بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

شبكة المعلومـــــات الجامعية

التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم

شبكة المعلومات الجامعية

جامعة عين شمس

التوثيق الالكتروني والميكروفيلم

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Cairo University
Faculty of Economics and Political Science
Social-Science Computing Department

Social Identity, Compatriotism and Citizenship in Cyberspace: A literature review

Submitted by
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الإجازة

أجازت لجنة المناقشة هذه الرسالة للحصول على درجة الماجستير فى تطبيقات الحاسب الآلى فى العلوم الإجتماعية بتقدير : ممتاز بتاريخ: ٧/ ٣ /٢٠١١

بعد استيفاء جميع المتطلبات.

اللجنة		
الاسم	الدرجة العلمية	التوقيع
أ.د. على محمود أبو ليلة	الأستاذ المتفرغ بقسم علم الإجتماع بكلية الآداب جامعة عين شمس رئيساً وعضواً من الخارج	
أ.د.كمال محمود المنوفى	الأستاذ المتفرغ بقسم العلوم السياسية بكلية الإقتصاد والعلوم السياسية عضواً من الداخل	
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Dedicated

To my dear parents

&

To my idol and role model

Dr. Zeinab Amin

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Title of the thesis: Social Identity, Compatriotism and Citizenship in Cyberspace: A literature review

Supervisor: Prof. Hazem Ahmad Hosny, Professor and Head of the Social-Science Computing Department.

Abstract:

The emergence of cyber-cultures and the formation of cyber-communities is one of the most prominent and controversial issues raised by the globalization and the advent of Information and Communication Technology. Lying on the borders between the virtual and the real, such emerging cultures and communities became controversial as they challenge all the well-established notions of *culture* and *community*. Moreover, Cyberspace challenges our traditional understanding of notions as basic as time, space, and—more importantly—identity. A new inquiry arises questioning how social identity would be redefined in the context of such emerging communities based on cyberspace conceptual and technical features. We depicted the scientific construction and perception of social identity in cyberspace in conjunction with Social Identity Theory. A comparison of both online and

offline lives is conducted and the effect of the involvement in online communities on users' affiliation to the offline life is also investigated. The two notions of cyber-compatriotism and cyber-citizenship are given special care to find some intersection, differentiation and integration zones.

Keywords:

Cyberspace, Online communities, Social Identity, Compatriotism, Citizenship

Summary:

The rapid development and proliferation of new information and communication technologies has given rise to a lively debate and a growing literature on the changes that occur to the users of such technologies. We are interested in depicting the changes that come about to cyberspace inhabitants specifically those concerned with personal and social identities and feelings of affiliation whether they are feelings of nationalism, compatriotism or citizenship.

The thesis is thus divided into five chapters:

Chapter One: Cybernetics and the Internet

This chapter introduces the science of Cybernetics as the origin of the science of communication and control and because it is one of the main basic sciences that helped in developing the Internet. The following section in the chapter explores the Internet development and the World Wide Web.

Chapter Two: Introducing virtual communities

The chapter presents the basic definitions of community and cyberspace in general. Then, it tackles the different definitions of virtual communities, the