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IEEE KNOWLEDGE CAFÉ AT WSIS FORUM 2021

MEASUREMENTALITY: CHILDREN'S DATA AND SUSTAINABILITY

WEDNESDAY, 05 MAY 2021 | 16:00-17:00 CET

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ABOUT THE KNOWLEDGE CAFE

The conversation at this knowledge cafe is set in the context of defining what counts in the algorithmic age where participants--through sharing insights and ideas and surfacing the group's collective knowledge--will gain a deeper understanding in how to measure and protect children's data.

Having agency over our identity is a precondition for self-determination and freedom. Translated into the algorithmic age, this means agency over our digital footprint and access to and the ability to utilize our data. It has become evident that artificial intelligence (AI) systems also have a downside; in conjunction with other technologies and behavioral marketing practices they can cause harm, especially for children. Therefore, it is imperative to move beyond business as usual and to prioritize the wellbeing of our children, starting with protecting their privacy and security online. If we fail to do this, their agency, mental health, and self-actualization as humans in any culture will be reliant on forces beyond their control.

Today, a large number of social platforms used by children were not designed with children's rights and well-being front of mind. As a result, they often fail to take account of the vulnerabilities and unique capacities that children have. Children must be able to explore, learn, and develop in trustworthy environments that enable them to fulfill their curiosities at an age-appropriate level and within the context of their familial societies.

All participating in this Knowledge Cafe will discuss issues like data privacy for children, data agency for all, and how metrics like the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and other human rights oriented metrics are being utilized in the design of AI systems.

Join John C. Havens (moderator), Executive Director of the IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of AI Systems, Sandy Pentland, Professor at MIT, and Branka Panic, Founder of AI for Peace, as they set the stage for the discussions and move to break out groups for a deeper dive into topics including how can we respect, protect, and promote children's data rights, how frameworks for developing age appropriate digital services where users are children can be implemented, and what are the measures of success for a positive and sustainable future for children.

WSIS FORUM 2021
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Final Week 17-21 May 2021

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SPEAKERS

Venera Urbaeva, Child Rights Adviser, AI for Peace (USA)—Venera is a child protection specialist and a public health advocate with 14 years of development and humanitarian experience. She currently leads AI for Peace's work on safeguarding children from harm and risks in the digital space, while amplifying opportunities presented by technologies to promote child development and wellbeing.

Venera has previously worked with UNICEF to support the wellbeing and resilience of children and adolescents in armed conflicts through development of child-centered, gender sensitive and age appropriate services. Venera is passionate about improving the lives of children and adolescents in the digital age through research, evidence-based programming, policy-making and advocacy.

Professor Alex 'Sandy' Pentland directs MIT Connection Science, an MIT-wide initiative, and previously helped create and direct the MIT Media Lab and the Media Lab Asia in India. He is one of the most-cited computational scientists in the world, and Forbes recently declared him one of the "7 most powerful data scientists in the world" along with Google founders and the Chief Technical Officer of the United States. He is on the Board of the UN Foundations' Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, co-led the WEF discussion in Davos that led to the EU privacy regulation GDPR, and was central in forging the transparency and accountability mechanisms in the UN's SDGs. He has received numerous awards and prizes such as the McKinsey Award from Harvard Business Review, the 40th Anniversary of the Internet from DARPA, and the Brandeis Award for work in privacy.

MODERATOR

John C. Havens is Executive Director of The IEEE Global Initiative on Ethics of Autonomous and Intelligent Systems that has two primary outputs – the creation and iteration of a body of work known as Ethically Aligned Design: A Vision for Prioritizing Human Well-being with Autonomous and Intelligent Systems and the recommendation of ideas for Standards Projects focused on prioritizing ethical considerations in A/IS. Currently, there are thirteen approved Standards Working Groups and one completed Standard in the IEEE P7000™ series. He is also Executive Director for The Council on Extended Intelligence (CXI) created by IEEE SA and MIT to proliferate the ideals of responsible participant design, data agency and metrics of economic prosperity prioritizing people and the planet over profit and productivity.

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