's coworkers helped them less, trusted them less, and even rated their job performance lower.

"This was the case even when the coworker reported their political beliefs to be in line with the focal employee's beliefs," said Richard.

So the take-home message is: If you are friends with your coworkers on social media, refrain from sharing that political meme, opinion or blog post regardless of whether you think they'll agree with it.

Provided by Florida Institute of Technology

Citation: Study shows people think less of co-workers who share political beliefs on social media (2016, May 23) retrieved 27 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2016-05-people-co-workers-political-beliefs-social.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--