Digital Passages: Migrant Youth 2.0

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Appendix 1: Meet the informants

Abdel
Abdel (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Rotterdam. His parents migrated from Al Hoceima, his family is Berber and he also mainly speaks Berber with his parents. He described himself as “tough but also a nice, spontaneous Moroccan boy” and he feels connected to Muslim and hip-hop youth. He does not feel he belongs to a particular group, but “he is just himself.” He has three sisters, and his favorite subject in school is religious studies. Outside, Abdel likes to play football and other games. He connects to the Internet mostly using his desktop computer in his bedroom. He does not feel anyone has a say over his use of the Internet. He is into rap music, and he listens to both Moroccan-Dutch artists such as Yes-R and Ali B. and African-American rappers such as 50 Cent and Tupac. He includes the word “mocro” in his e-mail address. He uses the Internet mostly to log in to MSN, to send e-mails, to update his profile page and to watch videos on YouTube. He had befriended around 200 people, both on Hyves and MSN. He reports receiving overwhelming numbers of chain e-mails having to do with religion and current affairs, but he states he is especially interested in those that address ways to help people in wars across the globe, and mentions the specific case of Palestine. Abdel participated in the survey and Fayrouz and I interviewed him in a school multimedia center.

Abdelsammad
Abdelsammad is a fifteen-year-old MAVO student from Rotterdam. His parents migrated to the Netherlands from Nador in Morocco. His relatives live across Europe, in France, Spain, Belgium but also in Morocco. He speaks Dutch and Berber with his parents at home and he has three brothers and two sisters. His favorite subjects in school are Dutch language and athletics. In his spare time he likes to spend his time playing football and being at the computer. He describes himself as tough and sporty and says that he listens to rap music. Logging into his account, his parents makes use of MSN voice chat to keep in touch, next to almost yearly visits. His older sister helps him when something is not working on the computer. She also monitors what he downloads and whom he talks to online. He likes to put up his holiday pictures taken in Morocco on his Facebook profile page. Abdelsammad prefers Facebook because it is more international than Hyves, and he has around ninety friends there. He, for instance, talks to his nephew who lives
in Spain on Facebook. On MSN, he has 350 friends, and on YouTube he likes to look up Dutch, Moroccan and American rap videos. Furthermore, he likes to relive his visits to Nador by watching YouTube videos showing the streets, shopping malls and the boulevard alongside the sea. Among other things, he has also included the name of the city in his e-mail address, together with a gendered affiliation “nadorboy.” Furthermore he likes playing computer games such as *Grand Theft Auto* and the *FIFA Soccer* games. Abdelsammad participated in the survey and I interviewed him in a school multimedia center.

**Anas**

Anas is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VMBO K/B student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. He was born in the Netherlands while his parents are from Marrakech, and the family returns there during holiday trips. He has two older brothers who are both enrolled in the university. During the interview he was a bit shy, but with his friends he became very noisy afterward. His hobbies are being on the computer and going outside to play football. He also takes part in athletics. The majority of his family still lives in Morocco, and his parents make use of his MSN account to remain in touch with them. He uses Facebook to talk to his nephews in Morocco. He enjoys looking up R&B, hip-hop and house music on YouTube, but he also likes to watch videos shot in Marrakech. Recently he was mostly helping his dad to find out how to use Google Maps to print out driving directions, as his dad at the time was driving all over the Netherlands for job interviews. He is also attached to downloading music. Anas has fifty friends on FaceBook, but he just quit Hyves where he had befriended 158 contacts, just like he had on MSN. He participated in the survey. I carried out the interview with Anas in a school meeting room.

**Amina**

Amina (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Rotterdam. In describing her ethnicity, she stated her parents have migrated from Nador, stating, “Yes, I am a Berber,” adding, “I still remain Moroccan. I was born in the Netherlands, and I have a command over the Dutch language, but my Moroccan [Arabic] is not so good.” With her parents she speaks Dutch and Berber. Most relatives she knows best live in the Netherlands, but more distant relatives live in Spain, Germany and France but also in Morocco. She described herself as quite fashion-conscious and she sees herself as computer-savvy and added she is very eager to learn. Amina can access the Internet from her own room using her laptop, but she
also uses the desktop computer in the living room. There she has to share the computer with her five siblings; she has one brother and four sisters. She is not interested in online social networking sites, but she logs in to MSN daily. On MSN, she had befriended around 130 people. Additionally she is connected to the Internet via her smartphone, and she checks her messages during our interview. She is a heavy user of what she says the “girly online discussion board,” Chaima.nl, to share sensitive, romantic and personal stories and to talk about nails, beauty and fashion. She is a fan of Maher Zain, a Swedish-Lebanese R&B singer whom she describes as an artist who sings in English “about the peacefulness of Islam.” Amina participated in the survey. I conducted the interview in an empty classroom where Fayrouz was simultaneously interviewing Ilham in another corner.

**Amir**

Amir is a sixteen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO-B student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. He was born in the Netherlands, and his parents migrated from Marrakech, in western Morocco. He has one brother and three sisters. With his parents he mainly speaks Moroccan-Arabic, and he stresses he does not feel Berber, but Arabic. He described himself as his own style. “I don’t belong to one particular group... I’m just multiculti, I think.” While some of his family members have moved to Algeria, most family still live in Morocco. Once every year he visits his family there. His favorite subject is tourism, an elective course he is following. He has a computer of his own, in his own bedroom. He likes to play football in his spare time. When he is at home he logs on to the computer, or he watches TV. He includes the word “mocro” in his e-mail address. Amir is a hip-hop fanatic and he listens to Moroccan-Dutch artists like Yes-R, Ali B., Ree B. and Soesi B. as well as Moroccan rap groups H-Kayne and Fnaïre. He is proud to know the last two groups, as they are not well known in the Netherlands yet. Amir had 349 Hyves friends and had over 200 MSN friends. To get in touch with girls he uses the international dating/social networking site Tagged.com and he likes to visit FRMF.ma, “Site Official de la Fédération Royale Marocaine de Football,” to keep up-to-date on the proceedings of the Moroccan national football team. Amir participated in the survey, and I interviewed him in an empty classroom. After the interview we maintained extensive e-mail contact.

**Ayoub**

Ayoub is a fourteen-year-old, second-year VMBO B/K student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. He described himself as a normal, sporty Muslim boy and he loves to surf the Internet, play football and chill with his friends. He has
three sisters and one brother and he happily announced that his mother was pregnant. Ayoub speaks Dutch and Berber with his parents. He is born in the Netherlands, but his parents migrated from Haroun in east Morocco. At the time of the fieldwork he was very excited about the upcoming visit of his grandfather from Morocco. Most members of his father’s side of the family live in the Netherlands, while most of his mother’s relatives live in France, Germany, Belgium and Morocco. Besides annual holiday trips, he mostly is in touch with his nephew, who lives in Belgium. Together with his parents he uses video chat on MSN to talk to family in Morocco. He does not experience any restrictions in using the computer by anyone in his household and he uses MSN and PingChat! on his BlackBerry smartphone, too. His favorite online game is online billiards, which he played using the site gamzer.com. He had over 700 friends on Hyves, 500 MSN contacts and he is an avid Twitter user. Ayoub participated in the survey and was interviewed by me in a school meeting room.

