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Exercise 7: Analyze domestication challenges in the project example that you used also for your socio-technical system analysis or using your own experience as a novice user of some software application or a technology.

– *How did you become aware of the technology?*
– *What sparked your interest in it?*
– *How did you evaluate the technology for your purposes? What were your main concerns or considerations?*
– *What are your experiences of the trial? What were the positives, what were the negatives?*
– *How did your later use of the technology differ from the initial evaluation?*
– *How technology is now incorporated in your life?*
– *Has the meaning of the technology changed for you?*

Self-ethnography: How did I adopt to cooking?

I came first in touch with this technology around seven years ago. Back then my experience was not too pleasant, because of the social context. I was complaining about my mother's food, so she decided it would be easiest to let my brother and me cook once every weekend. The situation made me dislike cooking at first, because either way (I refuse to cook and dislike to arguments about that vs. I cook and dislike the result) felt like a loss. My first experiences were, therefore, not interest-driven and can be considered as rather negative. I disliked the pressure, which is created through the responsibility and the fact that there would not be an alternative food.

During the next two years I cooked occasionally, but not as regularly as at first. My main concern became and still is how to find a proper meal to prepare. Later on, after I moved out three years later I started to enjoy cooking. I changed my general preparation habit to cooking alone and figured out, that this was and still is one of my main worry: avoiding getting stupid advices à la 'Why don't you do it like that?' If I cook alone it can take as much time as I want it to take, I can use as much pots, pans and other kitchen tools as available and add spices in whatever order I would like to.

In that time my interest arouses because I enjoyed having produced a good result or sometimes at least some eatable result at all. I saw a clear progress in getting better and more skilled in utilizing cooking tools and the processes around cooking. Additionally, I started to experiment with different kitchens and to cook food only relying on a recipe without knowing how the result should taste. Because I mostly lived alone and I am too lazy to cook something fancy and too bored to cook something usual only for me, I, at that time, also started to invite friends just for the purpose of cooking and eating. Cooking became a socializing event, which shaped my week planning with weekly cooking meetings with friends and preparing the Christmas meal for the family.

Today I enjoy cooking, but still see space for improvements.

Conclusion

Main concerns are related to surrounding people's behavior towards people utilizing those cooking tools. The usage of those tools is less critical and rather considered as being easy. I'm attracted by experimenting with recipes and have cooking influence my week planning. Therefore, the meaning changed from have-to-do duty to want-to-do pleasure.