Beyond Platform
Features and Individual Traits –
How Culture, Activity, and Inequality
Determine Risks and Benefits

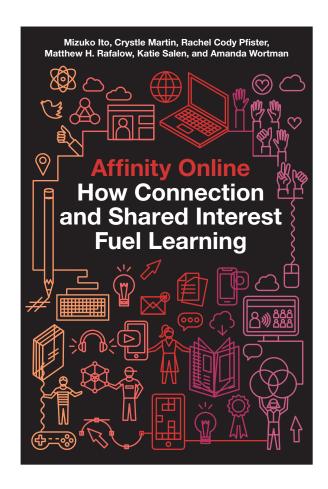
Mimi Ito I @mizuko University of California, Irvine



Hanging Out, Messing Around, and Geeking Out

Kids Living and Learning with New Media

with contributions by Judd Antin, Megan Finn, Arthur Law, Annie Manion, Sarai Mitnick, David Schlossberg, and Sarita Yardi Mizuko Ito Sonja Baumer Matteo Bittanti danah boyd Rachel Cody Becky Herr-Stephenson Heather A. Horst Patricia G. Lange Dilan Mahendran Katynka Z. Martínez C. J. Pascoe Dan Perkel Laura Robinson Christo Sims Lisa Tripp



Relationships drive engagement, not tech

I'm not addicted to social media. I'm addicted to my friends.

- Common Sense Media focus group by Yalda Uhls



Teens are seeking mental health support online

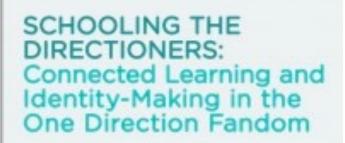
- 87% of teens go online to seek mental health information
- 64% have used a mobile health app
- 39% go online to seek others with similar conditions

- Rideout and Fox 2018

- 6% have used mental health app
- 48.5% would use a mental health app for support

- survey of girls aged 11-16 by Grist et al. 2018





by Ksenia A. Korobkova



Digital Modia and Learning Research Hub



Being a **Directioner** here ha[s] opened me up to the world. I have come out of the rock I was living under. Being a **Directioner** ha[s] made me so so many likeminded friends, national and international.

Well, I made my first ever true friend like around two months ago. I was looking for someone to play the lead on my next story and she offered. From then on, we started to talk more and more. Although she's four years older than me, she's really nice.

(Sandra, 14)





[Before Wattpad] I really just wrote when it was needed like in essays or things for

Katie 14

1. The Start of Something New

⊙ 6.1K ★ 96 ● 18

KATIE: I mean the school don't encourage it. Not that they really know that 80% of the girls in our grade have Wattpad.

BY YOU AND ME STARTED my alarm went off. I

one. Ya, I like- no more

oked into

olors red

d looked irection.

INTERVIEWER: Haha, so you don't even tell your teachers you write for fun?

who ever you picture as Kayla green

Cast















KATIE: No. It's like a private thing between students and friends.

seconds of summer might I add. I walked into my closet.

mom work for a science company called Avonis. He gets (plus I'm an only child). So I have a walk in closet, and my

walk into the kitchen. Oh yeah, todays the 11th of september. I'm officially 18!!! "Thanks so much! I say giving them hugs.

bathroom. I look at my clothes. Mmmmmmmm, what should I wear

today. I put on my high waisted gray joans and a white crop top that has

"This is for you." my mom says while she gives me a small white box with a blue bow. I pull off the bow and opened the box. Inside sat a ring. It had a silver hand with with a sannhire surrounded by crystals I

YOU'LL ALSO LIKE



Louis Tomlinson is my.....brother?! By jollybae_2020 O 16.3K ★ 306 Sophia Greene is a 13 year old girls



Louis Tomlinson Saved Me 3 By those5boysfrom1d

June 2020 Roblox Survey

Over half (52%) of teens surveyed by Roblox, a global online entertainment platform bringing more than 120 million people together through play, say that during COVID-19 they are spending the same amount or more time with their real-life friends via Roblox, voice/chat programs, and other online gaming platforms.



Youth Mobilizing Social Media for Healing in the BLM Movement

- Tiera Tanskley

We all have PTSD ... because of social media, because of all this constant coverage, we have this fear of the police. Emotionally, I can say that it has taken a toll on me. It's taken a toll on all of us.



Youth Mobilizing Social Media for Healing in the BLM Movement

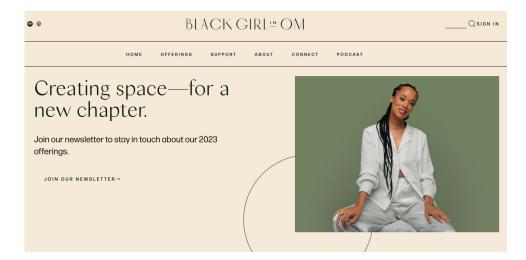
- Tiera Tanskley



Bitter Brown Femmes

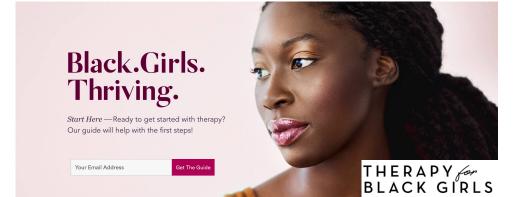
CATEGORY: Society & Culture

Two Chicanx queer femmes run their mouths on social and political matters impacting marginalized communities today, with an emphasis on: LGBT, Latinx/Chicanx, and women's issues.



Teens coping with stress and fatigue of witnessing racialized violence on social media go online for:

- Sources of Black joy and laughter
- Self care
- Social media therapy





Closing Thoughts

- Culture, community, and belonging drive social media engagement & digital wellbeing -- not platform features or individual traits
- Culturally responsive, asset-based and nonuniversalistic approaches are essential for equity
- Effective solutions recognize young people's agency & communities and avoid adult savior complex





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