

UNCOVERING THE DIGITAL AUTHOR ABROAD

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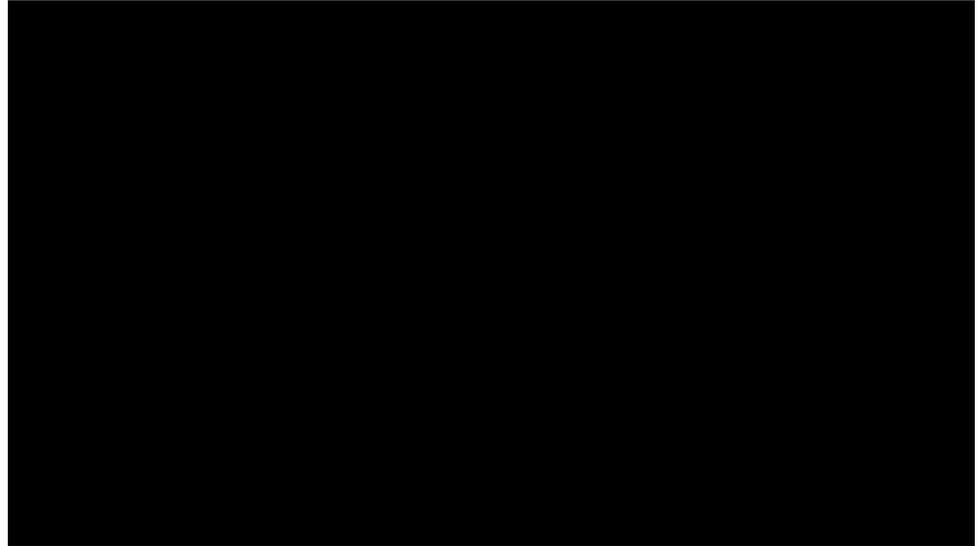
#caretoshare?

- Look to your phone and find a picture
- Pick one you have already posted online / will post online
- Make sure it is one you're willing to discuss with the person next to you
- Think of a caption that applies to your image, but keep it to yourself (for now)



The Road to Mandalay?

- Kipling's 'East of Suez' narrative
 - By the old Moulmein Pagoda, lookin' lazy at the sea, There's a Burma girl a-settin', and I know she thinks o' me; For the wind is in the palm-trees, and the temple-bells they say: "Come you back, you British soldier; come you back to Mandalay! " (Rudyard Kipling: 1890)
 - <https://youtu.be/OqLIm0HOvuQ>
- The 'Other' Narrative
 - History or conflict / colonialism for 100 years



Unintentional Online Impact

- British backpacker Eleanor Hawkins, 24, arrested in Malaysia in June 2015 for posing nude on top of a sacred mountain with nine other travellers.
- ‘Abu Sin’ arrested in Riyadh for engaging in “unethical behaviour” in videos with Christina Crockett





