Contents [of 'Living on Cybemind']

Acknowledgments	xi
Transcription Conventions	xiii
Introduction	1
Preamble	1
Patterns of Disunity?	2
Outlines of Interests	5
Fieldwork on Cybermind	7
Outline of the Book	10
Chapter 1 Toward an Analysis of Communication	13
Introduction	13
Categories	14
Boundaries	16
Problems of Communication	17
Framing	18
Groups, Identities, Norms and Categories	23
Values	28
Summary	29
Chapter 2 Cybermind – A History	31
Preamble	31
Growth of the Internet and Email	31
The Origins of a Social Group	32
Early Days on List	40
Further Happenings	43
Chapter 3 The Internet and the World	47
Introduction	47
Temporary Association and Western Society	49
List Discussion of the World	51
Recapitulation	70

LIVING ON CYBERMIND

ii

Chapter 4 Structures of Communication	
and Internet Groups	73
Structures of Communication	73
Mailing List Organisation	73
Internal Structures: Hierarchy and Subgroups	79
Groups and Other Groups (Us and Them)	82
Conclusion	87

Chapter 5 The Virtual Life: Asence and Experience	89
Introduction	89
'Asence'	89
Lurking	92
Flames	96
Burnout and Reading	101
Histories	102

Chapter 6 The Reign of Authenticity	105
Introduction	105
Authenticity in General: Offline, Public and Private	106
Authenticity Online	111
Bodies and Authentic Expression	118
Gender, Authenticity and Intimacy	120
Conclusion	122

Chapter 7 Bounding the Body: Moods, Intensities and the Haunting

and the Haunting	125
Introduction	125
Boundaries and Offline Bodies	125
Sustaining Mood (Death and Netsex)	129
Cybermind Discusses Netsex	134
The Haunted Computer	141
Virile Bodies, Asence and Politics	145
Conclusions	147

Chapter 8 Existence and Exchange	151
Introduction	151
"The Gift"	153
Exchange, Melanesia and Mailing Lists	155
Time and Exchange	164
Place and Exchange	165
Gender, Gift and Intimacy	165
Property	170

Chapter 9 Control and Crisis	175
Introduction	175
Exchange and Hierarchy	177
Authenticity	178
Political Categories	179
The 'Holocaust Debate'	180
Conclusion	185

Gender and Politics	18
Introduction	18
Invasion Freaks?	18
Fission	19
Iraq	20
Gender	20
Clustering	21

Chapter 11 Constructions of Online 'Community'	213
Introduction	213
'Community'	213
Origin of the Cybermind 'Community'	221
Cybermind and Community	225
Problems and Pleasures of Online Life	234

LIVING ON CYBERMIND

Chapter 12 Intersection of the List with the Offlist	
and the Offline	241
Introduction	241
Organizing as a Group	241
Offlist Meetings	242
The Aura of the Offlist	248
Offline Benefits	254
Comparisons	256
Conclusion	258
	200
Conclusions	265
'Culture'	265
Categorisation	265
Control and Communication	267
Community	275
Paradox	277
Appendix: Demographics and Statistics	281
Introduction	281
General Population	281
Surveys	282
Active Population	291
Activity by Gender	295
Summary	298
5	
Glossary	301
Notes	307
Bibliography	335
Index	353

iv