

Using Cultural Probes to Explore Mediated Intimacy

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Abstract

Intimacy is a crucial element of domestic life that has received insufficient attention from Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) researchers despite their rapidly growing interest in the design of interactive technologies for domestic use. Intimate acts differ from other acts and require different methods to develop interactive technologies to support these acts. This paper presents the first phase of a two-part study exploring the potential of interactive technologies to support intimate relationships. We contribute to this uncharted domain of HCI research a literature review and a set of methods for its investigation. We conclude with preliminary results and suggestive design ideas for interactive technologies intended to support intimacy.

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