

GRADUATION CITATION

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Thesis Title:

Playpolis: Transyouth and Urban Networking in Seoul

Supervisors:

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Citation:

This PhD study delivers new knowledge about how playful interactions shape urban environments using ubiquitous technologies, such as sensors, place-based Internet services, and mobile phone applications. The study focuses on Seoul, South Korea, one of the most connected, densely populated, and fast transforming metropolises in the world, and investigates the situation of people in Seoul in the transitional stage between youth and adulthood - referred to as "transyouth." The research findings show that the city is a contested space that is continuously being changed by the interactions of its constituents on the seam of control and freedom. The study's analysis positions the theoretical concept of "play" at the core of this interactive creation and re-creation process. It develops a new model of play enactment as a conceptual tool for envisioning and building creative, sustainable, and seductive cities. These findings will inform pragmatic innovations in the fields of cultural studies, human-computer interaction, and urban plannings.