



Use of ICT by Youth in East Asia or Effects of ICT on Youth in East Asia

Jonathan Zhu

j.zhu@cityu.edu.hk

newmedia.cityu.edu.hk/enjh Zhu



Outline



- Methodological Notes:
 - Geographic & ICT coverage
 - Data problems
 - Data sources
- Use of ICT by Youth in East Asia
 - Use of the Internet
 - Use of mobile phones
 - Use of audio-video media
- Conclusion and policy discussions

Geographic Coverage



- **Confirmed:**
 - Mainland China
 - Hong Kong
 - Macau
- **To be confirmed:**
 - South Korea
 - Taiwan
 - Japan
- **To be excluded:**
 - Mongolia

ICT Coverage



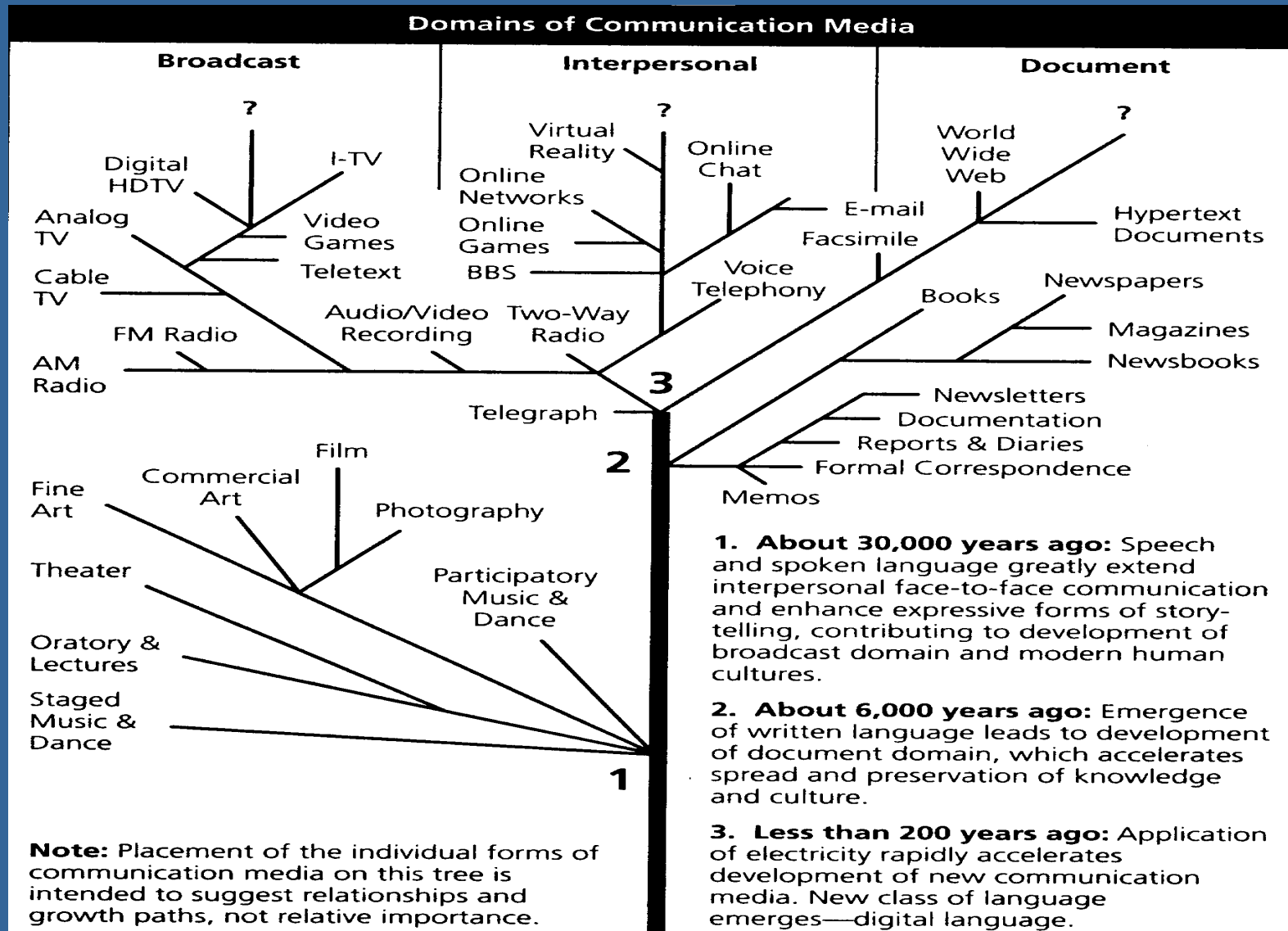
UNDESA:

- The Internet
- Mobile Phones
- Audio-Video Media

Roger Fidler (1996):

- Document domain
- Interpersonal domain
- Broadcast domain

Fidler's Media Domains



Source: Fidler (1997), *Mediamorphosis*, p. 34

Data Problems



- Unavailability of data on key questions:
 - No official statistics anywhere on the effects of ICT on youth



- Unreliability of available data:
 - Non-official data on effects of ICT largely problematic in methodology



- Unwillingness to share available data
 - Data on use of ICT largely owned by commercial firms reluctant to give out for free



Can I Rely on the Data?



网瘾成少年犯罪主要诱因

2005/10/17 北京青年报

河南省洛阳市人民检察院一项调查表明：网瘾成为未成年人犯罪主要诱因，导致未成年人犯罪增多。

据洛阳市检察院调查，该市看守所目前羁押的未成年犯罪人数量已达197人，占羁押总人数的18.5%，其中，因网瘾诱发的犯罪占49.5%。

据分析，这些未成年人犯罪的主要特点：

一是侵犯财产性犯罪突出，犯抢劫罪的占30.1%。二是团伙作案居多，未成年人犯罪由单独犯罪向共同犯罪发展。三是作案目的单一，无特定对象，具有偶发性。此类未成年人犯罪的目的，多是为筹集网资而起意，没有特定的作案对象，随意性、情景性、偶发性较大，尽管有时只索取10元、8元。四是犯罪年龄低龄化。有80%为16至17岁的少年犯，14至15岁的占20%，还有不满14岁的少年。五是学校管理不当和残缺型家庭网瘾少年犯罪较多。（李丽静）



Internet addiction as the primary cause of juvenile crimes (*The Beijing Youth Daily*, 2005/10/17)

... A survey of 197 youth in jail in Louyang City, Henan Province found that 50% of them committed crimes, 30% of which involved robberies, because they needed the money to use the Internet. ...

