

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT STONY BROOK



ABOUT THE STUDY

This survey takes about 5-10 minutes to complete. Our goal is to learn more about how people view issues concerning the Internet, and your responses are very important to us. The data collected from this study will be combined so that no individual's responses can be identified, and we expect to publish the summary results in academic journals. We will not share the data from this study with any third parties.

RESEARCH COMPLIANCE

You must be at least 18 years old to participate in this study. This survey is completely voluntary. You may skip any questions that you do not feel comfortable answering. You also have the right to change your mind and leave the study at any time.

To ensure that this research activity is being conducted properly, the State University of New York at Stony Brook's Committee on Research Involving Human Subjects and/or applicable officials of the University or Office of Research Protections have the right to review study records, but confidentiality will be maintained as allowed by law.

TAKE THE SURVEY

Continue If you check the box next to "**Continue**" below, it means that you have read (or have had read to you) the information given in this consent form, and you would like to be a volunteer in this research study. You **must** be at least 18 years or old to participate.

☐ **Continue**

Q1 First, have you ever heard of Network Neutrality? *Don't worry, many people have never heard of it.*

☐ Yes

☐ No

Q2 How knowledgeable would you say you are about the issue of Network Neutrality?

☐ Very knowledgeable

☐ Somewhat knowledgeable

☐ A little knowledgeable

☐ Not at all knowledgeable

N10 *Carefully read the article below and answer the questions that follow.*

N11 **The Network Neutrality Debate**

N12 By Samuel Johnson

- N13 Network Neutrality is at the center of an ongoing debate in Washington, pitting major technology companies against one another. While few people have heard of this issue, its outcome could drastically affect the future of the Internet. On one side of the issue are telecommunications companies like AT&T and Verizon that own the networks that make up the Internet. On the other side of the debate are content providers like Google, Yahoo!, and Microsoft that transmit information over the Internet to their customers.
- N14 Recently, some of these content providers have begun offering services like streaming videos and voice communication that take up a large amount of a network's overall capacity. Telecoms say that these data-intensive services cause enormous stress on their networks that can lead to slower or dropped Internet connections for their customers. To resolve this problem, telecoms want to charge content providers a special fee to route video, voice, and other large data streams more efficiently. Telecoms argue that these fees are necessary to offset the rising costs of expanding and improving the infrastructure of the Internet.
- N15 Content providers want Congress to pass Network Neutrality legislation to prevent telecoms from charging them special fees based upon the type of data that they transmit over the Internet. They argue that the prospect of telecoms imposing new fees on innovative ventures is exactly the kind of thing that deters online commerce.
- N59 Congressman Alan Davidson, who specializes in technology issues, supports Network Neutrality legislation. He recently told reporters: "Telecoms want to set up toll booths on the Internet to stand between content providers and their customers. Network Neutrality would prevent this from happening. It would ensure that we don't have a system where some companies have access to an express lane, while the rest are stuck waiting in line at the toll booth."

☐ *After you have finished reading, check this box and click "Next" to continue.*

N17 *Carefully read the brief article below and answer the questions that follow.*

N18 **The Network Neutrality Debate**

N19 By Samuel Johnson

N20 Network Neutrality is at the center of an ongoing debate in Washington, pitting major technology companies against one another. While few people have heard of this issue, its outcome could drastically affect the future of the Internet. On one side of the issue are telecommunications companies like AT&T and Verizon that own the networks that make up the Internet. On the other side of the debate are content providers like Google, Yahoo!, and Microsoft that transmit information over the Internet to their customers.

N21 Recently, some of these content providers have begun offering services like streaming videos and voice communication that take up a large amount of a network's overall capacity. Telecoms say that these data-intensive services cause enormous stress on their networks that can lead to slower or dropped Internet connections for their customers. To resolve this problem, telecoms want to charge content providers a special fee to route video, voice, and other large data streams more efficiently. Telecoms argue that these fees are necessary to offset the rising costs of expanding and improving the infrastructure of the Internet.

- N22 Content providers want Congress to pass Network Neutrality legislation to prevent telecoms from charging them special fees based upon the type of data that they transmit over the Internet. They argue that the prospect of telecoms imposing new fees on innovative ventures is exactly the kind of thing that deters online commerce.
- N60 Congressman Alan Davidson, who specializes in technology issues, supports Network Neutrality legislation. He recently told reporters: "Telecoms want to charge fees on the Internet to connect content providers to their customers. Network Neutrality would prevent this from happening. It would ensure that we don't have a system where some companies have access to fast services, while the rest are left with slower connections."

