

Study on the Impact of Internet Language Use on Young People's Socialization based on MBTI

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Abstract: The source of the birth of network language is related to people's daily life, and hot events on the Internet are its important source. This paper analyzes MBTI theory, online social platforms about MBTI, and MBTI-related user topic analysis to explore the favorable and unfavorable effects of MBTI online language on young people's socialization as represented by it.

Keywords: Internet Language, MBTI, Circle Culture, Socialization.

1. Introduction

MBTI, short for Myers-Briggs Type Indicator, is the full name of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator.

MBTI was established by Briggs and Myers, a mother and daughter in the United States, based on the Jungian Eight Dimensions in Jung's psychological work Psychological Typology, which has certain scientific value. As one of the most widely used personality test tools in the world, MBTI is often used in the field of career planning and education, but the popularity of MBTI on the Internet has gradually departed from the simple meaning of "personality test", and has become a business card for people to interact in cyberspace, and has been more involved in people's online social behavior. At the same time, many online communities with MBTI as the topic of communication have been developed on various social platforms such as Weibo, Zhihu, Douban, etc. The content of MBTI personality test has become a new type of social currency for people's online social interaction, which is closely related to people's behaviors and attitudes on social media.

The Weibo Index shows a sudden increase in the number of MBTI-related topics since March 2022, and as of May 8, 2023, the number of Weibo's hot topic #mbti# has been read 3.06 billion times and discussed 719,000 times, and the number of users in the MBTI Chat community has reached 54,000, with the number of Chat reads reaching 210 million, and it has repeatedly occupied the top 10 position in the list of "Interests and Exchanges" on Weibo's Chat community. In MBTI Super Talk, users use MBTI test results as the external label of their identity, and explore their inner self by posting their daily experiences, asking questions, and interacting with each other in the community. The self-presentation behavior of users on MBTI topics actually reflects the identity confusion that people generally have in the social media era.

2. Research Value

2.1. From a Cultural Perspective

While retaining certain traditional Chinese cultural ideas, Internet buzzwords also actively draw on other cultures to enrich their connotations, reflecting the cultural and psychological state of contemporary social groups, and the strong compatibility, rich cultural connotations and diverse forms of expression of Internet buzzwords have also generated certain economic benefits for Internet buzzwords.

For example, the Internet buzzword "Foxi" is a combination of traditional religious thought and popular culture in terms of cultural value. Negative Internet buzzwords are a kind of impact on traditional language and culture, which is mainly reflected in the irregular use of Internet insults and words, and the communication characteristics of the Internet will also spread the decadent social culture and thus affect the mental health of the public.

For communication, Internet buzzwords can be widely used in online communication and daily communication, and can enrich the communication language. For research, through the innovation of Internet buzzwords in various aspects and the dissemination and carrying of culture, we can see the development of language, the development of society, the inheritance and integration of culture, the transformation of people's cultural psychology, the strengthening of innovation ability, and the transformation of the demand for communication, and so on. It can be seen that Internet buzzwords are an indispensable existence for society and people [1].

2.2. From a Linguistic Perspective

Unlike traditional forms of speech, the structure and expression of Internet language have their own unique features. Internet language is a special form of existence - neither oral expression, not listening and speaking as a mode of communication; nor written expression, not paper and ink as a medium of communication, but through the Internet as a unique carrier, expressed in a visual way. Because of the different modes of communication, the impact on language communication is also different from that of traditional languages.

Secondly, online language can reflect the inner feelings of netizens in real time, which helps to realize the interaction between netizens and linguistic researchers. Linguistic researchers should give new ideas in a timely manner according to the direction of the Internet, guide Internet users to have benign and effective Internet communication, and reduce the occurrence of Internet violence from the root. For the time being, the existing language research methods do not well meet the needs of online language development, and researchers must use more reasonable analytical methods, incorporate unique perspectives of linguistics, evolve more scientific and mature research methods, and strive for the early formation of an effective research system [2].

3. Definition of Internet language

Internet language has two meanings: first, it refers to the terminology and vocabulary related to the Internet and computer technology and application; second, it is the language people use when they utilize the medium of computer and Internet to carry out communicative and expressive activities. The Internet slang referred to in this paper is a language generated from the Internet or applied to Internet communication, including a combination of Chinese and English letters, punctuation, symbols, pinyin, icons (pictures) and words. This combination often expresses special meanings in specific network media communication. In the early 1990s, Internet users adopted ways to improve the efficiency of online chatting or to be witty, amusing and other specific needs, which formed a specific language in the course of time. In the 21st century, with the innovation of Internet technology, this form of language has developed very fast in the dissemination of Internet media. Internet language is becoming an essential part of people's online life.

4. Research Design

4.1. Research Methodology

To have a comprehensive and in-depth understanding of the current status of the application of Internet language in daily socialization, this study is based on a mixed method combining qualitative and quantitative methods.

