



Universität Stuttgart

Institut für Sozialwissenschaften

Abteilung SOWI II Prof. Dr. André Baechtiger

Politische Theorie und Empirische Demokratieforschung

Anonymity and Deliberation

Discussions of anonymity and deliberation have repeatedly circled around two contradictory normative positions. One is that anonymity is valuable because it enables expression free from fear of repercussions. The other is that anonymity is destructive because it enables expression free from fear of repercussions. This suggests a simple trade-off between the goods and dangers associated with anonymous and real-name architectures. In the context of online discourse, many people would resolve this trade-off in the way suggested by Facebook: 'anonymity on the Internet has to go away'. The talk will introduce some theoretical considerations on the connection between identity disclosure and communicative accountability. Then it will discuss the results of an empirical research project on the way in which identity disclosure affects people's behaviour in online news comments. And finally, I will conclude with some broader reflections on deliberative democracy in the age of the Internet.

**Donnerstag, 12. April 2018,
12:00 - 13:15 Uhr, Breitscheidstraße 2,
4. Stock, Raum 4.06**

Alle sind herzlich eingeladen!

**Dr. Alfred
Moore**

University of York



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