PAOLA SOTO HERRERA
Rochester Institute of Technology, United States

RUDY PUGLIESE
Rochester Institute of Technology, United States

LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIPS AND MEDIA SELECTION

Abstract:

The present study investigated long-distance relationships and media use. It surveyed individuals involved in long distance relationships to determine which media are most often used, whether they are more likely to use rich or lean media, and whether family, friends, and romantic partners differ in their selection of media. Instant Messaging, social media (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat), telephone (cellular, mobile, or landline), online video chat, online audio chat, SMS, and regular mail were the most popular media. Romantic partners were more likely than either family or friends to use Instant messaging, the telephone, audio chat, and video chat. Results provide support for Rich Media Theory within the context of long-distance relationships. Additional findings are presented.

Keywords:

media, long-distance relationships

JEL Classification: L82, D83, J24