

Assignment 11: Beyond “Couch Potatoes”

Enumerate in which situations

1. you acted as a designer/active contributor
 - Working in a group for a class
 - Helping to critique other student’s work for my TAM class
 - Contributing to various online discussion forums.

2. you acted as a (passive) consumer

- Watching TV
- Browsing the internet
- Listening to Podcasts
- Commenting on someone’s pictures on Flickr.com

3. situations in which you believe you should have acted differently

This has happened to me sometimes in class discussions where I wait until the last possible second, and by that time the opportunity to contribute and still have a meaning for the discussion has already passed by.

analyze:

1. what motivated you to choose to be in one of the groups?
2. prevented you being in a group?

I think it depends on what the group is working on. If I feel that I am comfortable with the material that group is dealing with then I’d be more comfortable with helping because I feel that the group would benefit more from my knowledge. If I feel that I can’t really help out the group or that the group is covering something that is not interesting to me and I have a choice to be in a group or not to be, I’d choose the latter.

3. which rewards did you get (or not get) for your contributions?

Most the rewards I get from working in a group is a good grade, or the satisfaction of having my name on a well thought out and complete project that other people will look up to and use as a model to create theirs.

4. which technological and social factors influenced your decision?

For technological factors I believe it depends on the entire interface and its technical support. As for the social factors I think it depends on the type of group, and what the group sets out to accomplish in the end.