

Opportunities and Challenges for Technology Mediated Social Participation

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Abstract

Technology-mediated social participation is generated when social networking tools (such as Facebook), blogs and microblogs (Twitter), user-generated content sites (YouTube), discussion groups, problem reporting, recommendation systems, and other social media are applied socially and for supporting national and international priorities such as health, energy, education, disaster response, environmental protection, conservation or community safety. There are opportunities for more strongly impacting national and international priorities by better understanding what motivates people's participation. At the same time we need to be aware of the dangers, including use by criminals and the need to protect personal privacy.

Short Bio

JENNIFER PREECE (<http://ischool.umd.edu/people/preece/>) is Professor and Dean in the College of Information Studies – Maryland's iSchool - at the University of Maryland. Jennifer's research focuses at the intersection of information, community and technology. She is particularly interested in community participation on- and off-line. She has researched ways to support empathy and social support online, patterns of online participation, reasons for not participating (i.e., lurking), strategies for supporting online communication, development of norms, and the attributes of successful technology-supported communities. Jennifer is author of over two hundred articles and eight books. Two recent books are: "Online Communities: Designing Usability, Supporting Sociability" (2000) and a co-authored best selling text entitled "Interaction Design: Beyond Human-Computer Interaction" (1st Ed. 2002; 2nd Ed. 2007; 3rd Ed. 2011) www.id-book.com. Both books are published by John Wiley & Sons.