

Arisa Fukushima

ART272

Professor Carrie

21 August 2024

Podcast & Response

Notes:

- What is the internet? World Wide web: Computers communicating information to one another
- Made his search engine more like a neighborhood with an “address”
- Each address creates a virtual community
- “Geocities”
- When yahoo bought geocities it meant that yahoo owned the data and informations of users
- Internet used to be more personal, simple, expressive, colorful, ugly and a bit difficult to navigate
- Geocities' downfall changed the way people perceive the internet.
- Archive team: To preserve digital artifact no matter how small
- Geocities served as a good example of what a website should not look like
-

Reflection:

- what resonates with you and is interesting
 - A lot of the visual elements and color schemes of these websites were either difficult to navigate or functionally a mess. I think reviewing some of the attached examples of some of these geocities gave me a pretty good understanding of how the face and “look” of a majority of the internet has evolved over such a short period of time. How colors, button sizes, font selections, element spacing and harmony all play an important role in the maximization of the efficiency and helpfulness of a website.
- what you are learning about - what is completely new information to you
 - Geocities was originally an initiative in order to attract people to the idea of using the world wide web or the internet at its young age and new emergence. A web hosting service which allowed its users to create their own web pages and be assigned web addresses became a way for individuals to connect with diverse groups of people with similar niche interests.
- what do you not know and need to research further
 - I want to know more about the depersonalization of the internet and the expression of which people now selectively choose to display on the internet as a part of their “online presence”. It feels like there’s

less authenticity and apologeticness for what people choose to share with other online now. Compared to the time before the widespread use of the internet and social media platforms, where people preferred to behave and express themselves in any which way they chose rather than being afraid of what people think of them.

- what about the internet feels the same as what is described- write down quotes
 - I think some of what continues to be true today is that the internet still allows you to meet people across the world with different backgrounds / lives than you, but is able to still connect you with multiple / many people concerning a specific topic.
 - “I think a lot of that comes from my own experiences as a gay man and coming out and meeting other lesbian and gay people and understanding the power of meeting others of your own identity,”
- what about the internet feels completely different- write down quotes
 - The minimalism and almost corporate sterile feel of a lot of the websites in today’s time feels very distant from some of the examples of Geocities which included many variations of visual elements and greater quantity of the on a single page.

- “The website was flooded with pages featuring “under construction” signs, low-res photos, strobing GIFs, and midi song files.”
- Write what you are thinking about!
 - I am thinking about how we can make the internet fun and carefree again. Kind of on an unrelated - related note, with the resurgence of the 2000’s and 2010’s in today’s trend cycles in clothing, music, pop culture, I’m also wondering if we’ll see another evolution of the internet where people can revisit the idea of making the internet a space where people can freely express themselves again in a manner which doesn’t pay as much attention to a person’s online presence and their virtual image.