

# The Ethics of Emerging Technologies for Children Means Using a Participatory Approach that Gives Family Members an Authentic Voice

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

While always present in the minds of those in the Child-Computer Interaction field, in the last five years, research on ethics has been reinvigorated [4, 1, 5, 9]. We agree with these efforts and the purpose of this workshop, that ethics is a critical aspect of designing technologies for children. We echo calls to investigate methods of design that are constantly vigilant with regards to ethics [8, 2, 1]. Additionally, we seek to amplify the call to balance the needs of parents and children in designing technology for children [7]. While participatory design that involves children is of critical importance [3, 10], it is ethically important to involve all key stakeholders for children and give all family members – children, siblings, parents, grandparents – an authentic voice in the design of technology intended to be used by children [7, 6, 11].

### 1.1 Why we want to participate

We would like to participate in the “Participatory Approaches to the Ethics of Emerging Technologies for Children” workshop at IDC 2023 to learn more about ethical approaches concerning Child Computer Interaction(CCI) and to contribute to the discussion regarding methods for furthering research into the understanding of how digital fears within families can impact acceptance of emerging technologies such as Extended Reality(XR). The workshop would allow us to learn from others experiences and research as well as present our own from experience in working with an intergenerational team of adults and children (ages 6-12) working on various design projects, and in-depth interviews with parents regarding technology use and digital boundaries and fears within the home.

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## 1.2 What we can contribute

Our contribution to the IDC 2023 workshop would be providing our experience and lessons learned from both parents and children viewpoints relative to their views of digital technologies. Our experience stems from a research project aimed at assessing the parental fears with their children interaction with the modern digital landscape. Alongside the research we have been working with a children's design team to tackle solutions to various digital issues concerning children ranging from potential benefits and harms of exposure to technology (including XR) as well as researching and developing devices aimed at mental well-being.

## 1.3 What we want to get out of the workshop

Our goal is to learn about different areas and methods of research that are taking place, so we can better improve our own research methodologies as it pertains to our current research projects. We would like to be able to actively participate and listen to others advice as well as be able to receive criticism and feedback for our current work. By contributing and working with others in this workshop, ideally member(s) of our team would be able have more experience with how different ethical viewpoints can applied to CCI and work with emerging technologies. This workshop at IDC, will help students – and experienced researchers – on the team to learn more about these these methods and how to critically apply them to future research.

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