

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910778574103321
Autore	Stommel Wyke
Titolo	Entering an online support group on eating disorders [[electronic resource]] : a discourse analysis / / Wyke Stommel
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam ; ; New York, : Rodopi, 2009
ISBN	1-282-50530-0 9786612505300 90-420-2661-8
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (287 p.)
Collana	Utrecht studies in language and communication ; ; 21
Disciplina	616.85/26
Soggetti	Eating disorders - Social aspects Ethnomethodology Medicine - Computer network resources Self-help groups
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Previously submitted to Universitat Frankfurt am Main as the author's doctoral dissertation.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Preliminary Material -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction -- The online support group as a community -- Identity in a community -- Accomplishing identity in an online community on eating disorders -- Research design: The forum, ethics, data and method -- Identity accomplished through nicknames -- Opening the first posting: Ambivalence towards the community -- Displaying forumability in the online community -- The main requirement of forumability: Recognition -- Entering the online support group and adopting the sick role -- Conclusions and discussion -- References -- Appendix -- CurriculumVitae.
Sommario/riassunto	Online support groups are considered highly valuable in addition to traditional health care services, but we know very little about how people actually join such a group. This book offers a microanalysis of an online support group on eating disorders, specifically the communication through textual messages between newcomers and regular members and members' nicknames. The study uses an ethnomethodological and conversation analytical approach to show

that members of online support groups treat the group as a community in which their illness-identity is highly relevant. It appears that members invoke community norms regarding legitimacy for newcomers: Newcomers are expected to admit that they are ill, but this is a very difficult step for those who have not yet fully adopted the “sick role” (Parsons, 1951). In the field of eating disorders, it is particularly difficult for people that tend to pro-ana , id est the glamorization of eating disorders. The insecurity and anxiety that newcomers display as they enter the online group could probably be relieved when a special entry subforum would be installed in which they can take time and space to actually recognize that they are illustrations.