My Data Sources

- First-hand data (HKIP, 2002-05)
- Second-hand data (CNNIC, MOIP, etc.)
- Anecdotal data (minimally used)

Asia-Pacific Internet Research Alliance
(APIRA, www.apira.org)



China



S Korea



Taiwan



Hong Kong



Macao



Malaysia



The DUE Framework of ICT



Diffusion

- Adoption Rate
- Digital Divide

Use

- Time
- Location
- Content
- Language

Effects

- Socializing
- Leisure
- Civic efficacy

Source: Zhu & He (2002)

Hong Kong Data, 2000-05

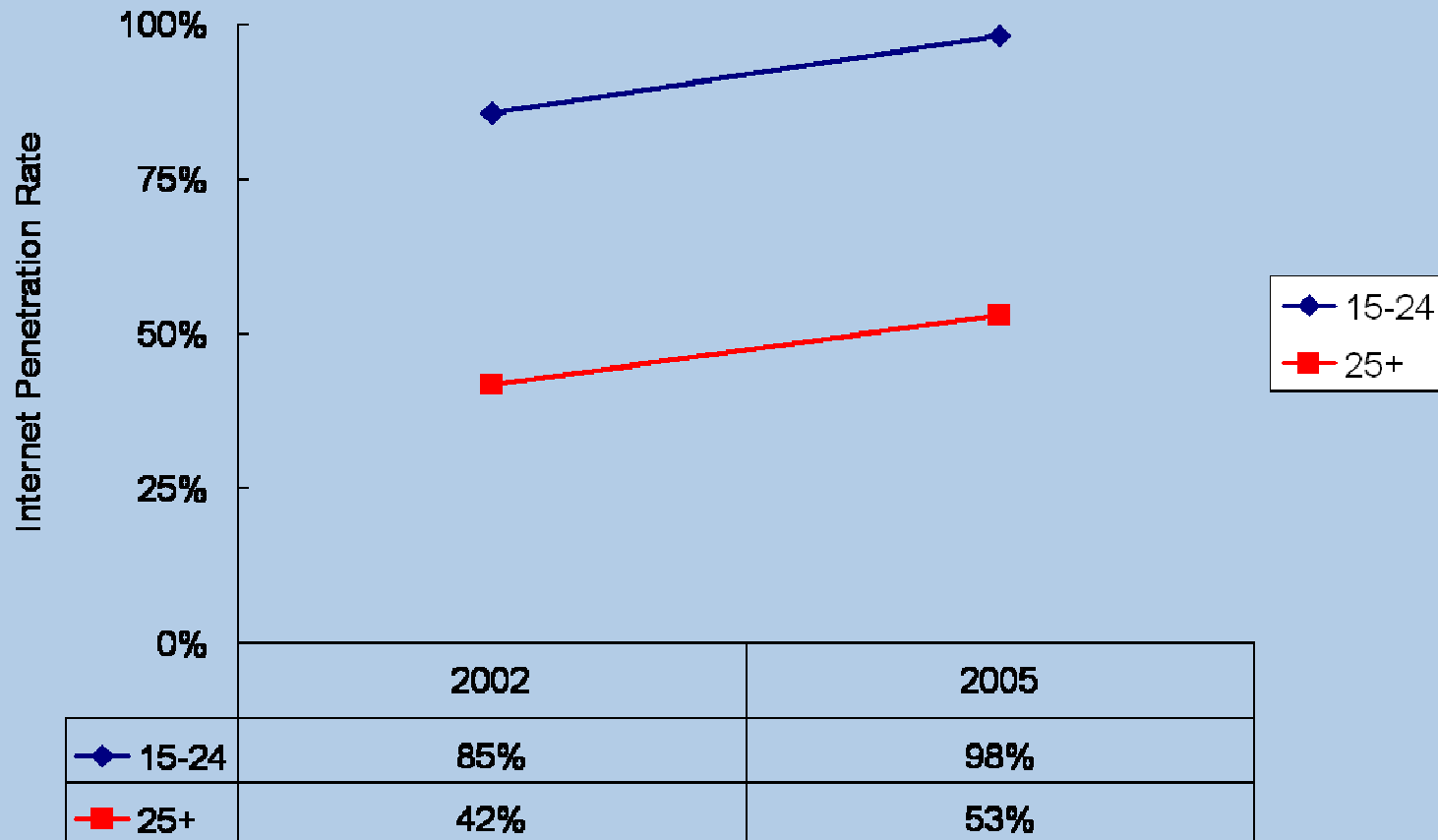


- Annual surveys of 1,200-1,800 residents, randomly selected and interviewed over telephone
- 22% of the samples at age between 15 and 24, amounting to 250-300 individuals per year.
- Analysis focusing on comparisons between:
 - Youth (15-24) and adults (25+)
 - Young men and young women

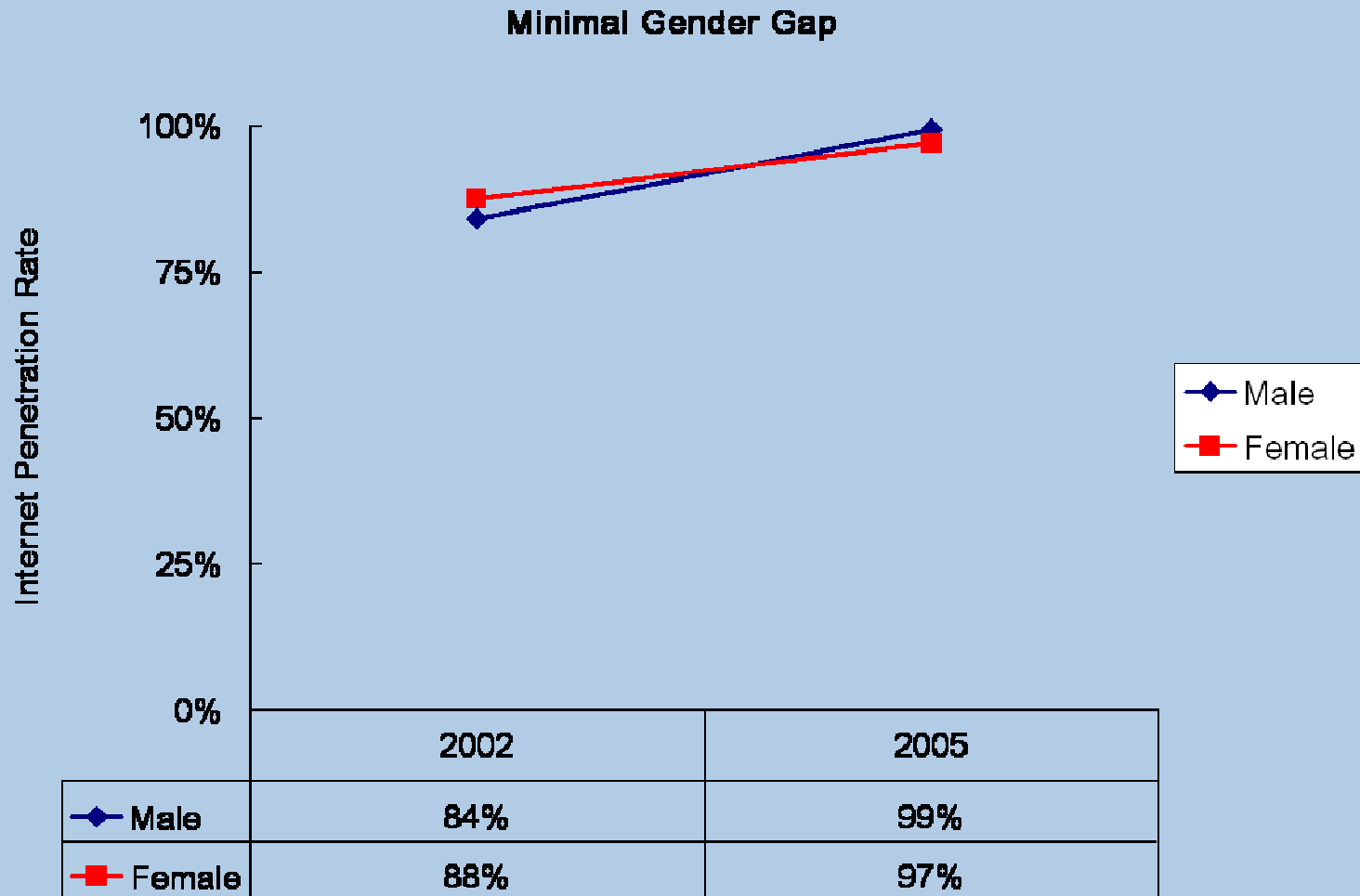
Diffusion of the Internet (1)



