Bridging the Distance:

The Effect of Communications Technology Used During Military Deployments

Research on the need for distancing during deployment suggests that the use of Skype during deployments complicates important distancing required for effective deployments. As a result, deployments are potentially more difficult then necessary. A self-reported survey was distributed to military members who were deployed within the last 6 months or who were currently deployed with Internet access. Results indicate that both military members and their significant others experience more distraction following a conversation on Skype, but only significant others experience a reduction in efficiency.

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