Badr
Badr is a fourteen-year-old, third-year student VMBO K/B student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. His parents are from Nador in Morocco and he is born in the Netherlands. At home he speaks Dutch and Berber with his parents and his younger brother and younger sister. His favorite subject in school is German because he can also practice it with his nephew, who is living in Germany. Badr likes to play sports, mainly football. He also frequently plays games on his PlayStation 3 and his desktop computer that he has to share with his siblings. He likes to go to Morocco, but only on holiday, because after two or three weeks he likes to go home, because he feels more at home in the Netherlands. His family has spread out across Europe, living in Belgium, Germany, France, Spain and Denmark. Mostly he keeps in touch with his nephews in Germany and Belgium. But he sets up Skype for his parents; they do not know how to use it. Everyday, he was online for a couple of hours and he liked to chat with one of his 500 MSN contacts or hang out in chat rooms, and update his profile page for his 500 Hyves friends to see. He also actively plays OSM.nl, an online soccer manager game. On YouTube he searches for highlight videos of his favorite football clubs, Ajax and Real Madrid. Above all, he is a Michael Jackson fan. Badr participated in the survey and I interviewed him. He appeared to feel a bit uncomfortable during the interview held in an empty classroom.

Bibi
Bibi (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a sixteen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO B/K student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. Bibi is an openhearted girl who
has much to share. Her parents migrated from Nador, a city on the Mediterranean coast in northeastern Morocco. She has two younger brothers and younger two sisters. With her parents she mainly speaks Berber. She speaks very fast and curses and swears every now and then. Bibi described she is one of the more lively girls in her school class; she jumps and dances, and is very active, adding, “I am Moroccan, and I am proud of it.” Sometimes she clicks her tongue to say “no.” Most of her family lives in the Netherlands, but there are also family members in Morocco. She only uses MSN and Hyves to keep in contact with nieces and nephews living in the Netherlands; the rest of her family she connects with only during yearly holiday trips when she likes to bring her nieces gifts. She thinks Dutch kids are more restricted in their use of the Internet, and she says, “We Moroccan youth secretly take our laptops and hide them under our bed sheets and go on MSN and Facebook.” She admits she is always very curious to learn about what other people think about the pictures she puts up online. In her spare time, Bibi likes to play sports; she has joined indoor football and kickboxing clubs. Also she likes to help her mother out and to spend time with her friends. She has a laptop that she uses in her own room in the attic of the house. Her sisters also join her there when they want to use the computer. She likes to do her homework there, with her sisters. She listed 560 Hyves friends and 290 MSN contacts. Bibi participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school meeting room.

Carlos
Carlos (a pseudonym he chose himself), is a fifteen-year-old, third-year VMBO K/T student from ’s-Hertogenbosch. Carlos calls himself a half-blood, adding, “I have Dutch looks, but when I talk I talk like a Moroccan.” His father is Dutch and his mother is from Rabat, the capital city of Morocco. He has a younger brother and sister, and he has to share the desktop computer located in the living room with them. He wants to be seen as a normal, Muslim boy. In his household Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic are spoken. The majority of his mother’s side of the family resides in Morocco, but he mentions a number of his aunts live in the Netherlands, France and Spain. He keeps in touch with them via MSN and Facebook. Interestingly, he speaks Italian with those family members that have migrated, as they first settled in Italy before moving onward toward other countries in Europe. The pseudonym he chose to have his voice included in the study also reflects his affinity with Italy. Athletics is his favorite subject in school, and in his spare time he plays sports in football and kickboxing clubs. At night he likes to be on the computer, connecting with his friends on MSN and
Facebook and to listen to music. However, he says he is also online “24/7.” He connects to the Internet using his BlackBerry mobile phone, and he uses PingChat a lot. He does not feel as if anyone in his household restricts him in his online behavior. Carlos had 900 friends on MSN and 850 friends on Hyves, he mentioned this was mostly to get in touch with girls, his 50 contacts on Facebook were mostly family in the diaspora. He includes the word “badboy” in his e-mail address. Like Senna, he spoke passionately about a page of remembrance on Hyves, an RIP page, set up for a friend of his who had recently passed away after a traffic accident. And he enjoys looking up information about motor scooters. He is into hip-hop; he listens to Moroccan-Dutch artists like Ali B. and Yes-R; Antillean-Dutch artists like Hef, Dio and Gio as well as and North American hip-hop artists like Eminem. Carlos participated in the survey and I interviewed him in an empty classroom.

Faruk

Faruk (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a sixteen-year-old, third-year MAVO student from Rotterdam. He describes himself as having Moroccan parents and he was born in the Netherlands. He adds he is interested in hip-hop and Islam. Sometimes he feels sad when he feels he and his friends are being more tightly monitored than other young people when they enter shops. He speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber with his parents at home. He has one brother and two sisters. He has family in the Netherlands, but also in France, Spain and Morocco. In school, his favorite subjects are English, geography and physics. His favorite pastimes are hanging out with his friends, playing football and going to the shopping mall. Also he likes to be at the computer and play games on his PlayStation console. Faruk accesses the Internet from a laptop that is shared among the household, but he brings it to his own room and sits on is bed using the laptop. In his household they are most strongly connected to his aunt in France, and he logs on to MSN for his parents let them talk with her using their webcam. He feels that the ability to make voice and video calls to his family abroad for free is one of the biggest advantages of the Internet. He has around a hundred friends on MSN. He is not restricted by anyone in his household in his use of the Internet. His online interests resemble his offline interests, he likes to play Online Soccer Manager (OSM.nl), or watch football clips on YouTube. He also likes to search for music videos of the American rapper Eminem and has converted some of his songs into MP3s that he puts on his Samsung slider phone. Faruk participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed him in a school multimedia center.
Fatiha
Fatiha is a seventeen-year-old, fourth-year HAVO student from Eindhoven. She was born in the Netherlands, and both her parents were born in Morocco. She describes herself as Muslim and finds it important to present herself as a believer online as well, for instance, by choosing the following MSN display name “Show remorse!!........ Allah (swt) will accept it from you and inchAllah will offer you goodness!!” She has three sisters and one brother. At home she mostly speaks Dutch and Berber with her parents. She feels quite free in her use of the Internet, except for the school settings where she feels the schoolteacher monitors her. She says she is attached to MSN, Hyves, and YouTube, sites she visits on a daily basis. She had befriended around 115 people on MSN and on Hyves. Additionally, she often participates in online discussion boards, for instance, Marokko.nl, and the Moroccan-Dutch-girls-oriented Chaima.nl and the Islam-oriented Islaam.nl. The Islam portal website Al-Yaqeen.nl (meaning “trust in Islam”) is also among her favorites. Fatiha shared MSN transcripts with me and participated in the piloting of the survey and the interview. I interviewed her through e-mail and MSN and we maintained e-mail contact.

