

# Societal Computing Assignment 2

## Survey and Reflection

### Part 1

Fill out [this survey](#)

### Part 2

Select ONE social media site that you use regularly. Now, we want you to think more critically about this site - about its best and worst features, about how you use it and about why the site exists and continues to exist in the first place. As you spend time on this site this week, think about the following prompts. Pick THREE OUT OF SEVEN of the prompts to think about in more detail. For each of these, write up a one (and only one!) paragraph answer (3-5 sentences).

1. What are the kinds of social interactions you can have on the site with your close friends? What about with people who are just acquaintances? What about with people you don't know at all? List all of the ways you can think of to interact with others (e.g. posting on people's walls, sharing a video to your feed, joining a group, etc.)
2. How does the site make money? How does that impact your experience on the site, beyond just the fact that you "see ads"? Another way to think about this- how do you think the site might change if it didn't have to make any money, or if it wanted to make more money?
3. What kinds of "bad behavior" (e.g. hate speech, bullying) happen on this site? How often do you think it happens, and to whom does it happen most often (or about whom, if those people aren't on the site themselves)? (How) is that content moderated?
4. What are your motivations for posting on this site? Or, if you don't post, why do you think other people post on this site? Additionally, what do you definitely not post on this site? Why is that? Why do you think other people post things you're not willing to post?

5. How is what you see when you first hit the page determined for you? Is it algorithmically curated, determined by who you are friends with on the site, or some combination? If an algorithm impacts what you see (and, for almost all of the sites above, it does), what do you think the main factors are behind that algorithm?

6. Do you get news from this site? If so, what kind of news? And how do you get it- from memes? Or news articles shared by others? If from news articles, do you read the whole article, or only the headline? How do you think getting news from this site influences your view of the world?

7. Are there people that you know, or think, use this site way more than others? What are those people like? Why do you think they use this site very often? Do you think they use all social media platforms often, or just this one?