## **Appendix A: Semi-Structured Interview Protocol**

- 1. How old are you?
- 2. What year and department are you in at [university]?
- 3. How do you usually access the internet / social media?
- 4. What social media platforms or apps do you access most? Which is your favorite, and why?
- 5. What does a typical day look like, in terms of your social media / technology use?
- 6. How much time would you estimate you spend on each of your social media accounts?
- 7. When/where do you most often check your social media accounts? Why?
- 8. How do you identify (in terms of gender, sexuality, race/ethnicity, immigrant status, or whatever else might be relevant to you and your identity)?
  - a. Does that identity affect in any way the way you use / interact / present yourself on social media? Why/why not?
  - b. If so, can you give me an example?
- 9. Do you ever feel like your financial situation affects the way you use / interact / present yourself on social media? Why/why not? If so, can you give me an example?
- 10. Are there any ways in which you use social media differently than your friends? Why / how so? [If yes: can you give me an example?; If no, more general: Do you know anyone who uses these technologies in different ways (depending on who they are / how they identify)? How/Why?]
- 11. Does social media help you fit in with the crowd, or stand out from the crowd? In what ways?
- 12. *Let's imagine*... What do the designers of the social media platforms you use look like? Can you describe the designer that made your favorite app / platform / technology?
  - a. How are they similar to you? How are they different from you?
- 13. *Now let's imagine how they imagine you, the user....* Who do you think these tech designers are designing for? Who is the user they have in mind? Is it you?
- 14. Can you show me how you usually use your [one or two] favorite social media apps? What do you do once you open the app? [youth-guided, unstructured "think aloud" tour of favorite social media apps]

Thinking about the design of your favorite social media platform (in terms of features, interface, usability, layout, notifications, etc):

- 15. What do you like **best** about the design of these social media apps / platforms?
- 16. Are there any ways in which they make you happier or more fulfilled? If so, how/why?
- 17. What do you like **least** about the design of these apps / platforms? Is there anything that annoys you or bothers you? If so, why?
- 18. Are there any ways in which these apps make you unhappy or less fulfilled? If so, how/why?
- 19. How would you define a "good" social media platform/app?
- 20. Do you think there are any ways in which social media empowers you? If so, how/why?
  - a. Do you think there are any ways in which it disempowers you? If so, how/why?
  - b. Do you think these [answers, dynamics] apply to everyone, or just you, or people like you (and what does that mean)?

- 21. Do you think the designers have any ethical responsibility to you as a user? Should they be thinking about your wellbeing as a user of these technologies? Why/why not? How?
- 22. Do you ever think or talk about addiction in relation to how you or anyone you know uses social media? If so, how/why?
  - a. Do you think you or your friends are addicted to social media?
  - b. How might the design of social media encourage (or discourage) addiction?
- 23. If you were the designer, what might you do differently, if anything? How might your favorite / least favorite app / platform / technology be different?
- 24. If you could send a message to the designer of your favorite / least favorite app / platform, what would you say to them?
- 25. Is there any way in which your identity as... [fill in from above answer] would be better served by designing social media in a different way?
- 26. Anything you want to add? Any other questions you think I should ask you on these topics?

## **Appendix B: Participant Profiles**

The following is a list of interview participants (using pseudonyms) along with the basic demographic information they provided in the online background survey.

**Amy:** 21yo, Asian (Chinese) female, first-generation student. Uses Instagram most; also uses Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Youtube.

**Anna:** 18yo Hispanic (El Salvador & Guatemala) woman, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Self-described feminist. Uses Instagram most; also Snapchat, Twitter & YouTube.

**Baron:** 26yo mixed race (African American & Hispanic) male, first-generation student, low income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also Snapchat and Youtube.

**Carla**: 21yo Hispanic woman, first-generation student, low income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also uses Twitter, Facebook, Youtube, Tumblr, and Snapchat.

**Carlos:** 25yo Hispanic (El Salvador) male, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also Snapchat, Twitter, and Youtube.

**Christina:** 22 yo biracial (half Mexican half black), bisexual woman, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Twitter the most; also Instagram, Facebook, Snapchat, Twitter, Youtube, tumblr (rarely).

**David:** 18yo Hispanic male. Uses Instagram most; uses youtube; uses Snapchat, Facebook, reddit rarely.

**Diana:** 22yo Mexican-American (undocumented) woman, first-generation student, low income, on financial aid. Uses Facebook most, also Snapchat and Youtube.

**Elisa:** 22yo Hispanic woman, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also Snapchat & YouTube.

**Fernando:** 22yo Hispanic (from Mexico and El Salvador) male, first-generation student, middle income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also uses Snapchat, Youtube, Twitter, Reddit.

**Francesca:** 19yo Afro Latina (parents are from Dominican Republic and Nicaragua) woman, first generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most, also Snapchat and Twitter.

**Isabel:** 27yo Hispanic (from Chile) woman, first-generation student, middle income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram and Pinterest most. Also Youtube, Facebook, and Twitter.

**Jackie:** 26yo Persian woman. Lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also Snapchat & YouTube.

**Joseph:** 26yo Mexican male, first-generation student, middle income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also uses Snapchat, Youtube, Twitter, and Facebook.

**Maristela:** 20yo, Hispanic woman; first-generation student, on financial aid, lower-middle class. Uses Instagram most. Also snapchat, Twitter, and sometimes Youtube and Facebook.

**Michael:** 19yo African American gay male, on financial aid, middle class. Uses Instagram most. Also uses Twitter, Snapchat, Facebook, and Youtube.

**Nadia:** 22 yo latina (Mexican), bisexual woman, first-generation student, lower-income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram the most; also Snapchat (rarely).

**Natalia:** 18yo hispanic female, on financial aid, lower-middle class. Uses Instagram and Snapchat; also Facebook and Tumblr.

**Olivia:** 22 yo bisexual Asian American (Taiwanese Portuguese and Romanian Polish) woman, lower-income class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram, Twitter, and Youtube. Also Facebook, Tumblr.

**Parham:** 22 yo Middle Eastern male, middle income. Uses Instagram and Snapchat the most; also Snapchat, linkedin, Youtube, Twitter, Facebook, Reddit.

**Rebecca:** 26yo White female, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; also Twitter, Youtube, Facebook.

**Robert:** 24yo, mixed race (half Hispanic, half white) male, first-generation student, middle income, on financial aid. Uses Facebook most; also Youtube, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, and

Reddit.

**Sara:** 23 yo, Asian American (Chinese) female, first-generation student, lower-middle class, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most. Also Snapchat, Facebook, Wechat, and Whatsapp.

**Silvia:** 22 yo, Mexican-American female, first-generation student, low income, on financial aid. Uses Instagram most; Also snapchat, facebook, youtube, and Twitter.

**Tam**: 26yo mixed race (half Asian, half Caucasian) woman, first-generation student, low income, on financial aid. Uses Youtube most; also uses tumbler. Checks Instagram but does not have her own Instagram.