The **Good** Project

Newsletter: October 2014

In This Issue

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Dear Friend of The Good Project,

We hope that this newsletter finds you well! In this issue, we showcase the announcement for Good Project researcher Carrie James' new book, *Disconnected.* We also feature the Good Project's foray into the Global Citizens Initiative's Summit for high school students. Further, we highlight blogs on the Professional Honor Foundation in The Netherlands and on Project Zero Classroom, and links of interest, including a Daniel Goleman article on considering Good Work in your Career and a Positive Psychology video that features Good Work. If you have ideas for future newsletters or would like your own work to be highlighted, please email Paromita De at paromita_de@harvard.edu. Thank you and we hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter!

Sincerely,
The Good Team

Announcing the Publication of *Disconnected* by Carrie James
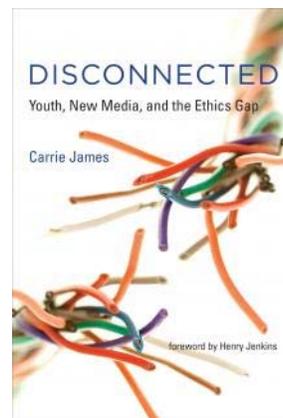
The Good Project/Project Zero researcher Carrie James is excited to announce the publication of *Disconnected: Youth, New Media, and the Ethics Gap*. Based on qualitative research carried out as part of our Good Play Project, *Disconnected* is an account of how youth, and the adults in their lives, think about the moral and ethical dimensions of their participation in social network sites, blogs, online games, and other digital contexts.

Book Details & Overview
Disconnected: Youth, New Media, and the Ethics Gap (September, 2014, The MIT Press)
By Carrie James
Foreword by Henry Jenkins

Fresh from a party, a teen posts a photo on Facebook of a friend drinking a beer. A college student repurposes an article from Wikipedia for a paper. A group of players in a multiplayer online game routinely cheat new players by selling them worthless virtual accessories for high prices. In *Disconnected*, Carrie James examines how young people and the adults in their lives think

about these sorts of online dilemmas, describing ethical blind spots and disconnects.

Drawing on extensive interviews with young people between the ages of 10 and 25, James explores the nature of their thinking about online privacy, property, and participation. She discusses three ways that young people approach online activities. A teen might practice self-focused thinking, concerned mostly about consequences for herself; moral thinking, concerned about the consequences for people he knows; or ethical thinking, concerned about unknown individuals and larger communities. James finds, among other things, that youth are often blind to moral or ethical concerns about privacy; that attitudes toward property range from "what's theirs is theirs" to "free for all"; that hostile speech can be met with a belief that online content is "just a joke"; and that adults who are consulted about such dilemmas often emphasize personal safety issues over online ethics and citizenship.

Considering ways to address the digital ethics gap, James offers a vision of conscientious connectivity, which involves ethical thinking skills but, perhaps more important, is marked by sensitivity to the dilemmas posed by online life, a motivation to wrestle with them, and a sense of moral agency that supports socially positive online actions.

For more information and to purchase, visit: https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/disconnected or Amazon.

Young Scholars at Global Citizens Summit Link Good Work with Global Leadership

Global Citizens Initiative - Summit for Youth 2014 - Short Documentary

In August 2014, 24 rising high school seniors came to Cambridge, MA, for a weeklong Global Citizens Youth Summit. The Summit, founded by Yumi Kuwana of the Global Citizens Initiative (GCI), focused on Fairness and Freedom. Student leaders engaged in enriching lectures and workshops and bonding with peers from 18 countries. Lynn Barendsen of the Good Project served as one of the advisors that supported Kuwana in the planning of the Summit.

 The summit is a springboard for youth (ages 16-19) to develop leadership skills while engaging with the larger world. It is a time for attendees to self-reflect, have a voice, create meaningful relationships, and develop critical thinking skills as they work on local projects. GCI's three pillars are language skills, cultural sensitivity, and a moral compass. Kuwana described receiving some of her inspiration for the Summit from the Good Project, saying that "being a leader requires integrity and trust." She added, "It is so inspirational and rewarding to see 24 scholars engage in a transformative experience at the Summit. They are now making waves as GCI Ambassadors and change agents in their local community."

In accordance with GCI's slogan "think global, act local," students at the Summit were both community-minded and globally aware. All 24 scholars spoke at least two languages. Several had started their own non-profits; for example, one scholar worked

to disseminate solar panels, while another invented a new water filtration system. The Summit's purpose was to provide these young scholars with the opportunity to develop further their global and ethical understanding and to provide support as they solved complex social problems.

Three days of the Summit focused on Good Work, with one day devoted to Excellence, another to Ethics, and another to Engagement. Amongst other leaders in education and business, Howard Gardner of the Good Project and Ellen Winner of Boston College gave lectures that encouraged the students to challenge their assumptions and mindfully approach leadership and responsibility.

"Everything has been so great and so inspiring," said Karishma Bhagani, a student from Kenya. "One activity I liked was going to Thompson Island to climb wooden mounds that were rock climbing prototypes. We were a group of three girls, and we had to help each other up. My classmates gladly offered me their resources - their knees and their arms - to help me get up to the top. When I got to the top, I first thought, 'I did it!'. But then I looked down and realized the people who had helped me up were still below waiting for my help to pull them up. Everything is so interconnected - you can't ever do anything on your own. ...I realized I need to be more self-aware as a person, and as a result, look at the environment around me to determine the kind of person I am and discover my identity."

To read more, CLICK HERE.

Recent Blogs

Good Work Toolkit for Civil Servants
(August 19, 2014)

Gerard Van Nunen of the University of Tilburg in The Netherlands discusses the dilemmas surrounding and significance of a Good Work Toolkit for Dutch civil servants.

Learning about Good at Project Zero Classroom
(October 16, 2014)
The Good Project gives an overview of the sessions led by its team members at Project Zero Classroom, focusing on themes such as good work, quality, digital ethics, and citizenship.

Links of Interest

"Starting a New Career? Consider Good Work"

Daniel Goleman connects the values of the Good Work Project with the process of a career search.

"What is Positive Psychology?"

Nick Standlea of Test Prep Gurus features Good Work in this animated video on Positive Psychology.

Forward this email

Project Zero | Harvard Graduate School of Education | 124 Mt. Auburn St. | Floor 5 | Cambridge | MA | 02138