Persistent Generational Gap



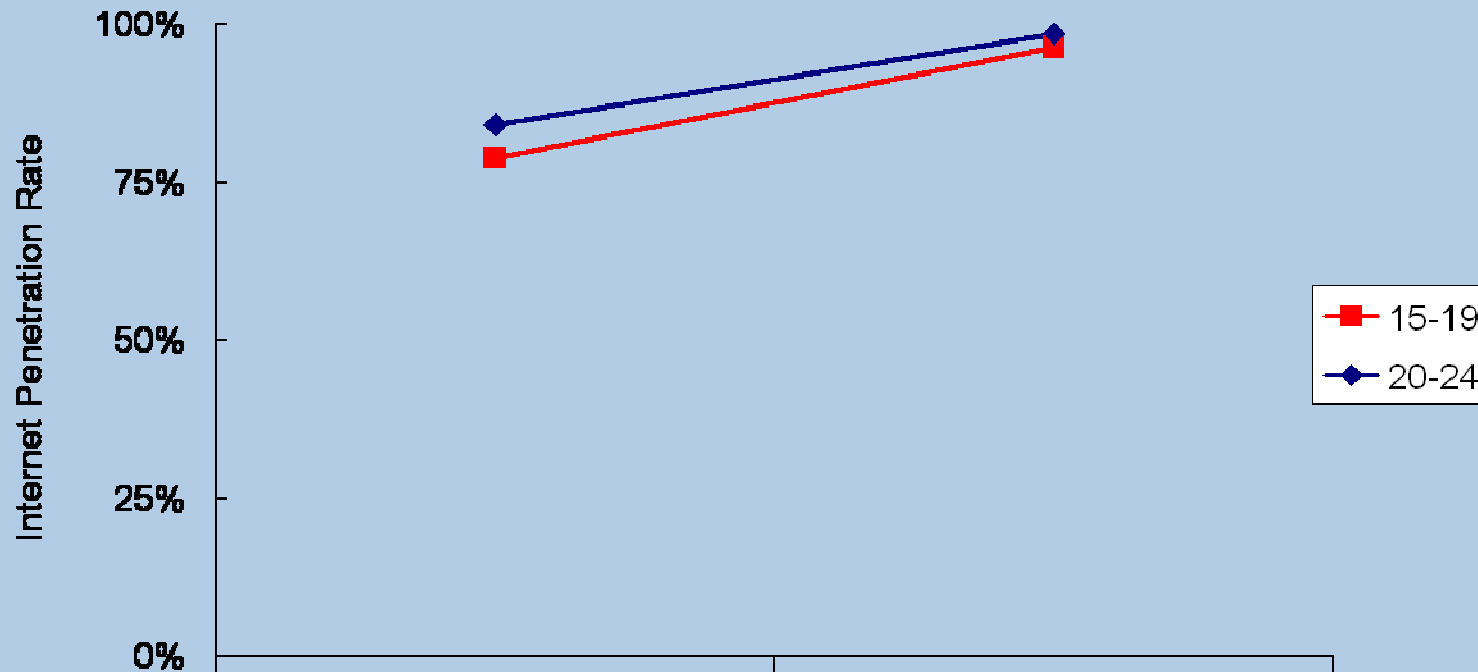
Diffusion of the Internet (2)



Diffusion of the Internet (3)



