Propositions

with the dissertation

THE

SITUATED SELF
identity in a world of Ambient Intelligence

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1. We should neither blindly fear, nor ignorantly embrace technological visions of the future. First and foremost, we should take them seriously.

2. Descartes's credo 'cogito ergo sum' should read 'interago ergo sum'.

3. Identities emerge in situated interactions, both with people and with (technological) artifacts and environments.

4. Changes in behavior, due to technological developments, can be understood using the concepts 'script', 'frame' and 'definition of the situation'.

5. Ambient Intelligence technologies may come to function as reference assemblages.

6. Each individual is fundamentally divided.

7. Relativism does not imply that anything goes.

8. Media rule – politicians merely follow their cues.

9. "[W]hen seeing what most sociologists call 'construction', one is not sure they have ever built anything as simple as a shack, not to mention 'society'" (Latour, 2005: 39).

10. Normative philosophy is a bad idea.

11. Woolly language should be left to sheep.