

002

*Human Value and Responsibility in the Age of AI:
Decision-Making, Creation, and Emotional Connection*

Chien-Ju Chen

Hsuan Chuang University, Taiwan

Introduction

- As AI becomes part of everyday life, the boundary between human agency and machine capability is increasingly blurred.
- AI now participates in decision-making, creative production, and even emotional relationships — raising fundamental questions about what remains distinctly human.
- Public discourse on AI often focuses on performance and efficiency, but less attention is paid to how people renegotiate human value and responsibility.
- **Research question: How do people understand human value and responsibility in the age of artificial intelligence?**

Research Object & Method

Research Object

Taiwan Public Television Service (PTS)
educational program:

- Screening of Finnish documentary Who Made You?
- Post-screening public forum on AI, human values, and ethical responsibility

Method

- Qualitative textual analysis
- Systematic coding of forum discourse
- Focus on how participants framed AI in relation to human agency, ethics, and creativity

Finding 1

Algorithms as Socially Embedded and Biased

- Algorithmic systems were portrayed not as neutral tools, but as socially embedded — shaped by the values, assumptions, and data of their creators.
- Participants raised concerns about bias embedded in AI decision-making processes.
- The discussion highlighted that AI systems reflect existing social structures and power relations, rather than transcending them.

Finding 2

Human–Robot Relations and Moral Questions

Rights

Should robots or AI entities be granted any form of legal or moral standing?

Intimacy

Can emotional bonds with AI be authentic, and what does that mean for human relationships?

Consent

How do we understand consent when one party in a relationship is a machine?

Moral Responsibility

Who bears responsibility when AI systems cause harm — the user, the designer, or the machine?

Finding 3

Creative AI as Collaborative Tool

- Creative AI was framed less as a substitute for human creators than as a collaborative tool dependent on human intention.
- Participants emphasized that AI-generated content still requires human judgment, curation, and purpose to become meaningful.
- The value of human creativity was reaffirmed — not through denying AI's capabilities, but through insisting on the centrality of human intention and context.

Conclusion

- Public discussions of AI do more than assess technological performance — they renegotiate what counts as human agency.
- When machines participate in communication, decision-making, and cultural production, people actively redefine the boundaries of human value.
- Responsibility, creativity, and emotional connection emerge as key domains where human distinctiveness is contested and reasserted.
- **Structured public forums serve as important sites for collective sense-making about what it means to be human alongside AI.**

Thank You

Chien-Ju Chen

Hsuan Chuang University, Taiwan