

# **The New Imaginary Best Friend: Building Communities and Support Systems Through TikTok**

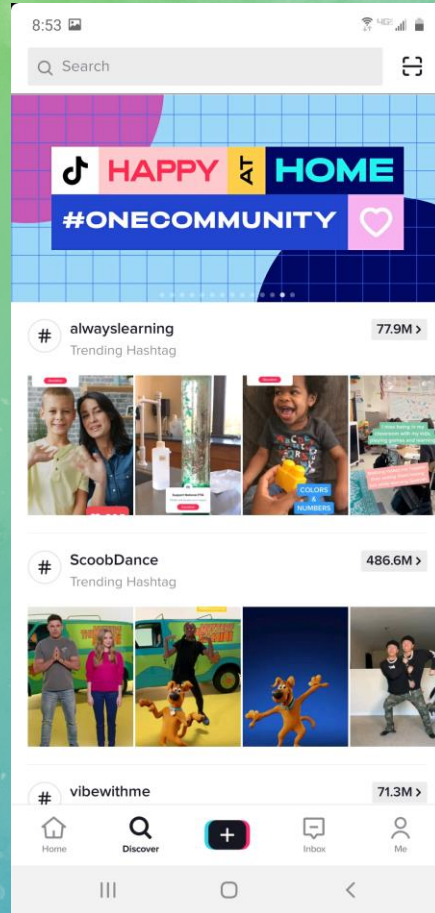
Nikki Williams

# Research Questions

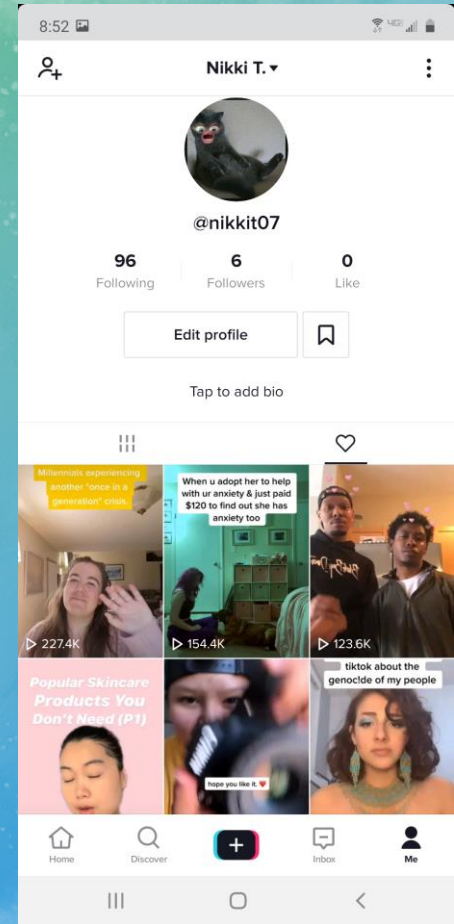
- ❖ How does studying communities on TikTok help to better understand online behavior?
- ❖ How are users on TikTok forming online communities?
- ❖ How do online communities provide support to help with issues like the coronavirus?



# TikTok



My discover page



My "liked" videos page

# What is different about my project?

- ❖ Exploring a newer social media site
- ❖ Investigating the impact of covid-19
- ❖ Understanding a different form of human interaction



# Methods

- ❖ Network Analysis
- ❖ Surveys/Questionnaires
- ❖ Online Interviews
- ❖ Photography (screenshots of interactions)
- ❖ Comment Analysis

# Importance of online communities and my research?

- ❖ Allows members to connect to anyone, anywhere
- ❖ To understand online forms of communication
- ❖ To understand ways we coped during this pandemic



Thank You!