Ferran
Ferran is a seventeen-year-old student in the second-year of his MBO degree (vocational education) in social work from Venlo. He describes himself as a “Moroccan-Dutch boy.” He mainly speaks Dutch and Berber with his parents. Most of his family lives in Morocco, Germany and the Netherlands, but he also has relatives in Spain. Quite frequently he meets his relatives at weddings; recently he attended one in Germany. It’s mostly his mother who uses MSN and a webcam to talk to her brothers, sisters and her mother, who live outside the Netherlands. His most important hobby is playing football, which he does both for his club as well as on outdoor courts. He often turns to VI.nl, a site with football news, and he likes to use the Internet for entertainment purposes; he, for instance, watches funny videos gathered on Dumpert.nl. Other habits are browsing the profile pages of his 160 Hyves contacts and logging in to MSN talk to any of his 110 contacts. Also he looks up funny videos in Berber on YouTube as well as lectures on the Quran. He accesses the Internet in his own bedroom using his own laptop. Ferran participated in the piloting of the interview, and Fayrouz and I together interviewed him in a hotel lobby café.

Hajar
Hajar is a fifteen-year-old, third-year VMBO K/T student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. Her parents migrated from the Berber city Meknès in northern
Morocco. She has two brothers and one sister. She describes herself as a normal and social Moroccan-Dutch girl, who stands up for herself, adding that she is of Moroccan descent but she was born in the Netherlands. She speaks Dutch, French and Moroccan-Arabic at home. Her hobbies are being on the computer and hanging out with friends either at home on the couch in the winter and outside in the summer. She says she is very tidy, and states she strongly asserts herself, when people gossip about her she gets very angry. Reflecting on her wearing of a double-wrap headscarf, she feels she stands out from others because of her faith. At home, she shares the desktop computer in the living room with her family, but she also connects to MSN on her mobile phone. Her father’s side of the family lives in the Netherlands and her mother’s side lives in Belgium. She keeps in touch with them via Skype and MSN, and she helps her mother set up connections. She thinks Moroccan-Dutch youth are active on the Internet because of the diasporic connections with grandmothers and uncles living in Morocco and elsewhere. She feels her parents and her brother control her Internet actions. Hajar enjoys looking up pictures of takshitas (Moroccan dresses) on the discussion board Marokko.nl and social networking sites. She had a hundred friends on Facebook, 487 on Hyves and 230 on MSN. She is into electronic dance music, and stresses she is addicted to mobile phone texting and to listening to Sami Yusuf, an Iranian-British singer. Hajar participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school meeting room.

Hatim
Hatim is a fifteen-year-old, third-year VMBO K/T student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. He was born in Aklim in northeast Morocco and he migrated to the Netherlands with his parents at a young age. Hatim has three brothers and two sisters. His favorite subject in school is athletics and in his spare time he is occupied with football and kickboxing. He describes himself as “someone who follows the mood of the moment and who is adventurous,” and added he is a Muslim. He likes electronic dance and house music. At home he speaks Dutch and Berber. His family lives in the Netherlands and in Morocco. He accesses the Internet from a desktop computer in his own bedroom, and first thing in the morning he turns on the computer to check whether he has received new messages. He does not feel anyone in his household monitors his actions online. He likes the Internet for MSN, watching videos on YouTube, downloading music and updating his profile page. He had 135 friends on Facebook, 556 on Hyves and 600 on MSN. Above all things he is an active gamer, specializing in Call of Duty: Black Ops, a first-person shooter video game on PlayStation 3. Hatim participated in the survey. The
Interview took place in a school meeting room. He was a bit reserved when answering, perhaps because Fayrouz, an adult female, interviewed him.

**Ilana**

Ilana is a sixteen-year-old, first-year student MBO (vocational education) in social work from Venlo. She describes herself "as Dutch but of Moroccan descent." She has one older brother. Her relatives live in Morocco, Germany and the Netherlands. She uses MSN to talk to her cousins in Germany, and she likes to practice her German with them. Her favorite pastime is shopping. She accesses the Internet in her bedroom using her own laptop. She does not know by heart how many people are in her MSN or Hyves friend lists, but reckons that from her lists most often around ten people are online at the same time. Most of all she likes to surf to Marokko.nl and read stories that other people have posted. She is especially interested in reading about funny events and exciting experiences people have. She also sometimes goes to the thread on “Islam and I” to open topics to get more information about things in life related to Islam. On YouTube she likes to look up Moroccan-Arabic and English-language music. Ilana participated in the piloting of the interview and Fayrouz and I together interviewed her in a museum cafeteria.

**Ilham**

Ilham is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Rotterdam. Her favorite subject is history, and her hobbies are football, swimming and reading books. She has four sisters. Ilham describes herself as embodying "opposite poles." She is social, sweet and companionable, but also quiet and at times overexcited. She is interested in politics, electronic dance music, hip-hop, Islam and religion. Furthermore she confidently stated, “I’m Moroccan, Berber and Muslim, holding Dutch nationality.” Different affiliations also become apparent from the e-mail address she chose, which includes “miss” and "riff." “Riff” is an Arabic word meaning “the edge of a cultivated area” and it is commonly used to refer to the groups of Berber people occupying parts of northeastern Morocco, ranging from the desert in the center of Morocco to the mountains to the Mediterranean coast. Her parents were among those people, having migrated from the coast city of Nador. Most of her mother’s side of the family currently live in the Netherlands, while most of her father’s side live abroad, in Spain, Belgium and Morocco. She speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber with her parents. She mostly uses the laptop in the living room, where she has to share it with her siblings. She feels quite controlled in her use of the Internet – her parents and her sisters
keep tabs on her behavior. But she says she, for instance, uses eBuddy.com to log on to get in touch with her MSN contacts. eBuddy is a web-based client that does not store any of her conversations on the computer as the MSN application does. She forms a clique with two of her best girlfriends, at school but also online. She also likes MSN because she uses it to maintain her friendships with girls she has befriended during holidays in Morocco. In total, she had 133 friends on MSN. She finds Google important and she likes to read stories on Marokko.nl. She likes listening to music using YouTube videos, especially music by the American pop singer Christina Aguilera. She was very curious also to know the background of Fayrouz, who interviewed her. Ilham participated in the survey, and the interview took place in the empty classroom where I was interviewing Amina in another corner.

Inas
Inas is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Rotterdam. She has two brothers and one sister. She finds it important to have her own style and says that “my origins are in Morocco, but I was born in the Netherlands,” adding that she is sweet and intelligent, but also rebellious at times. She sees her headscarf as a fashionable but also important identity marker, which she also shows in photographs she puts online on Hyves and MSN. In school, her favorite subject is math, and outside school she likes to hang out with her friends and practice swimming. She speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic with her parents. She accesses the Internet from the family’s desktop computer in the living room. Her relatives live in Morocco, Spain and the Netherlands. Her parents talk to family members using MSN and a webcam. She logs in to Hyves on a daily basis. On Hyves, she befriended ninety people, on MSN she had around 250 contacts. She is a fan of Justin Bieber and to download his songs from YouTube to her Samsung Wave mobile phone she uses YoutubeConverter.org. Her major passion is fashion; she spends a lot of her time browsing around different fashion web-logs and she also finds inspiration on the Moroccan-Dutch, girls-oriented discussion board Chaima.nl. She praises the Internet as a uniting force; underlining the fun she has in meeting people online who are also interested in sharing their thoughts on the latest fashion trends. Inas participated in the survey and I interviewed her in a school library.

