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EXPLORING THE PSYCHOSOCIAL IMPACTS OF SPACE TOURISM: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Abstract

Space tourism, once a distant dream, is rapidly becoming a tangible reality with the emergence of commercial spaceflight ventures. While the prospect of civilian space travel holds immense promise for opening up access to space, it also raises significant questions regarding its psychosocial impacts on participants. This abstract delves into the multifaceted dimensions of space tourism from a psychological perspective, examining both the challenges and opportunities it presents.

Drawing upon existing research and theoretical frameworks in psychology, this study investigates the potential psychosocial impacts of space tourism on individuals, communities, and society at large. It explores factors such as pre-flight anxiety, the psychological preparedness of space tourists, and the emotional experiences associated with space travel. Furthermore, it examines the long-term effects of space tourism on participants' perceptions of self, identity, and their place in the cosmos.

Additionally, this abstract considers the broader societal implications of space tourism, including its influence on public perceptions of space exploration, environmental attitudes, and cultural narratives surrounding human spaceflight. It highlights the importance of addressing ethical considerations, ensuring equitable access to space tourism opportunities, and promoting sustainable practices to minimize adverse psychosocial impacts on both participants and the wider community.

By synthesizing insights from psychology, sociology, and space studies, this abstract aims to inform future research, policy development, and educational initiatives related to the burgeoning field of space tourism. Ultimately, it underscores the need for interdisciplinary collaboration and holistic approaches to understanding and addressing the psychosocial dimensions of space exploration in the era of civilian space travel.