



CALL FOR PAPERS

ICSA IX. WORLD CONGRESS

SOCIAL MEDIA & INTIMACY: AN ALTERNATIVE REALITY?

HILTON PASADENA, CALIFORNIA, USA, 30 July - 1 AUGUST 2020

Suggested Themes:

Indications are that social media contribute to the infantilization of the human race. The floating of a “Trump baby” balloon over London is an entertaining parody not only of a “twitter presidency” but of a much deeper social malaise. Internet connectivity appears to fill a primordial human desire for sociality, personal relationships, and social acceptance. The quandary posed by social media is two-fold: On one hand, the immediacy of electronic connectivity mimics social acceptance. On the other hand, the impersonality of electronic media fosters an artificial, phantasmagorical “alternative reality” conducive to acting out childish desires, day-dreaming, and puerile fantasies. Youth are especially susceptible to the lure of social media. The question arises: Can social media be tamed to encourage healthy social relationships and foster personal growth and maturity rather than contribute to mental health issues and personality disorders? The thrall of utopia of instant communication and connectivity needs to be tethered to reality rather than a make-believe universe of primordial desires which may devolve into dystopia. Karl Gustav Jung, more than Sigmund Freud, may offer guideposts for greater social felicity and personal fulfillment, redeeming the subconscious by opening vistas toward a transcendent grounding of Reality. In the final analysis, Internet connectivity may be a substitute for religion. While traditional religion offers to connect the believer with a transcendent deity, the Internet seems to bind one only to machines while promising intimacy. *Quo vadis?*

ICSA IX

World Congress endeavors to bring together scholars from a wide range of disciplines and denominations for an exciting international conference which takes both scholarship and faith seriously. **ICSA IX: Social Media & Intimacy: An Alternative Reality?** is co-sponsored by IIR-ICSA-JIS in the City of the Roses--the world-famous Tournament of Roses--in sunny Southern California, with many cultural & sightseeing opportunities. All

conference participants must pre-register. Abstracts (250 words) due: January 30, 2020: c/o Dr. O. Gruenwald, JIS Editor, 1065 Pine Bluff Drive, Pasadena, CA 91107, USA, per e-mail (no attachments) to: info@jis3.org. Include: Paper Title, First & Last Name, faculty or student, institution, mailing address, telephone & e-mail. Fully-developed papers will be considered for publication in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies* XXXIII 2021. ICSA IX 2020 web site: <https://www.jis3.org/icsaix2020>.

SOCIAL MEDIA & INTIMACY

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE:

Check-In: Thursday, July 30, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Hilton Pasadena. **Reception:** Thursday, July 30, 7:00 - 8:00 PM: Coffee Corner. **Main Conference Program:** Friday-Saturday, July 31-August 1, 8:45 AM - 5:45 PM: Monterey Room. **Keynote:** Friday, July 31: Monterey Room. **Format:** Multidisciplinary panels and papers. Participants are encouraged to attend the entire conference to enhance dialogue, synergy, and synthesis, as well as fellowship. Presenting a paper is not a prerequisite for participation. Indicate if you prefer to serve as discussant. Family members enjoy the reduced student registration rate. **Audio-Visual Equipment:** Bring laptop or flash drive if desired for PowerPoint presentation. **Cultural/Sightseeing:** Before or after the conference. Optional Field Trip: Huntington Library & Gardens; JPL.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

Lodging: We recommend that conference participants make their hotel reservations as soon as possible. **Hilton Pasadena Reservations:** 1-800-445-8667 or 626-577-1000. Cultural/sightseeing/travel/accommodations: **Pasadena Convention & Visitors Bureau:** www.visitpasadena.com; 1-800-307-7977. Bring an alarm clock and a sweater or jacket for cooler mornings and evenings. **Ground Transportation:** Hilton Pasadena (168 S. Los Robles Ave., Pasadena, CA 91101) may be reached from the Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) via shuttles, e.g., Super Shuttle (shared ride \$32): 1-800-258-3826, or rent-a-car (ca. 45-minute drive).

ICSA IX REGISTRATION FORM:

First and Last Name (Please Print) _____

Institution/Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

REGISTRATION FEE:

By February 15, 2020:	After Feb. 15, 2020:	After March 15, 2020:	Totals:
____ Regular: \$100	____ Regular: \$125	____ Regular: \$150	\$ _____
____ Student: \$ 75	____ Student: \$100	____ Student: \$100	\$ _____

TOTAL REGISTRATION: \$ _____

Money Order/Travelers Check in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank, payable to: **ICSA.**
Mail Form & Payment to: Dr. O. Gruenwald, 1065 Pine Bluff Dr., Pasadena, CA 91107, USA.
For Credit Card: Use PayPal Cart on **JIS** web: <https://www.jis3.org/icsaix2020>.