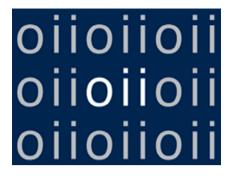
Social Transformation in the Information Society

by

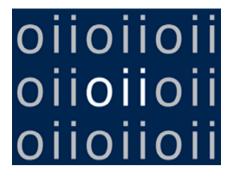
William Dutton Oxford Internet Institute University of Oxford

For Loughborough University Consumer Panel Programme on 'Communications Regulation and Low Income Consumers', Ofcom, London, 29 November, 2004.



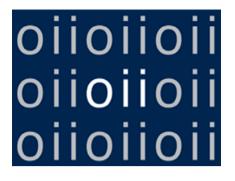
Digital Divides

- Digital Exclusion
- Digital Choice
- Significance of Inclusion

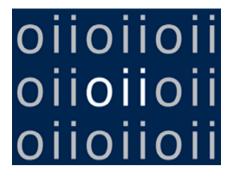


Ox/S

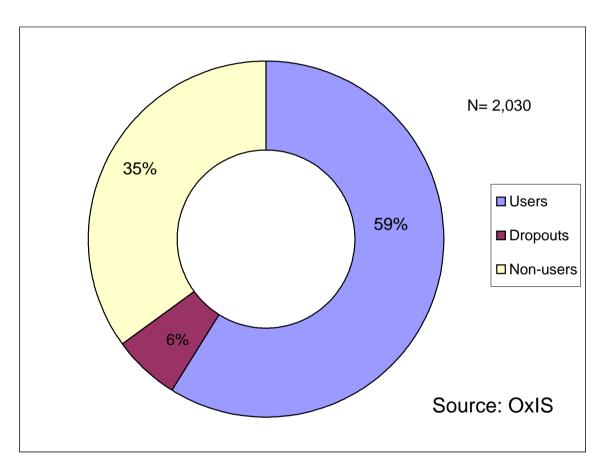
- Multi-stage probability sample, projectable to England, Wales and Scotland
- 14 years and older
- Face to face interviews
- 2,030 respondents
- 66% response rate



- The World Internet Project (WIP)
 - 4th Year
 - Initiated 2000, UCLA, now USC
 - 15 nations (and expanding)
 - Oxford 2003 (WIP Conference)
 - www.worldinternetproject.net
- The Oxford Internet Surveys (OxIS)



Use in Britain, 2003



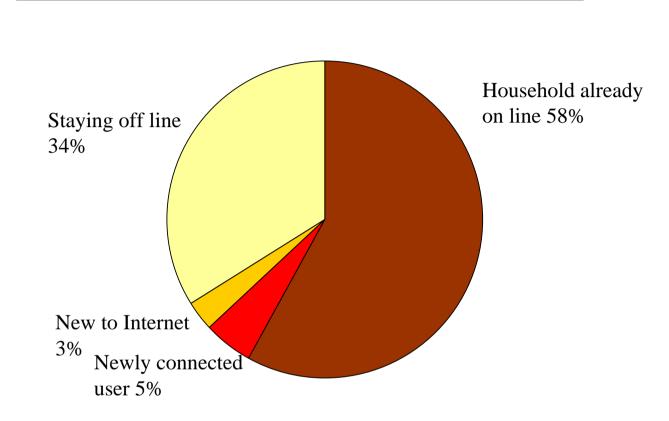
Source: Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), results of a nationwide representative survey of Britons aged 14 and older, 23 May- 28 June 2003. Number of respondents: 2,030.