This study includes interviews, questionnaires, and data analysis. Qualitative methods were used to obtain various information about application of Internet language in daily socialization. On the other hand, quantitative methods were used to provide a more objective overview of the actual situation. The current status of the application of Internet language in daily socialization was analyzed through questionnaire surveys and data collection.

4.2. Research Questions

To achieve the research objectives, the following research questions were formulated.

- 1) Do you use MBTI to introduce yourself?
- 2) Do you follow topics related to MBTI on Internet platforms? If so, do you read and comment on the topic every day?
- 3) Do you find MBTI effective in helping you understand others? Do you feel closer to people with the same MBTI as yours? Or do you subconsciously dislike people who would be inappropriate for you according to the MBTI theory?

4.3. Participants

Students from several universities in Sichuan Province and people randomly from several social networking platforms participated in this study, and based on their personal experiences they were invited to share their feelings about the application of Internet language in daily socialization and express their understanding of MBTI, and offer their opinions and insights into the current status of application MBTI to the socialization.

5. Results and Discussion

Language is the basic means of human communication, and people create and use different online vocabularies to meet their social communication needs. In addition, with the country's economic development, the electronic technology

industry is also changing rapidly, and efficient and convenient electronic devices have entered thousands of households, allowing people to participate more in the discovery and creation of online language. Culturally, an increasingly open society has led to more frequent exchanges between cultures. The tolerance of network culture has gradually deepened, so network language has gradually entered people's vision.

The MBTI has gone from being used as a professional personality test for career planning to being used by young people as a label for all aspects of the population. Whether against or in defense of the MBTI, there has been a consensus that people are getting tired of spending a lot of time and money to identify personalities, and are more inclined to use straightforward labels to quickly separate social circles. The discursive construction of the MBTI online language has had a far-reaching impact on young people's socialization during its spread. The discourse construction of MBTI network language has had a far-reaching impact on young people's socialization in the process of dissemination.

5.1. Circularized Socialization and Group Identity

Circles, "are aggregations of people with specific relationship patterns that are sustained by emotions, interests, and interests" [3].

Douban, as a network social platform, was founded on the concept of "convergence of communities by interest", and the emergence of Douban groups has deepened the establishment of interest-oriented circles, and the first feature of its circle propagation is the cohesion of interest. The first characteristic of circle spreading is the cohesion of interest. In Douban, corresponding personality groups have been created along with the rise of MBTI.

Each member who joins the Douban MBTI group joins the group with an interest in and recognition of the type of MBTI they have tested for. The profile of the Douban INFP group describes it as, "Sensitive, idealized, and loyal Have we found our home after walking for so long?" It can be seen that "Sensitive, Idealistic, Loyal" is the label that the group leader and subsequent members of the group put on their own INFP type personality, and this identification with the self has led to the formation of a social group by Douban users who have tested for INFP.

Influenced by the traditional culture of "differential pattern" thinking, people tend to expand interpersonal relationships centered on themselves. However, in the social network, the traditional group pattern formed by geography or blood ties is broken, and people start to build social relationships based on interest from themselves. Douban group is under such a premise to form its own unique subculture circle, the characteristics of the circle determines the characteristics of the members and topic orientation, which in turn improve the construction of the group's interest. This "interesting origin" can also be seen as a reflection of group members' identification with the group's MBTI community [4].

5.2. Self-presentation and Self-identity

Everyone perceives themselves differently, and the MBTI theory of personality testing gives an entry point for people to : they realize that they have a need for self-awareness. Self-awareness also implies another psychological need: to be "seen" by others. In addition to connecting with oneself, people also need to connect with the world in order to

alleviate the loneliness and anxiety of not being "seen", and the MBTI Hyper Talk community creates a utopia of self-presentation, where people carry identity labels that do not need to be peeked at, do not have to worry about what role to play, do not have to bother to tap into the audience's preferences, and display the sixteen planned "selves"[5]. The content that attracts the attention of many users, spreads beyond the MBTI circle, and attracts new users is often not the knowledge that analyzes personality traits in detail, but rather the secondary products that are centered around each MBTI personality. For example, cartoon images representing different personality types and emoticons based on personality traits. These secondary products are gradually expanding their influence from the beginning of following the trend of copying, and finally achieve the effect of "out of the circle". Richard Dawkins, a British biologist, put forward the "modal theory" on the basis of Darwin's theory of evolution, believing that the genes of culture can be copied and selected to promote the inheritance of culture. In the Internet era, MBTI has become one of the rapidly spreading and fissionable Internet modifiers, which has set up an eye-catching and concise flag in the complicated Internet environment, and lit up a bright light for users who are generally anxious about their identities to find themselves.