Closing Age Gap

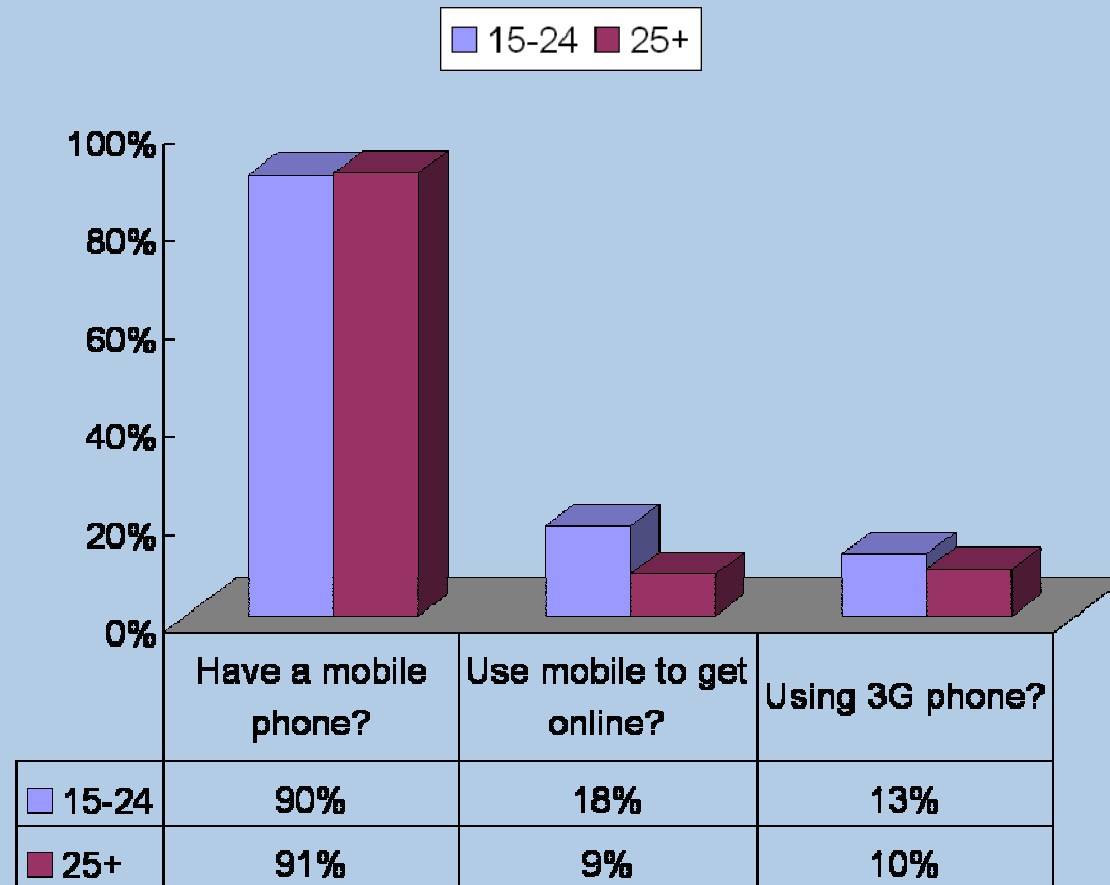


	2002	2005
15-19	79%	96%
20-24	84%	98%

Diffusion of Mobile Phones (1)



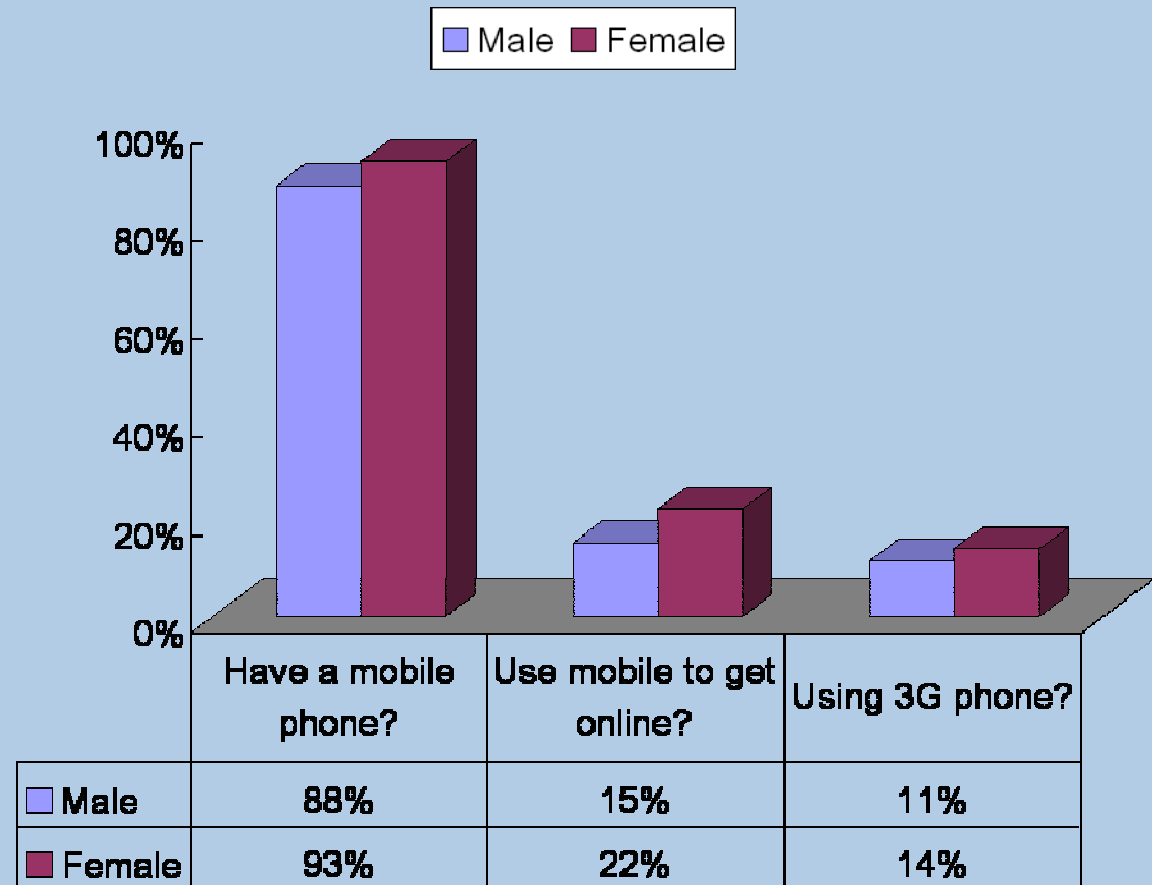
Age Gap in Mobile Phone Use



Diffusion of Mobile Phones (2)



Gender Gap in Mobile Phone Use

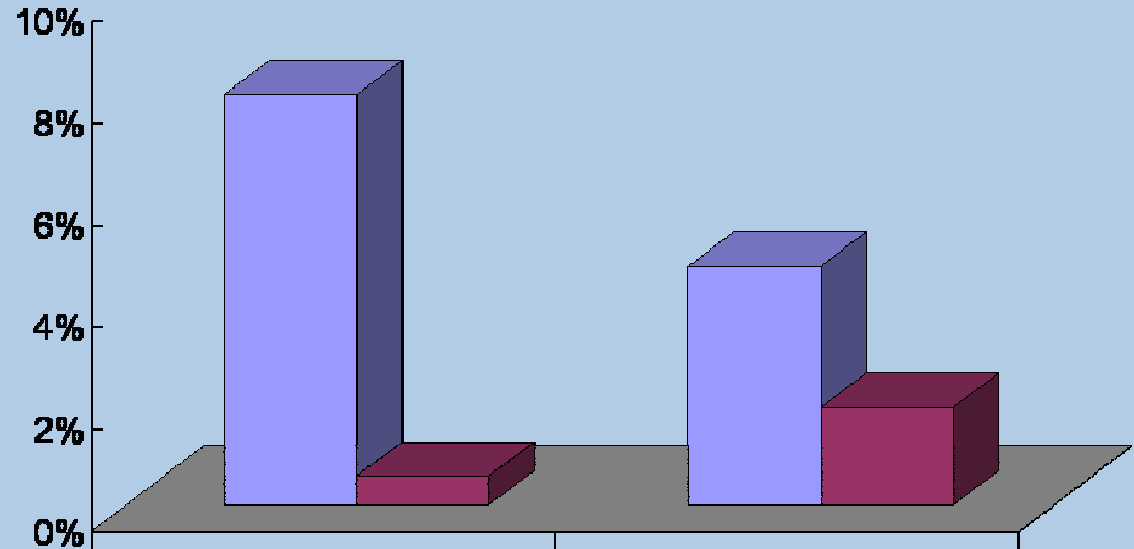


Use of the Internet (1)



Who Goes to Internet Cafe?

