#### Association for Information Systems

### AIS Electronic Library (AISeL)

AMCIS 2023 TREOs

**TREO** Papers

8-10-2023

## From Bad Habit to Good Habit. How can lifestyle apps become more effective?

Ton Spil University of Twente, a.a.m.spil@utwente.nl

Follow this and additional works at: https://aisel.aisnet.org/treos\_amcis2023

#### **Recommended Citation**

Spil, Ton, "From Bad Habit to Good Habit. How can lifestyle apps become more effective?" (2023). *AMCIS 2023 TREOs*. 13. https://aisel.aisnet.org/treos\_amcis2023/13

This material is brought to you by the TREO Papers at AIS Electronic Library (AISeL). It has been accepted for inclusion in AMCIS 2023 TREOs by an authorized administrator of AIS Electronic Library (AISeL). For more information, please contact elibrary@aisnet.org.

# From Bad Habit to Good Habit. How to make lifestyle apps more effective?

TREO Talk Paper

Nazanin Tavafchian Trento University <u>n.tavafchian@gmail.com</u> **Ton Spil (corresponding)** University of Twente

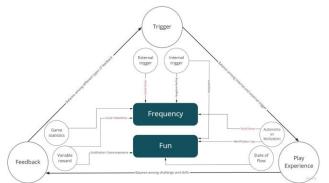
a.a.m.spil@utwente.nl

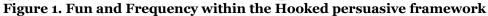
Massimo Zancanaro

Trento University

massimo.zancanaro@unitn.it

Unhealthy habits such as bad diet, lack of physical activity, smoking, excessive drinking, insufficient sleep are causing enormous health issues and death. This is while changing a new habit is not that simple. Current studies are getting advantage of serious gaming power to create behavioral change. Fogg (2002) defines persuasive technology as the technology with the goal of developing a change in people's attitudes and behavior. The current study is suggesting how to build a lifestyle app to empower healthy habits, that is also engaging for its players. For this goal, 12 interviews with players aged 20-30 and 3 interviews with experts had been done.





Through the study, all the participants mentioned that fun/enjoyment is an inevitable part of any type of game. On the other hand, to form a new habit frequency is needed. This is while the notion of habits as a new factor can greatly influence the persuasive game's lasting success (Spil et al., 2021). Based on the interviews' results and patterns, this study proposes a new framework, the Hooked persuasive framework (Eyal & Hoover, 2019), that has Fun and Frequency as its core elements to build an engaging habit-forming persuasive video game with an indirect strategy. Additionally, the study indicates that balance among different stages of the framework is crucial as well as consideration regarding the target audience.

#### References

Eyal, N., & Hoover, R. (2019). Hooked: How to Build Habit-Forming Products (Illustrated ed.). Portfolio.

Fogg, B. J. (2002). Persuasive Technology: Using Computers to Change What We Think and Do. *Ubiquity*, 2002(December). https://doi.org/10.1145/764008.763957

Spil, T. A., Romijnders, V., Sundaram, D., Wickramasinghe, N., & Kijl, B. (2021). Are serious games too serious? Diffusion of wearable technologies and the creation of a diffusion of serious games model. *International Journal of Information Management*, 58, 102202. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijinfomgt.2020.102202