# Online Professional Identity

Dewanta Smith

## The Abstract

What do people see when they type your name in a search engine like Google, Yahoo or even Bing? This report is about how I viewed myself online which let me know what other people see when they type my name into a search engine. This report also includes my future goals and how I am striving to accomplish them as well. I also discuss three job advertisements that I analyzed type of position I hope to apply for in the near future. It also includes professionals in my major criminal justice like professors at universities, attorneys and law enforcement agents that are active on a popular website called LinkedIn.

## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

| THE ABSTRACT                         | 1   |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| TABLE OF CONTENTS                    | 2   |
| THE ONLINE REPORT ANALYSIS           | 3   |
| THE PROFESSIONAL ME                  | 3-4 |
| THE CURRENT ME                       | 5   |
| BRIDGING THE GAP                     | 6   |
| APPENDICES                           | 7   |
| Current Identities Online With URL   | . 7 |
| My Formatting Choices and Discussion | 8   |

# **The Future Professional Me**

When I graduate I plan on being a youth probation officer for Hampton. I want to be in this profession because I love helping and talking to troubled young people. For example, when I am assigned to a person I will talk to them and ask them why they picked the path that they did and I would try to convince them to change. One experience in my life that made me want to be a youth probation officer is because I have younger relatives in jail, prison and in detention centers and each time I think about them I say to myself, "Wow I wish I could help people stay out of jails and prisons". One reason why I would be good at my job is because young adults and children look up to me and I always give them positive advice to guide them on the right path. For example, my niece asked me about boys and I told her to keep her head in the books and focus on what's important. I feel children need to hear positive things in life because so much negative things are going on in the world.

One job advertisement that I found on LinkedIn is <u>correctional officer</u> in New Hampshire this position is interesting because the job requires a person to monitor people and make sure peace is maintained in the facility. The second job advertisement that has to do with my major criminal justice is an <u>emergency response</u> officer found on LinkedIn. The last job advertisement I found on LinkedIn is a <u>security officer</u> position in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Also, one professional I found on LinkIn is a man named <u>David Hall</u> which has 19 years of experience in law enforcement in Australia and internationally. This is very interesting because I would be afraid of going to different countries and working with all different types of people who are troubled and have different mind sets as well. Another person I found on LinkedIn was <u>Nicole Grimm</u> and she is an attorney at a law firm. I am currently taking some law

3

courses this semester and I am now finding law very interesting. The last person I looked up on LinkedIn is <u>Mitchell Nixon</u> and he is the director of law enforcement training. This is an interesting because the trainer works with different types of people and guides them in the direction they need to go to be successful in law enforcement. In order for a person to be a successful in the criminal justice field the person firstly has to comfortable around troubled people, motivating, committed to their job, friendly and patient.

# **The Current Me**

## **Google**

When I looked on Google I found my Twitter account that I just recently started to use. I also found my Facebook account and one of my current Youtbe videos. I saw my Digo account and I also seen a website called My Life that had my information and my families information like where we were from. I also found my new LinkedIn profile on Google as well.

## <u>Yahoo</u>

When I looked up my name on Yahoo the only thing that pulled up was my old Myspace account which surprised me.

#### Bing

When I looked my name up on Bing I found my name on Yellow pages and that's it. Each search I did with the different search engines had different things that popped up pertaining to me. With Yahoo I had to go into 3 or 4 pages but with Bing and Google I only had to look at the first page. I was able to find myself without any hassle and the fact that My Life which I never heard of had my brother's information saying that I am a relative of his and it also had my mother's name which really surprised me. I was shocked that I didn't have to search through pages and pages to find a little information about myself and the fact that I typed my name in browser and my mother and brother's name popped up really scared me.

5

# **Bridging the Gap**

## **My Online Strengths**

The fact that I only publish clean and honest things on my profile/page is one of my strengths. I realize that not only will my peers look at my profile but employers look at my page/profile as well. I show that I am a motivating and honest person by putting positive things on my page. Another online strength is that I use my real name and not my nickname (Wanda) on my profiles/pages. I have a common nickname and a very unique real name (Dewanta) so people won't get me confused with others online.

### **My Online Weakness**

My online weakness is that I am not as active on things I created like my Facebook, Twitter or even my Instagram page. I feel this is a bad thing because if someone was to look up my name on the search engine they will realize that my last login date was one or two years from the date that they searched my name. I feel employers are interested in the current you and not you from one or two years ago. I plan to be more active with all my accounts online. Another online weakness I feel I have is that all my pages are marked private. I feel this is bad because if an employer wanted to see my profile to have an idea if he or she should hire me they can't fully view my page. I plan on making some of my page viewable.

# **Appendices**

# My Current Online Identities and URL's

## **My YouTube Account:**

http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxvdakY8\_WyJo05EVRtXZ9Q

This account shows videos that I made myself and videos that I like and have viewed

## My Digo Account:

http://groups.diigo.com/group/engl307-digital-writing/content/user/dsmit182

This website shows different readings that I have bookmarked

## **Twitter Account:**

## http://twitter.com/Dewanta09/followers

This account shows what I tweeted (talked about), shows how active I was on my account, photos and who I followed and who followed me.

## **Myspace Account:**

http://www.myspace.com/dewanta

This page shows my photo, name and age.

## **Google Plus Account**

https://plus.google.com/101650221410114349733/about/p/pub

This website shows where I worked, name and photos.

## My Blog:

http://dsmit182.students.digitalodu.com/?p=222

This blog post things I post, hyperlinks and videos.

## **Formatting Choices and Discussion:**

One format I choose to use is bold. I used bold because it shows what the page is all about and the important things the reader should remember and it also shows organization in the text. I also used different font sizes as well. The reason I used different font size is to show emphasis on what I felt is the most important in the text. I also used underline under my text for the same reasons I used bold and different font sizes. I also centered the title of the different pages