IRISH IBERIAN



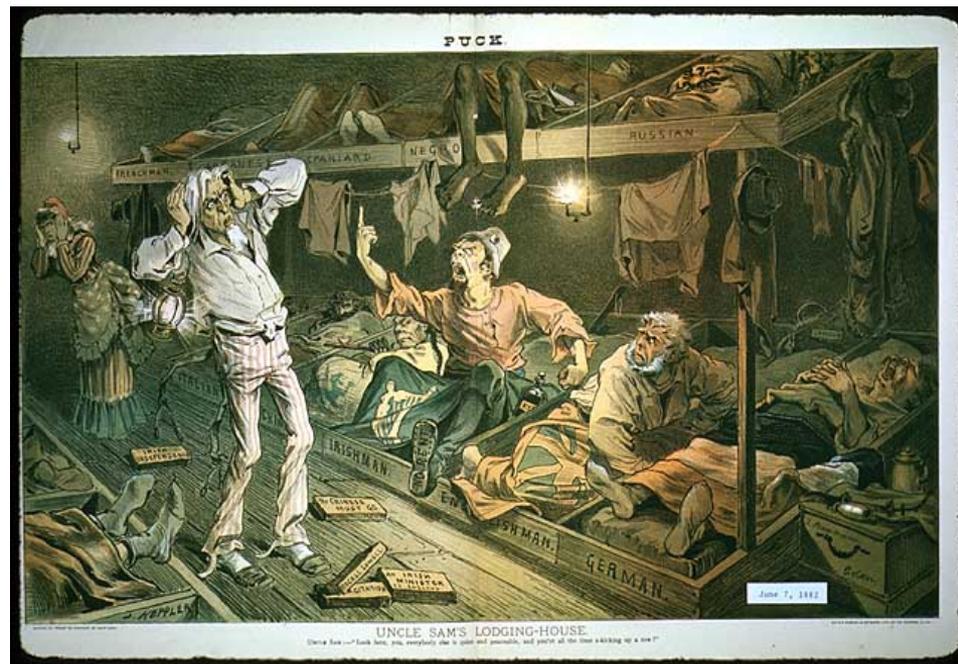
ANGLO-TEUTONIC



NEGRO

Harper's Weekly

The Teutons are believed to have been or grown in Africa, where, thousands of years ago, they spread themselves through Spain over Western Europe. The remains are found in the barrows or burying places in various parts of these countries. The skulls are of low prognathous type. They came to America, and mixed with the natives of the South and West, who themselves are supposed to have been of low type and descendants of savages of the Stone Age, who, in consequence of isolation from the rest of the world, had never been out competed in the healthy struggle of life, and thus made was, according to the laws of nature, a far superior race.

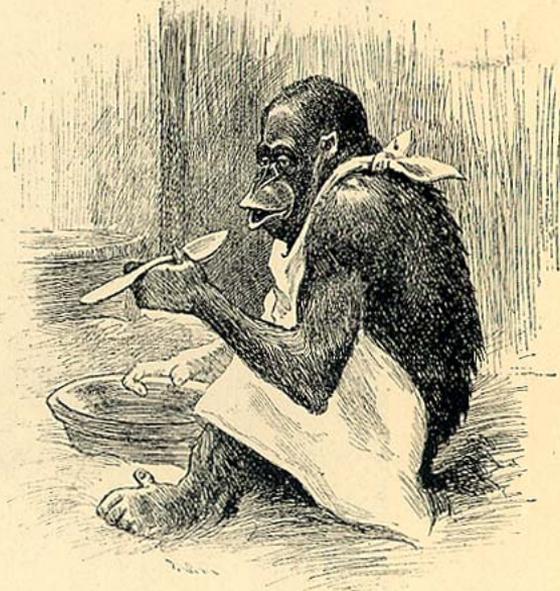


“As we’ve dared to call the monkeys in the Zoo by Irish names, Erin’s sons, in wrath, declare us snobs and flunkies ;

And demand that we withdraw them—nor should we ignore their claims—

For it’s really very hard—upon the monkeys.”

OUTRAGEOUS.



AS we've dared to call the monkeys in the Zoo by Irish names,
Erin's sons, in wrath, declare us snobs and flunkies ;
And demand that we withdraw them—nor' should we ignore their
claims—
For it's really very hard—upon the monkeys.

Managing Encounters

- Embracing the subjective position prior to engagement
- Setting rules / guidelines for interacting
- Facilitated encounters with extensive preparation



DR. ELSA MAXWELL

Pacific Standard



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#INSTAGRAMMINGAFRICA: THE NARCISSISM OF GLOBAL VOLUNTOURISM

Voluntourism is ultimately about the fulfillment of the volunteers themselves, not necessarily what they bring to the communities they visit.

LAUREN KASCAK & SAYANTANI DASGUPTA · JUN 19, 2014

728
SHARES



FOMO Gone Abroad

“It was the photographs posted by other students that inspired me to go on my first overseas medical mission. When classmates uploaded the experience of themselves wearing scrubs beside adorable children in developing countries, I believed I was missing out on a pivotal pre-med experience. I modeled those I had seen on Facebook and even pre-meditated photo opportunities to acquire the ‘perfect’ image that would receive the most Likes.”

