Lens Exploration  
IDS 403 Technology and Society

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As technology progresses, humans are adapting to the newest technologies and implementing them in our lives, one of the most innovative technologies that many people including me use daily is Discord. Discord is a VoIP and instant messaging social platform. Discord has impacted a lot on my life since interaction with people has become more accessible, even if I meet new people every day, Discord has connected me with people who have the same interests and hobbies as me. For example, as a hobby, I like to trade in the New York Stock Exchange, so the server which is members has provided a huge amount of knowledge and different point of view. But not only me, but a lot of people have also become sociable since it’s easier to interact with people with the same interest.

Years ago, people have to jointed to groups to interact with other individuals and share their hobbies or just to socialize, but with the development of new technologies interacting has become easier and more accessible, before you might have to be in a specific location to interact with your friends, now you just need to joint to any server and you can have voice chat or simple text chat. “It's an intimate space where people don't worry about being snooped on. That's what has really drawn people to Discord.” (Allyn, 2021) Discord saw a huge increase in users during 2020, people were isolated at home, and the best interaction that they got was joint to a server with other people to share stories, learn new skills, play videogames etc.

Discord has impacted our community since the increase in users allows people of different ages to interact with each other. Discord has a great number of users who are satisfied with the service since allows interaction between individuals. Unfortunately, not everything is good, Discord has faced a lot of problems with users sharing inappropriate content. “Like on every corner of the Internet, chats on Discord can turn nasty.” (Allyn, 2021). Overall people love Discord for the interaction with different people and the support in the communities.

Discord has a lot of good and bad sides, from good interaction between the communities to harm to each other. As I previously stated, the interaction between individuals has become more virtual, people become more friends with individuals on the internet and videogames than social groups. Discord helps individuals to have access to servers where they can communicate about what they love and are passionate about. But people can use this platform for malicious reasons. Discord has notified this and now records voice chat and keeps records of the history in case of any problem.

Unfortunately, nothing can be so good, even Discord is an amazing platform to interact with people and learn new skills, Discord has been in the eye of the public for bad users, from market manipulation to sharing important content. People can be really affected by all the information that is being shared from Discord. “Member of a chatroom where leaked Pentagon documents surfaced tells CNN alleged leaker didn’t want users to be ‘shocked by news cycles.’’ (Lyngaas, 2023), this shows the bad use of the platform. If users keep the platform for the reasons was created, I will help a lot of people like introverts or unsocial people. Discord provides one space to any person who is looking to meet new people and have a lot of fun.

Citation

Allyn, B. (2021, March 31). *Group-chatting platform discord might change social media with its business model*. NPR. Retrieved May 4, 2023, from https://www.npr.org/2021/03/31/983157378/group-chatting-platform-discord-might-change-social-media-with-their-business-mo

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