

Paper session (5): Locating and re-locating PD

Oppositional and Activist New Media: Remediation, Reconfiguration, Participation

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ABSTRACT

Over the last decade, the major firms and cultural institutions that have dominated media and information industries in the U.S. and globally have been challenged by people adopting new technologies to intervene and participate in mainstream media culture. In this paper key genres and features of oppositional and activist new media are described and cases are presented, and their implications for participatory design are briefly outlined.

‘The South Asian Web’: An Emerging Community

Information System in the South Asian Diaspora

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ABSTRACT

How can principles of participatory design help generate a community information system to serve the South Asian diasporic community of Los Angeles? While participatory design has taken root in the development of information systems for online communities, it has rarely been applied to systems that explore and enhance communication within diasporic communities. We seek to apply principles of participatory design in the creation of a digital media system designed to augment the interaction and cultural communication of the South Asian diaspora in Los Angeles. By integrating diverse community contributions according to community-created ontologies, we will build ‘The South Asian Web’: a living representation and an interactive means of articulating narratives, future visions, and community goals.

Inside the Belly of the Beast: The Challenges and Successes of a Reformist

Participatory Agenda

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ABSTRACT

Shapiro [38] recently argued that participatory design practitioners should consider pursuing a reformist agenda through engagement with the procurement and development of systems in the public sector. This paper considers the challenges, contradictions and possible arenas for success in the context of a reformist participatory design agenda [38], by reflecting on recent work undertaken from a stance similar to that advocated by Shapiro [38] in a public sector agency. The intention of the paper is to stimulate and extend discussion about arenas in which the political goals that characterized participatory design in its early days can be pursued, and extend discussions about the role of politics in contemporary participatory design [14].