CheckL

- ☐ *After you have finished reading, check this box and click "Next" to continue.*

Questions About Network Neutrality

- Q3 Overall, do you support or oppose Network Neutrality legislation?
- ☐ *Strongly support*
 - ☐ *Somewhat support*
 - ☐ *Slightly support*
 - ☐ *Neither support nor oppose*
 - ☐ *Slightly oppose*
 - ☐ *Somewhat oppose*
 - ☐ *Strongly oppose*

N25 *To answer the next few questions, think specifically about the argument that Congressman Alan Davidson made in favor of Network Neutrality.*

Q8 First, how convincing or unconvincing is Congressman Davidson's argument in favor of Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very unconvincing* and "9" means *very convincing*?

Very Unconvincing (1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Very Convincing (9)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q9 In your opinion, how strong or weak is the argument Congressman Davidson made supporting Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very weak* and "9" means *very strong*?

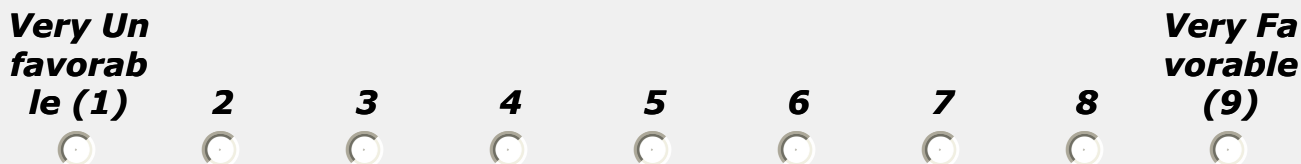
Very Weak (1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Very Strong (9)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q10 Lastly, how clear or unclear is the argument Congressman Davidson made supporting Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very unclear* and "9" means *very clear*?

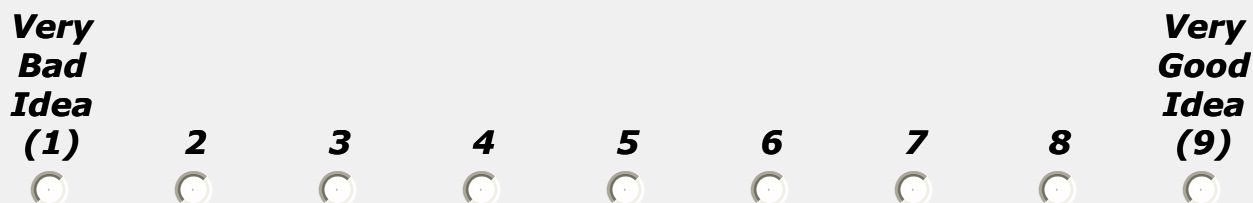
Very Unclear (1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Very Clear (9)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

N58 *The following questions concern different aspects of your opinion toward Network Neutrality.*

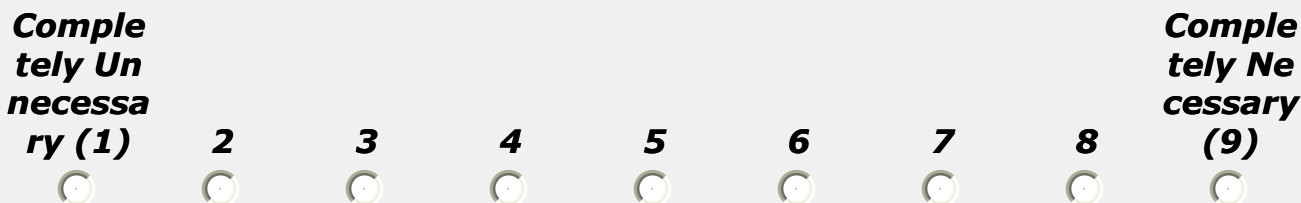
Q4 How favorable or unfavorable do you feel toward Network Neutrality legislation? Use the scale below, where "1" means *very unfavorable* and "9" means *very favorable*.



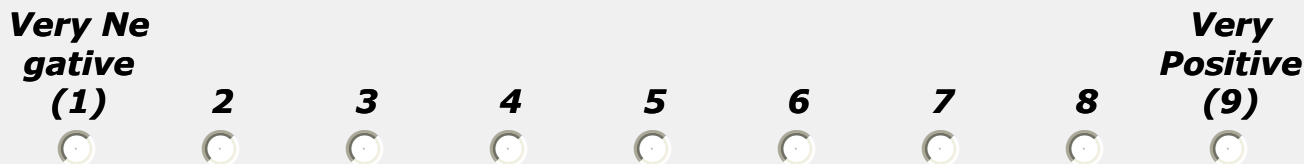
Q6 Do you think Network Neutrality is a good idea or a bad idea, where "1" means *very bad idea* and "9" means *very good idea*?



