

Chapter 56
Year 2750

Project Lithossimus Opsus Maximus (L.O.M) is highly successful in repopulating the earth.

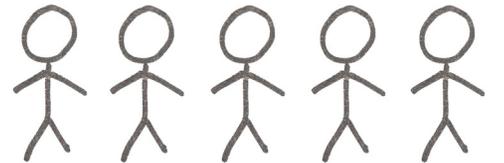
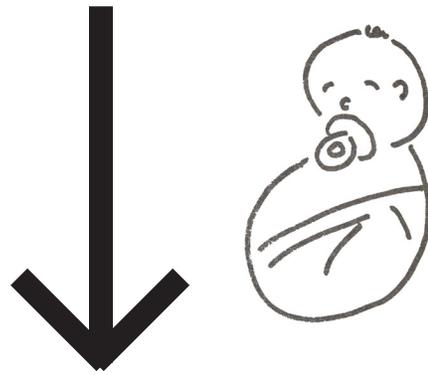
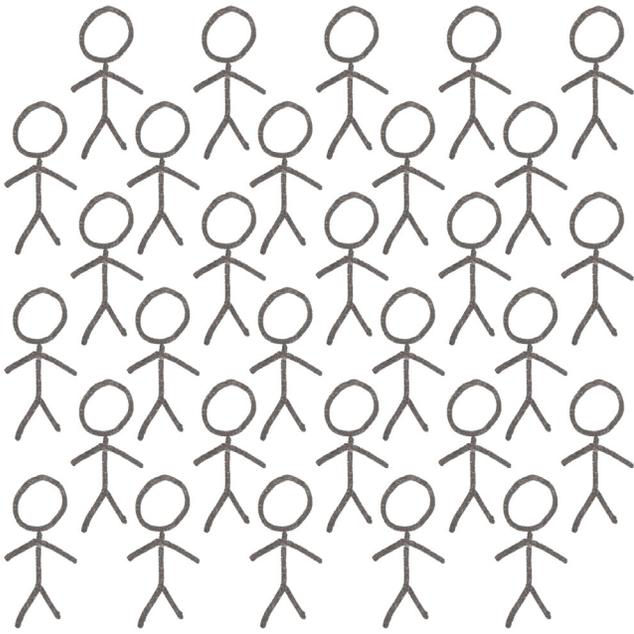
Efforts over the last 70 years by international governments in collaboration with social media giant Facebook, Inc. have yielded successful results.



In the early 2000's social media allowed people to edit and create their identity of "self" and present that "self" to others via the Internet.



