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TITLE: Everyday social media use for young people's everyday political talk

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This paper explores how young people conceptualise social media as a space to engage in everyday political talk with their horizontally networked peers. Existing research demonstrates that the dominant discourse of political engagement valorises partisan conflict, and subsequently constrains young people's efficacy and willingness to express themselves on social media. Yet arguably this existing research has been framed around a narrow definition of the Political that precludes a deeper understanding and analysis of young people's views on social and issues based campaigning via social media. Using a unique qualitative dataset of 12 online discussion groups with 107 young people from Australia, the UK and USA we demonstrate that they have both a sophisticated understanding of the affordances of different social media platforms; as well as the strengths and limitations of turning to social media to form political identities, and engage in communicative politics by creating affective spaces for everyday political talk.