SOCIAL MEDIA AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES:

Building Online Networks to Enhance Community Engagement and Create a Level Playing Field

A brief overview

- We will look at the more common, and most used platforms of social media sites
- How these can be best utilized for communication, and profile building for people who use assistive communication.
- The integration between communication devices and social media accessibility.
- Blogging, the benefits and pitfalls, and building an audience for a blog;
- …finally personal identity safety, security and having good networks online
- Q&A

Social media … What is it?

- Forms of electronic communication (as Web sites for social networking and micro-blogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary copyright © 2013 by Merriam-Webster, Incorporated)
- Social media (in my words) is any form of digital technology that allows us to connect locally or globally for a variety of reasons and outcomes
- The first public use of social media, as we know it today, was in 2004 (less than 10 years ago!!!!!)
- Previous to the social networking phenomena we had chat rooms and private groups
- This webinar is just ONE form of social networking

http://www.uncp.edu/home/acurtis/NewMedia/SocialMedia/SocialMediaHistory.html

MY top 5 social media networking sites

- Facebook

Easy to use, and learn, but not as customizable. If you don't already have a Facebook account, it's time to sign up for one and get connected to your friends and family.

- Twitter

Uploading photos to Twitter is incredibly easy! With instant access to friend updates and news stories, Twitter is one of the top social networking sites. It is however difficult to search for members by name.

- Pinterest

is a pinboard-style photo-sharing website that allows users to create and manage theme-based image collections such as events, interests, and hobbies. Users can browse other pinboards for images, "re-pin" images to their own pinboards, or "like" photos

• YouTu

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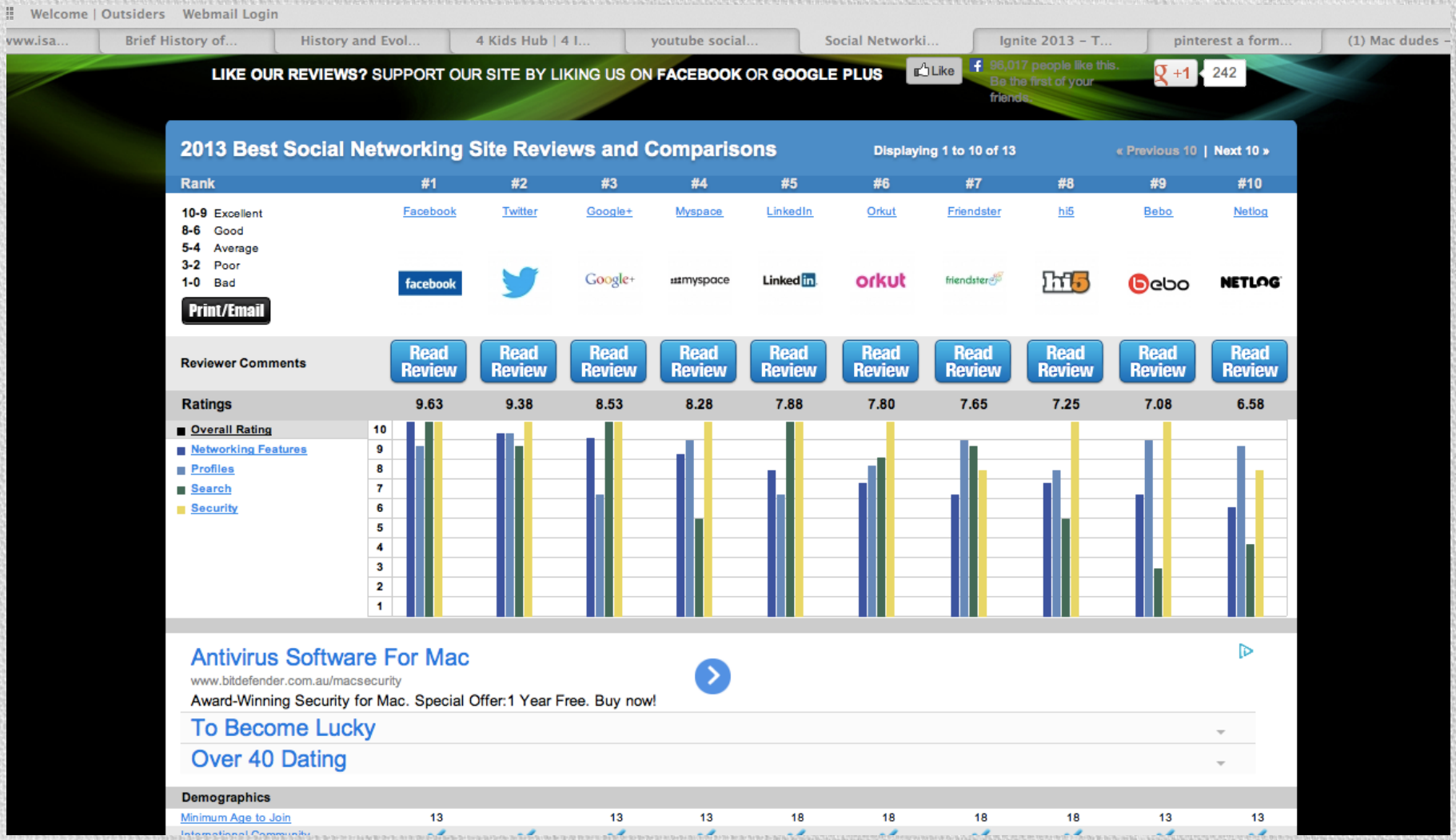
The actual top 5 rated site reviews

