

# Social Psychoanalysis of Adolescents in Cyberspace

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**Abstract:** With the popularization of the Internet and smart phones, cyberspace brings great changes in the lifestyle, thinking logic, cultural identity, discourse expression and social mode of the adolescent group, coupled with the unique physical and mental characteristics of the adolescent group, the multi-party force game in cyberspace has enhanced the negative effects in the mentality and behavior of the adolescent network, so the social psychology of the adolescent network is an important window to grasp the survival and development of Chinese teenagers, which has great practical significance and theoretical value.

**Keywords:** Teenagers; Cybersocial Psychology; Cyberspace Expression

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## Introduction

Adolescent groups have the unique physical and mental characteristics of this age stage, mental health problems have become a problem of high concern to the whole society and even the world, especially in China's reform and opening up for more than forty years of rapid economic development accelerated social transformation, it should be said that each decade of the adolescent group its social identity and self-identification are very different, in the cross-section historical meta-analysis era must be the largest dependent variable of adolescent group research.

With the spread of the Internet and smartphones, the changes brought about by young people in terms of lifestyle, thinking logic, cultural identity, discourse expression and social patterns are huge and subversive. Their mental health is tightly wrapped and even wrapped in this open and multilateral, multifaceted and virtual field, and the form of the dependent variable of the era in the network society has shortened and become faster, and the cross-cutting history may only be the current node or network event, while the other variables studied have grown exponentially and are not mobile. The rise of the network society is the emergence of a new social structure and the change of social operation logic, is the traditional adolescent psychological research methods and problem perspectives still fully applicable to the Z generation living in the network society, will it directly usher in the disciplinary crisis and paradigm revolution?

## 1. Network social psychology is an important indicator of the healthy development of adolescents

The growth of China's young generation has been accompanied by the popularization of the Internet, computers and smartphones, and they are authentic "Internet natives". According to the delineation of Generation Z, people born between 1995 and 2009 are called the indigenous people of the digital age, and the actual age of this generation as of 2022 is 13-27 years old, which is the absolute main force in the structure of netizens. Cyberspace is no longer a digital island of virtual delocation, but a comprehensive coverage and takeover of human life, and even changes the logical composition of social life. It should be said that cyberspace is a digital space for teenagers' daily life, which is the product of online and offline integration, and the reconciliation of tradition and modernity. Exploring their lifestyles, cultural concepts and social behaviors is inseparable from the study of the network society characterized by cyberspace. As Castre argues in "The Rise of the Network Society", the idealized social transformation process of the network society goes beyond the social production relations and technical production relations that have also profoundly affected culture and power, and the reorganization of information technology has changed all aspects of real society.

The social psychology of adolescents online is an important window to grasp the survival and development of Chinese teenagers, indicating the evolution of concepts of the times. The Communication and National Governance Research Center of the Development

Research Institute of Fudan University, the Shanghai Information Security and Social Management Innovation Laboratory and other institutions jointly released the "Survey Report on the Social Mentality of Chinese Youth Netizens (2009-2021)", which broke some stereotypes of the current social mentality of young people. "Buddhism" and "lying flat" are not the true face of the mentality of the vast majority of young people; "Escaping from the north" has not changed the attractiveness of first-tier cities; Behind the remarks of "fear of marriage and non-marriage" and "celibacy", love and marriage are still "major events in life" that Chinese youth value, cyberspace has become a distribution field and barometer of the overall psychological state of adolescents, and online social psychology is an important indicator of the healthy development of adolescents.

The online platform provides a new channel for the expression of the social psychology of adolescents, and the characteristics of the network society have also given birth to a unique new social mentality, that is, the network society mentality. Existing research has pointed out that the social mentality and ideological trend in the era of social media show a diversified development trend, and some debates on the mentality of the online society even show a trend of ideologization and organization (Li Yanyan, 2015), and are concentrated in the hot public opinion debates in recent years (Meng, 2018; Ma Xueke, 2015). Online public opinion debate is not only a barometer of real society (Yang Zheng and Tian Jin, 2020), but also an important factor influencing contemporary policy making (Guo Shengli et al., 2016). Some scholars have analyzed the psychological motivations of the spread of online rumors from the two levels of individual psychology and group psychology: panic psychology, profit-seeking psychology and cathartic psychology are the three major individual psychological drivers of online rumor spreading, and the group psychology represented by lack of rationality, herd psychology and group polarization are also closely related to the spread of online rumors (Zong Yixiang, Mayani 2017).

