

May/June 2011

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Journalism Ethics and Social Media

Today everyone is a journalist. Social media has given people a worldwide platform to publish their opinions and ideas. Twitter and Facebook have helped people reach out to previously inaccessible audiences, while YouTube and Wordpress allow people to create and broadcast their own videos and webpages. From carrying the first African American to the presidency to mobilizing citizens in countries like Libya and Egypt to stand up for change in their society, social media is an instrument that cannot be ignored.

The ability of these tools to connect, communicate and disseminate information is immensely powerful. A look at the statistics says the world is switching over: Facebook, for example, has more than 500 million active users, 50% of whom log on on any given day. An average Facebook user has 130 friends. Similarly, LinkedIn has more than 100 million members in over 200 countries and territories. YouTube also has hundreds of millions of users from around the world, and more than 24 hours of video are uploaded every minute.

This technology has redefined journalism. In the past, it was largely one way, today it is totally interactive: if yesterday was a monologue,

today it is a dialog where anyone can reciprocate to a Web posting, anyone can comment and discuss what others have said. Beyond being interactive, this has transformed communication and made the world truly global. An election campaign, a terrorist attack, a natural disaster, or cricket tournament, the new broadcasting spreads the word quickly through a community, hence the phrase, "going viral".

Another significant component of social media is personalization of information—which can sometimes harm an individual's physical and mental well-being, or personal and professional reputation. A Facebook posting can, depending on privacy settings, instantly become available to all friends and friends of friends. LinkedIn can connect a boss to hundreds of future employees through online resumes and personal statements, but cyber-thieves also read LinkedIn—if they get access to personal information, it could lead to identity theft and online crime.

Social media and social networking, if properly harnessed, offer unbeatable professional and business opportunities. The world has already witnessed how President Obama used this technology to connect to people and triumph in the 2008 U.S. Presidential elections. Likewise, the world is still following revolutions across the world through "tweets" and Facebook updates. Social media is like getting behind the wheel of Corvette—it's powerful and exhilarating, but you could get yourself in trouble if not handled with care.

Webliography

Social Bookmarking, News and Social Citation Tools

BibSonomy
www.bibsonomy.org

CiteULike
www.citeulike.com

delicious
www.delicious.com

Digg
http://digg.com/news

diigo
www.diigo.com

Mendeley
www.mendeley.com

Newsvine
www.newsvine.com

Reddit
www.reddit.com

Zotero
www.zotero.org

Social Networking Services

Academia.edu
www.academia.edu

Facebook
www.facebook.com

Friendfeed
<http://friendfeed.com>

Graduate Junction
www.graduatejunction.net
 LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com

