Emotional Gaps: research of the influence of intergenerational emotion observation show on young people's love concept

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Abstract: Intergenerational emotion observation show has gained wide popularity amon the young audience, and it is an important window to research an observe the different concepts and opinions on love between generations. Based on cases study and questionnaire survey, this article aims to research on the influence of intergenerational emotion observation show on young people's love concept. It is concluded that the more immersed young audience are in watching intergenerational emotion observation programs, the more they agree with their parents' views on marriage and love. This paper believes that intergenerational communication should be increased to reduce the emotional gap between generations, and watching intergenerational emotion observation programs is one way.

Key words: love concept, intergenerational emotion, emotional gap

1. Introduction

According to statistics recently released by China's Ministry of Civil Affairs, the number of single people in the country has exceeded 260 million. In 2021, 7.636 million couples have registered their marriages, which continued the plunge trend of previous years and was only 56.6 percent of the peak year 2013. Therefore, the love and marriage of young people have gained more attention from the society, and especially some of them are under pressure of their parents who tend to push children into marriage. Young people and their parents normally have quite different opinions on relationship and marriage. For youngsters, they don't understand their parents and also don't know how to communicate with them. Normally, communication on this topic ends up with arguments.

Against this background, intergenerational emotion observation programs, which has filmed and presented how young adults develop a relationship and live their life in a panoramic way and later the videos would be watched by their parents, aims to show young people's views on romantic love and marriages. These videos later shown to their parents and audience would provoke people's thought on intergenerational difference on romantic love and marriages and enhance understandings to each other. The sense of reality, the keen insight from the viewpoint

of audience and the positive guidance on emotional relations have all contributed to the popularity of this kind of programs. This article will analyze the influence of parents' opinions conveyed from such programs on the concept of young people on relationship and marriage.

2. Literature Review

As the life pace in modern life is getting faster and faster, it is accompanied by the emotional anxiety of some people. Young people largely view romantic love and marriage as a natural thing to happen instead of a tight schedule, and some of them are eager to fall into love but couldn't find the right person. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected young people's dates on some degree. Therefore, the issue of young people's relationship and marriage should be focused.

Through literature review, it has found that scholars' research on intergenerational emotional observation variety shows mainly focuses on the following aspects:

2.1 Studies on the reasons of the popularity of intergenerational emotional observation programs.

Based on the program of My Little One, scholar Sun Yanran holds that the main reason why emotional observation programs have gained wide popularity is the setting of the topics of the programs, which focused on parent-child relationship, male-female relationship, and marriage relationship. Such topics can meet the needs of various groups of audience and arouses their emotional resonance. Besides, another reason is that such programs have made efforts to explore positive emotions and make positive emotional concepts heard based on its discussions on love between friends, family members and partners.

2.2 A study on audience psychology of intergenerational emotional observation programs.

Based on its case study on Daughters in Love, Scholar Xu Min points out that the success of such programs lies in the fact that they fulfilled the audience's psychological demands. More specifically, such programs have presented the private parts of the guests' lives to the public, which satisfied the audience's desire in peeping into the emotional life of others.

2.3 Research on narrative mode of intergenerational emotional observation program

Currently, scholars have mostly discussed the narrative methods of intergenerational emotional observation programs. Such shows are different from the single-space narrative method of traditional shows, and adopt a new narrative method--the "first scene" and "second scene" parallel double lines. Many scholars have explored the narrative method of this dual space, Scholar Wang Weiqi is one of them. Wang noted that through the two-dimensional

perspective of the studio and the protagonist, the narrative content expression of the dual narrative structure is used to form the unique narrative tension of the show. By analyzing the dual narrative perspectives of the third person and the first person in the program, it provides innovative thinking for the intergenerational emotional observation variety show, according to Wang.

To sum up, there are few research on the impact of intergenerational emotional observation programs on young people's views on love. This article will start from the influence of parents' views love on young people's views on love, and analyze the influence of parents' opinions on young people's views on love.

2.4 Research phenomenon

With the continuous increase of the romantic love observation programs, the intergenerational emotional observation shows with guests as the observed objects and the guests' parents as the observing subject stand out from the traditional love dramas, such as Daughters in Love and Daughters' Boyfriends. This type of shows have presented differences in the concepts of marriage and love between two generations. And they easily caused social discussions widely. For example, Jin Chen, a guest in Daughters in Love, her father's avant-garde comments on romantic love have been one of the hottest topics on China’s internet during that time. We have observed that in real life, the elder generation’s views on love are often criticized by young people, but after watching such shows, netizens began to listen to the remarks of parents' guests in the show and even expressed their agreement. The observation of intergenerational emotion seems to bridge the intergenerational gap in the view of love to some extent.

2.5 Problem Posing

Can intergenerational emotional observation shows narrow the gap of views on love between young people and their parents? What are the reasons behind it? How does this kind of show correctly guide young people's concept of love?