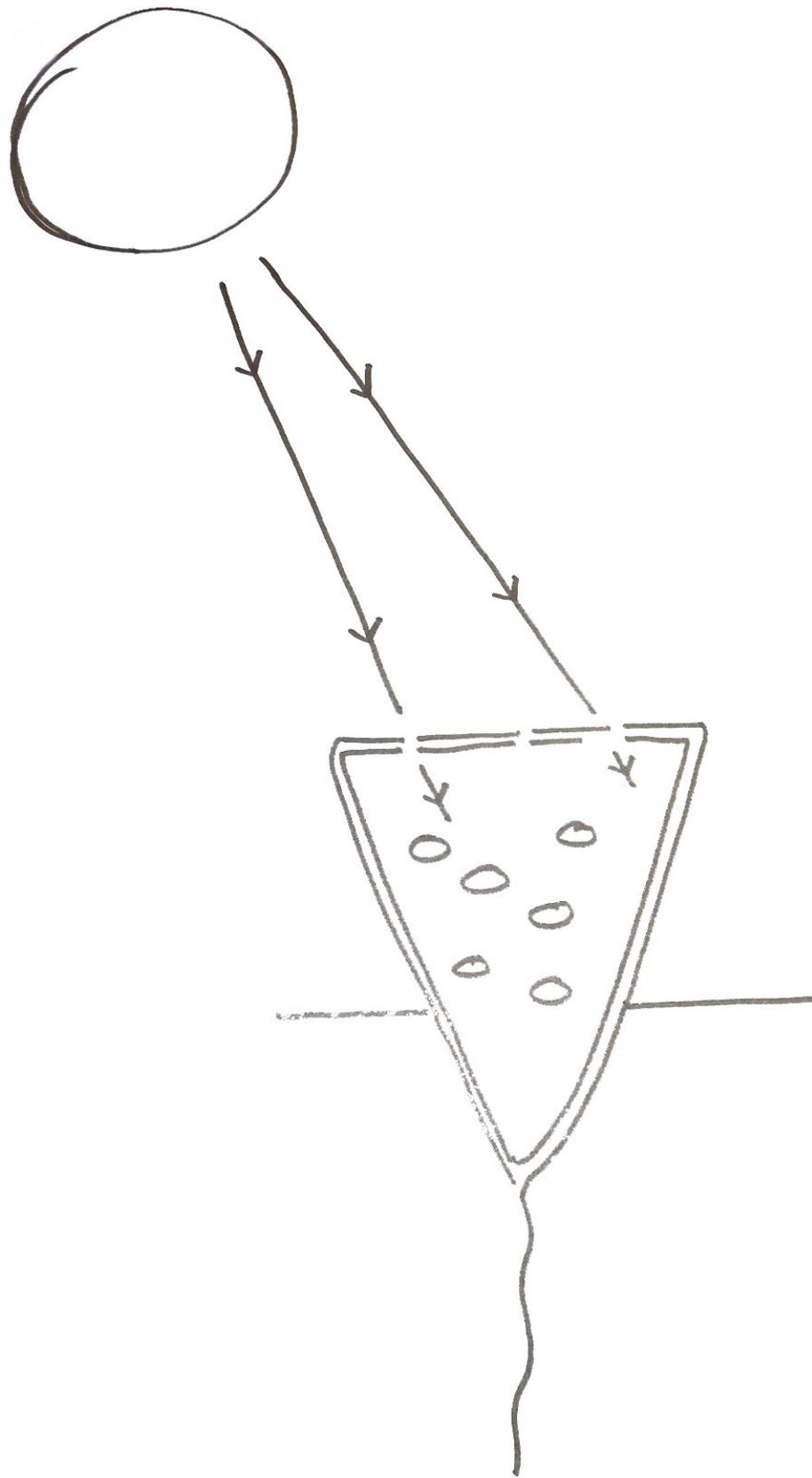
People started to fear the physical world where they could not edit and filter their "self."
They stopped leaving their homes.



Eventually this took a toll on humanity and the population began to plummet.



