Photo-sharing as Participatory Surveillance

# Details

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Cultures of Participation : Arts, Digital Media and Cultural Institutions

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## Sample

In-depth interviews with 17 families (connected to the 'ChIP: Childhood, Intimacy and Surveillance Practices' research project)

## Implications For Parents About

Parental practices / parental mediation

# Abstract

This chapter systematically analyses emerging practices of sorting, sharing and storing photos in everyday family life. The purpose is to investigate why digital technologies are used and how they potentially reconfigure relations between parents and children. Our study draws on empirical data from in-depth interviews with 17 Danish families during six months in 2017 and focuses on the changing affordances of family photographs. Both parents and children use their digital devices, particularly smartphones, as cameras to document their lives and to share photos with others. However, the interviews show that parents feel uncertainty about the future of their photos, both in terms of potential uses and misuses of their images and concerns regarding how to preserve their images. The tensions and negotiations brought about by the use of digital technologies in family relations can be seen as a result of the dynamics of a participatory surveillance culture (Albrechtslund, 2008) shaped by digital media

# Outcome

the interviews show that parents feel uncertainty about the future of their photos, both in terms of potential uses and misuses of their images and concerns regarding how to preserve their images. The tensions and negotiations brought about by the use of digital technologies in family relations can be seen as a result of the dynamics of a participatory surveillance culture