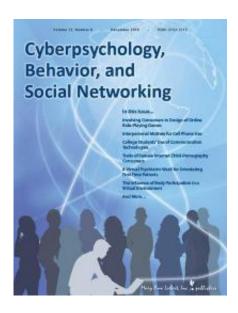


## New study shows Facebook use elevates mood

## February 7 2012



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People visit social networking sites such as Facebook for many reasons, including the positive emotional experience that people enjoy and want to repeat, according to an article in *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*, a peer-reviewed journal published by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.

Measurements of physical and psychological responses such as breathing rate, <u>brain activation</u>, and pupil dilation, designed to assess a person's psychophysiological state, were collected in a group of individuals participating in either a relaxing or stressful task or being online on their own personal Facebook account. The results revealed a significantly



different experience for stress or relaxation exposure compared to the response to <u>Facebook</u>.

Maurizio Mauri, PhD, Pietro Cipresso, PhD, Anna Balgera, MA, Marco Villamira, PhD, MD, and Giuseppe Riva, PhD, from IULM University, Auxologico Italian Institute, and Catholic University of Sacro Cuore, in Milan, Italy, and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, report the design, findings, and conclusions of this study in the article entitled, "Why Is Facebook so Successful? Psychophysiological Measures Describe a Core Flow State while Using Facebook."

Provided by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.

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