This study examined the influence of exposure to online discussion boards and discussion participation in the online discussion boards on opinion-challenging news use. Based on cognitive dissonance theory and media choice model, a 2 (exposure to disagreement: position-convergent discussion vs. position-divergent discussion) X 2 (discussion participation: participation vs. non-participation) mixed factorial design experiment was conducted. In addition, the emotional responses toward discussions were suggested as a mediator between the influence of exposure to disagreements on opinion-challenging news use. MANCOVA results showed that when participants were exposed to position-divergent online discussion boards, they perceived the opinion-challenging news articles to be more useful, and showed higher interest to read the opinion-challenging news articles. Also, discussion participation was found to moderate the effect of the exposure to position-divergent online discussion boards on perceived utility of opinion-challenging news use. Finally, mediation analyses showed that positive emotional responses and negative emotional responses were significant mediators between exposure to disagreements and opinion-challenging news choices in discussion participation conditions. The theoretical applications of this study are discussed.