

In the Swarm: Digital Prospects (Paperback)



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Reviews

Certainly, this is actually the greatest job by any author. It is definitely simplified but excitement inside the 50 percent of the book. I am just easily will get a delight of studying a composed pdf.
(Lelia Heidenreich)

IN THE SWARM: DIGITAL PROSPECTS (PAPERBACK)



MIT Press Ltd, United States, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. A prominent German thinker argues that - contrary to Twitter Revolution cheerleading -- digital communication is destroying political discourse and political action. The shitstorm represents an authentic phenomenon of digital communication. -- from In the Swarm Digital communication and social media have taken over our lives. In this contrarian reflection on digitized life, Byung-Chul Han counters the cheerleaders for Twitter revolutions and Facebook activism by arguing that digital communication is in fact responsible for the disintegration of community and public space and is slowly eroding any possibility for real political action and meaningful political discourse. In the predigital, analog era, by the time an angry letter to the editor had been composed, mailed, and received, the immediate agitation had passed. Today, digital communication enables instantaneous, impulsive reaction, meant to express and stir up outrage on the spot. The shitstorm, writes Han, represents an authentic phenomenon of digital communication. Meanwhile, the public, the senders and receivers of these communications have become a digital swarm -- not a mass, or a crowd, or Negri and Hardt's antiquated notion of a multitude, but a set of isolated individuals incapable of forming a we, incapable of calling dominant power relations into question, incapable of formulating a future because of an obsession with the present. The digital swarm is a fragmented entity that can focus on individual persons only in order to make them an object of scandal. Han, one of the most widely read philosophers in Europe today, describes a society in which information has overrun thought, in which the same algorithms are employed by Facebook, the stock market, and the intelligence services. Democracy is under threat because digital communication has made freedom and control indistinguishable. Big Brother has been...



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