HOUSEHOLDS LIKELY TO BE ON LINE IN A YEAR'S TIME

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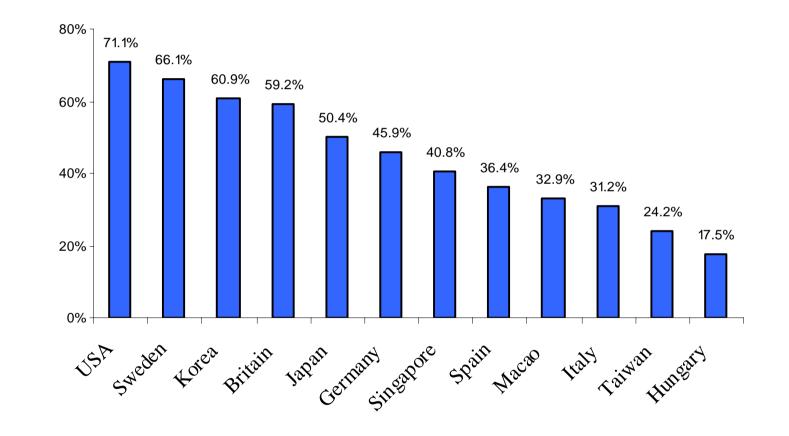
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Newly connected users: Already on line away from home and definitely or probably planning a household connection within a year. New to internet: Non-users planning household connection Staying off line: Non-users not planning household connection

Source: Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), results of a nationwide representative survey of Britons aged 14 and older, 23 May- 28 June 2003. Number of respondents: 2,030.

oiioiioii oiioiioii Cross-National Use, circa 2003 oiioiioii

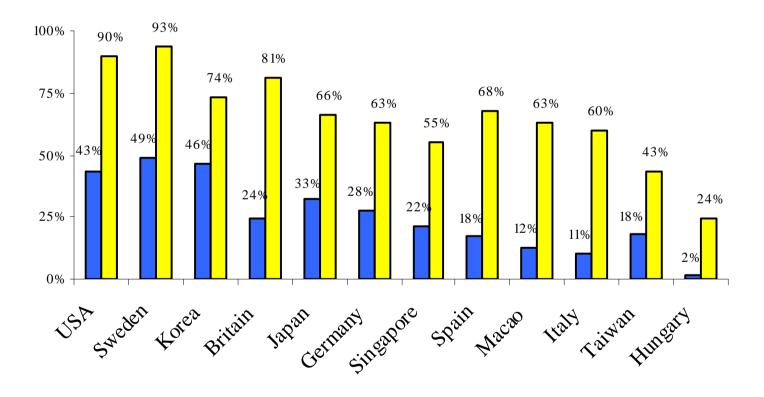


Source: http://www.worldinternetproject.net/



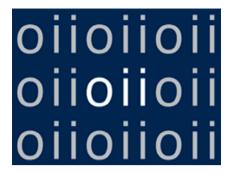
Percent Who Use the Internet: Lowest and Highest Economic Quartiles

■ First Quartile (lowest) ■ Fourth Quartile (highest)



oiioiioii New Broadband Divides in Britain, oiioiioii 2003 oiioiioii User already on broadband 11% Nonuser User probably 41% going on broadband 24% User not thinking of broadband 24%

Source: Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), results of a nationwide representative survey of Britons aged 14 and older, 23 May- 28 June 2003. Number of respondents: 2,030.



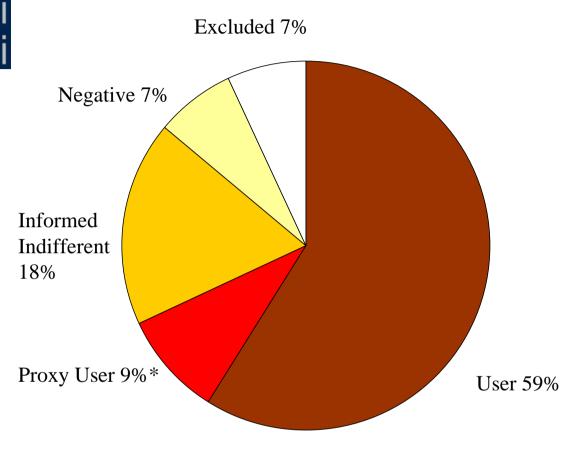
Moore's Divide

- Internet as a bottleneck
- Keep pace with devices inside and outside households
- Intel's Digital Home Fund
- Supply push as well as demand pull



