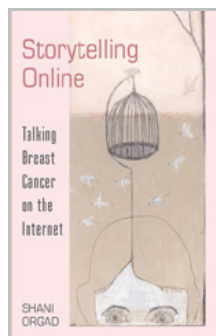




Orgad, Shani

Storytelling Online

Talking Breast Cancer on the Internet



New York, Bern, Berlin, Bruxelles, Frankfurt am Main, Oxford, Wien, 2005. XIV, 206 pp., 5 fig.
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This is an original sociological study of breast cancer patients' participation in Internet spaces. While much has been debated about the significance of the Internet, the actual processes of communication in which people engage online are little understood as yet. Exploring the ways in which participants in online spaces configure their experience into a story, the book presents readers with an innovative way of understanding online communication as a socially significant activity. The substantive focus of storytelling online is analyzed sensitively and thoroughly in its specificity as a social phenomenon. At the same time it is connected to a broad range of debates on communication and Internet, health, illness, and social agency.

«Shani Orgad has written a thoughtful, engaging book that both provides insight into breast cancer support and, more generally, pushes our understandings of how the Internet is inextricably woven into the contexts of everyday life.» (Nancy Baym, Associate Professor of Communication Studies, University of Kansas, President, Association of Internet Researchers)

«Shani Orgad has made good on the promise of 'media studies'. This innovative book shows how communication via the Internet profoundly touches people's understanding of themselves and of one another. *Storytelling Online* is well written and accessible - anyone who has grappled with the social problems posed by cancer will learn from it. For sociologists, Shani Orgad's book opens up a new way of doing research.» (Richard Sennett, Professor of Sociology, London School of Economics)

The Author: Shani Orgad is Lecturer in Media and Communications at the London School of Economics and Political Science. She received her Ph.D. in media and communications from the London School of Economics. Her research interests include Internet studies, media and everyday life, media and globalization, narrative and media, health communication and gender.