

Cyberspace as an Extension of Physical Space: Male Territoriality in Physical Space and in Cyberspace

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Abstract

Cyberspace, a term first coined by William Gibson, is seen by geographers as a new kind of space. It is similar to physical space, as it is deemed to be governed by the same rules of engagement. In this study, the level of territoriality of males in cyberspace and physical personal space was measured to see the correlation between the two spaces. Thirty random subjects were observed during gameplay while a male volunteer invaded their personal space simultaneously. It was found that territoriality is more pronounced in cyberspace than in physical space. Future studies can focus on the reduction of physical space whenever cyberspace immersion occurs, because of disembodiment.