—Lauren Kascak

3 Categories of Images

- The Suffering Other
- The Self-Directed Samaritan
- The Overseas Selfies

“In the end, the Africa we voluntourists photograph isn’t a real place at all. It is an imaginary geography whose landscapes are forged by colonialism, as well as a good deal of narcissism...

[If my fellow students do go,] it is my hope that they might think with some degree of narrative humility about how to de-center themselves from the Western savior narrative. Most importantly, I hope they leave their iPhones at home.”



Courtney Martin [Follow](#)

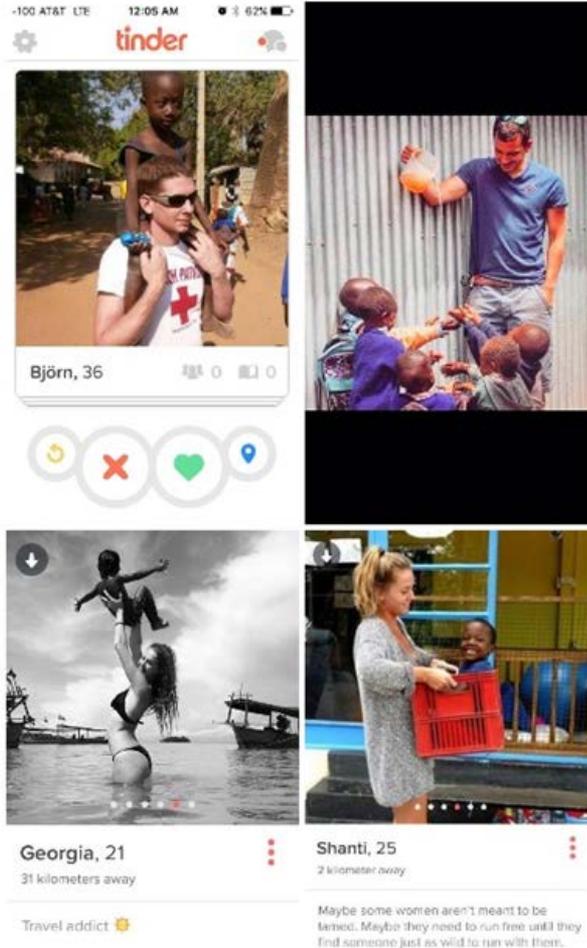
author of *Do It Anyway* and *The New Better Off*, co-founder of @soljourno & @FRESHSpeakers,
@TEDPrize strategist, electric slider, momma, lover, fighter
Jan 11, 2016 · 9 min read

The Reductive Seduction of Other People's Problems

"If you're young, privileged, and interested in creating a life of meaning, of course you'd be attracted to solving problems that seem urgent and readily solvable."

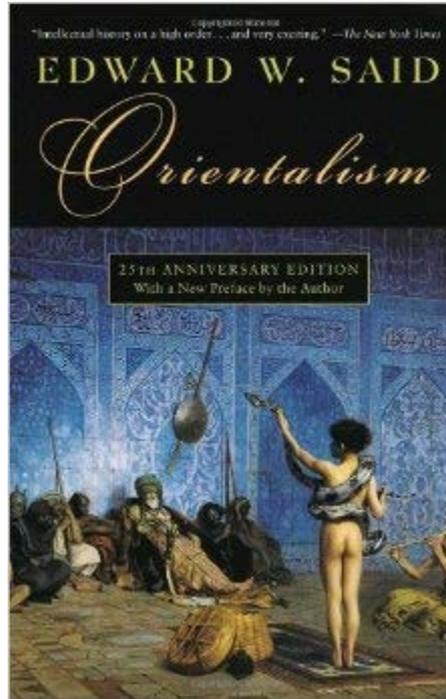


Will buying locally cause shortages or other disruptions?