Male Female



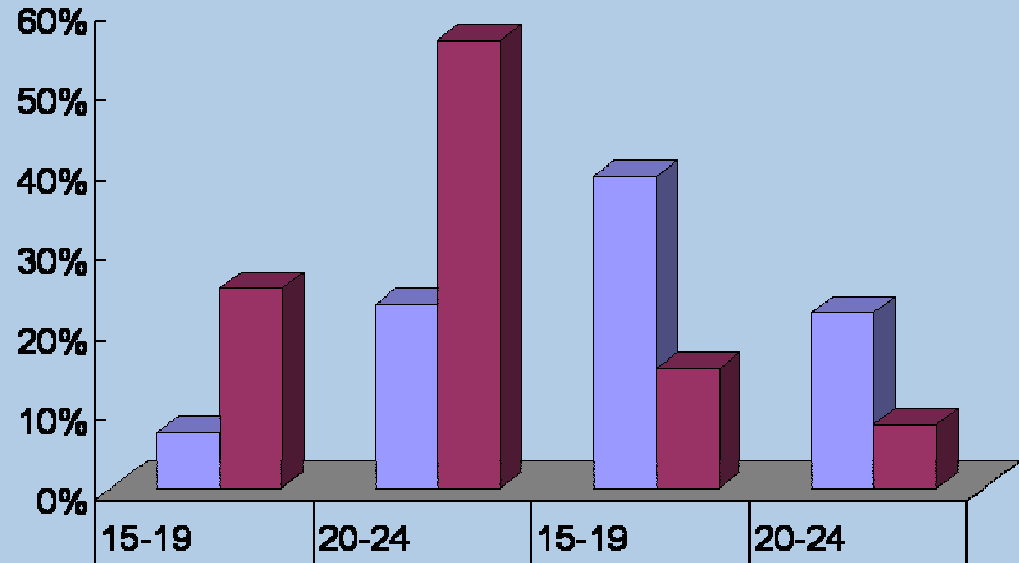
	15-19	20-24
Male	8%	5%
Female	1%	2%

Use of the Internet (2)



Content Gap

Male Female

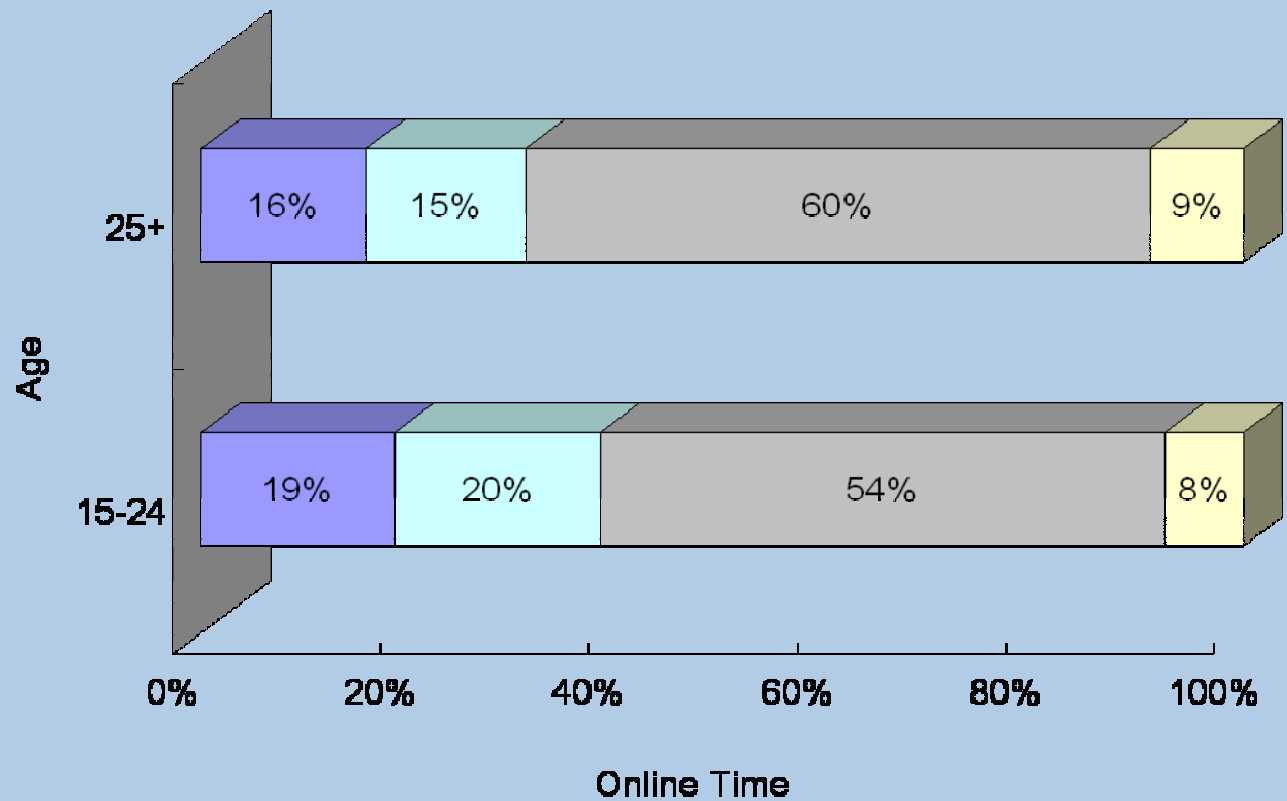


Male	7%	23%	39%	22%
Female	25%	56%	15%	8%

Use of the Internet (3)



