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TITLE: Place-making in regional Australia: Young people mediating global and local flows

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Young people are distinctively rooted in place (Harris 2014, Harris and Wyn 2009). By no means sharing a homogenous experience, they nonetheless negotiate local and global flows from a uniquely embedded position (Harris 2014, Harris and Wyn 2009). This paper explores understandings of place, and the various ways in which a particular regional town is constructed by its younger, embedded residents. It is especially interested in the key, though complicated, role young people play mediating the impacts of technology proliferation on place-making in regional locales. While young peoples' relationship to the places occupied by them might seem relatively straight forward, this paper argues that factors such as social technologies as well as global and local flows of people and information, are uniquely mediated by them from their embedded position in local places.

To investigate these issues, this paper explore a series of intersecting place-making processes in regional, non-urban spaces that were undertaken and articulated by young people themselves. It draws on preliminary analysis of fieldwork with 62 young participants aged 16-29 years in a multicultural regional town in Victoria.