MethodSpace
www.methodspace.com

MySpace
www.myspace.com

Nature Network
<http://network.nature.com>

ResearchGate
www.researchgate.net

Blogging and Microblogging Tools

Blogger
www.blogger.com

LiveJournal
www.livejournal.com

Google buzz
www.google.com/buzz

Plurk
www.plurk.com

Posterous
www.posterous.com

Tumblr
www.tumblr.com

Twitter
www.twitter.com

Typepad
www.typepad.com

Wordpress
www.wordpress.org

Yammer
www.yammer.com

Presentation Sharing Tools

Scribd
www.scribd.com

SlideShare
www.slideshare.net

Sliderocket
www.sliderocket.com

Audio and Video Tools

Flickr
www.flickr.com

Justin tv
www.justin.tv

Livestream
www.livestream.com

Picasa
<http://picasa.google.com>

SmugMug
www.smugmug.com

Ustream
www.ustream.tv

Viddler
www.viddler.com

Vimeo
<http://vimeo.com>

YouTube
www.youtube.com

Information Management Tools

Google Reader
www.google.com/reader

iGoogle
www.google.com/ig

Netvibes
www.netvibes.com

Pageflakes
www.pageflakes.com

Project Management, Meeting and Collaboration Tools

Adobe Connect
www.adobe.com

Bamboo
www.bamboosolutions.com

Basecamp
<http://basecampHQ.com>

BigBlueButton
<http://bigbluebutton.org>

Citrix GotoMeeting
www.gotomeeting.com

DimDim
www.dimdim.com

Elluminate
www.illuminate.com

Huddle
www.huddle.com

Skype
www.skype.com

Research and Writing Collaboration Tools

Dropbox
www.dropbox.com

Google Docs
<http://docs.google.com>

PBworks
<http://pbworks.com>

Wetpaint
www.wetpaint.com

Wikia
www.wikia.com

Wikispaces
www.wikispaces.com

Zoho Office Suite
www.zoho.com

Location Based Tools

Foursquare
<http://foursquare.com>

Gowalla
<http://gowalla.com>

Facebook Places
www.facebook.com/places

Other Web Resources

eJournal USA: Defining Internet Freedom
<http://www.america.gov/publications/ejournalusa.html#0610>

The FBI on Facebook
http://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/2009/may/socialmedia_051509

A Responsible Press Office: An Insider's Guide
http://www.america.gov/publications/books/resp_press.html

Handbook of Independent Journalism
<http://www.america.gov/publications/books/handbook-of-independent-journalism.html>

Media Law Handbook
<http://www.america.gov/publications/books-content/media-law-handbook.html>

World Press Freedom Day
<https://infocentral.state.gov/world-press-freedom-day>

The New Media Project: Exploring the Effects of Digital Media on the Courts
<http://ccpionewmedia.ning.com>

Conference of Court Public Information Officers (CCPIO)
<http://www.ccpio.org>

1. 21ST-CENTURY JOURNALISM REQUIRES 21ST-CENTURY CODE

By Steve Buttry. Quill, v. 99, no. 2, March/April 2011, pp. 17-19.

Increasing penetration of social media in journalism and journalists' private and professional communication has raised questions that call for synchronizing journalism ethics with the dynamic world of communication. Buttry argues that the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ) Code of Ethics, which was adopted in 1973 and last revised in 1996, should be revisited because of new tools, new opportunities, and media restructuring. Issues that need to be addressed are journalists' opinion, the use of social media, the creation of an accuracy checklist, the fact-checking of sources, and the oversimplification of incidents in headlines.

2. THE BLACK HOLE EFFECT: WHEN INTERNET USE AND JUDICIAL ETHICS COLLIDE

By Herbert B. Dixon Jr. The Judges' Journal, v. 49, no. 4, Fall 2010, pp. 38-41.

Social media communication is difficult to resist, even for judges. How can they avoid crossing a line where it becomes difficult to escape with their reputation? How far can a judge delve into a social media relationship and still not incur consequences? Judicial ethicists find it difficult to draw a clear line that determines judicial misconduct. However, there is a universal consensus when a judge goes too far and becomes guilty of judicial misconduct. Dixon documents some examples to illustrate the point and leaves room for further debate.

3. FACEBOOK AND THE FUSIFORM GYRUS

By William P. Cheshire Jr. Ethics & Medicine, v. 25, no. 3, Fall 2009, pp. 139-144.

Dr. Cheshire, in this essay, discusses how online networking could affect the social aspect of bioethics. Over the past few years, online social networking has gained popularity as a prevalent international cultural phenomenon. Facebook, for example, hosts a number of online bioethics discussion groups and is reaching out to more than 200 million active users. But what are the ethical implications of using remote networking technology to expand the bioethics community. The article takes a closer look at the consequences of social networking technology for harmful or useful ends, as well as

fair access, equitable distribution of benefit, respect for individual autonomy and protection from competing interests.

4. FACEBOOK VS. TWITTER: BATTLE OF THE SOCIAL NETWORK STARS

By Curt Tagtmeier. Computers in Libraries, v. 30, no. 7, September 2010, pp. 6-10.

With the increasing popularity of social media tools, the library community has started to use this opportunity to reach out to their patrons. Should a library opt for Facebook or Twitter or both. This article begins with the positives of both the tools and then discusses the differences. The author cites his own experiences of starting a Facebook page and a Twitter profile at Illinois' Fremont Public Library to demonstrate how the library uses a variety of social networks to market their unique services.

5. FUNDAMENTALS STILL THE KEY IN CONVERGENCE MEDIA

By Austin Bay. The Masthead, v. 60, no. 4, Winter 2008, pp. 9-12.

