Advancing the Human Self

Do Technologies Make Us "Posthuman"?

Ewa Nowak

Do technologies advance our self-identities, as they do our bodies, cognitive skills, and the next developmental stage called postpersonal? Did we already manage to be fully human, before becoming posthuman? Are we doomed to disintegration and episodic selfhood? This book examines the impact of radical technopoiesis on our selves from a multidisciplinary perspective, including the health humanities, phenomenology, the life sciences and humanoid AI (artificial intelligence) ethics. Surprisingly, our body representations show more plasticity than scholarly concepts and sociocultural narratives. Our embodied selves can withstand transplants, bionic prostheses and radical somatechnics, but to remain autonomous and authentic, our agential potentials must be strengthened – and this is not through 'psychosurgery' and the brain–computer interface.

Ewa Nowak is a full professor and chair of ethics at AMU Poznań (Poland); a former visiting scholar of Cornell Univ. and Universities of Konstanz, Bern, Berlin and Siegen; the co-author of *Ethos in Public Life* (2008) and *Experimental Ethics* (2013); and the co-editor of *Kohlberg Revisited* (2015) and *Educating Competencies for Democracy* (2013).

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