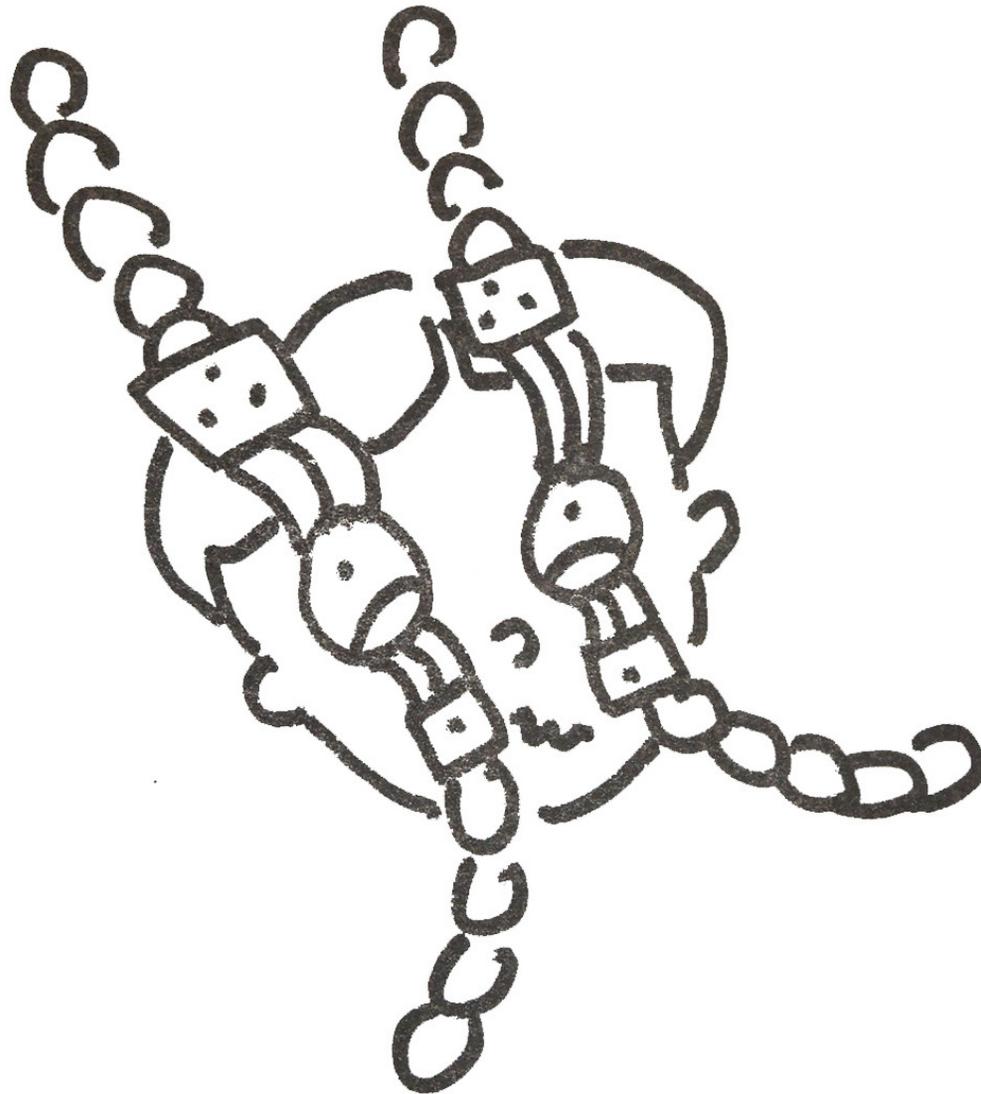
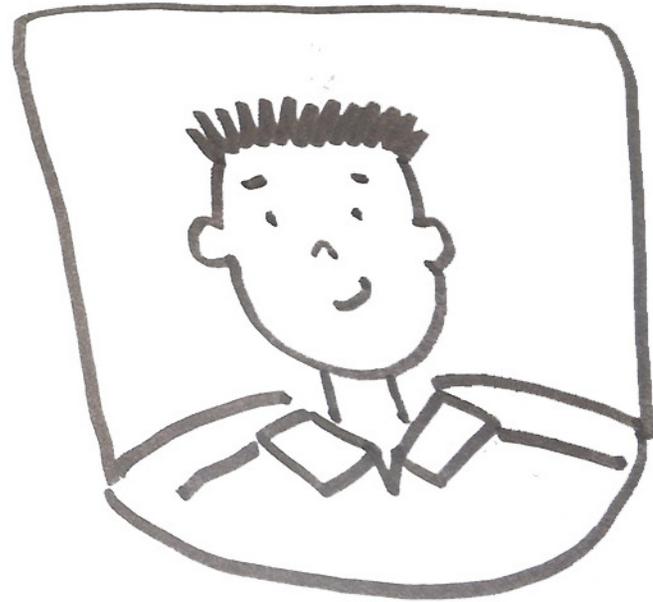
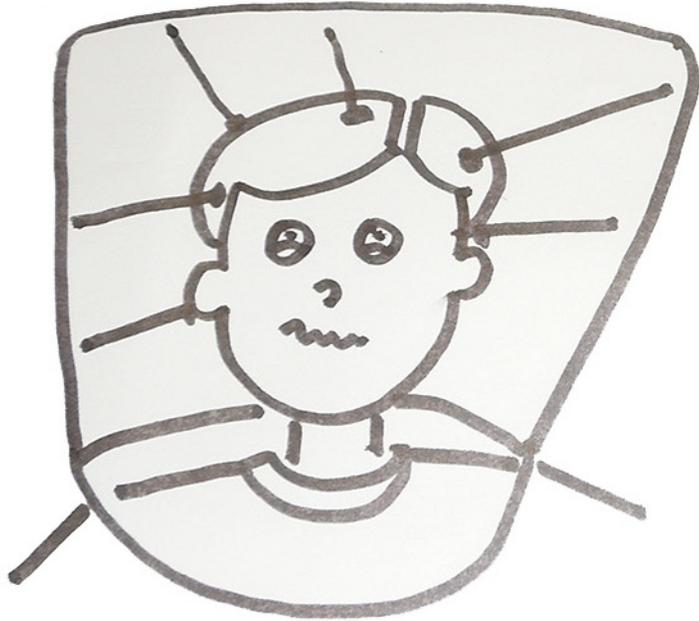
Facebook scientist Dr. Popularius experimented with the Lithop plant. His experimentations led to the discovery of a new technology that is changing the social dynamics of the planet.



