CS 6474/CS 4803
Social Computing:
Social Computing Theories:
Disclosure and Regulation

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Reading Reflection Grading Rubric

- description of the papers
- references to any relevant previous paper
- personal opinion on the papers
- relatable experiences
- overall language (not considered for people with ESL)
(2 pts) Main Idea – What is the problem you are trying to solve?

(3 pts) Significance – Why is it important (from a social computing perspective)?

(3 pts) Related Work – 1) What has been done so far? (related papers) 2) What is the gap (limitations) in this prior work? 3) Will your project seek to fill this gap? Will your project replicate prior art?

(3 pts) Goals and Contributions – What are the concrete goals of your project? Needs to include a bulleted list of things you’ll do in the project

(2 pts) Outcomes – What will be the end project of your project? Could be, but not limited to analytic insights, a system/interface/visualization, a data artifact, a method

(3 pts) Outline of Data and Evaluation Plan – Describe how you will acquire your data, and how you intend to evaluate the above outcomes

(2 pts) Timeline – What is your timeline (biweekly granularity in a table format)

(1 pts) List of Team Members – Who all are part of your project?

(1 pts) Distribution of Work – How you plan to divide the work between your team members, or who will do what (in a table format)
Self-disclosure refers to communication of personal information, thoughts, and feelings to other people, especially in interpersonal relationships.
BENEFITS

- Therapeutic Effects
- Socialization
- Social Validation
Rewards

1. Self-Knowledge/Understanding
   - gain insight and a new perspective on oneself

2. Coping with Problems
   - lighten the “burden” of a problem
   - support/advice coming from others helps
Rewards

3. Improving Communication with Others
   - the more we understand the other person, the better we can communicate with them

4. Establish Meaningful Relationships
   - self-disclosing shows trust to that person, while listening to the other shows respect and care
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.
Understanding Social Media Disclosures of Sexual Abuse Through the Lenses of Support Seeking and Anonymity
Summary

- Sexual abuse disclosures are often difficult and delayed, causing additional emotional distress.
- Sometimes survivors never disclose their sexual abuse, or disclose it years later and when they do disclose, the response that some survivors endure often make them more reluctant to further disclose.
- Non-disclosure of abuse has negative health outcomes, while disclosure and support seeking has good psychological effects.
Summary

- RQ1. What do people disclose in abuse-related subreddits?

- RQ2. What factors are significantly associated with a post being from a throwaway rather than an identified account?

- RQ3. What factors are significantly associated with support seeking? How do these factors differ between direct and indirect support seeking?

- RQ4. What post-related factors are significantly associated with first-time disclosures (i.e., disclosures happening for the very first time offline and online)?
Summary

- There is considerable deep and detailed storytelling, emotional disclosure, and direct as well as indirect support seeking.
- Significant differences exist between posts from identified accounts and throwaway accounts.
- Posts including support seeking, references to attitudes toward disclosure, and posts by men are more likely to be posted using throwaway accounts.
- Analysis of first-time disclosures suggests that survivors whose needs have not been met in other contexts seek tangible pragmatic support on Reddit.
What are the differences between the two papers? Methodologically? Conceptually?
Class Activity 1
Are users of social computing platforms likely to face a tension between desire for impression management through self-presentation and desire to self-disclosure?

How do you currently navigate this tension?
Class Activity 2
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
What are the risks of self-disclosure?
RISKS

Loss of Privacy

Social Judgement

Context Collapse
TO DISCLOSE OR NOT TO DISCLOSE

Benefits

Risks

— Bazarova & Choi (2014)
The Qian and Scott study on blogs dates back almost 10 years, over which Facebook has now emerged as a complex ecosystem of nuanced privacy features. How would these privacy settings impact self-disclosure today?