Inzaf
Inzaf is a fifteen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO-T student from Eindhoven. In describing herself she says she is Muslim, but she adds: “I follow my heart, I am not really someone who follows a group.” In addition, she shared: “I
would not say I am Moroccan. My parents are from Morocco, but I was born here.” Her parents migrated from Al Hoceima in the north of Morocco, and other family members live in Belgium, France and Morocco. She has two sisters and one brother. At home she speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic with her parents. She likes to be on the computer and to go to the city and hang out with her friends in shopping centers, or to go out for dinner. She logs on to the desktop computer in the living room, where she has to share it with her siblings. She is relatively free in her Internet activities, but occasionally her mother checks up on her. Discussion forums, chatting on MSN and watching videos are her main preoccupations online. Frequently she logs in to online discussion boards Marokko.nl and Yasmina.nl to find good recipes, “most often Moroccan dishes – those dishes my mother does not know how to make.” And she likes to post and read online stories. She had befriended around 150 people on MSN and 120 on Hyves. Fayrouz and I interviewed Inzaf together with Naoul in a lunchroom. She participated in the piloting of the survey and interview and she shared MSN transcripts. We kept in touch via e-mail.

Kamal
Kamal is a fifteen-year-old, third-year VMBO-T student from Eindhoven. He was born in the Netherlands of parents who migrated from Morocco. He has three sisters. At home, he mainly speaks Berber with his parents. He describes himself as a sweet, Muslim, football fanatic, computer savvy, gamer boy. He connects to the Internet using his desktop computer in his bedroom, and he does not experience much supervision by anyone in his household. Every day he plays video games on his PlayStation. He likes to watch his favorite TV series online using the site RTLgemist.nl. Furthermore he likes to connect with fellow youngsters on the virtual hotel/social networking site Habbo.nl. He also likes to connect with Moroccan-Dutch youth on the online forum Marokko.nl. He had befriended around 600 people on Hyves, and 200 people on MSN. Kamal shared MSN transcripts and participated in the piloting of the survey and interview. I interviewed him via e-mail and MSN and we maintained e-mail contact.

Kenza
Kenza is a fourteen-year-old, third-year HAVO student from Rotterdam. She was born in Morocco and migrated to the Netherlands with her parents at young age. Kenza describes herself as being of “Moroccan descent.” Members of her household are the only ones from her family who are living in the Netherlands; other family members live in Belgium, France, Spain, Italy
and Morocco. She has one sister and one brother. At home, with her parents she mostly speaks Moroccan-Arabic. She does not understand Berber, only Arabic. In school, her favorite subject is French. She has also set up an e-mail address on the French e-mail provider Hotmail.fr. Outside of school she likes cycling and watching TV. She mostly accesses the Internet using her laptop in her own room. She feels computer-savvy, but adds that her sister asserts quite some control over her use of the laptop, monitoring what sites she visits and whom she talks to. Kenza uses Facebook to keep in touch with cousins in Belgium, France, Spain and Morocco. Most important for her is YouTube. She uses the site to look up raï music, especially the Algerian artist Cheb Khaled. Sometimes when she feels “homesick” for Morocco, she looks up Moroccan songs. Her best Internet experiences are when she puts up holiday pictures of Morocco on her profile page. Also she likes to play first-person shooter games online. She had fifty-three friends on Facebook and thirty-nine on MSN. Kenza participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school multimedia center.

**Khadija**
Khadija is a seventeen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO-K student from Eindhoven. She describes herself as a Muslim girl and adds she was born in the Netherlands. Her parents were born in Morocco. She mainly speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic at home with her parents. In her spare time, she likes shopping, swimming, watching TV and assisting her mother with cooking. She mostly makes use of the desktop computer in the living room. She has to share the computer with her brother and her two sisters. She feels her mother keeps an eye on her Internet activities, especially concerning what she downloads from the Internet. She considers MSN, Marokko.nl and YouTube the most important spaces she engages with online. She reported to have fifty-three Hyves and IM contacts. MSN is used to have personal conversations with friends. She also likes the Internet for it enables her to buy stuff which she cannot find in the shops elsewhere and she uses it to download Moroccan-Arabic and Berber raï and chaabi music to her MP3 player. Khadija participated in the piloting of the survey and the interview mostly via e-mail and MSN and she shared MSN transcripts with me.

**Loubna**
Loubna is a fourteen-year-old, third-year VMBO K/T student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. She describes herself as a confident, sweet, trustworthy girl, and admits she can sometimes be stubborn. She is into electronic dance and hip-hop music, fashion and Islam. Her favorite subject is math.
She comes from a large household; she has five sisters and one brother. She speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic at home. Loubna describes herself as being of Moroccan-Dutch descent, but adds that does not mean she does not like to go to the cinema and go shopping for clothes in the city. Apart from her parents, most family members live in Morocco. The family makes frequent visits to Morocco; she says she feels she “cannot do without Morocco.” Together with her mother she very frequently connects with her family in Morocco using Skype, especially at the time of the fieldwork, when her grandmother was seriously ill. Although she has her own laptop, her sisters restrict her activity, especially what she downloads from the Internet. As a great fan of *Twilight*, she shows her interest in the American series of vampire-themed fantasy romance novels and films with images and clips on her Hyves profile page. She had 232 friends on Hyves and 320 friends on MSN; a lot of people were added to her MSN friend list when she forgot to log out from her account in an Internet café in Morocco during a vacation. Her favorite musicians are North American R&B artists Beyoncé and Whitney Houston, Lebanese singers Nancy Ajram and Elissa and Moroccan artists Khalid Bennani and Sami Yusuf. Loubna likes to read books, but she also enjoys reading about other young peoples’ trials and tribulations on the online forum Marokko.nl. Loubna participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school meeting room.

**Mehmet Ali**

Mehmet Ali is a fourteen-year-old, second-year VMBO B/K student from ’s-Hertogenbosch. He describes himself as normal Moroccan boy. He was born in the city of Nador in Morocco, and at the age of four he migrated with his parents to the Netherlands. He has three younger brothers. In school, his favorite subjects are drama and athletics. Outside of school he has joined a football club, and he plays midfielder. Using the computer and browsing the Internet are also things he likes to do. Mostly, he speaks in Dutch and Berber with his parents. Most other family members live in Morocco, and his uncle lives in Spain. He shares the common laptop in the living room with his parents and his three younger brothers. He uses MSN to talk to his nephews who live in Morocco; his parents use the telephone more to connect with family members in the diaspora. He likes to joke around with his nephews. They log in to the Internet in a local Internet café in Nador and when he sees them behind the computer he relives his memories of Morocco. He had 570 people in his Hyves friend list and 195 in his MSN list. Badr is a fan of Moroccan-Dutch rappers Yes-R, Fouhadi as well as American rap artists like Jay-Z and the Moroccan singer Douzi. When he misses Morocco, he
likes to look up photos and videos on YouTube from places he knows there. He has also included Morocco in his e-mail address. Badr participated in the survey and I interviewed him in a school meeting room.