The Lithop has amazing abilities. It's hard exterior shell protects the delicate photosynthesis cells from being eaten by predators while being transparent enough to allow sunlight to penetrate it.



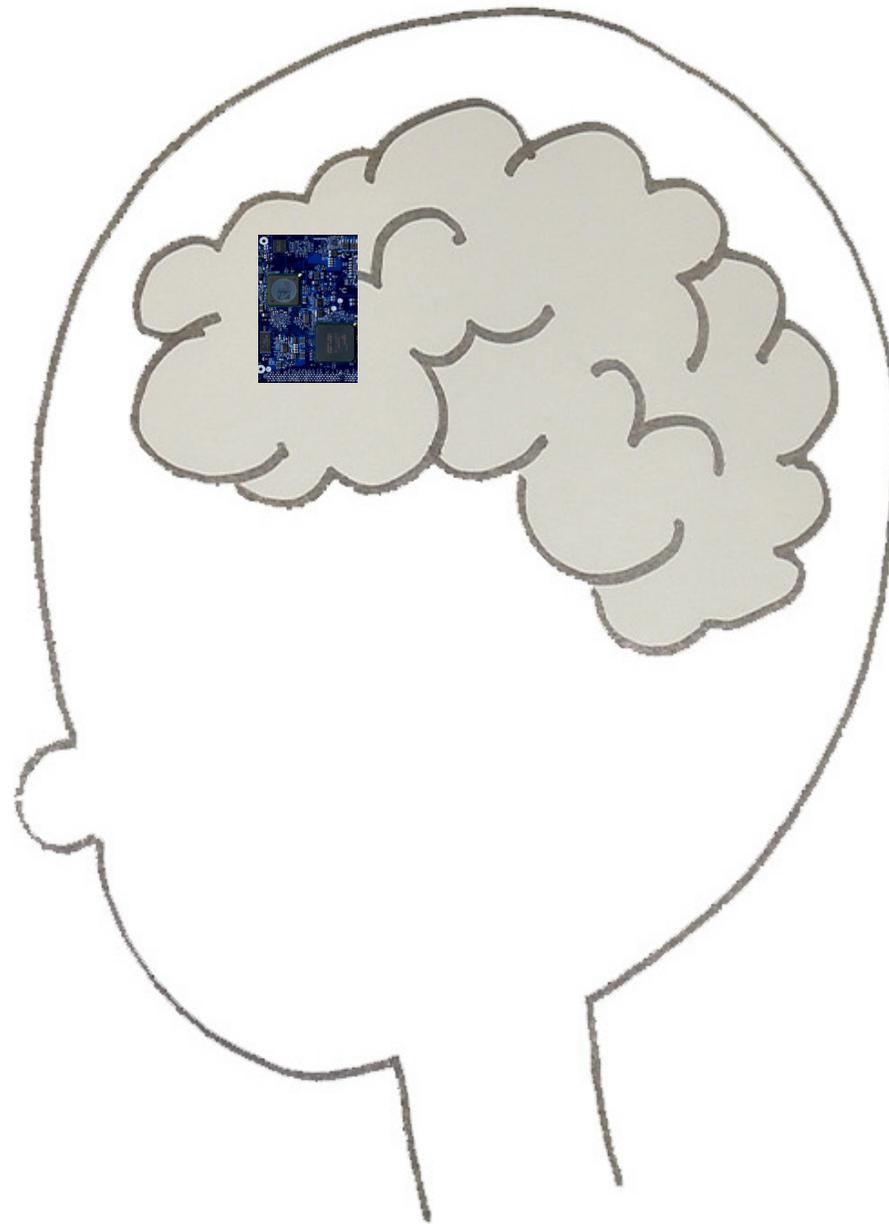
Scientist developed several prototypes trying to mimic and adapt the essence of the plant's abilities to fit human beings.



After much trial and error ...