Informative journalism with integrity has always been a prime necessity of responsible journalism. The convergence media has contributed towards this end and has changed the way people access information. People now go to the Web and choose their own news. YouTube video shot by a teenager may attract more viewers than many cable TV programs. In this new era of journalism, there is room for every little guy's big capabilities if he knows how to use the tools effectively.

6. NEW TITLE TWEETS: USING TWITTER AND MICROSOFT EXCEL TO BROADCAST NEW TITLE LISTS

By John Rodzvilla. Computers in Libraries, v. 30, no. 5, June 2010, pp. 26-30.

Rodzvilla discusses a way to publicize new titles at the Beatley Library at Simmons College in Boston, Massachusetts. The project was an attempt to use social network technology in today's library to connect with the patrons and keep them informed.

7. SOCIAL MEDIA: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR LAWYERS

By Abigail S. Crouse and Michael C. Flom. *The Computer & Internet Lawyer*, v. 28, no. 5, May 2011, pp. 1-5.

Crouse and Flom discuss the ethical and legal considerations associated with use of social media technologies as it applies to attorneys in the United States. Although social media and social networking present significant professional and business development opportunities for attorneys, they may also lead to variety of adverse consequences. Attorneys need to recognize the legal risks involved with the online social media and understand the complex interplay between their practices, their ethical duties, and their personal use of this networking technology.

8. SOCIAL NETWORKING & YOUR BUSINESS

Smart Computing in Plain English, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 56-71.

A. GET CONNECTED: HOW SOCIAL NETWORKING CAN BENEFIT YOUR BUSINESS

By Blaine Flamig. *Smart Computing in Plain English*, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 56-57.

B. PUT YOUR BUSINESS ON FACEBOOK: HARNESSING THE POWER OF THE SOCIAL NETWORK

By Seth Colaner. *Smart Computing in Plain English*, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 58-61.

C. GET LINKEDIN: LET'S KEEP IT PURELY BUSINESS

By Nathan Lake. *Smart Computing in Plain English*, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 62-65.

D. PUT SOCIAL NETWORKING TO WORK: REACH MORE THAN 5 MILLION POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS

By Tracy Baker. *Smart Computing in Plain English*, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 66-68.

E. BEYOND THE BIG NAMES: BIGGER ISN'T ALWAYS BETTER

By Gregory Anderson. *Smart Computing in Plain English*, v. 22, no. 2, February 2011, pp. 69-71.

This set of 5 articles by different authors illustrates how social networking can benefit business in today's competitive world. It features how social networking could be efficiently used to connect with the customers, discusses Facebook's immense scope to reach out and connect to over half a billion users worldwide. Here are many different social networking sites beyond the popular big names that can help promote one's business, build one's network, and find a niche.

9. SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

By Gabriel Miller. Trial, v. 47, no. 1, January 2011, pp. 20-27.

In this article, Miller encourages legal practitioners to take advantage of online social networking tools to promote their legal practice. In absence of a definitive list of do's and don'ts in cyberspace, it is often difficult to decide how far aggressively one should use the social media tools. Legal ethics can be particularly problematic in the areas of advertising and solicitation, unauthorized practice of law, confidentiality, and the like. Miller offers some tips on how to handle these problems and what can be done to minimize the associated risk.

10. SURVEY LOOKS AT NEW MEDIA AND THE COURTS

By Chris Davey and Karen Salaz. Judicature, v. 94, no. 3, November/December 2010, pp. 137-138.

This survey report predicts that more courts will develop official presence on social media like Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and other social media sites. More judges are expected to show up their presence on Facebook both in their professional as well as individual capacity. It reveals that there is a need to educate judges and court employees about social media—from Facebook and Twitter to smartphones—and their impact on day-to-day operations in the courthouses. This report identifies and discusses in greater details new media technology that impact the courts.

11. THERE MAY BE SKELETONS IN YOUR DOC'S ONLINE PROFILE

By Jill Laster. The Chronicle of Higher Education, January 31, 2010.

Increasing conflict of ethics and privacy issues on social media sites of several medical students and residents has led the medical schools to take a serious note of these incidences. Medical students are being discouraged to post controversial pictures, both of themselves and of their patients, on social media sites like Facebook. State University of New York Upstate Medical University, for example, added discussions of Facebook and ethics to its curriculum. Vanderbilt University has also revised its formal policies to include rules on presenting a professional image on social media. Online content and patient privacy are relatively new issues in medical world and is a matter of debate. While some students agree that online postings can cause problem, at least for their

professional futures, others argue that party pictures should be beyond a university's control.

