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Chat Roulette

“What you needed to know”

Statistics:

- Launched in November 2009 by 17 year old student in Moscow
- Average of 20,000 – 40,000 visitors at any one time (February 2010)
- Average of 500,000 visitors per day (February, 2010)

Aspects:

- Video and/or text chatting online with random partners selected by chance of the system. Visitor simply presses the “Next” button to be taken to another random chatter
- Considered by users as addictive and consuming of idle time
- Participants can be individuals or groups of participants. Groups normally are participating as a form of social entertainment and lurking.
- Activities often include exhibitionists, sensational video content, lude behavior and nudity
- Some fear that this format of social networking can actually be “anti-social” in nature because of its fascination with lurking, “showing off” and mindless content.
- Includes chat via video and/or text communications.
- You need not have a web cam to participate or lurk. Non-camera users can chat through the site’s text box functionality.
- No User account login feature available yet to help for security (March 2010)
- Clone (look alike) sites springing up such as CamCarousel.com and JayDoe.net

Site rules:

- Users must be 16 years old (not verifiable on the site as yet)
- Must not post anything obscene, offending, or illegal
- Must report violators

Chat Roulette is a good choice of words..reminiscent of “Russian Roulette” with a gun.. only using technology to hold your future up to your head instead.

Chat Roulette is like Youtube on Steroids and the third generation of video social networking (Stickam.com and Justin.TV are second generation and YouTube first generation)

Chat Roulette is like “Drive by Chatting”