## **Accepted Manuscript**

Intergroup Contact Through Online Comments: Effects of Direct and Extended Contact on Outgroup Attitudes

COMPUTERS IN HUMAN BEHAVIOR

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PII: S0747-5632(17)30650-7

DOI: 10.1016/j.chb.2017.11.013

Reference: CHB 5246

To appear in: Computers in Human Behavior

Received Date: 19 July 2017

Revised Date: 25 September 2017

Accepted Date: 12 November 2017

Please cite this article as: Nuri Kim, Magdalena Wojcieszak, Intergroup Contact Through Online Comments: Effects of Direct and Extended Contact on Outgroup Attitudes, *Computers in Human Behavior* (2017), doi: 10.1016/j.chb.2017.11.013

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### **ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT**

#### Highlights

- Tests online intergroup contact theory in the context of online comments
- Examines two forms of online contact—direct and extended—with two outgroups
- Direct online contact improved attitudes by generating positive and reducing negative emotions
- Extended online contact reduced negative emotions and improved attitudes towards undocumented immigrants

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