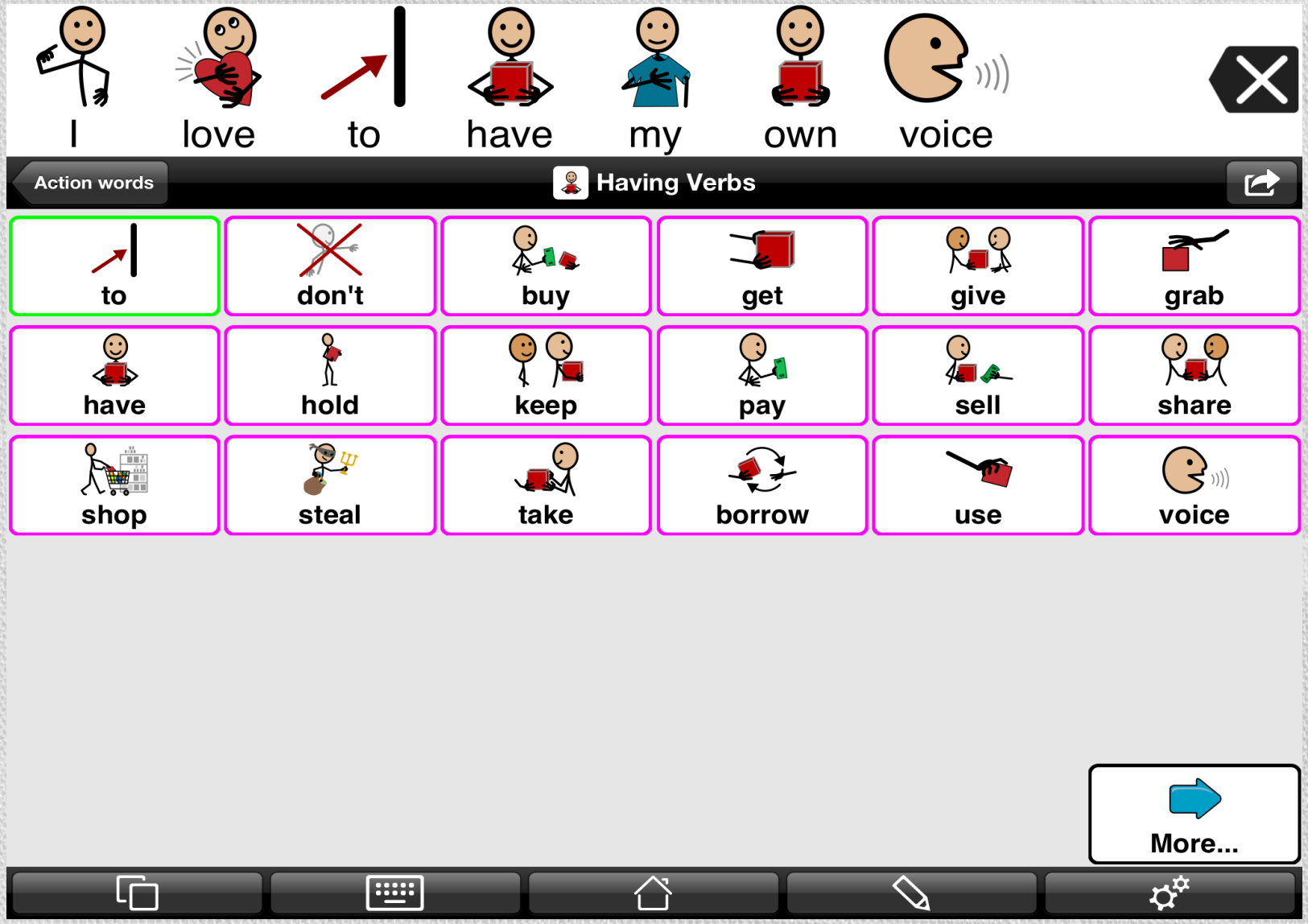


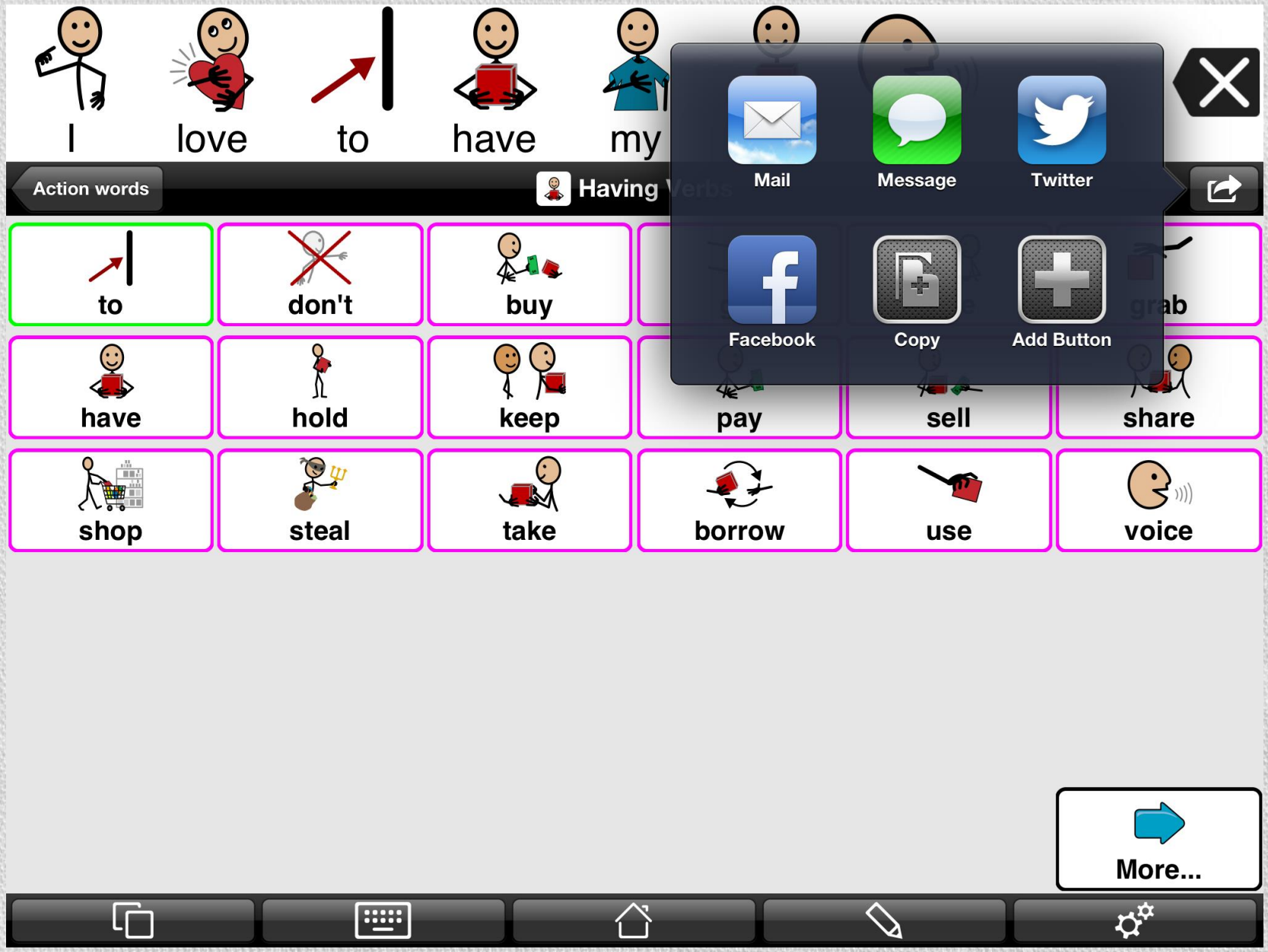
Quirky overview of each…

AAC and Social Media

- Many devices (generic and specialist) are now incorporating ways of exporting to social media platforms.
