Is It Possible to Create a Community through Internet?

Darya Bozhko
Monica Bajan
01/02/05

Why do people come to the site?

- Nostalgia of homeland while living abroad
- Recreating identity
- Finding co-thinkers in integrating in a new society
- Pragmatic everyday needs

Physical elements on the site identifying the "concept of community"

- Visual signs
  (National flag
  National colors
  Hymn)

- General content

Are users aware of belonging to a community?

3 types of users – those who:

- Know that there is a community
- Do not acknowledge a community, but are influenced by it
- Create a community

Forums: the unaltered source of research analysis

Forums

- contain cues that cannot be masked
- are usually created naturally
- are vivid and developing mechanisms

Our personal perception as users, not observers

- Difficulties we have encountered while attempting to communicate

- Advantages we gained from observing the sites

- Are we members/parts of

  these communities now?