

SOC166

5.2: Users II



Silicon – “Personal Computer”

Last Time: Users



- A focus on **users** reveals the ways that uses diverge from representations;
- Women's **affinities** for the telephone were due to *isolation, social management, and comfort*;
- SCOT reveals **multiple meanings of technology** – but doesn't settle conflicts.

How Users and Non-users Matter







A context of use
reveals how people
actually use technology
in relation to other
objects and situations.



Co-construction means "we have to go back and forth continually between the designer and the user, between the designer's projected users and the real users, between the world inscribed in the object and the world described by its displacement."

- Akrich, quoted in Oudshoorn and Pinch p. 11



New technology has **interpretive flexibility** until certain **closure mechanisms** stabilize its meaning—though stable technology can still be modified.

IN A
DISPOSABLE
SOCIETY
TO REPAIR
IS
TO REBEL

Commission européenne
Europese Commissie

SAY YES!
TO REPAIR



#RightToRepair

NO ECODESIGN
WITHOUT REPAIR



Next time: Interfaces