Global Medium, Local Usage

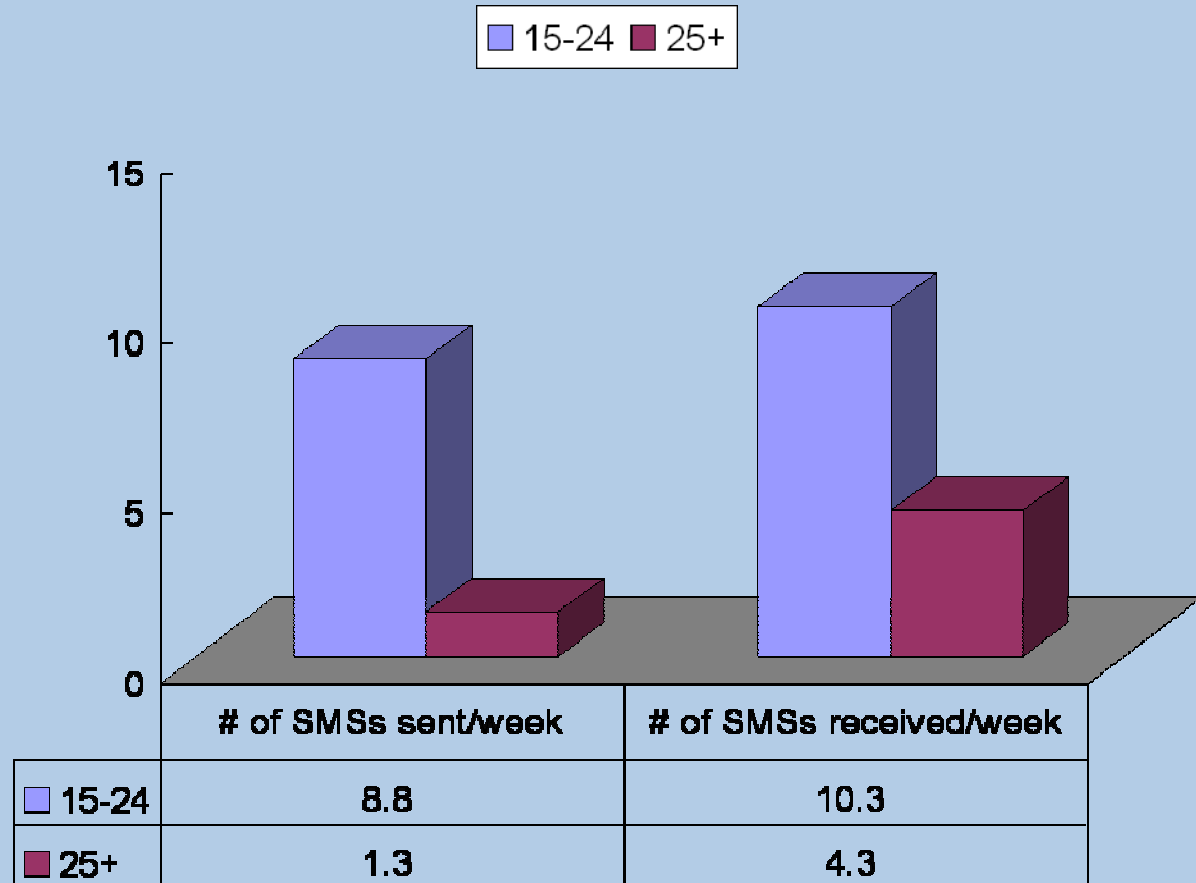


Overseas non-Chinese Overseas Chinese Local Chinese Local non-Chinese

Use of Mobile Phones (1)



Age Gap in SMS Use

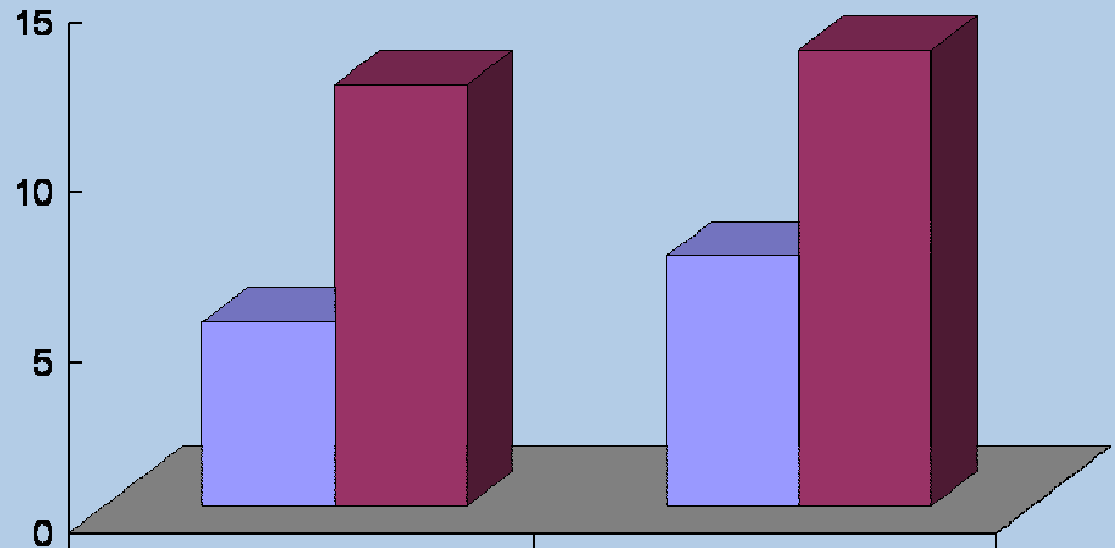


Use of Mobile Phones (2)



Gender Gap in SMS Use

Male Female

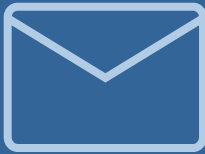


	# of SMSs sent/week	# of SMSs received/week
Male	5.4	7.4
Female	12.4	13.4

How Do You Measure “Effects”?



- Self-reported data, such as “The Internet has made me ...” (can you trust it?)



- Comparison between users and non-users (what if everyone is a user? what happens after other factors are controlled for?)



- Comparison between heavy users and light users (which causes which?)

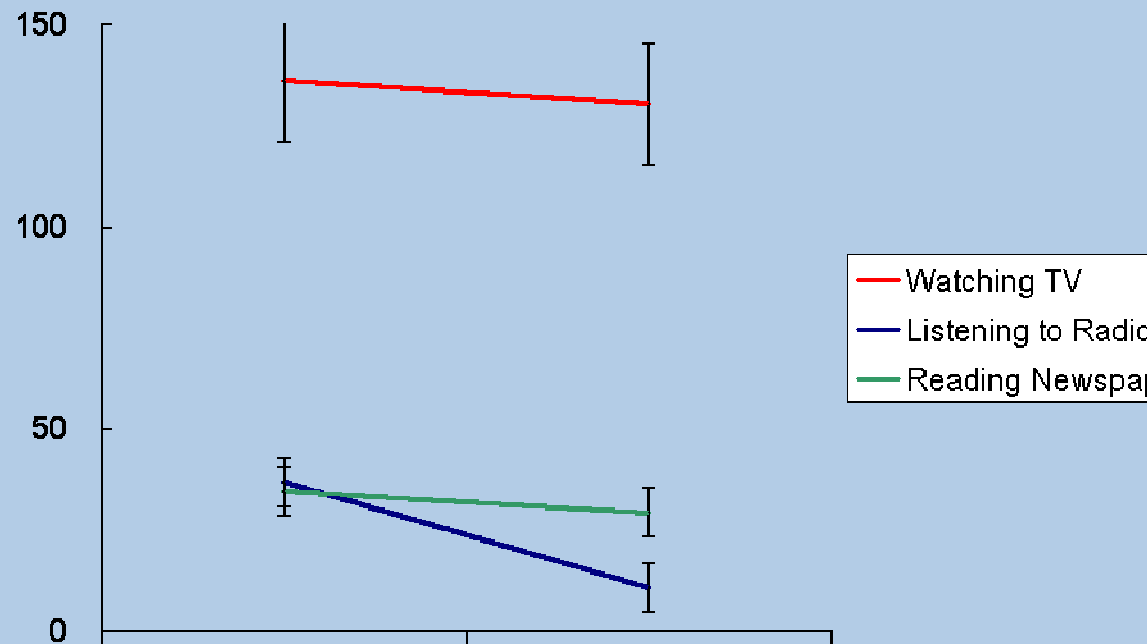


- Comparison users over time (most logic)