Digital Choice

Figure 1: BRITONS AND THE INTERNET



*Has asked someone to access Internet for them in the past year

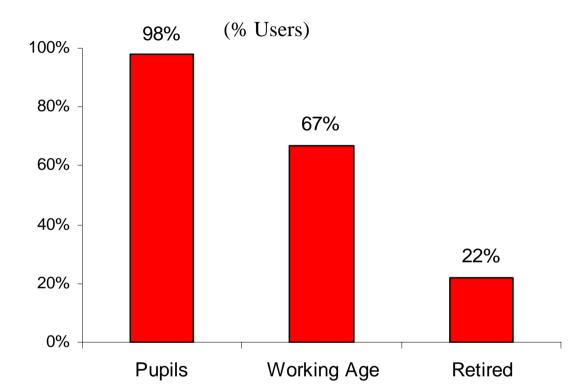
Source: Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), results of a nationwide representative survey of Britons aged 14 and older, 23 May- 28 June 2003. Number of respondents: 2,030.

Figure 4: INTERNET USE BY AGE

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Q. Do you yourself use the internet at home, work, school, college, or elsewhere ?



Pupils: age 14-22 years and in full time education.

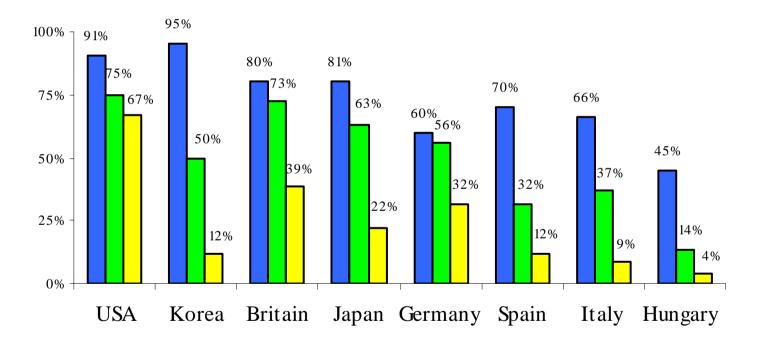
Working age: employed people of any age and all other persons not in employment up to age 55.

Retired: 55 or over and are not in employment.

Source: Oxford Internet Survey (OxIS), results of a nationwide representative survey of Britons aged 14 and older, 23 May-28 June 2003. Number of respondents: 2,030.

Internet Use by Age, circa 2003

□ 16-24 **□** 35-44 **□** 55-64



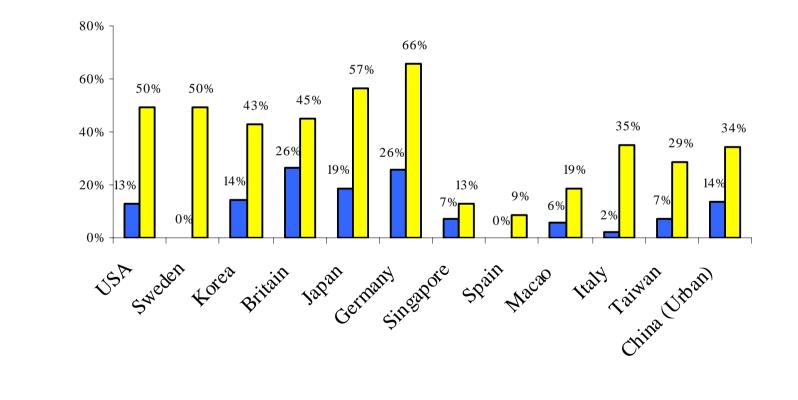


Internet: an Experience Technology

- •Experience shapes trust (confidence and perceived risk)
- •Trust shapes use of the Internet

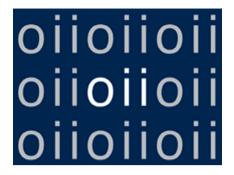
Percent of Users Who Purchase Online by Experience

■ Less than 1 year ■ 5 or more years



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Societal Implications

No Effect?

