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games: the ability to reinvent oneself. Yet inhabitants of virtual worlds rarely achieve this liberty, game researcher Nick Yee contends.

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The Proteus
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But the Proteus
Paradox isn't just about
how our offline politics
don't change when we
enter virtual worlds,

it's also about how

things beyond our control end up altering how we think and behave. In this and the remaining chapters, I'll detail how virtual worlds provide unparalleled tools for controlling us.

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Paradox: How Online
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Worlds ...
Yee certainly offers
some interesting data
on how gaming has

become integral to modern life. He is right to state that "video gamers no longer form a fringe subculture" and we learn a lot in The Proteus Paradox about how "game thinking" and game mechanisms have embedded themselves in corporate culture. However, on the larger, crucial philosophical questions of the subtitle - how online games and virtual

worlds change us there is little for social theorists to learn here.

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The Proteusnes Paradox: How Online Games and Virtual Worlds Change Us This is the Proteus Paradox. Without a more careful look how these spaces do and do not change us, the promises of virtual worlds and online games are being subverted. Video gamers no longer form a fringe subculture; these games are

rapidly converging with many aspects of our everyday lives.

nick yee the proteus paradox They Yee's Proteus also has snags. Instead of freedom and empowerment during online games, quite the opposite occurs. Rank superstition is prevalent, false gender stereotypes are being made true, and offline nationality can be a

matter of life or death. Even when we think we are fully in control, our avatars change the way we think and behave.

The Proteus Paradox: How Online Games and Virtual Worlds ...

— Nick Yee, The Proteus Paradox: How Online Games and Virtual Worlds Change Us - and How They Don't "Not only are the

gender overlaps large, but the gender differences are actually inflated at the outset. One danger of studying gaming populations (or any natural community) is that of bringing underlying biases into the data.

The Proteus Paradox Quotes by Nick Yee

A surprising assessment of the ways that virtual worlds are entangled

With human How psychology. Proteus, the mythical sea god who could alter his appearance at will. Us embodies one of the promises of online games: the ability to reinvent oneself. Yet inhabitants of virtual worlds rarely achieve this liberty, game researcher Nick Yee contends.

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And where we think we are fully in control, unique psychological levers in virtual worlds (such as our avatars) powerfully change how we think and behave. This is the Proteus Paradox. Without a more careful look how these spaces do and do not change us, the promises of virtual worlds and online games are being subverted."

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