Digital Ethics in Bridging Digital Divide

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DIGITAL ETHICS IN BRIDGING DIGITAL DIVIDE

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Digital Divide

- The digital divide disempowers, discriminates, and generates dependency
- Implementing a generic and adoptable model for ‘bridging digital divide’ is simply unrealistic
- What we need is a more balanced approach
- Technological “leapfrogging”
  - Technology “for development”
  - Technology “in developing countries”
  - Premature standardization can become impediments to technological innovations
Digital Divide: Cyber-colonialism?

- The ideological influences, cultural pressures and structural constraints originating in the ideologies of Western Societies giving a particular shape to theoretical, cultural and applied ICT developments in the Developing Countries.

  - “Orient” is constructed by the Western discourses as “other”: Primitive, Dependent, in need of being Controlled.
Bridging the Divide: Relationships in terms of Reciprocity

- It is important to ask who benefits, and how?
- Global agenda and public debates are shaped by dominant centres of power to manufacture consent
- Existence of an Uneven Relationship
- Have we superimposed ICT ideologies of ‘West’ upon the ‘Rest’?
Bridging the Divide: Code of Ethics

- Reorientation of the dynamics of ‘cultural dominance’ and ‘cultural assertion’
- Self-expression and Representation
  - Decentralised, personalized interactive dialogue
- Collective consciousness of the ‘Rest’
- ICT can be applied selectively and innovatively to directly enhance the welfare of the poor
- An Endless Race