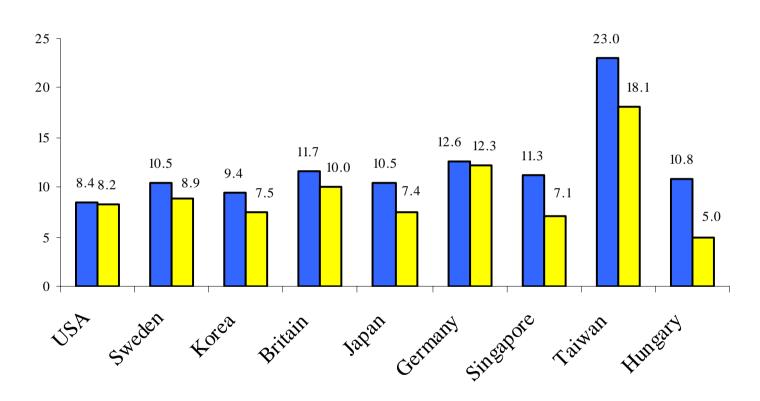
Reinforcement?

Transformation? Virtual Society?

Isolating or Connecting People?

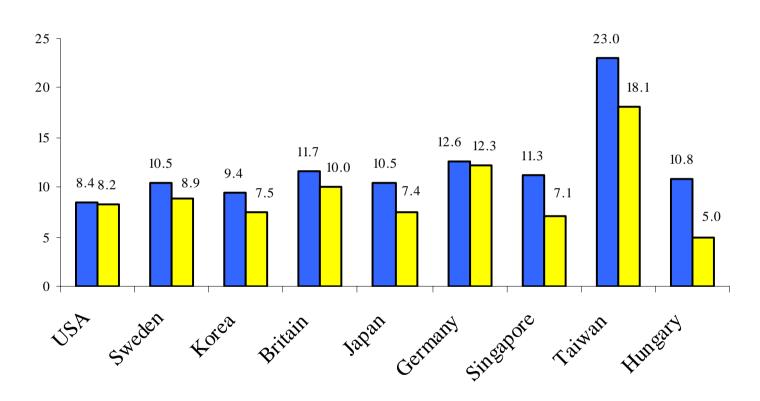
Average Hours per Week Spent Socializing with Friends: Users vs. Non-users

Users Non-users

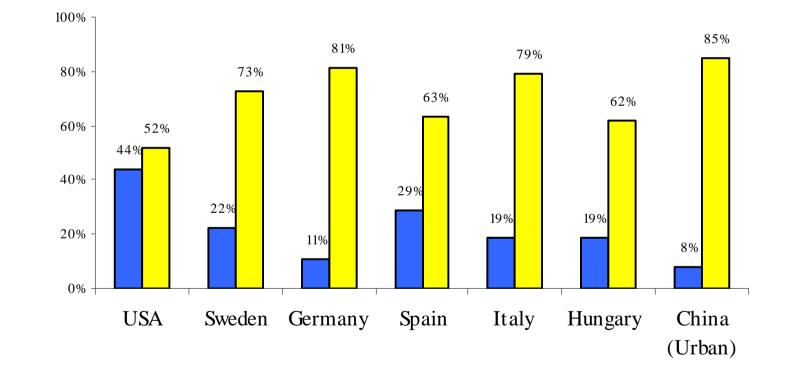


Average Hours per Week Spent Socializing with Friends: Users vs. Non-users

Users Non-users



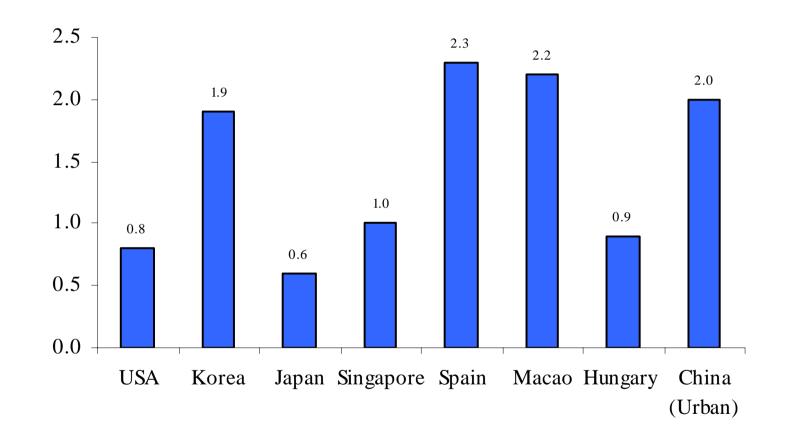
"Has the use of Internet increased or decreased your contact with your family and friends?"