12. THREE WAYS MERCHANTS AND THEIR ONLINE SOCIAL NETWORKING HABITS MIGHT COST YOU

By Sean Fuery. ISO & Agent, March 1, 2009, p. 10

With more than half a billion people on social networks and large amounts of personal information exchanged online, social networking sites offer a lucrative target for online social networking hackers. Even seemingly superfluous and unimportant information could be priceless for a company that collects and sells demographic data. The article lists and discusses three major merchant behaviors that should be considered seriously.

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

13. THE RISE OF THE NEW GLOBAL ELITE

By Chrystia Freeland. Atlantic Monthly, v. 307, no. 1, January/February 2011, pp. 44-55.

Freeland believes that the present-day global elite consists mostly of first- and second-generation wealth; its members are hardworking, highly educated, jet-setting meritocrats who feel they are the deserving winners of a tough, worldwide economic competition. Many of them have little sympathy for the world's less successful populace, and are a transglobal community of peers who have more in common with one another than with their countrymen back home. The global market and its associated technologies have enabled the creation of a class of international business megastars.

14. SCHUMPETER'S CHILDREN

By Margaret Graham. Wilson Quarterly, v. 34, no. 2, Spring 2010, pp. 48-57.

For decades after the Industrial Revolution in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, entrepreneurs and innovators drove the American economy. Financial innovation helped small businesses,

despite the Great Depression, which ruined some firms and made startups difficult. In the 1970s forward, entrepreneurs such as Bill Gates and Steve Jobs became heroes.

INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL RELATIONS & SECURITY

15. DOES EUROPE END AT THE BOSPORUS?

*By David A. Andelman. World Policy Journal online, posted August 17, 2010
<http://www.worldpolicy.org/blog/does-europe-end-bosporus>*

Andelman writes that it is ironic that Greece, Turkey's long-time archrival, was admitted to the EU, instead of Turkey—and Greece's perilous finances now threaten to bring the EU down, while Turkey's growth rate is substantially higher than any other European country. He thinks it is unlikely that any more countries will be admitted to the EU, given its current precarious state. If Turkey does decide to turn to the Middle East for an alliance, it will most likely join the Gulf Cooperation Council. Andelman believes that, in the future, more countries will realize that they need to join regional economic and security blocs in order to survive an increasingly turbulent global environment.

16. THE STRATEGIC FAILURES OF AL QAEDA

By Thomas R. McCabe. Parameters, v. 40, no. 1, Spring 2010, pp. 60-71.

According to Defense Department analyst McCabe, al Qaeda and its allies have suffered a series of defeats in Egypt, Algeria, and the Balkans (1980s and 1990s) and the crushing of an attempted uprising in Saudi Arabia. The majority of Iraqis feel that al Qaeda has no place in their future. McCabe says these miscalculations can be used as part of a strategic information program to drive a wedge between the Muslim public and the extremists, especially in places such as Pakistan. It should stress the differences between the jihadis and the rest of Islam, underscore the human cost associated with jihadi atrocities, and publicize a scrupulously accurate account of the practices undertaken by extremists.

17. THINK AGAIN: THE ARCTIC

By Lawson W. Brigham. *Foreign Policy*, no. 181, September/October 2010, pp. 71-74.

The author, a professor of geography and Arctic policy at the University of Alaska, refutes the notion that the Arctic is headed for an anarchic future as climate change thaws the frozen pole and countries vie for the vast new mineral and petroleum wealth beneath it. Brigham notes that the Arctic is governed by eight developed Western nations that cooperate more now than they ever have, and are conducting scientific research at unprecedented levels. Unobstructed shipping through the Arctic passage is still a long way off; even though the Arctic ice cap is shrinking, the region is ice-free for only a short period.

DEMOCRACY & HUMAN RIGHTS

18. GREAT EXPECTATIONS

By Michael Walsh. *Smithsonian*, v. 41, no. 3, June 2010, pp. 50-57.

