Making Family: Constructing Family Values Through Skype

By: Jofish Kaye
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Abstract:
In this talk I present ethnographic findings from qualitative observations of 23 families from the San Francisco Bay Area. Our data cuts across age, cultural, and socioeconomic categories to identify common needs and opportunities raised by existing family practices. For example, we will show how elders and children have the most time and motivation for family communication, but have the most difficulty using today's technologies. Our ongoing prototypes are designed to support children and elders, and pursue unique design approaches to develop technologies that support children's and elders' specific needs, and fit within existing family practices.

About the Speaker:
Joseph 'Jofish' Kaye is a Research Scientist & Ethnographer in the IDEA Group at Nokia Research in Palo Alto, where he is currently studying visualizations of social datasets, family communication patterns, and novel cell phone interfaces. His work has included ethnographic, cultural, critical and technological studies of academics' archiving practices, couples in long distance relationships, affective computing, ubiquitous computing, social networking, scent-based information display, smart homes and kitchens, and more. He has been a Visiting Researcher at Microsoft Research Cambridge, and has also worked with the Domestic Design & Technology Research Group at Intel and several startups. He has a Ph.D in Information Science from Cornell University, where his thesis work concentrated on evaluating experience-focused HCI, and a Masters degree in Media Arts & Sciences and a B.S. in Cognitive Science, both from MIT.