CS4501 Human Centered Computing for Digital Well-Being

Class 12

AI Companion and Digital Well-Being

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Have You Ever Felt?

What is AI Companion

Key Characteristics of AI Companion

- Memory
- Personality
- Proactivity
- Simulated Empathy

The Evolution of Digital Companionship

The rise of AI Companions

The Loneliness Epidemic

Technological Leaps

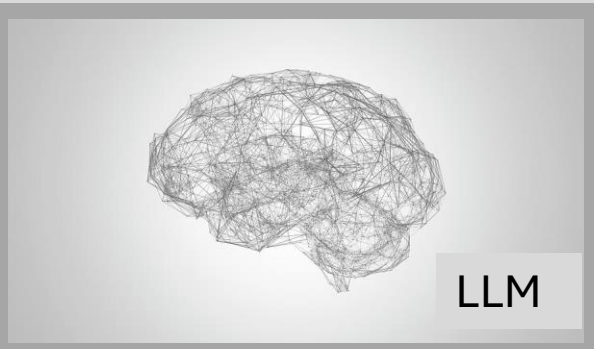
Market & Cultural Readiness

1.In the 2013 Black Mirror episode Be Right Back, a grieving woman interacts with a digital re-creation of her dead boyfriend. [Ref]

2.Replika's (2017) founder, Eugenia Kuyda, developed the initial version of Replika, out of personal grief (2015). [Ref]

How Do They Work?

Your Words



Personalized Algorithm

Sentiment Analysis

AI Response

What AI Companions Offer

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT AND CONNECTION

ACCESSIBILITY

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

The Perils: The Double-Edged Sword

Emotional Dependency

Data & Privacy

Empathy Masking

Mindful Engagement

Set Intentional Boundaries

Maintain Critical Perspective

Discussion

1. Discuss personal experience with AI companions.
2. What strategies can we use to mitigate the risks of AI companions?

How would you feel about it?

"imagine there was a friend of yours who has a robot clone, completely identical. Physically and mentally. If one day you lose track and don't know who is who because you cannot prove whether something is conscious or not. You could be living with an AI friend the rest of your life." [Ref]

Thank
You