- My primary communication device is an iPad, and my application allows me to post comments direct from the app!!
- This feature is also available on the Dynavox range – Maestro does and Kookaburra with the Grid 2 and Tobii

Example of creating a status update with symbols

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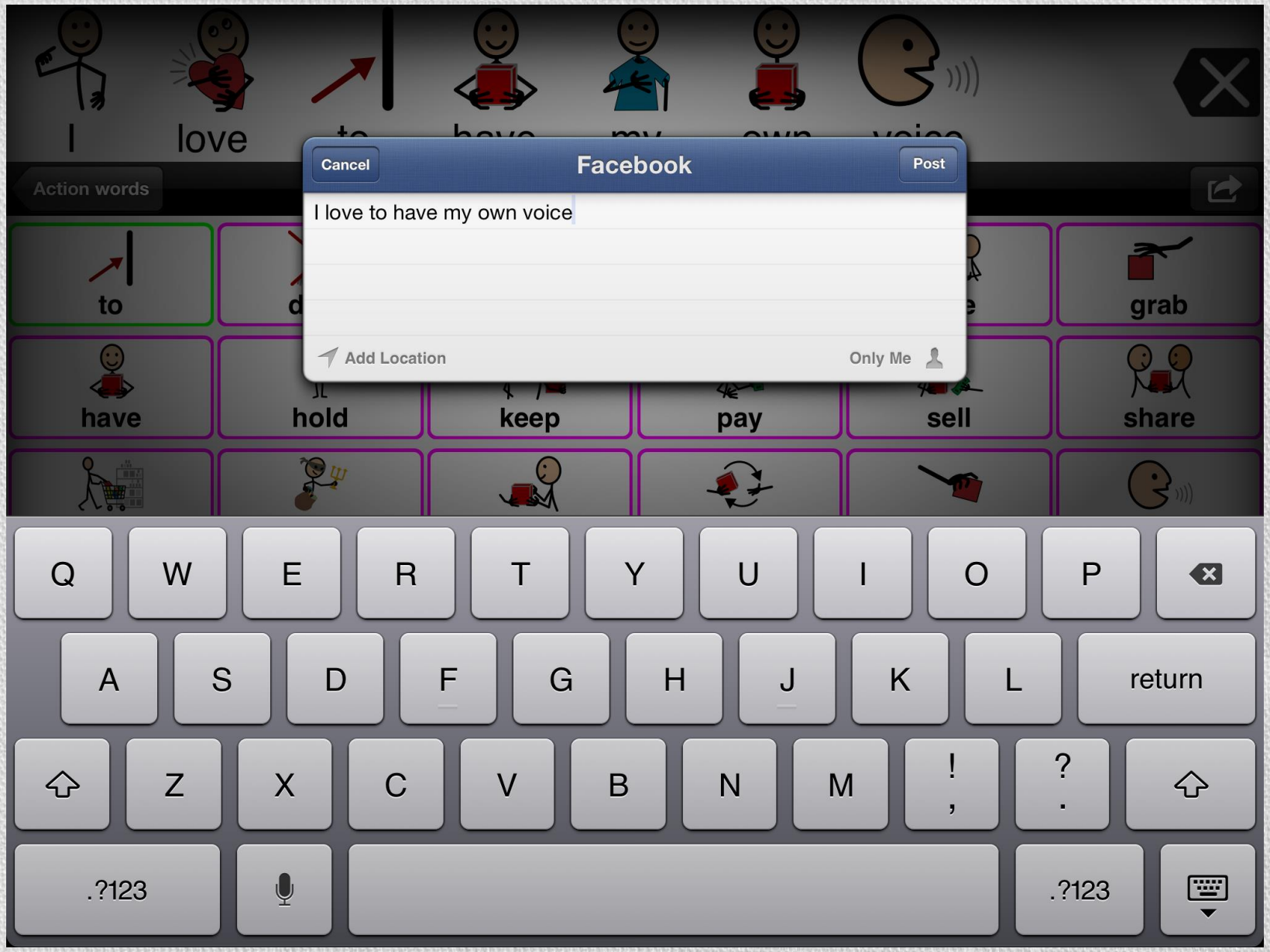
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Lehmann (Lilli)