- Do we need to ask permission?
If so, is that enough?
- Are we taking the time to explain what permission means?
- Do we speak the same language, and if not, how do we obtain consent?
- What are the ethical implications of posting images like these?
- What else should we be asking ourselves and individuals in our images?

Contemporary (neo)colonial systems of representations



WHAT IS OUR ROLE AS EDUCATORS?

Change from Within

- Act as a model: reflect on your own social media/digital posting practices
- Evaluate the systems of representation implicit in your study abroad office, both physically and on the web

Supporting Student Awareness of Digital Representation

- Incorporate an activity in pre-departure or onsite orientation
 - Photo analysis and caption rotation
 - Reflection on current social media habits and how to might need to be adapted in host culture setting
- Facilitate a workshop for students to develop guidelines on photography/digital posting
- Connect students with locals to learn how they engage with social media
 - It's not about prohibiting social media but rather leveraging it to foster cross cultural connections

Facilitate a critical discussion of a reading based on 4As Framework

What does the author
assume?

What do you agree with?

What would you argue?

What would you aspire to
after reading this?

Intentional Digital Storytelling

- Digital stories allow students to reflect on their experience, summarizing important events and the learnings engendered by them
- When assigned as part of a course, invite opportunity to guide students in the creation of their story & incorporate questions of power, positionality and authorship
- Script writing and digital story circles allow students to provide peer-to-peer feedback and prepare a high quality final product

Resources

- Kascak, Lauren and Sayantani Dasgupta. “#InstagrammingAfrica: The Narcissism of Global Volunteerism.” *Pacific Standard*. 19 June 2014.
<https://psmag.com/economics/instagrammingafrica-narcissism-global-voluntourism-83838>
- Martin, Courtney. “The Reductive Seduction of Other People’s Problems.” *The Development Set*. 11 Jan. 2016. <https://thedevelopmentset.com/the-reductive-seduction-of-other-people-s-problems-3c07b307732d>
- Rodriguez, Karen. “Digital Storytelling in Study Abroad: Toward a Counter-Catalogic Experience.” *International journal of media, technology and lifelong learning*. 6.2 (2010): 219-233.
- Lise Saffran. “Students Abroad: First, Do No Harm With Your Camera.” *Chronicle of Higher Education*. 6 December 2015. <http://www.chronicle.com/article/Students-Abroad-First-Do-No/234458>

HANNAH MILKIE

<https://youtu.be/T4W9kASevDQ>



DO YOU #CARETOSHARE?

#caretoshare?

- Ask the person next to you to provide a caption for your image.
- Provide a caption for their image.
- Now contrast the captions your preferred for your images with the captions given to them by your peer.
- Consider the following:
 - How close were the two captions?
 - How did you feel about the others caption on your image?
 - How do you feel about the process of letting others write your story?





Reá Mac Casarlaigh

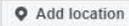
13 February 2013 · 🌐



Stephanie and I don't normally 'do' St. Valentines Day. This year we tried. This was her gift to me...next year there will be no Valentines. — with Stephanie Casserly.



Tag photo



Add location



Edit



Like



Comment



Share



Kathy McCrea Martin, Felicity Inns and 40 others

1 share

4 comments



Stephanie Casserly Love you!!Stop hogging the duvet and perhaps that will read "No.1" next year! 😊 xxx

13 February 2013 at 18:23 · Like · 🌐 7



Oonagh Fairgrieve Bahahahahaha!!!

13 February 2013 at 18:42 · Like · 🌐 2



Write a comment...



A photograph of a city skyline featuring several prominent skyscrapers. In the foreground, a multi-arched bridge spans across the frame. The buildings are illuminated by warm, golden light, suggesting late afternoon or early morning. The sky is a clear, bright blue. The text 'THANK YOU' is overlaid in the upper center of the image in a large, white, sans-serif font.

THANK
YOU