**Meryam**

Meryam is a fifteen-year-old, third-year VMBO K/B student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. Her parents migrated from Taourirt, near Oujda in northeastern Morocco. She has one brother and one sister. In her family, Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber are spoken. During the interview it became apparent that she is heavily engaged with her faith. This became clear when she showed a book titled *Het Handboek voor Moslimvrouwen (The Handbook for Muslim Women)*, which she bought at the mosque. Her favorite subject is math. She likes to spend her spare time with her friends, watching TV and using the computer. People in her school call her a gangster, because as she says she likes hip-hop and she sometimes comes over aggressive, but she notes, “I do not mean to be like that at all.” Besides Dutch and American music, she listens to Jalal El Hamdaoui on Mocro-place.nl. Her favorite musician is El Hamdaoui, who comes from Oujda like her parents. Currently, half of her family members have migrated to the Netherlands, France and Belgium, and the other half live in Morocco. She does not feel as if anyone in her family supervises her in her online activity. She is, however, very sensitive about putting information online. Meryam had sixty friends on Facebook and 400 on MSN. On MSN she writes in Arabic when talking to her nieces who live in France, and when talking to others she mostly writes in Dutch. She likes to read stories posted on the discussion board Marokko.nl. She feels bad that “a lot of people think that Moroccan youth are utterly bad and so on, but there are only a few who completely ruin it for the others.” She includes the word “mocrogirl” in her e-mail address and she adds, “I always say Morocco is the country of my dreams.” Meryam participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school meeting room.

**Midia**

Midia is a thirteen-year-old, first-year VMBO-T student from Utrecht. She was born in the Netherlands; her parents were born in Morocco. She sees herself as a gamer and a Muslim. Occasionally she visits the mosque. She speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic with her parents at home. She accesses the Internet from her bedroom using the desktop computer that she shares with her younger brother and sister. Her mother asserts influence over what she downloads and puts on her profile page. Her favorite online activities are browsing through profile pages on Hyves, chatting with her MSN friends
and exploring the virtual hotel/social networking site Habbo Hotel. She is also into playing online games such as *World of Warcraft* and she likes to speak her mind on Marokko.nl. She had befriended 110 people on Hyves, and 400 people on MSN. Midia participated in the piloting of the survey and interview and she shared MSN transcripts with me. I interviewed her through e-mail and MSN and we maintained contact via e-mail.

**Mohammed**

Mohammed (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VMBO K/T student from 's-Hertogenbosch. His parents migrated from Morocco, and he has one brother and two sisters. At home he speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic. He describes himself a normal, intelligent and nice Moroccan-Dutch guy, who is into hip-hop, computers and Islam. He was reserved in his answers in the beginning of the interview but gradually opened up. He likes to play football and listens to hip-hop music a lot. He has to make use of his brother's laptop, mostly in his brother's bedroom. Also uses the computers at school daily, were he feels his schoolteacher restricts him in his online behavior. He often visits 101barz.bnn.nl and hiphopflow.nl, communities where members discuss and circulate rap songs. He downloads music by artists such as Ali B. Yes-R, Appa, Sjaak, Anu-D, and puts them on his iPod. He was most attached to MSN and YouTube, and he used the first to talk to family members living in the Netherlands, Belgium, France and Morocco or one of his 300 other contacts, while he enjoyed the latter to review football highlights. On his profile page, his 408 contacts could see he had put up pictures of his holiday trip to Morocco with his parents together with football and music. He participated in the survey and Fayrouz conducted the interview with Mohammed in a school meeting room.

**Mustafa**

Mustafa is an eighteen-year-old student from Venlo. He is in the second-year of his MBO (vocational education) degree in social work. He describes himself as “born in the Netherlands, but still also of Moroccan descent, thus Moroccan-Dutch.” The largest part of his family lives in the Netherlands, but he also has family members living in France, Spain and Morocco. He mainly speaks Dutch and Berber with his parents. His household mainly keeps in touch with relatives living in the diaspora using their landline phone. Being at the computer, swimming and football are Mustafa’s hobbies. He accesses the Internet in his bedroom using a desktop computer. He has around 100 friends on MSN and on Hyves. He likes to play video games,
and he listens to R&B, electronic dance music and Moroccan music. He, for instance, subscribes to a channel dedicated to the African-American R&B singer Ryan Leslie on YouTube, which allow him to follow new music releases of his favorite artist. Using Keepvid.com he also downloads these songs to his MP3 player and mobile phone. During Ramadan, he turned to YouTube and found a number of inspiring recitations from the Quran. Also he browses the site Zoubida.nl for Berber artists. The site hosts music MP3s of artists from Morocco. Mustafa participated in the piloting of the interview and I interviewed him in a museum cafeteria.

Naoul
Naoul is a sixteen-year-old, MBO law student from Eindhoven. She describes herself as a Moroccan, a Muslim and an ambitious girl. She adds: “I follow my own path. What other people think or do does not bother me.” She speaks Dutch and Berber at home with her parents. Her parents migrated from Morocco, and other family members live in Morocco, Belgium, Germany, France and Spain. She sets up an MSN connection for her dad to connect with family members in the diaspora: “We, the kids, have to prepare it and he comes in and sits in front of the camera and starts talking.” Next to her school, she has a job on the side, and in her free time she likes to be on the computer and to hang out with her friends. Naoul works a lot on the computer for her studies. She has a laptop of her own, which she takes everywhere. She does not feel restricted in her Internet activities. At home she takes her laptop to her bedroom and logs on. Inzaf is also into playing online games such as World of Warcraft and she is interested in Marokko.nl. There, she finds support from what she describes as her “own circle,” to discuss “Moroccan issues.” She had around 110 friends on MSN and 190 on Hyves. Fayrouz and I interviewed Naoul together with Inzaf in a lunchroom. She participated in the piloting of the survey and interview and she shared MSN transcripts. We kept in touch via e-mail.

Nevra
Nevra is a sixteen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO-K student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. Her parents migrated from the capital city of Morocco, Rabat. She has included the word “RABAT” in her e-mail address. She has three brothers and three sisters. Nevra sees herself as a sweet Moroccan-Dutch and Muslim girl. She likes to spend her free time with her girlfriends, shopping. She likes to play crazy tricks. She connects to the Internet from her own room using her own laptop, and she does not feel as if anyone in her household restricts her in her Internet usage. She also shared that she is online “24/7”
by using her BlackBerry, to stay logged in to MSN all the time. Of all Internet applications she likes MSN and online discussion boards like Marokko.nl the most. About the latter she says young Moroccan-Dutch people “can say what they want, and they can show it is not all bad” there. She likes to download music from Mocro-place.nl such as reggada, an old genre of wedding music from the eastern parts of Morocco and chaabi, Moroccan folk music, and rai music, which blends African Spanish, French, and Arabic musical forms. She had 408 friends on Hyves and 450 on MSN. She lives in a middle-sized city in the southern part of the Netherlands. Nevra said she really enjoyed participating in our research. She completed the survey and Fayrouz and I interviewed her together in a school meeting room.