■ Increased ■ Stayed Same

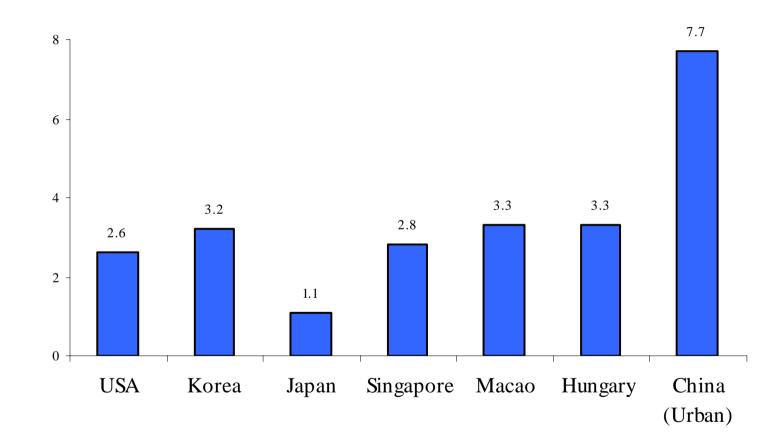
Source: http://www.worldinternetproject.net/

Average Number of Online Friends Met in Person

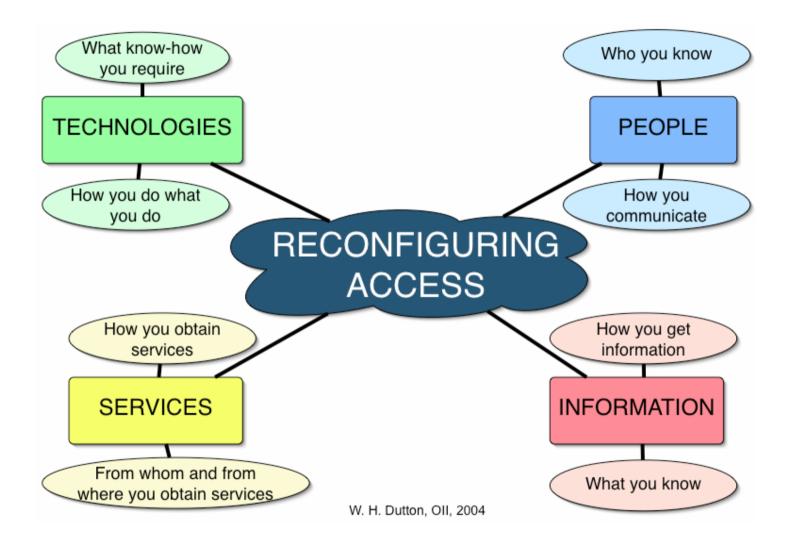


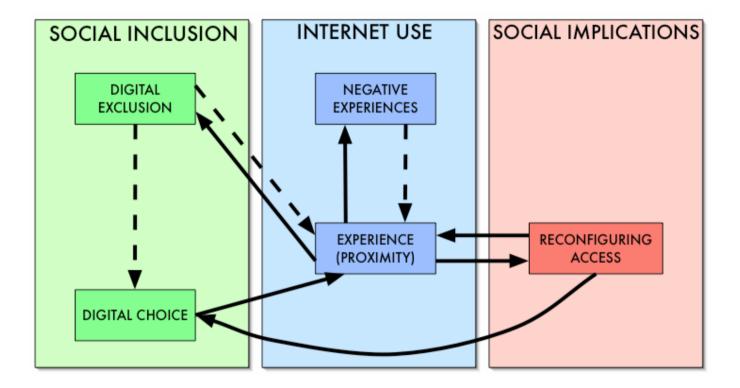
Source: http://www.worldinternetproject.net/

Number of Online Friends Never Met in Person



Source: http://www.worldinternetproject.net/







- Exclusion will remain an issue
- Digital choice merits more attention
- Initiatives should enable experience online
- The Internet and related ICTs are potentially transformative -- reconfiguring access
- Exclusion undermines the 'communicative power' of individuals, communities, and regions



Further Information

Dutton, W. H. (2004), *Social Transformation in the Information Society* (Paris: UNESCO WSIS Publication Series).

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