

## CyberCitizenry

By Magdalena Galloway

## Cyberspace



- Virtual public space
  - where individuals can meet, exchange ideas, share information, provide social support, conduct business, create artistic media, play simulation games, engage in political discussion.....
  - regardless of physical location

Wikipedia

## Growing up online

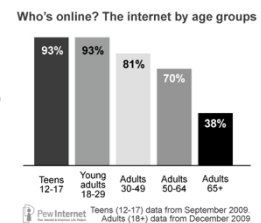
[www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9iKH94FQFE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b9iKH94FQFE)

Full version

[www.pbs.org/wqbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline/view/main.html](http://www.pbs.org/wqbh/pages/frontline/kidsonline/view/main.html)

## 93% of teenagers are online

“ The use of social media – from blogging to online social networking to creation of all kinds of digital material – is central to many teenagers’ lives. ”



## Medium

- Social Networking
  - MySpace, Facebook, YouTube...
- IM (Instant Messaging)
  - ICQ, Skype, AIM, Yahoo Messenger...
- Chat rooms
- SMS (Short Message Service)
- Phone calls
- Web Sites, Blogs, Micro-blogs
- E-mail

WeeWorld

facebook

Bebo

myspace.com  
a place for friends

xanga.com

HABBO  
hangout for teens

skype

AIM.com

icq  
everybody, everywhere

## It is all about

Thinking/ Creating/ Expressing / Sharing /  
Distributing / Contributing / Innovating  
Networking / Collaborating / Interacting  
Participating/ Observing/ Listening/ Reading  
Sense making/ Researching /Acquiring...  
...LEARNING!

## Online Content Creators (64%)

- 39% share their own artistic creations online, such as artwork, photos, stories, or video
- 28% created their own online journal or blog
- 27% maintain their own personal webpage
- 26% remix content they find online into their own creations
- 55% created a profile on a social networking site

Teens and Social Media; Pew Internet; Dec 2007

## SN sites place where kids

- Post Pictures and own creations
- Accumulate Friends
- Post messages to others & describe themselves.
- express themselves
- experiment with different perspectives
- play with aspects of their identity

Growing up Online; pbs.org

## How can we channel this creativity into formalized learning?

Google custom search  
beta

– <http://www.google.com/cse/>

- The Internet for Kids

– <http://www.kidzui.com/>

- Class Blogs

– <http://areallydifferentplace.org/>

– <http://www.mrwylie.com/student-blog.html>

- Global Kids Experience

– <http://www.globalkids.org/>



## How to create critical consumers of media?

Information literacy

## Critically evaluate

- Look for resources, references and owners
  - [martinlutherking.org](http://martinlutherking.org) => [easywhois.com](http://easywhois.com)
  - [mercuryfacts.org](http://mercuryfacts.org) => [sourcewatch.org](http://sourcewatch.org)

Can we trust Wikipedia?

### Cyberspace Safety Risks

- Exposure to inappropriate materials
- Online predators (pedophiles, conartists)
- Harassment and bullying
- Viruses and Hackers
- Financial and Legal

Who should be responsible for teaching online safety?

### Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act

- require schools receiving eRate discounts to teach students about:
  - safe and responsible internet use
  - appropriate online behavior
  - how to interact properly with others on social-networking sites and in chat rooms
  - how to recognize and respond to cyber bullying

<http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/related-top-news/index.cfm?i=55557>

How to protect against online predators?

### FBI CyberSafety Tips for Kids and Teens

- Be sure you are dealing with someone you and your parents know and trust before giving out personal information on the Internet.
- Never give out identifying information to people you don't know, including name, address, phone number and school name.



## Who is cyberbully?

- The Vengeful Angel
  - The Power-Hungry or Revenge of the Nerds
  - The "Mean Girls"
  - The Inadvertent Cyberbully or "Because I Can"
- [www.stopcyberbullying.org/educators/howdoyouhandleacyberbully.html](http://www.stopcyberbullying.org/educators/howdoyouhandleacyberbully.html)

January 19, 2008

Soaring number of teachers say they are 'cyberbully' victims

## Interactive Internet Resources



[www.kidsmart.org.uk/POL\\_IPSA\\_Mac+PC/main.html](http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/POL_IPSA_Mac+PC/main.html)

[www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/](http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/)

[www.thatnotcool.com](http://www.thatnotcool.com)

## How to prevent?

### Death of girl, 13, linked to friend's cyber-bully parents

- Real life stories
  - <http://www.netsmartz.org/resources/reallife.htm>
- Would you say it in person?
  - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdQBurXQOeQ>
- Real life consequences
  - [www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/01/15/national/main4723161.shtml](http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2009/01/15/national/main4723161.shtml) -sexing

January 30, 2008

Cyber bully's sex hoax led friend to try to kill himself



ADL Curriculum Connections

Anti-Bias Lesson Plans and Resources for K-12 Educators

<http://tinyurl.com/yuufcj>

- Develop empathy for others
- Explore civic responsibilities
- Explore and challenge social norms

## Useful links

- <http://cybersmartcurriculum.org>
- <http://www.safekids.com/>
- <http://www.cyberbullying.org/>
- <http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/>
- <http://www.pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/>
- <http://www.stopcyberbullying.org>
- <http://www.cyberbullying.info/>
- <http://www.bewebaware.ca>