Oussema
Oussema (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a fifteen-year-old, third-year HAVO student from Rotterdam. His family migrated from near Nador in Morocco to “various countries across the world, not India, but across Europe and the United States.” He feels he is “someone in between” which he explains by stating, “I listen to all sorts of music – rock, Dutch, R&B, electro, all of it. I love sports, but I love computer games a lot, too. I am Muslim. I am not a chubby kid, but also not super muscular. I can’t be pinned down to something specific. I am a bit of everything.” He feels his personally duty is to actively change the negative image of Moroccan-Dutch youth, and he does so, for instance, by assisting elderly people. He has two older brothers and a younger sister. He speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber with his parents at home. His favorite subjects are biology and technology. His hobbies are judo, football and being at the computer. He uses Facebook to keep in touch with his cousins in the diaspora. He can access the Internet using the desktop computer in his bedroom, the computer in his brother’s room and on his mobile phone. He also had a laptop but it recently crashed after he played too many computer games. He likes first-person shooter games such as Call of Duty: Black Ops, Half Life 2 and Counter-Strike and he also likes to explore his creativity using video-editing and Photoshop image-editing software. He, for instance, makes “skins,” visuals such as characters and news weapons for computer games. He also participates in online discussion board competitions, where his Photoshop creations get rated and he recently made it to the second place overall in the forum. At the time of the fieldwork his parents were on hajj, the pilgrimage to Mecca. He had just deleted his Hyves account, but he had 150 friends on Facebook and 300 friends on MSN. Oussema participated in the survey, and I interviewed
him in a school multimedia center. After the interview we kept in touch via Facebook Chat.

**Rachid**

Rachid (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Utrecht. His parents were both born in Tangier and Driouche in northern Morocco. He has a younger brother and a younger sister. He tries to follow Islam as much as he can, adding, “*when I have time, I go to the Mosque – at least, I try to go every Friday.*” With his parents he speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber, mostly. He accesses the Internet from a shared desktop computer. He starts every day by going online to check whether there are any changes in his roster for the day. He is in touch with nephews and nieces living abroad on MSN, but when he is on the computer and his mother sees that family is also online she usually takes over the computer. His relatives live in the Netherlands, Germany and Morocco. Connecting to the Internet in Morocco is not commonplace for everyone, he says, and he also remarks that due to a recent flood in Morocco Internet connections got broken. In his spare time, he often goes to swimming practices at his club, he likes to be at the computer and he likes to play games on his PSP (PlayStation Portable). He had 266 friends on Facebook and similar number of contacts on MSN. On Facebook he also likes to play games, for instance, *Snake*, but he also uses it to find out about school exams and assignments and to circulate school texts. He is into both Dutch-language as well as English-language rap, hip-hop and R&B. He uses LimeWire and µTorrent software applications to download music and movies. Rachid proudly spoke about being able to circumvent Internet restrictions at school by visiting those blocked sites he likes using a proxy. Rachid participated in the piloting of the survey and interview, and I interviewed him in a university canteen.

**Ryan**

Ryan (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a fifteen-year-old, fourth-year VMBO-T student from 's-Hertogenbosch. He was born in the Netherlands, but his parents are from Kenitra, in the northwestern part of Morocco. He has one sister and one brother. He is a very spontaneous talker, and he wants to be seen as normal, but states he can also be rebellious. His favorite subjects are English and biology and he would like to continue his education in a laboratory school. Nine of his mother's siblings live in the Netherlands, while most family members from his father's side still live in Morocco. His parents speak Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic. Once a year he visits his family in Morocco
with his parents, and he uses MSN and Skype to remain in contact with his nephews in Morocco. As his choice for an English pseudonym already signals, Ryan considers himself different from most other Moroccan-Dutch young people. On his Hyves profile page he, for instance, subverts the dominant image of Moroccan-Dutch youth: “When someone sees me there, they say I do not look like a Moroccan, but obviously I am one, but I do not let it show.” Also, he “mostly only plays games on the computer” which he thinks is “very different from what normal Moroccan youth in my school do – they mostly use MSN, watch YouTube and listen to music.” Gaming is more “Dutch culture,” he says, “Dutch kids, I know a lot of them who play games.” He likes electronic dance music and spends most of his spare time playing the third-person shooting game GunZ: The Duel and the online role-playing game League of Legends. He also plays Modern Warfare and Call of Duty 2 on the PlayStation 3 and he likes to participate in online discussion boards, especially Worldwidegaming.org, to discuss the games he plays. However, Ryan is also an active swimmer for the local swimming club. He had 300 friends on Hyves and over 400 friends on MSN. Ryan participated in the survey and I interviewed him in a school meeting room.

Sadik
Sadik, from Venlo, is a seventeen-year-old student in the second year of his MBO (vocational education) degree to become a teaching assistant. He describes himself as Muslim, and both his parents migrated from Morocco, while he himself was born in the Netherlands. Apart from his household, and one uncle who lives in France, all his relatives live in Morocco. His favorite pastimes are playing the drums and swimming. He accesses the Internet from his bedroom using either his own laptop or his own desktop computer. His parents give him a lot of autonomy over his Internet activities; sometimes they come and have a look at what he is doing. But he says his father knows he handles the technologies well. Logging in to Hyves and MSN are daily routines. He had befriended 450 people on Hyves, and 150 on MSN Messenger. Just before the fieldwork he started using Twitter, and he finds it most interesting because he is now able to follow the personal experiences of people he admires from all over the world. Among his friends Twitter is used to arrange get-togethers and negotiate conflicting class schedules. Also he frequently surfs to Explosm.net, a site where funny cartoons are published. Finally, he likes to look up YouTube videos of musicians and Islam; he has saved them to a play list in his account. He likes videos of good drummers, guitarists and beatboxers. Sadik participated in the piloting of the interview and I interviewed him in a museum cafeteria.
Safae
Safae, from Venlo, is an eighteen-year-old student in the third year of her MBO (vocational education) degree in social work. She describes herself as Moroccan but adds, “I was born and raised here, so in principle I am just an ordinary Dutch youth.” Her hobbies are fitness and using the Internet. She accesses the Internet from her bedroom using her own laptop. She also has a mobile phone she uses to access the Internet. Her favorite sites are MSN, Hyves, Facebook and Marokko.nl. She considers MSN as a sort of an addiction, because “I automatically log in to MSN every day.” Sometimes her mother sits next to her behind the computer when she is talking to her friends on MSN or looking through the forum discussions on Marokko.nl. Marokko.nl she likes for reading “true stories.” When her mother cannot answer questions she has about her background or questions relating to Islam, she considers Marokko.nl a good place to search for answers. She listens to Moroccan, English and Dutch artists. Safae participated in the piloting of the interview and Fayrouz interviewed her in a museum cafeteria.