The first decade of the 20th century followed a period of disillusionment for African-Americans. Around 1910, millions of black Americans had begun the Great Migration northward, leaving the old Confederacy for the industrial cities of the North. As with other migrant communities, newly urbanized African-Americans discovered in sports and entertainment opportunities previously denied to them. Walsh illustrates the divergent thinking of Black America at the time in the lives and careers of boxer Jack Johnson and musician and composer Scott Joplin. Walsh notes that the two men were polar opposites—Johnson had a high-profile, provocative personality, whereas Joplin was self-effacing and died in relative obscurity. Yet both were "engaged in their greatest work at the same time ... and offer a lot of lessons for today."

19. HOPI FOOTRACES AND AMERICAN MARATHONS, 1912-1930

By Matthew Sakiestewa Gilbert. *American Quarterly*, v. 62, no. 1, March 2010, pp. 77-101.

American Indian runners became important athletes and representatives of the United States in the Olympic Games, despite the fact that

American Indians had not yet been granted full citizenship. In 1912 the Los Angeles Times sponsored a marathon to find a candidate for the 1912 Olympics that would be held in Stockholm, Sweden. Two Indians, Jim Thorpe and Louis Tewanima did compete at Stockholm in 1912, briefly transcending the racism of the era.

20. THE RISE OF JURISTOCRACY

By James Grant. Wilson Quarterly, v. 34, no. 2, Spring 2010, pp. 16-22.

The American political institution most widely replicated around the world is its "most undemocratic one," the judiciary, according to the author, who traces the evolution of modern judicial activism into a "juristocracy." Grant compares the U.S. system to parliamentary systems such as Britain's, where protection of human rights still rests largely on a democratically elected parliament, rather than judicial review. While the author states that the judiciary has an important guardian role, to hold the executive branch to account, he sides with Thomas Jefferson and other believers in judicial restraint.

COMMUNICATION & INFORMATION

21. THE FUTURE OF PUBLISHING

By Andy Havens and Tom Storey. NextSpace, no. 16, August 2010, pp. 4-9.

From newspapers to popular magazines to scholarly journals to e-books to print-on-demand vending machines, publishing has become more complicated than what it once was. What do the changing roles of consumers and published products mean for libraries? Publishers are now blending their print business with new digital brands, adding a new level of engagement. Thousands of individuals, companies, schools, and businesses have taken the tools of literary and scholarly production into their own hands.

22. GOVERNMENT INFORMATION: KEY ONLINE AND PRINT RESOURCES

By Claudene A. Sproles. Choice, v. 47, no. 12, August 2010, pp. 2231-2241.

The author, a government documents librarian at the University of Louisville, notes that U.S. government information is relevant to a wide range of science and humanities curricula, as well as many facets of everyday life. In this essay, the author seeks to locate some of the most common government information sources.

23. THE HAZARDS OF HYPERLOCAL

By Barb Palser. American Journalism Review, v. 32, no. 3, Fall 2010, p. 68.

News organizations around the U.S. are betting that hyperlocal news sites will solve the needs of consumers and advertisers, but the move is proving to be expensive. The unanswered question is: how much consumer demand exists for neighborhood news? New technology applications such as Foursquare, which enables local businesses to send special offers to consumers at exactly the right moment, seem to indicate that hyperlocal news sites may end up being labors of love rather than income generators.

GLOBAL ISSUES

24. THE DIRTY TRUTH BEHIND CLEAN NATURAL GAS

By Paul Tolmé. National Wildlife, v. 48, no. 4, June/July 2010, pp. 22-29.

<http://nwf.org/News-and-Magazines/National-Wildlife/Animals/Archives/2010/The-Dirty-Truth-Behind-Clean-Natural-Gas.aspx>

Natural gas may burn cleanly compared to other fossil fuels, but drilling for gas is environmentally destructive, causing air and water pollution, scarring the landscape and endangering wildlife and people. The author notes that there is growing pressure on Congress to eliminate the environmental exemptions granted by the previous administration, and to require energy companies to use directional drilling in order to reduce the number of wells.

25. A HIGH-RISK ENERGY BOOM SWEEPS ACROSS NORTH AMERICA

By Keith Schneider. *Yale Environment* 360, posted September 30, 2010.