- Worked at **housing qld** (Client Service Officer)
- Studying BA/BBUS (Psychology & HRM) at **USC**
- Lives in **Buderim, Queensland**
- From **Chinchilla, Queensland**

About | Photos | Friends | Places | Music

Write Post | Share Photo

Lisa Sparkles Lehmann
Just now via iOS

I love to have my own voice

Like | Comment | Share

Lisa Sparkles Lehmann

GROUP CHATS

Nikita, Zoe, Megan, 30...

Cassandra, Faith, Vikki...

Natasha, Jo, Jo-anne,...

FAVORITES

Belinda Sentance

Amanda Hutchinson 2h

Selina Tomasich 2h

Sarah McIntosh 1h

Peter Young

Todd Winther 1h

Sarah Lawson

To blog or not to blog … That is the question

- Firstly consider
  - What do you want to achieve?
  - Who is your target audience??
  - How do you engage your audience, and retain their interest???

- Repetition builds reputation
  - Be clear and concise
  - Remain true to purpose
  - Be consistent in your ‘speak’

How, Who, What and When to engage..

- **The how** – choosing your platform/s
- **The who** – start small, engage (FIRST) with people you know personally, grow your online network and profiles slowly…
- **The what** – know the security settings, regularly check out your settings, and change passwords – having tech savvy friends/family is a huge bonus
- **The when** – know who you want to see the post, and adjust settings accordingly before posting anything (more relevant to Facebook)

Avoiding the pitfalls

- Digital age post-modernity opens us up to opportunities, but it opens us up to hurt too…
- Safeguards are of upmost importance
- Use myth busting websites such as SNOPES to identify spam and misinformation
- Have good supports in the form of communication partners to counteract harassment

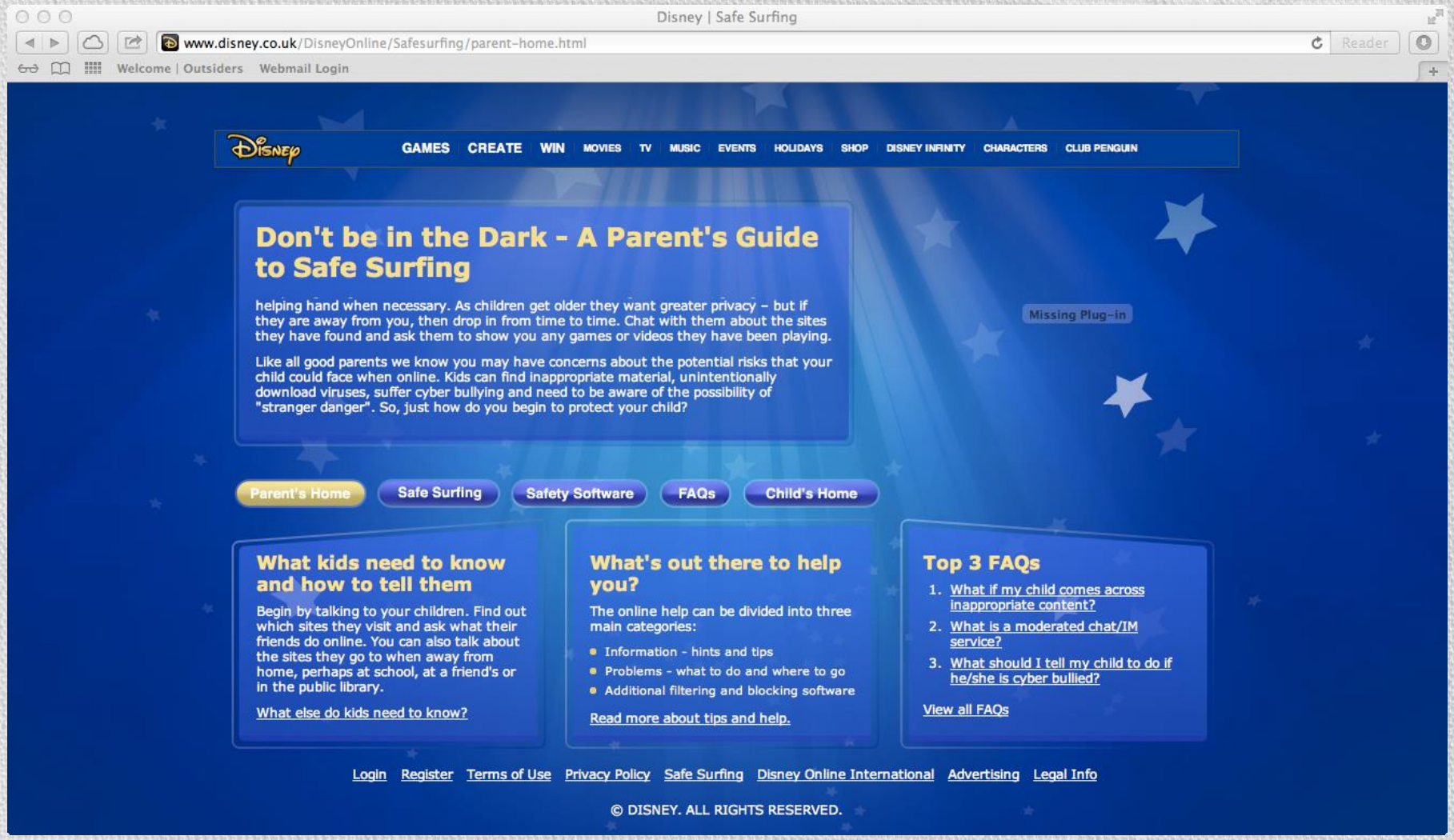
Creating a ‘level playing field’