Sahar
Sahar is a fourteen-year-old, third-year MAVO student from Rotterdam. She describes herself as “a normal girl, and I am Moroccan. Yes, I was born in the Netherlands, and I wear a headscarf – most others don’t.” She has one younger and one older brother and at home she speaks Dutch and Berber with her parents. English is her favorite subject. Her grandparents and some other family members still live in Morocco. She accesses the Internet from a desktop computer in her own room. She feels quite unrestricted in her use of the Internet; but her father does keep track of what she puts on her profile page. Outside school, she likes to hang out with her girlfriends and be at the computer and watch TV. She mostly uses MSN, browses YouTube and weblogs and visits Marokko.nl. She had 120 friends on MSN. She likes Marokko.nl for its capacity for people to say positive things about Moroccans in the Netherlands instead of the “almost always negative things that people say.” She is also interested in discussing fashion and Islam. Her favorite artists are African-American R&B singers Auburn and Shontelle and the Moroccan singer Jalal El Hamdaoui, and she likes Islamic-oriented anasheed songs. She also keeps a virtual dog via the site Webpet.nl. Sahar participated in the survey and I interviewed her in a school multimedia center.

Salima
Salima (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VWO student from Rotterdam. She describes herself as calm and Moroccan,
coming from a large household of eight people; she has four brothers and one sister. Her parents have migrated from Al Hoceima in the north of Morocco. At home she mostly speaks Berber with her parents. She feels affiliated to Islam and fellow Muslims. Her favorite subject is Dutch, while her favorite pastimes are shopping and watching TV. She has to share the desktop computer in the living room with her siblings, and her parents and her sister restrict her in her use of the Internet. Her family has spread out from Morocco across Spain, France, Belgium and the Netherlands. Her household keeps in contact with family members mostly by calling them on the phone, and by making visits. She is most attached to MSN Messenger and to Google, which she uses to look up information and to download music. She had around fifty friends on MSN. Salima includes the word “mocro” in her e-mail address. To amuse herself she plays games on the website Funnygames.nl and she heads to Chaima.nl, a discussion board set up and frequented by Moroccan-Dutch girls. Also, she is a fan of the website Mocro-Place.nl, where she listens to Moroccan songs, wedding music and rai music such as Lella Lagroussa. Salima participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school multimedia center.

Senna
Senna is a fourteen-year-old, second-year VMBO-K student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. She describes herself as a normal girl who sometimes feels a bit shy. Senna was born in the Netherlands; her parents are from Berkane in the Rif in northeast Morocco. She speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and Berber with her parents at home. She has two brothers and three sisters. Her older brother knows most about computers. Accessing the Internet either on her mobile phone or by using her own laptop in her own room, she feels she is not restricted in her online action by anyone in her household. Her family lives in France, Morocco and the Netherlands, and she keeps in touch with her cousins abroad using MSN or her mobile phone, mostly. Senna uses ethnic identification markers, choosing symbols such as the Amazigh and Moroccan flag in her display image on MSN, but also for her avatars on the online forums Marokko.nl and Chaima.nl. On MSN and Hyves she had around 200 friends and on the latter platform she has joined groups such as “Takshita’s” (a Moroccan dresses club), “I am proud of Morocco” and “RIP Faysel” to commemorate the tragic passing of one of her friends. On YouTube and websites such as Marokkia.nl and Mocro-Place.nl she looks up Moroccan artists like Hajja Hamdaouia and Rashid Kasmi. Furthermore she sends onward chain letters to her friends via e-mail on religion, such as prayers and du’3as (supplications) and issues around wearing the veil.
Senna participated in the survey and Fayrouz conducted the interview with her in a classroom.

Soesie
Soesie (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VMBO student from ‘s-Hertogenbosch. She was born in the Netherlands, while both her parents were born in Tetouan in northern Morocco. During the summer holidays the family goes to Nador in northeast Morocco. At home and online, she speaks Dutch, Arabic and Berber. Soesie has two younger brothers (aged two and seven), and she likes to take pictures of them. For instance during the interview she spoke of a picture she took of the three of them together in the snow, which she uses as her profile picture on Hyves. She is quick to laugh; discussing personal things sometimes caused her to blush. Drama is her favorite subject in school. Outside school times she likes hang out with her friends or go on the computer and watch TV. She is interested in electronic dance and hip-hop music, and fashion trends. She admits she spends long hours behind the PC. Her mother keeps track of her use and tells her to go outside once she has used it for too long. Her mother also made her make her profile not visible for the public, she did not want pictures to circulate beyond Soesie’s friends. Using her own laptop, she either goes online in her bedroom, or she does so downstairs on the couch while watching TV. When needed, she uses her Samsung touch screen phone to connect to the Internet, but she likes typing on the PC better. She has the Moroccan flag as the background image of her mobile phone, and she also uses it as a background of her Hyves profile page. She had around ninety friends on Hyves and 328 contacts on MSN. She enjoys talking with her friends on MSN, but she also likes to spend time in online chat room and playing online games. Sometimes she joins her dad when he uses Skype to speak to family members in Morocco, her uncle in Germany or other family members in the Netherlands. She participated in the survey. I conducted the interview with Soesie in a school library.

Soufian
Soufian (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a twelve-year-old, second-year HAVO student from Rotterdam. His parents are from Al Hoceima in the north of Morocco, while Soufian was born in the Netherlands. He has three brothers and one sister. Soufian sees himself as tough and sporty and describes himself as being both a gamer and a Muslim. He expresses his affinity with Berber culture by including the word “Amazigh” in his e-mail address. With his parents he speaks Dutch, Moroccan-Arabic and
Berber. Next to the Netherlands, his family members live in Morocco, Spain and France. His hobbies are playing football and kickboxing, and he does both at athletic clubs. He has to share the computer situated in the living room with his siblings. Of all people in his environment he feels he is most restricted in his use of the Internet by his schoolteacher. On his profile page on Hyves, he included a clock with a Moroccan flag that shows the one-hour time difference between the Netherlands and Morocco. He had around 200 friends on Hyves, but around 100 on MSN, because there he only includes people he knows well. His favorite site is YouTube, where he likes to go to look up comedy video clips and bloopers. Also he goes there to look up R&B and soul music but also anasheed. The latter is a type of Islamic vocal music, a cappella or music accompanied by instruments, that references Islamic history, beliefs and interpretations but also politics and current events. YouTube has become a place for the heavy circulation of such songs, and Soufian listens to English, Berber and Dutch anasheed songs on the site. It took some time for him to open up and share during the interview. Soufian participated in the survey, and Fayrouz interviewed him in a school multimedia center.

SouSou
SouSou (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a fifteen-year-old, third-year MAVO student from Rotterdam. Her parents migrated from Casablanca, Morocco's largest city. She has one young sister and two younger brothers. With her parents she speaks Dutch and Moroccan-Arabic. The majority of her family members live in Morocco, and she says the best thing about the Internet is that she and her parents can use MSN and a webcam to talk to family and friends who live there. She describes herself as witty but shy and she shared that she has little confidence, that's why she finds it difficult to build friendships. Her favorite subject in school is economics. She likes swimming and reading books. She feels affiliated with others interested in politics, Islam, and girl power. She likes to use her own computer in the living room. She feels free to use the Internet but her mother keeps track of what she downloads and what she puts on her profile page. While doing her homework, she likes to discuss what happened in school on MSN. Another favorite pastime is playing what she describes as “games for girls,” web-based games on sites such as games2girls.com and girlsgogames.com. Also she enjoys being active on Marokko.nl. She mentions it is a useful site for people who find it difficult to get in contact elsewhere. She goes there to connect with other youngsters and read and contributes postings about relationships, Islam, the situation of Moroccans in the Netherlands, sexuality and
friendships. She also downloads films and Nintendo DS games through LimeWire, and music using the YouTube converter application. She had 113 MSN contacts and somewhat fewer friends on Hyves. SouSou participated in the survey and Fayrouz interviewed her in a school multimedia center.