Effects of the Internet (1)



Use of Traditional Media (Mins/Day)

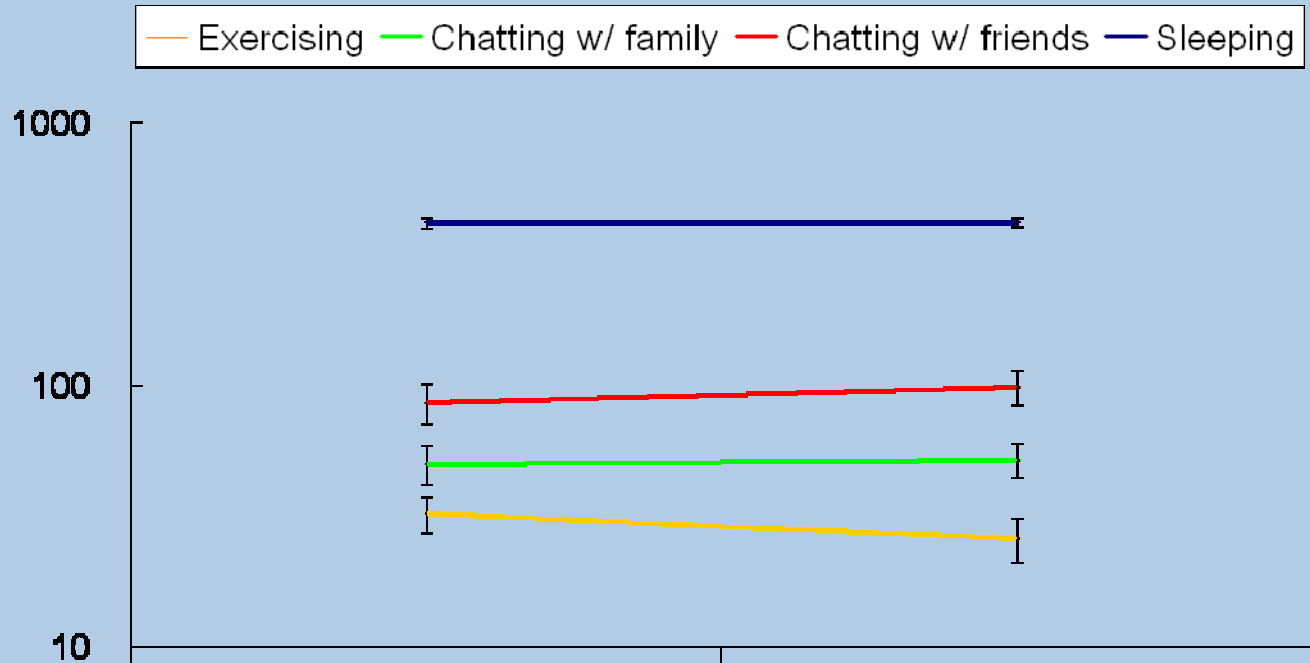


	2002	2005
Watching TV	136	130
Listening to Radio	37	11
Reading Newspapers	35	29

Effects of the Internet (2)



Socializing/Health Activities (Mins/Day)



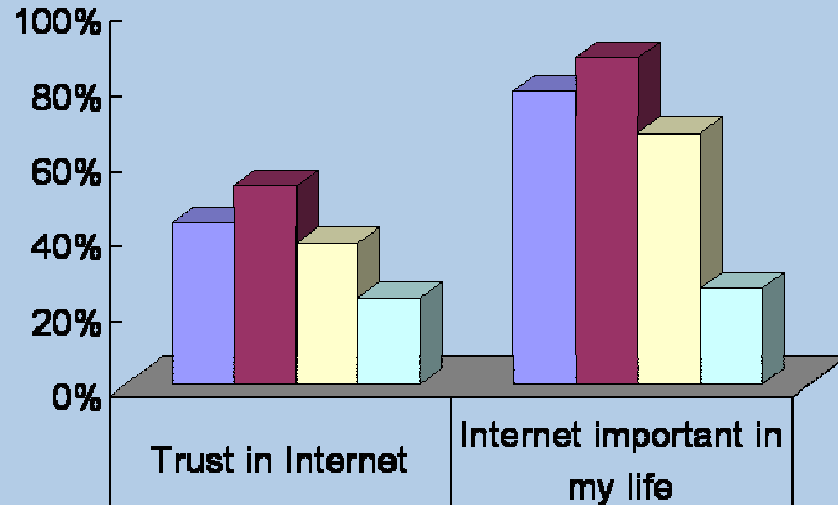
	2002	2005
Exercising	32	26
Chatting w/ family	50	52
Chatting w/ friends	85	99
Sleeping	413	417

Effects of the Internet (3)



