

1. Title of the submission:

Online Relationships and Trust

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6. Abstract of paper

The goal of the study is the examination of the phenomenon of trust in the context of the computer-mediated relationships (CMR). Different theoretical approaches applicable to computer-mediated communication are discussed. The investigative method used in this study utilizes longitudinal data analysis of online personals based on the theoretical approaches of the uncertainty reduction theory (URT) and the social penetration theory (SPT), which were used to predict the effects of initial trust on self-disclosure and the amount of consequent communicative feedback.

The results of the study indicate that author's swift trust (a *priori* trust in others) affected author's initial self-disclosure and consequent social interaction. Author's self-disclosure was found to have an effect on respondents' liking.

The presented research found support for the major premises and the theoretical foundations that explain the relationships existing between trust, self-disclosure and liking. The implications regarding the CMR context, as well as the recommendations for future research are discussed.