**Tariq**

Tariq is a thirteen-year-old, second-year VMBO-T student from Rotterdam. At different stages in the fieldwork he expressed enjoying participating in the study. His family has migrated to several countries across Europe. His grandparents, aunts and uncles live in Morocco but other relatives live in England and Italy. He describes himself as a normal young guy who sometimes is a bit boisterous. He has one brother and two sisters. With his parents he mainly speaks Berber. In school, his favorite subject is English. His family keeps in touch with webcam conversations on MSN, and they also make annual visits. Tariq’s favorite applications are MSN and Hyves to keep in touch with his friends and he uses it to make plans for the weekends. He had around 120 friends on MSN, and 290 on Hyves. Tariq accesses the Internet from a desktop computer in his own room, and he does not feel anyone in his household supervises his actions online. After school hours he is active with Thai boxing. This has also posted on his Hyves profile page, next to videos of professional matches, a video of a Thai boxing match featuring himself. Next to his love of sports he is also proud of his descent, and he has put up a flag of Morocco on his profile page, which he says, shows “*where I am from.*” Also he includes the word “*mocro*” in his e-mail address. He does not like English or American rap groups, but he is a fan of Dutch groups and especially THC, a group formed in North Amsterdam which combines artists from Antillean, Armenian, Dutch, Indian, Moroccan, Surinamese, Tunisian and Turkish backgrounds. He also believes in the value of circulating protest and awareness e-mails, mentioning the case of protesting the Geert Wilders’s “*kopvoddentaks*” initiative (to levy taxes on wearing the veil) through chain e-mails. He also remembers having donated money to victims of the Haiti earthquake after receiving a chain e-mail. Tariq participated in the survey and I interviewed him in a school multimedia center.

**Yethi**

Yethi (a pseudonym he chose himself) is a fifteen-year-old, third-year HAVO student from Utrecht. He describes himself as a “*Moroccan boy born in the Netherlands.*” He is a swimming fanatic but also plays other sports such as fitness and football. For him, “*the Internet is a part of my daily needs.*” He kept a
profile on Hyves and Facebook, using Hyves for his friends in the Netherlands and Facebook for his nieces and nephews who live abroad. He had befriended around a hundred people on both sites. He does not feel restricted in his use of the Internet. When he was younger his parents kept a closer look at his online activities. He likes to visit sites having to do with swimming as well as voetbalprimeur.nl, which covers the latest developments in football. On his profile pages he posts images taken during swimming matches. Especially just before the summer he visits Marokko.nl to find out more about how other people are preparing for their holidays to Morocco and to read up on other people's experiences of traveling to Morocco. He mentions that there are many discussions about, for instance, “being on the road to Morocco.”

Yethi is into hip-hop, listening mostly to African-American artists such as Lil’ Wayne, 50 Cent and Tupac. He uses LimeWire to download their songs to his BlackBerry smartphone. Yethi participated in the piloting of the interview, and I interviewed him in a university meeting room.

Ziham
Ziham (a pseudonym she chose herself) is a fourteen-year-old, second-year HAVO student from Rotterdam. She describes herself as a normal girl, adding that she feels “I do not belong to anyone, I am just myself.” She was born in Morocco and migrated to the Netherlands with her parents at young age. She sees herself as “Moroccan, very ordinary,” and adds she “is just proud of herself.” She speaks Dutch and Berber with her parents at home. She has two brothers and two sisters and her favorite subjects in school are French and the other languages she takes. Her main interest is playing football for her club, and she takes it very serious and practices a lot. Ziham is very proud of her accomplishments and tries to make the most of her talent. She has a laptop of her own, but her brother has changed the password, and he heavily controls her use of it. For instance, she is not allowed to delete her browser history and he forbids her to use Hyves. However, she makes use of her smartphone to circumvent her brother's restrictions. As a way to remember her football experiences, she likes to upload pictures of her football team on her profile page. Most of her family lives in the Netherlands, but her grandmothers live in Morocco. In her household, the phone is used to keep in touch with them. She likes Moroccan singers such as Mohamed Sami, Morad Salam, Leila Chaleir and Amazrine and she downloads their songs on her phone. She emphasizes her femininity by including the word “miss” in her e-mail address. She had 180 friends on Hyves, and nearly 800 friends on MSN. Ziham participated in the survey, and Fayrouz and I interviewed her together in a school library. I also remained in contact with Ziham through MSN.
Other informants

Abdelilah Amraoui
Abdelilah Amraoui was the founder of Geweigerd.nl, a site where ethnic-minority youth who are denied access to entertainment venues can share their stories and the “interactive Moroccan forum” Maghreb.nl. Amraoui believes digital technologies offer the opportunity to create media when it cannot be found elsewhere. The interview with Amraoui took place in a university meeting room.

eMoroccan
I interviewed eMoroccan about the videos he made in Morocco that he posted to YouTube. The interview took place via the YouTube personal messaging service.

Rabi’a Frank
In the early stages of recruiting informants for the research, this parent of three children aged eight, eleven and thirteen got in touch with me via e-mail. She is a Dutch Muslim woman, married to a Moroccan-Dutch man. She shared with me her views on the necessity of supervising children in their use of digital media.

Marocdelicious
Marocdelicious, a thirty-two-year-old male, was the founder of the “Morokkaanse Nederlanders hier melden” (“Moroccan-Dutch People Report Here”) Hyves group (mijnmarokko.hyves.nl/). He started the site to allow Moroccan-Dutch youth to meet one another and engage in discussions on Hyves.

MintTea
MintTea, a twenty-nine-year-old woman, was the founder of the “Positive Muslim Newz?!” Hyves group (positivemuslimnewz.hyves.nl/). In response to the dominance of negative news about Muslims, she set up this page to give more attention to positive developments and news for and about Muslims. Our conversation took place via Hyves private messaging service.

NOONA
NOONA (a pseudonym she chose herself), a twenty-two-year-old woman, was the founder of the “Royals du Maroc” Hyves group (http://royalsdu-maroc.hyves.nl/). She set up this page in response to the Hyves group
dedicated to the Dutch royal family. She highlighted the progressive developments spurred by the installment of Mohammed VI as the king of Morocco in 1999. Illustrating the difficulties of gaining access and trust, she shared her frustrations with the dominant negative reporting about Moroccan-Dutch people: “You can write about this Hyves in your book, but I want to know what you will be writing, because there is enough negative news about Moroccans in the media already.” Our conversation took place via Hyves private messaging service.

Rafik
Rafik was the founder of the “Imazighen” Hyves group. He set up this group to disseminate knowledge about Imazighen history and culture on Hyves. Our conversation took place via Hyves private messaging service.

Rafje
Rafje, a twenty-eight-year-old male, is an artist whose socially critical cartoons are published on the homepage of the discussion forum Marokko.nl. The interview with Rafje took place over the phone.