
Insights from a Decade of Participatory Mapping: Case Study of EmotionalMaps project

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Abstract:

This presentation provides an in-depth examination of a decade-long exploration into participatory mapping, focusing on the innovative concept of "Emotional Maps" and the project EmotionalMaps.eu. Traditional cartography often overlooks places' subjective and emotional dimensions, prompting this research to investigate the potential of Emotional Maps in conveying our deeply personal and affective experiences with public space.

Drawing upon a wealth of practical experiences and interdisciplinary research, the presentation delves into the creation and utilization of a web-based platform EmotionalMaps.eu, as well as in-person data collection methods, demonstrating their transformative ability to bridge the gap between objective and subjective spatial representation.

Through a variety of case studies ranging from community-driven mapping projects to environmental conservation efforts and urban planning initiatives, the study showcases the multifaceted nature of the Emotional Maps platform. These case studies illuminate how Emotional Maps empower diverse communities to collectively articulate and share their emotional connections to the places they inhabit or explore.

Moreover, the paper explores the role of technology, including interactive digital platforms and mobile applications, in facilitating the development and dissemination of Emotional Maps. It highlights the potential for democratizing the mapmaking process, enabling broad public involvement in the creation of emotional cartographic representations.

Reflecting on a decade of practical experience, this presentation offers valuable insights into Emotional Mapping, demonstrating its capacity to strengthen community bonds, inform decision-making processes, and increase awareness of the emotional landscapes that shape our lives.

References

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