- Personal stories of chatting with friends…
- Personal stories of naturally developing social/personal support
- Personal stories of “I didn’t realize you had a disability”
- Personal stories of online dating…

Personal Safety, and security - options

- We now have to protect our personal identity from fraudsters online, and not just the ones in the real world.
- A recommended mix of minimum 8 characters usually passes the strength test
- Make passwords personal, yet memorable – mixing letters characters and numbers
- Create your own private space –WIKI's!!!

Disney safe surfing



Other options.. Create a WIKI!!

Collaboration without the learning curve

Individuals and Groups

We're home to millions of wikis use by individuals, groups, teams, and small companies. Get yours now.

Create a Wiki

Companies and Organizations

Private Label gives you the power of unlimited wikis for your organization. Learn more:

K-12 | Higher-Ed | Business | Nonprofit

What is a "wiki"?

A **wiki** is a space on the Web where you can share work and ideas, pictures and links, videos and media — and anything else you can think of. Wikispaces is special because we give you a visual editor and a bunch of other tools to make sharing all kinds of content as easy for students as it is for their teachers.

How does Wikispaces work?

Just hit the **edit button** to

update any time, from anywhere

Make changes to any page on your wiki from any computer or web-enabled device with the click of a button.

Add videos and widgets to

create rich, appealing pages

Widgets like video, calendars, and visitor counters can make your wiki more attractive, engaging, and useful.

Discussions and contextual comments

support discussion and feedback

Make a discussion forum for the whole wiki, answer questions on a page, or leave comments on any passage of any page.

...and more!

- Visual editor
- Bulk user creator
- Unlimited pages
- Single Sign-On

Complete page histories

save every edit and revision

The wiki logs every change, so you can easily compare drafts of a page or revert to an earlier version.

Projects make it easy to

organize group work

Every educational wiki lets you organize members into project-related teams, each with its own pages, files, and permissions.