5.3. Verbal Violence and Deepening Group Antagonisms

In the Web 2.0 era, the most important feature of Internet communication is "decentralization". Simmons once described the phenomenon of "decentralization" of knowledge in the network era in his work on connectionism, that is, the knowledge in the network era is no longer a highly structured and complete system provided by authoritative scholars and editors, but a huge amount of information and knowledge fragments provided by the netizens. In the era of Web 2.0 "decentralization", the content on the Internet is no longer generated only by professional websites or elites, and the source of information for many hot events are ordinary users with unauthenticated identities [6]. In social networking, the opinions of the masses are not as neutral and objective as those of professional websites or authoritative scholars, and are amplified by social media, which makes it easy for individual sentiments to spread into group sentiments. The composition of online groups and inter-group relations are the specific paths for the spread of emotions. Because emotions do not have knowledge barriers, and its rapid contagion can make the majority of people reach a consensus in a short period of time.

Internet language also has the ability to differentiate the self from others. The public finds a group to belong to and an identity label through the use of a specific cyber language, while reinforcing their own identity. At the same time, this identity label divides the self from others. Simplistic labels are carried by the public self, and any individual can be categorized under a simple label [7].

The MBTI exaggerates a small part of a person's personality while masking much of the richness of each individual's character traits and unique life experiences. When MBTI became a social topic, too many people took the results as an accurate test of themselves or others and gradually labeled themselves and others accordingly. MBTI tests have been abused in various fields, such as being asked to take an MBTI test for a job application, or even asking for the results of a personality test for a blind date, which creates a kind of

"false" bias. Empathy Bias: We are often led to believe that our hobbies are the same as those of most people. If you like to play computer games, you are likely to overestimate the number of people who like to play computer games. You also usually overestimate the number of people who vote for their favorite classmates, and you overestimate your authority and leadership in the group. Afterwards, once it is said that your behavior is not good enough to match the level of a person of this character in the heart of another person, there is a high probability that he will reevaluate your competence and think that you can't do it.

In addition, the use of MBTI results to define a person in the long run will inevitably lead to the formation of a chain of stigmatization. By analyzing the results of the MBTI test, netizens have concluded that the "INFP" personality type is usually very popular, and some people even take pride in their "INFP" personality type, thinking that they are special and superior, and thus look down on other types of personality types. The MBFP personality will be very popular. What's more, MBTI personality test results are used as an excuse for being impolite and unqualified, "Since I'm an I person, I'm not good at making friends, so you'll have to sympathize and understand me." This kind of statement is not uncommon.

5.4. Linguistic Poverty and Social Deterioration

According to a survey of 2002 respondents conducted by the Social Survey Center of China Youth Daily in conjunction with Questionnaire.com, 76.5% of the respondents feel that their language is getting poorer and poorer. Respondents believe that young people's impoverished language is manifested by their basic inability to speak in verse (61.9%) and their inability to use complex rhetorical devices (57.6%).

Communication is an important form of interpersonal interaction. Behind language and textual expression are thinking and cognition. With the development of network media, one can express one's emotions by relying on buzzwords and emoticons, but this kind of shallow and direct output makes some complex and profound expressions gradually forgotten. When leaving the online environment and needing to standardize their expressions, some young people are left with only dry words and stumbling language [8].

In terms of social skills, people with a growth mindset are usually better able to adapt to diverse social environments. They are good at learning and growing from every interaction, are not constrained by fixed self-perceptions, are open to challenge and change, and can see room for improvement in criticism and suggestions, which makes them more energetic and influential in social situations. In contrast, people with a fixed mindset may be more susceptible to external evaluations and may sometimes be resistant to challenges or negative feedback, which limits their social adaptability and flexibility to a certain extent.

However, MBTI personality type is not the only factor that determines the level of one's social skills. In fact, regardless of personality type, one can gradually develop a growth mindset and improve social effectiveness by recognizing and adjusting one's behavioral patterns. For example, an introvert can learn how to actively participate in discussions while maintaining inner peace, an intuitive person can exercise a keen sense of practicality, a rational thinker can try to incorporate emotional considerations into decision-making, and someone who prefers to be flexible can set goals

appropriately to enhance his or her ability to take action.

6. Conclusion

Language is the basic means of human communication and people create and use different online vocabularies to fulfill their social communication needs.

The rapid development of new media has greatly contributed to the sinking of public discourse. Young people have formed a circle socialization through MBTI online language, in the process of which they establish a kind of emotional communication and resonance with others in the circle, and at the same time satisfy the demand for self-presentation. However, the phenomenon of homogenization has intensified, resulting in verbal violence against different groups and group antagonism. The results of the MBTI personality test should be used selectively, and all parts of the test results should be carefully analyzed and understood, avoiding selecting only the parts that you like. At the same time, in the actual life language, avoid using the network language to roughly divide the groups, should be combined with the reality, in the daily life and work to understand the self, constantly self-assessment and check, multi-faceted and multi-angle thinking and viewing things, only in this way can we rationally view the self and make decisions.

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