Contents

Preface xi
CHAPTER 1
Introduction 1
Introduction 1 History of Mobile Telephony 6 Growth of the Mobile Market 11 Outline of the Book 17
CHAPTER 2
Making Sense of Mobile Telephone Adoption 21
Interaction Between Technology and Society 21 Technical/Social Determinism and Affordances 23 Domestication of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) 26 Methods and Data Sources 33
CHAPTER 3
Safety and Security 35
Introduction 35 The Mobile Telephone as a Contribution to Security 37 Use in Situations Where There Is a Chronic or Acute Need for Contact 38 Abstraction of Security vis-à-vis Mobile Telephony 42 The Mobile Telephone in Extraordinary Situations 46 Diminution of Safety 43 Driving and Mobile Telephone Use 49 Personal Privacy 53 Conclusion 54

CHAPTER 4

The Coordination of Everyday Life 57

Introduction Social Coordination 61 Mechanical Timekeeping and Social Coordination 63 The Development of Mechanical Timekeeping The Standardization of Time The Etiquette of Time and Timekeeping Mobile Communication and Microcoordination Midcourse Adjustment 70 72 Iterative Coordination Softening of Schedules Time-Based vs. Mobile-Based Coordination Advantages of Mobile Based Coordination 76 Limitations 77 Competition or Supplement?

CHAPTER 5

The Mobile Telephone and Teens 83

Introduction 83

Conclusion 80

Child/Adolescent Development and the Adoption of Telephony 86

Adolescence and Emancipation in Contemporary Society 93

Elements in the Adoption of Mobile Telephony by Teens 97

Functional Uses of the Mobile Telephone Among Adolescents 99

Symbolic Meaning of the Mobile Telephone 103

Social Networking via the Mobile Telephone 110

Monetary Dimensions to Teens' Adoption of Mobile Telephony 112

Conclusion: Mobile Telephony and the Dance of Emancipation 119

CHAPTER 6

The Intrusive Nature of Mobile Telephony 123

Introduction 123

Mobile Telephony in Settings with Heavy Normative Expectations 125

Mobile Telephony in Interpersonal Situations 130

Initiation of the Call and the Production of Social Partitions 132

Management of the Local Situation During the Call 136

Reemergence into the Local Setting 138

Forced Eavesdropping and Being Embarrassed for Others 140 Conclusion 142

CHAPTER 7

Texting and the Growth of Asynchronous Discourse 145

Introduction 145

The Growth of Texting 149

Texting and the Individual 149

Texting and the Group 152

What Is Being Said, Who Is Saying It, and How They Say It 154

Content of the Messages 154

Mechanics of SMS Writing 157

Written vs. Spoken Language 162

Gendering of Text Messages 164

The Future of Texting 165

CHAPTER 8

Conclusion: The Significance of Osborne's Prognosis 169

Introduction 169

Interaction Between Innovation and Social Institutions 171

History of Technical Innovation and Social Adoption 172

Sociology and the Role of Technical Innovation 174

Social Capital vs. Individualism 177

Social Capital 177

The Institutionalization of Individualization 179

Role of ICTs in the Fostering of Social Capital/Individualism 181

The Internet 181

The Mobile Telephone 183

Ad Hoc Networks 187

Virtual Walled Communities 189

Appendix: Data Sources Used in the Analysis of Mobile Telephony 197

Endnotes 201

Bibliography 223

Index 239