<http://e360.yale.edu/content/feature.msp?id=2324>

The author, a contributor to the *New York Times*, writes that energy companies are pouring huge sums of money into developing new sources of fossil fuels across the Western U.S. and Canada. Schneider writes that the explosion in unconventional energy extraction raises a troubling question at a time when the United States should be embracing a renewable energy revolution, it is hurtling in the opposite direction.

26. REDUCING URBAN WATER USE

By Lester R. Brown. *Earth Policy Institute Book Bytes*, November 03, 2010.

http://www.earth-policy.org/book_bytes/2010/pb4cb06_ss5

Brown, the founder of the Earth Policy Institute, argues that using water to wash away human and industrial wastes is an outmoded system, made obsolete by new technologies and water shortages. Brown writes that composting toilets drastically reduce water usage by removing the toilet from the water system, making it much easier to reclaim the nutrients and recycle used household water. He notes that many developing countries are beginning to realize that high-maintenance water-based sewage systems are not environmentally or economically viable.

U.S. SOCIETY, VALUES & POLITICS

27. THE BEATS: PICTURES OF A LEGEND

By Edmund White. *New York Review of Books*, posted August 19, 2010

<http://www.nybooks.com/articles/archives/2010/aug/19/beats-pictures-legend/>

This review of the catalog for Beat poet Allen Ginsberg's photographs, exhibited at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., discusses the Beats as self-described legendary geniuses, and the role of Ginsberg, who visually chronicled them. The photos show the subjects in youth, decline and old age, capturing glimpses of their personalities. The Beats wrote about each other's exploits in a myth-making manner, prizing spontaneity in life and art.

28. CITIZENSHIP TODAY: VICISSITUDES AND PROMISE

By Peter Kivisto. Choice, v. 47, no. 6, February 2010, pp. 1015-1023.

In this review essay, the author discusses the rapidly expanding body of literature on citizenship studies and divides it into four distinct categories: inclusion, withdrawal, erosion, and expansion. In the United States, government exists to serve its citizens. Civic participation in the United States also means that citizens respect the rights of others, accept the authority of the elected government, and make an effort to be informed, involved, and invested in their communities and their nation.

29. COVERT OPERATIONS

By Jane Mayer. New Yorker, v. 86, no. 25, August 30, 2010, pp. 44-55.

Charles and David Koch, billionaire brothers and owners of one of the largest privately-held companies in America, have been long-time philanthropists and libertarians who believe in lower taxes, less government, fewer social services and less oversight of industry. This special investigative report chronicles the history of the Koch brothers' undercover political activity, including their financing of the Tea Party movement since its inception in early 2009.

30. DEAD RIGHT

By Ray Madoff. Boston College Magazine, v. 70, no. 2, Spring 2010, pp. 26-31.
http://bcm.bc.edu/issues/spring_2010/features/dead-right.html

In America, the living aren't always in charge. In recent years, the right of publicity and copyright law has grown, providing posthumous protections never before seen. The author notes that U.S. law has evolved a split personality where reputation can be converted into property interests. The law grants greater rights to the deceased through their heirs, however, the deceased's estate has no rights to personal aspects of reputation such as defamation and privacy.

31. GAME THEORY

By Sara Corbett. New York Times Magazine, September 19, 2010, pp. 54-61, 66-70.

One of the new developments in education is teaching students by having them design and play video games, however, educators question whether keeping children plugged into such games is the best approach to learning. The possibilities of such classes for educators working in a more typically cash-strapped, understaffed school are difficult, according to the author, however, as the federal government focuses more on innovation in education, it may be feasible to implement game-based learning, even modestly, into more schools.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

32. BEFORE THERE WAS LIFE

By Helen Fields. Smithsonian, v. 41, no. 6, October 2010, pp. 48-54.

Contrary to the standard metaphor of a "primordial soup" in which molecules bubbled and blended to form proteins and microscopic life, Bob Hazen, a scientist with the Carnegie Institution of Science, envisions an early universe where molecules were rare and unlikely to find each other to form "building blocks." Hazen is exploring a theory that rocks provided adherent surfaces that attracted free-floating molecules, which then in turn bonded to form the first proteins and amino acids that became the baseline for life.

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