Adjustable permissions

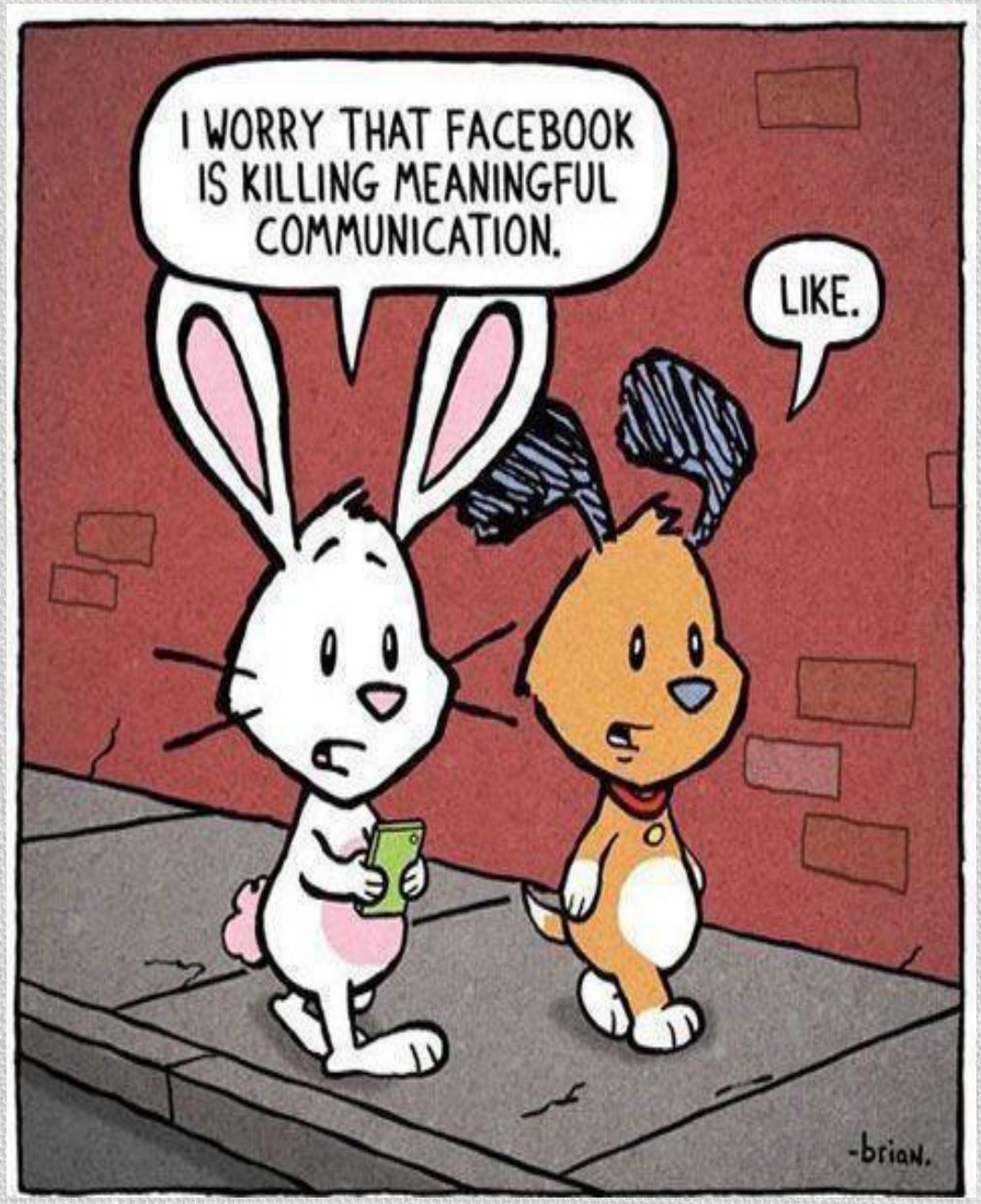
keep your content safe and secure

Determine who sees content and how they use it with wiki-, page-, and file-level permissions.

- Customizable themes
- Email notification
- Editable navigation
- Page templates
- Tags
- Full-text search
- Custom domains
- WebDAV

Tips hints and tricks

- If you do want to share your child's journey online, to keep friends, family and other interested parties informed - I would suggest starting a page
- Do not accept friend requests from people you do not know, and do not have mutual contacts with.
- Be conscious that if it looks and feels bad, then it probably is bad
- Ensure you record passwords in a safe place - preferably ‘old school’ in a hard copy diary


I WORRY THAT FACEBOOK IS KILLING MEANINGFUL COMMUNICATION.
LIKE.
-brian.

Question & Answer time

- My contact details ~
  - https://www.facebook.com/littlebigwitch
  - https://twitter.com/littlebigwitch
  - http://www.linkedin.com/pub/lisa-lehmann/3a/752/666
  - http://www.pinterest.com/littlebiwitch/boards/

- Email ~
- littlebigwitch@yahoo.com.au
- Lisa.lehmann@bigpond.com