

Social Impact Categories: Consideration List

For each social impact category below (bolded text), try to answer each numbered question. For each question, identify specific social impacts for the product being evaluated. Have an *ideation attitude* with a goal to identify many potential impacts, however ridiculous they may seem. Be inspired and prompted by each question.

THERE MAY NOT BE AN ANSWER TO EACH QUESTION. After thoughtful consideration of the question, it is OK to have no answer and move on to the next question.

Impacts on Health and Safety

1. In what ways could the product improve/change the health of users or aid users in healthy practices?
2. In what ways could the product (unintentional or not) harm users, or have long term or addictive effects?
3. In what ways could the product protect/prevent users from harm or safety hazards?
4. In what ways could the product affect mental and/or emotional health?
5. In what other ways could the product impact health and safety (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Paid Work

6. In what ways could the product change the output, efficiency, or ability to produce a good or service?
7. In what ways could the product create jobs or skilled labor? Could it replace or eliminate jobs?
8. In what ways could the product affect the safety/well-being of employees or protect worker rights?
9. In what ways could the product facilitate the creation, management, or growth of businesses?
10. In what other ways could the product impact paid work (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Stratification

11. In what ways could the product be used to distinguish between social or economic groups?
12. In what ways could the product be accessible to all people, or could it decrease access/accessibility?
13. In what ways could the product *provide access to goods/services* to those who were previously excluded?
14. In what ways could the product be used to improve or degrade one's socioeconomic status?
15. In what other ways could the product impact stratification (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Human Rights

16. In what ways could the product provide/extend the most basic human rights (water, energy, etc.) to users?
17. In what ways could the product affect access to public services or democratic processes for all people?
18. In what ways could the product affect personal freedoms (religion, assembly, speech)?
19. In what ways could the product influence how human rights are protected/ violations reported/prosecuted?
20. In what other ways could the product impact human rights (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Education

21. In what ways could the product provide formal or informal education or skill training to users?
22. In what ways could the product require or provide specialized education/training to use?
23. In what ways could the product be used in the creation, discovery, or sharing of new knowledge?
24. In what ways could the product change access to education by gender, socioeconomic status, age, or race?
25. In what other ways could the product impact education (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Family

26. In what ways could the product alter the way family members interact with each other?
27. In what ways could the product strengthen or weaken family ties, including spending time together?
28. In what ways could the product be used simultaneously by or shared between family members?
29. In what ways could the product change family roles (household work, child-rearing, income earning, etc.)?
30. In what other ways could the product impact family (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Gender

31. In what ways could the product amplify gender specific issues (health, sanitation, or gender norms etc.)?
32. In what ways is the product's usability or ergonomics affected by the user's gender?
33. In what ways could the product be sold in gender specific product lines, or marketed to specific genders?
34. In what ways could the product maintain/uphold/challenge gender roles and norms (cultural expectations)?
35. In what other ways could the product impact gender (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Population Change

36. In what ways could the product generate/produce population change (immigration, move-ins, travel, etc.)?
37. In what ways could the product affect birth rate/death rate?
38. In what ways could the product affect living conditions in an area that would encourage population change?
39. In what ways could the product allow populations to move from place to place seasonally or otherwise?
40. In what other ways could the product impact population change (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Conflict and Crime

41. In what ways could the product help detect/prevent/prosecute crime or help ensure fair legal process?
42. In what ways could the product be used for crime such as violence, theft, sexual abuse, substance abuse, or fraud?
43. In what ways could the product expose or protect personal information/privacy?
44. In what ways could the product increase interpersonal conflict/contention (road rage, arguments, litigation)?
45. In what other ways could the product impact conflict and crime (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Social Networks and Communication

46. In what ways could the product improve or impair *the ability* of users to communicate?
47. In what ways could the product change *the way* people communicate or the content of communication?
48. In what ways could the product facilitate/sustain the creation of new relationships and communities?
49. In what ways could the product provide equitable opportunities for communication and connection?
50. In what other ways could the product impact social networks and communication (positive or negative)?

Impacts on Cultural Identity and Heritage

51. In what ways could the product be used to express someone's cultural values, norms, and beliefs?
52. In what ways could the product be in conflict with any cultural norms or religious practices?
53. In what ways could the product move behaviors away from traditional practices?
54. In what ways could the product create/alter/protect culture?
55. In what other ways could the product impact cultural identity and heritage (positive or negative)?