

The Research Committee on Media Studies (RC-20), of the Indian Sociological Society (ISS) reflects the crucial role that the media plays in contemporary society. It recognizes that the sociological study of societies today has to engage with the pervasive presence of media in our everyday lives as well as in the running of the market and state. The role of the media has increased manifold times and it has been argued that we all live in a mediatized social world. Old debates on the media being a fourth pillar of democracy are being revisited in the new context.

In such a changing context RC- 20 seeks to promote scholarship on media and society. The RC 20 strives to be an active platform for informed discussions on the media and its salience for sociology. The Committee also provides a platform for young students and scholars to share empirical and theoretically informed studies on different aspects of media. It organises technical sessions and lectures on media studies at All India Sociological Conferences, Mid-term conferences and other seminars. It also organizes online lectures by established scholars on media.

The various themes that R-20 engages with are:

Media and Society

Media and Democracy

Media and Development

Media and Market

Print Media

Electronic Media

New Media

Media Convergence

Media and Marginalities: Class, Caste, Gender, Race, Language.

Sociology of Newsroom

Social Movements and Media

Culture and Media