Attitudes toward the Internet

15-19 20-24 25+ Users 25+ Nonusers

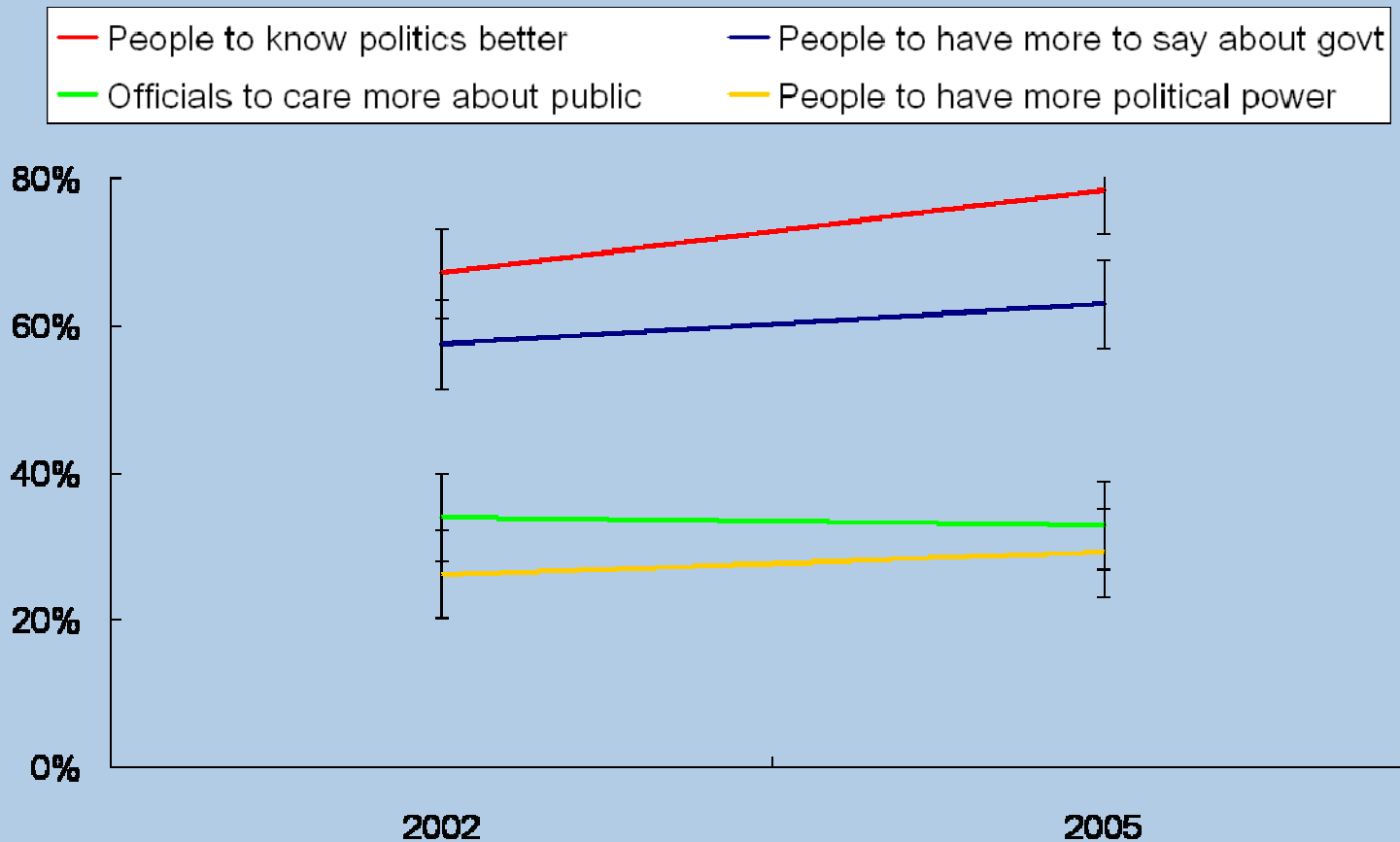


15-19	43%	78%
20-24	53%	87%
25+ Users	37%	67%
25+ Nonusers	23%	26%

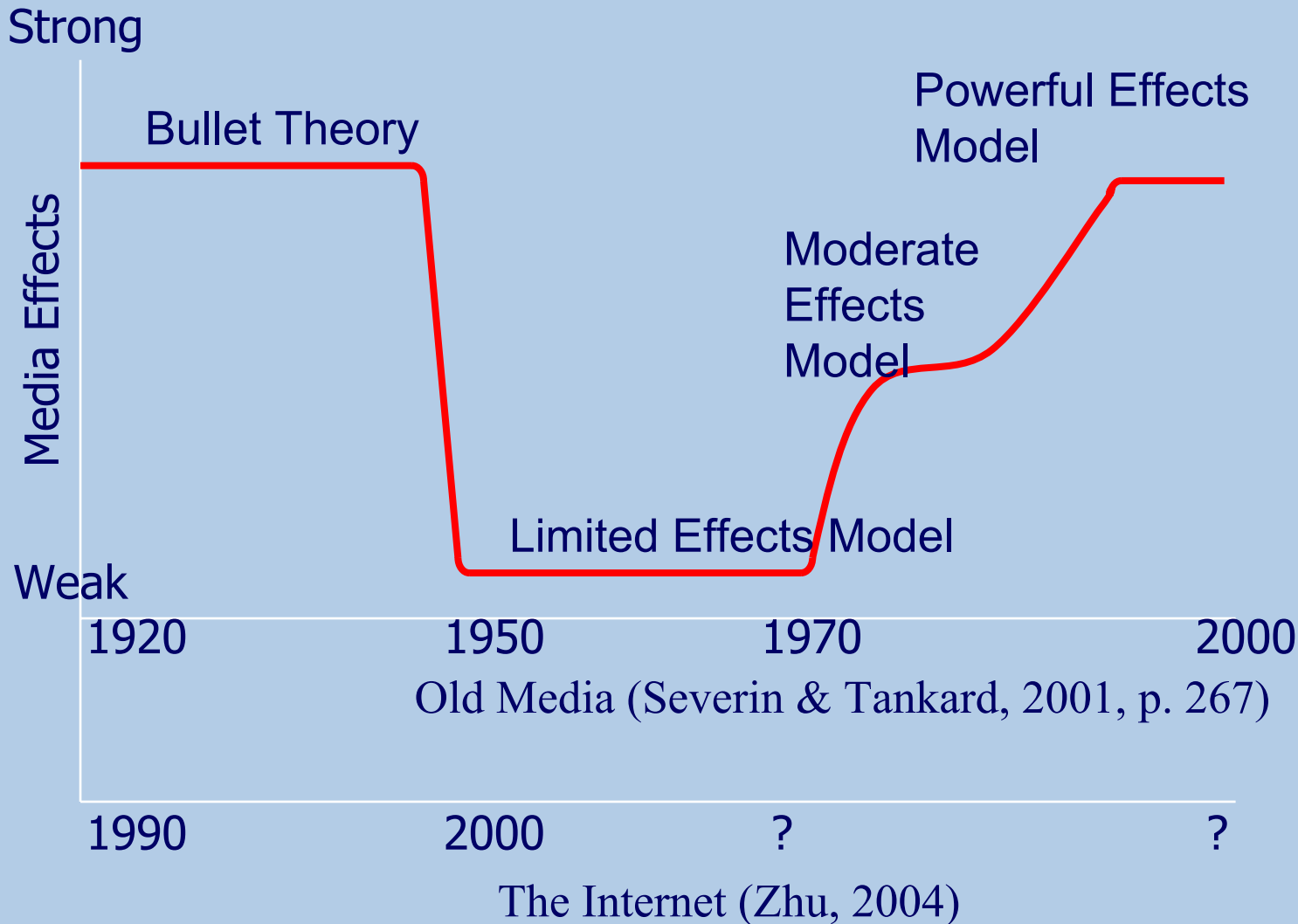
Effects of the Internet (4)



The Internet has made ...



What Has the History Told Us?



Policy Discussions



- Digital Divide:
 - a temporal issue in the region



- Digital Isolation:
 - not substantiated by empirical data



- Digital Addiction:
 - how serious is it?



- Digital Crimes:
 - cause or outcome of social alienation?