## **2. Cyberspace expression is the representation of adolescent online social psychology**

At present, the relevant research on the social psychology of adolescents is more in the stage of phenomenon description and data interpretation, and the academic discussion mostly focuses on specific communication landscapes such as online political participation, youth discourse, new media communication, and fan culture. This paper argues that the study of adolescent online social psychology should start from the dissemination and expression of adolescents in cyberspace, combine the knowledge of sociology, psychology, cognitive science, computer science and other disciplines, deeply grasp the theoretical connotation of adolescent online social psychology, measure the key factors affecting adolescent online social thinking and network social relations in the process of cyberspace expression, and establish an assessment model of adolescent online social mental health. On the basis of scientific measurement and evaluation, accurate and effective guidance for youth online space expression, online political participation and online social mental health is carried out.

In terms of research ideas, we should break the existing thinking of applied research such as youth cyberspace communication and expression from the perspective of "social governance subject", and enrich the results of youth group research from the perspective of progressive research of "network expression-cyberspace-network society-network psychology", and then promote the academic construction and scope norms of youth network communication and expression. For example, in early 2016, "Di Bar went to Facebook" to make people realize for the first time that the Internet has a strong mobilizing effect on young people on issues such as national identity and national self-confidence. The takeover of the living space of young people by online technology has brought political participation and the practice of patriotic communication into a new stage. This event presents the characteristics of overall positive emotions, diversified subject images, fluid organizational structure, and mutual discourse expression.

## **3. Pay attention to the practical significance of adolescent online social psychology**

Establish and enhance young people's self-confidence in national culture and values. The Medium and Long-term Youth Development Plan points out: "Youth is the future of the country and the hope of the nation. When the youth prosper, the nation will prosper, and a strong youth will make the country strong. Promoting better growth and faster development of young people is a basic and strategic project of the country. "Adjuvation is the golden period of growth in a person's life. With the growth of knowledge, the broadening of vision, the improvement of cognitive ability, and the change of the quality of social activities, adolescents gradually

form mature ideas and stable value systems, which will profoundly affect the goals of adolescents and ultimately determine their growth status and path choices.

Responding to the challenges of youth in the new era of cyberspace value cultivation. Young people are the masters of network technology and the future discourse power of the state and society, and paying attention to their network mentality, network emotions, and network public opinion, and cultivating their socialist core values will be the proper meaning of building socialism with Chinese characteristics in the new era. The original intergenerational interval of ten or twenty years has been shortened to 5 or even 3 years, and the older generation of netizens has played an extremely important role in major social events, but with the continuous development of new technologies, the voice of young netizens is getting louder and stronger, and the willingness to participate in society is getting stronger and stronger. The culture they create is only a symptom of their future domination of the world, and studying the social psychology of teenagers' networks can see the social, political and cultural patterns of the new generation in the future, which can be more conducive to the cultivation of young people's cyberspace values.

Grasping the social psychology of adolescents is the key to the orderly development of the online society. The social psychology of adolescents comes from their perception of social environment and social existence, but with the emergence of cyberspace, the formation of adolescent social psychology is more based on the environment and existence of cyberspace, and online platforms have also become a new channel for expressing social mentality. Cyberspace creates a new space for human life and has a negative effect on real society. The multi-force game in cyberspace has led to the enhancement of negative effects in the online mentality and behavior of young people, and the increase of social risk events. However, due to the immaturity of cognitive ability, the fragmentation and emotion of opinion expression, and the high incidence of herd psychology at this stage, it needs to be fully studied and paid attention to. It is necessary to establish a scientific and effective network psychological research system to grasp from the macro level, but also to micro cut through the specific action events expressed in the online space of adolescents, analyze the relevant influencing factors of behavior, and timely make appropriate guidance on the psychological state and values of adolescents in the online society, and resolve social conflicts.

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