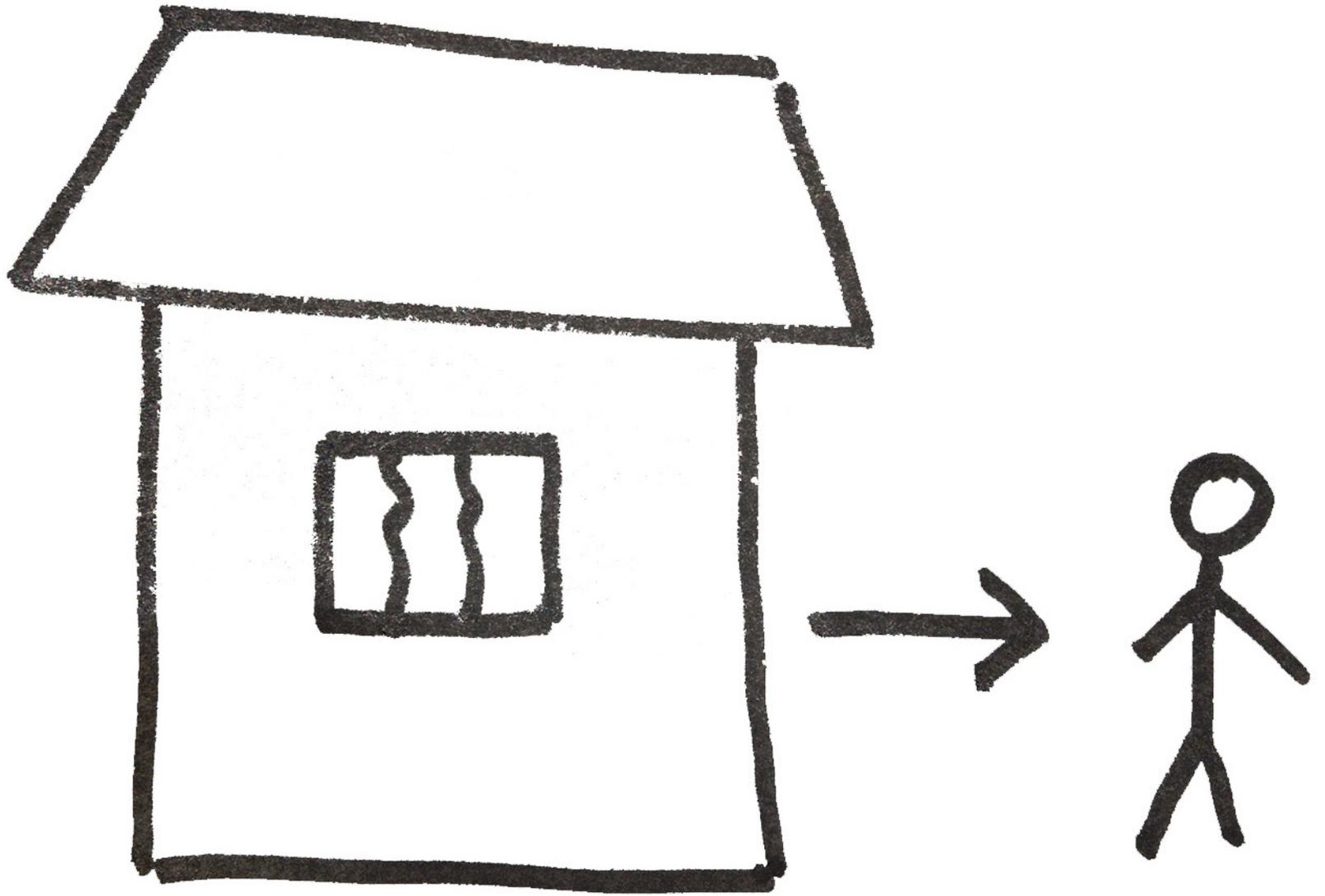
L.O.M. was created.



L.O.M. is a brain computer interface chip inserted in the right frontal lobe by a minimally invasive procedure (it was available at local drug stores around the world).



L.O.M. allows the user to project a chosen "virtual self" to others in the physical world. Each user is protected from the unknown dangers of spontaneous interaction that could lead to judgement by others.



As a result people started leaving their homes...



