CS 8803 Social Computing: Disclosure and Regulation

Munmun De Choudhury
munmund@gatech.edu
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Interviewers Behaving Badly, Job Search, Workplace Issues

New Survey Reveals Job Interview Stats: 48 Percent of Employers Google Candidates

By Vicki Salemi on October 17, 2013 11:23 AM

If you're going on an interview soon, listen up. According to a new CareerBuilder survey there are a few pointers to keep in mind. Yes, we know so much has been written and talked about that learning something new on the topic is considered golden!

Their survey conducted in July included 5,518 job seekers and 2,775 hiring managers and highlighted a few numbers to reinforce some of the essentials.

One of the main points included having the mindset to go on an interview prepared to speak to top executives. You never know who you'll pass in the hallway or who will be available to chat for an impromptu meeting.

Per the survey, the numbers tell all: 38 percent of employers indicated that candidates are actually required to interview with a C-level executive at their company. Hello, COO! Or CEO or CFO, you get the idea.
The Future of Anonymity on the Internet Is Facebook Rooms

BY DAVEY ALBA  10.27.14  1:56 PM  |  PERMALINK

Danielle Citron looks at Facebook Rooms and sees a nice middle ground in the battle over anonymity on the internet.

Released last week, the new Facebook app is a place where you can chat with other like-minded people about most anything, from the World Series to 18th century playwrights, and because you needn’t use your real name when joining one of its chat rooms, you have a freedom to express yourself that you wouldn’t have on, say, the main
Anonymity and Self-Disclosure on Weblogs
Summary

• The paper examines the relationship between anonymity and self-disclosure.
• Two types of anonymity studied – visual and discursive.
• Study utilizes an online survey of bloggers.
  • Questionnaire completed by 220 participants, with ~50% being 22-25.
• Research questions:
  • RQ1: What is the relationship between visual anonymity and self-disclosure on blogs? Is more visual anonymity related to more self-disclosure?
  • RQ2: What is the relationship between discursive anonymity and self-disclosure on blogs? Is more discursive anonymity related to more self-disclosure?
  • RQ3: How do discursive and visual anonymities interact to potentially influence self-disclosure on blogs?
  • RQ4: How are different target audiences related to the types of anonymity and range of self-disclosure on blogs?
  • RQ5: To what extent do bloggers worry about negative consequences of their online posts? Is anonymity perceived as a viable solution to such concerns?
• Main finding: discursive, but not visual, anonymity is related to the amount of self-disclosure, especially for blogs intended for certain audiences.
Taking risky opportunities in youthful content creation: Teenagers’ use of social networking sites for intimacy, privacy and self-expression
Summary

- The article explores teenagers’ practices of social networking in order to uncover nuanced connections between online opportunity and risk.
- Method uses 16 interviews with teenagers focusing on use of MySpace and Facebook.
- Findings:
  - Teenagers generally engage in “self-actualization”, that includes a careful negotiation between the opportunities (for identity, intimacy, sociability) and risks (regarding privacy, misunderstanding, abuse) afforded by internet-mediated communication.
  - Younger teenagers were found to relish the opportunities to play and display, continuously re-recreating and a highly decorated, stylistically elaborate identity.
  - Older teenagers favored a plain aesthetic that foregrounded their links to others, expressing a notion of identity lived through authentic relationships with others.
The Presentation of Self in the Age of Social Media: Distinguishing Performances and Exhibitions Online
Summary

• The article characterizes self-presentation through performance and exhibition based approaches

• Performance is situational and aligns with Goffman’s conceptualization of presentation of self – Goffman’s dramaturgical approach

• Exhibition relates to the variety of data traces we share on social media
  – Notion of a curator who impacts this exhibition, e.g., Facebook’s algorithms

• Article also examines
  – the varied notion of a friend and a follower on online social media – friends are a form of access control online, while followers are a form of information management
  – “collapsed contexts” and “lowest common denominator” – LCD explains the aspect of self-impression management
Discuss how you will have visual and discursive anonymity on Facebook and Twitter.
Would reddit and other similar forums have higher self-disclosure because of high visual anonymity?
Does visual anonymity still make sense for today’s social platforms? (Many platforms allow image sharing beyond profile pictures)
Over the last few years since the three studies, many new platforms have emerged. These new platforms enable features which may not be covered by visual or discursive anonymity. Cite examples of some of the threats to identity management due to these new features.
Over the last few years since the three studies, many new platforms have emerged. What are additional ways/cues people use to manage their identity and self-disclosure?
The study on blogs dates back almost 7 years, over which Facebook has now emerged as a complex ecosystem of nuanced privacy features. How would these privacy settings impact self-disclosure today?
Livingstone found that teens also care about their privacy and accordingly manage their identity across different audiences and platforms. If these interviews were done today, would the same findings still hold?
In the light of Hogan’s article, the “curator” (aka Facebook’s News Feed algorithm) can alter one’s exhibition online. How can this impact notions of anonymity and self-disclosure?
One effect that has not been studied well as yet, is the fact that many of SNSes have now been adopted for years (e.g., Facebook). Even with carefully crafted performance and exhibition, it is likely to have collected enough data to characterize individuals in a nuanced manner. How would you design a study to investigate this?
Next class

- Wednesday 10/29
- Topic: “Trust”
- Assigned readings due by 11:59 pm Tuesday