Q7 How necessary or unnecessary is Network Neutrality, where "1" means *completely unnecessary* and "9" means *completely necessary*?



Q5 How positive or negative do you feel toward Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very negative* and "9" means *very positive*?



Q11 How angry would you be if Congress failed to pass Network Neutrality legislation?

- ☐ *Extremely angry*
- ☐ *Quite angry*
- ☐ *Somewhat angry*
- ☐ *Slightly angry*
- ☐ *Not at all angry*

Q12 And, how irritated would you be if Congress failed to pass Network Neutrality legislation?

- ☐ *Extremely irritated*
- ☐ *Quite irritated*
- ☐ *Somewhat irritated*
- ☐ *Slightly irritated*
- ☐ *Not at all irritated*

Q13 Now, how worried would you be if Congress failed to pass Network Neutrality legislation?

- ☐ *Extremely worried*
- ☐ *Quite worried*
- ☐ *Somewhat worried*
- ☐ *Slightly worried*
- ☐ *Not at all worried*

Q14 Finally, how concerned would you be if Congress failed to pass Network Neutrality legislation?

- ☐ *Extremely concerned*
- ☐ *Quite concerned*
- ☐ *Somewhat concerned*
- ☐ *Slightly concerned*
- ☐ *Not at all concerned*

N26 *The next two questions are about your interest in Network Neutrality.*

Q15 First, how much do you personally care about the issue of Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very little* and "9" means *very much*.

Very Little								Very Much
(1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	(9)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Q16 How much do you feel you now understand about the issue of Network Neutrality, where "1" means *very little* and "9" means *very much*.

Very Little								Very Much
(1)	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	(9)
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Other Questions

N28 *Please answer the following questions about the government in Washington as best you can. Many people don't know the answers, so if there are any questions that you don't know the answers to, just choose "don't know" and go on to the next question. When you're finished with this section, we'll provide you with the answers, so please don't look up the answers.*

- Q17 Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not?
- ☐ *President*
 - ☐ *Congress*
 - ☐ *Supreme Court*
 - ☐ *Don't know*
- Q18 Which party currently has the most elected members in the U.S. House of Representatives?
- ☐ *Democratic party*
 - ☐ *Republican party*
 - ☐ *Neither party*
 - ☐ *Don't know*
- Q19 What job does Harry Reid currently hold?
- ☐ *Attorney General*
 - ☐ *Speaker of the House*
 - ☐ *Secretary of Defense*
 - ☐ *Senate Majority Leader*
 - ☐ *Don't know*

- Q20 How much of a majority of the both the House of Representatives and Senate are required to override a presidential veto?
- ☐ *1/2*
 - ☐ *1/2 plus 1*
 - ☐ *3/5*
 - ☐ *2/3*
 - ☐ *3/4*
 - ☐ *All members of Congress*
 - ☐ *Congress cannot override a presidential veto*
 - ☐ *Don't know*
- Q21 Which one of the parties is more conservative than the other at the national level?
- ☐ *Democratic party*
 - ☐ *Republican party*
 - ☐ *Neither party*
 - ☐ *Don't know*
- Q22 How many justices are there on the U.S. Supreme Court? Enter the number below:
-
- Q23 What job does Condoleezza Rice currently hold?
- ☐ *Secretary of State*
 - ☐ *National Security Advisor*
 - ☐ *Secretary of Defense*
 - ☐ *Director of the Central Intelligence Agency*
 - ☐ *Don't know*

Q24 Which branch of government does the U.S. Constitution give the sole authority to declare war?

- ☐ *Executive branch*
- ☐ *Judicial branch*
- ☐ *Legislative branch*
- ☐ *Don't know*

N29 *Ok, here are the answers to the questions that you just answered. Correct responses are listed in bold at the end of each question.*

N30 **1.)** *Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not? **Supreme Court***

N31 Your Response: {Q17}

N32 **2.)** *Which party currently has the most elected members in the U.S. House of Representatives? **Democratic party***

N33 Your Response: {Q18}

N34 **3.)** *What job does Harry Reid currently hold? **Senate Majority Leader***

N35 Your Response: {Q19}

N36 **4.)** *How much of a majority of the both the House of Representatives and Senate are required to override a presidential veto? **2/3***

N37 Your Response: {Q20}

N38 **5.)** *Which one of the parties is more conservative than the other at the national level? **Republican party***

N39 Your Response: {Q21}

N40 **6.)** *How many justices are there on the U.S. Supreme Court? **9***

N41 Your Response: {Q22}

N42 **7.)** *What job does Condoleezza Rice currently hold?* **Secretary of State**

N43 Your Response: {Q23}

N44 **8.)** *Which branch of government does the U.S. Constitution give the sole authority to declare war?* **Legislative branch**

N45 Your Response: {Q24}

Questions About You

N47 *These final questions help us ensure that many different types of people are represented in our research.*

Q25 In general, how interested are you in computers?