L.O.M. Reality



Behind L.O.M.

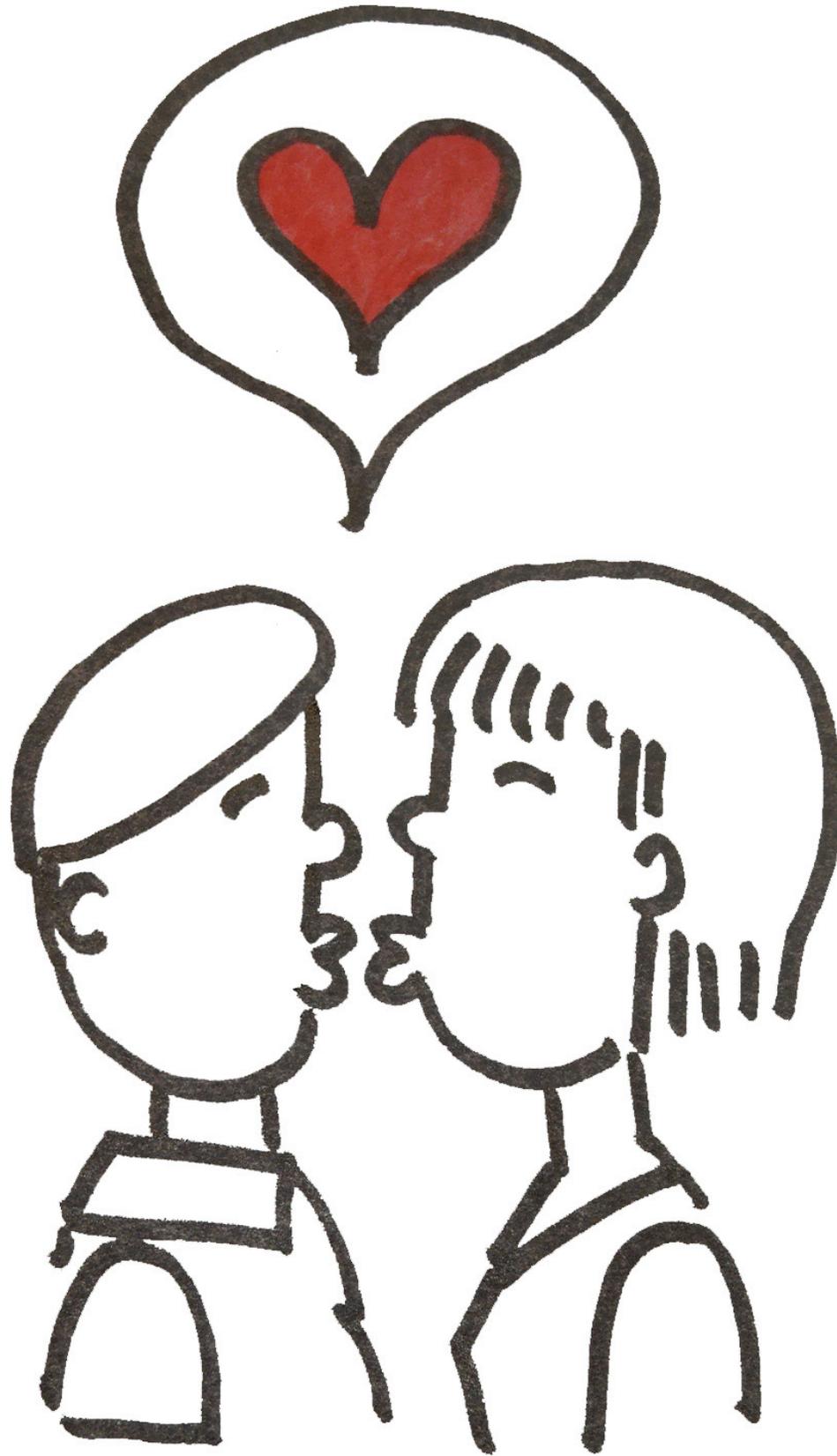
Sharing physical space with others



The latest version is able to reduce user's fear of judgement, making people more comfortable with each other. Chemical reactions in the brain causes L.O.M. to slowly fade out their virtual avatars.



Until eventually their true “self” is revealed.



This has allowed for reproduction to occur in selective studies.