Digital Spaces, Material Traces: Investigating the Performance of Gender, Sexuality, and Embodiment on Internet Platforms that feature User-Generated Content

van Doorn, N.A.J.M.

Citation for published version (APA):

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
Table of Contents

Acknowledgements 3

Chapter one: Introduction 5
1.1 – Orientation: Introducing the subject matter 5
1.2 – Context: concepts, research approach and surrounding fields 6
1.3 – Practice: method(olog)ical considerations and case study design 9
1.4 – Order: contents and structure of the dissertation 11
Notes to chapter one 13

Chapter two: Theorizing Gender and the Internet: Past, Present, and Future 15
2.1 – Introduction 15
2.2 – Gender as identity 15
2.3 – Gender as Social Structure 20
2.4 – Situated practices and spaces 24
2.5 – New web, new questions, new outcomes? 27
2.6 – Conclusion 30
2.7 – Guide to further reading 31
Postscript to chapter two 33

Chapter three: A Body of Text 35
3.1 – Introduction 35
3.2 – Gender and embodiment online 36
3.3 – Method 38
3.4 – Results: Socio-cultural issues in #Cyberbar and #Queer 41
3.5 – Results part two: Interpretative repertoires and the perseverance of the body 46
3.6 – Conclusion 52
Notes to chapter three 53
Postscript to chapter three 54

Chapter four: Writing From Experience 57
4.1 – Introduction 57
4.2 – Gender identity and CMC: the research landscape 58
4.3 – Gender Identity and Weblogs 60
4.4 – Method 62
4.5 – Representing gender identity on Dutch and Flemish weblogs 63
4.6 – Conclusion 69
Notes to chapter four 71
Postscript to chapter four 72
Chapter five: The Ties That Bind

5.1 – Introduction 75
5.2 – Social network sites and identity performance 76
5.3 – Performance, performativity, and social interaction 77
5.4 – A network of Dutch MySpace Friends 79
5.5 – Results 82
5.6 – Conclusion 91
5.7 – Future research 93
Notes to chapter five 94
Postscript to chapter five 96

Chapter six: Keeping it Real

6.1 – Introduction 99
6.2 – From the obscene to the on/scene 100
6.3 – Pornography, participatory culture, and the internet 102
6.4 – User-generated pornography: discipline or emancipation? 106
6.5 – Method 108
6.6 – Results: amateurism and the aesthetics of the ‘real’ 111
6.7 – Results part two: the construction of visual pleasure 114
6.8 – Conclusion: gender ideology and its ‘scopic regime’ 117
Notes to chapter six 120
Postscript to chapter six 121

Chapter seven: Conclusions

7.1 – Looking back: a recapitulation of the previous chapters 123
7.2 – Making connections: some theoretical inferences 125
7.3 – Taking inventory: research contributions 136
7.4 – Looking forward: recommendations for future research 138
Notes to chapter seven 139

Afterword 141

References 143

Nederlandse samenvatting (Dutch summary) 163