- ☐ *Very interested*
- ☐ *Somewhat interested*
- ☐ *A little interested*
- ☐ *Not at all interested*

Q26

Overall, how would you rate your knowledge of computers?

- ☐ Beginner (i.e., you simply use computers for basic E-mail, Internet, and word processing functions)
- ☐ Intermediate (i.e., you also can install new programs, add peripheral devices like a printer, and troubleshoot minor issues)
- ☐ Advanced (i.e., you also can configure advanced settings in the control panel, maintain a personal webpage, and troubleshoot some issues)
- ☐ Expert (i.e., you also can partition a hard drive and install a fresh OS, add or replace internal components, and troubleshoot major issues)

N48

On the following screens, you will be presented with a few statements. Please rate how characteristic each of these statements are of you.

Q27

"The notion of thinking abstractly is appealing to me."

- ☐ *Extremely characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Somewhat characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Uncertain*
- ☐ *Somewhat uncharacteristic of me*
- ☐ *Extremely uncharacteristic of me*

N49

How characteristic of you is this statement?

Q28 "I really enjoy a task that involves coming up with new solutions to problems."

- ☐ *Extremely characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Somewhat characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Uncertain*
- ☐ *Somewhat uncharacteristic of me*
- ☐ *Extremely uncharacteristic of me*

N50 *How characteristic of you is this statement?*

Q29 "I prefer my life to be filled with puzzles that I must solve."

- ☐ *Extremely characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Somewhat characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Uncertain*
- ☐ *Somewhat uncharacteristic of me*
- ☐ *Extremely uncharacteristic of me*

N51 *How characteristic of you is this statement?*

Q30 "Learning new ways to think doesn't excite me very much."

- ☐ *Extremely characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Somewhat characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Uncertain*
- ☐ *Somewhat uncharacteristic of me*
- ☐ *Extremely uncharacteristic of me*

N52 *And, how characteristic of you is this statement?*

Q31 "Thinking is not my idea of fun."

- ☐ *Extremely characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Somewhat characteristic of me*
- ☐ *Uncertain*
- ☐ *Somewhat uncharacteristic of me*
- ☐ *Extremely uncharacteristic of me*

Q32 Generally speaking, do you usually think of yourself as a Republican, a Democrat, an Independent, or something else?

- ☐ *Republican*
- ☐ *Democrat*
- ☐ *Independent*
- ☐ *Something else*

Q33 Would you call yourself a *strong* Republican or *not a very strong* Republican?

- ☐ *Strong Republican*
- ☐ *Not a very strong Republican*

Q34 Would you call yourself a *strong* Democrat or *not a very strong* Democrat?

- ☐ *Strong Democrat*
- ☐ *Not a very strong Democrat*

Q35 Do you think of yourself as closer to the Republican Party or the Democratic Party?

- ☐ *Closer to the Republican party*
- ☐ *Neither*
- ☐ *Closer to the Democratic party*

Q36 Which of the following describes your own political views?

- ☐ *Very conservative*
- ☐ *Somewhat conservative*
- ☐ *Slightly conservative*
- ☐ *Moderate*
- ☐ *Slightly liberal*
- ☐ *Somewhat liberal*
- ☐ *Very liberal*

Q37 Are you male or female?

- ☐ *Male*
- ☐ *Female*

Q38 In what year were you born? Enter the 4-digit year below:

Q39 What do you consider to be your primary ethnic or racial identity?

- ☐ *African American / Black*
- ☐ *American Indian / Alaskan Native / Pacific Islander*
- ☐ *Asian*
- ☐ *Caucasian / White*
- ☐ *Hispanic / Latino*

Q40 Which class are you taking this survey for (e.g., POL 101-Smirnov)?

Participation Credit

In order to receive credit for participating in this study, you will need to enter your Stony Brook Identification Number below. Please make sure you type this number carefully. Your course instructor will only be sent this number to verify that you have participated in this study.

Q41 Please enter your Stony Brook ID number below:

Q42 Please re-enter your Stony Brook ID:

SUBMIT YOUR RESPONSES

You MUST click the "Submit" button below to send your responses and complete the survey.

Q43 Do you have any comments or suggestions about the study?

REMEMBER TO CLICK "SUBMIT" BELOW.