

Living with monsters: Introducing experience to the theorizing of sociomaterial entanglement

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Abstract. In this article, we propose experience as a way to further unpack the relationship between the social and the material and as a means to conceptualize our entanglement with the sociotechnical ‘monsters’ of everyday life. Experience, we argue, integrates the cognitive and the emotional as well as the social and the material and as such brings together disparate areas of sociomaterial theorizing. We argue that the precise qualities of the relationship between the social and the material can be understood by using McCarthy and Wright’s [11] interpretation of Dewey [4-6] and their development of his different elements of experience for application to technology use. This article takes the first steps in developing a research approach that operationalizes these ideas within a socio-material sensibility.

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