3. Research method

This paper uses the research methods of questionnaire survey and case analysis to try to answer the above questions.

3.1 Case study

By collecting and querying relevant literature, this research takes intergenerational emotional

observation shows such as Daughter's Love, Daughter's Boyfriends as research objects, and strives to comprehensively grasp young people's concept of love and the characteristics of such programs in order to answer questions.

3.2 Audience survey

This paper makes the following assumptions:

H1: More shows that a person watch intergenerational emotional observation shows, the more he/she agree with parents' view on marriage.

H2: More immersed that a person are in watching intergenerational emotional observation shows, the more he/she agree with parents' view on marriage.

H3: More shows that a person watch intergenerational emotional observation shows, the more he/she tend to discuss related topics with parents in reality.

H4: More immersed that a person are in watching intergenerational emotional observation shows, the more he/she tend to discuss related topics with parents in reality.

During the questionnaire survey, the author conducted an audience survey on some young people's views on love concept and intergenerational emotional observation shows, adopted the judgement sampling method, distributed the questionnaire widely, and the respondents subjectively chose whether to fill in the answers. According to the audience's responses to specific questions, valid questionnaires were screened for data analysis. A total of 205 valid questionnaires were collected, with a confidence interval of more than 90 percent and a sampling error of less than 5 percent.

This survey completed the data collection, sorting and analysis process on October 10, 2022. The survey mainly focuses on closed-ended questions. The main contents are: (1) Confirmation of basic information: including age, gender, and current wedding (marital) status. (2) The dimension-reduced sentence part of the independent variable "the degree of watching “intergenerational emotional observation shows ". (3) The dimension-reducing sentence part of dependent variable 1 "approval of parents' view on marriage and love". (4) The dimension reduction sentence part of dependent variable 2 "discussing related topics with parents in reality". This questionnaire contains 10 questions, which are 10 multiple-choice questions and distributed online through WeChat Moments, WeChat groups and QQ space.

4. Research Result

This article attempts to find out the impact of watching intergenerational emotional observation programs on young people's view of love through case analysis and questionnaires. This paper focuses on analyzing the tension relationship between the degree of recognition of parents' views on marriage and love by watching emotional observation programs, and the degree of discussing related topics with parents in reality.

Through the study, it is found that the number of watching intergenerational emotional observation programs is not significantly correlated with the degree of identification with parents' views on marriage, and the amount of watching intergenerational emotional observation programs is not significantly related to the degree of discussion of related topics with parents. There is also no significant correlation between the degree of immersion in watching intergenerational emotional observation programs and the degree of discussing related topics with parents in reality. However, the more immersed in watching the intergenerational emotion observation program, the higher the degree of identification with their parents' view of marriage, and the people who participated in the intergenerational emotion observation program were more identified with their parents' view of love.

4.1 Sample analysis

Based on the analysis of such programs, including Daughters in Love, My Little One, Daughters' Boyfriends, the author find out that the frequency and degree of immersion of watching intergenerational emotional observation programs affect what young people think of their parents' views on marriage and love. Therefore, when designing the questionnaire, the author focused on the relationship between the two, testing the influence of watching emotional observation programs on young people's view of love, and further analyzing the correlation between the two through data analysis.

A total of 205 valid questionnaires were collected in this questionnaire survey, of which 56.59% were male, and the age distribution was even. Single people account for 34.63%. From the descriptive analysis, in the process of watching emotional observation programs, the number of people who agree with their parents' views on love accounted for the largest proportion, which is 48.85%, and more than 50% of the people expressed their desire to discuss related topics with their parents. That shows that watching emotion observation programs could help reduce the emotional gap between generations.

4.2 More immersed that a person is when watching intergenerational emotional observation shows, the more he/she tend to agree with parents' opinions on love.

Through Pearson correlation analysis, it is found that H2 is established ($r=0.684^{**}$, $p=0.000$), the more immersed a person is in watching variety shows of intergenerational emotional observation, the more he/she agree with the parents' view of marriage. Through cross-analysis, the more active people who participated in such shows, the more he/she recognized their parents' view on marriage and love, showing a significant correlation. The research hypothesis H2 is supported.

The degree of immersion in watching intergenerational emotional observation programs is proportional to the degree of recognition of parents' views on marriage and love.

Intergenerational emotional observation programs provided a window to observe family love and romantic love at the same time. There is always an emotional gap between fathers and daughters in many traditional Chinese families. Intergenerational emotional observation programs cleverly capture the desire for mutual understanding between two generations, and reflect the process of emotional observation in an off-site form. The father really participates in the life and relationship of the daughters as a bystander, thereby could draw in the psychological distance between the two.

As a reality show, real emotions are extremely important. The audience watched the response of fathers and life and relationship of daughters in the third space, which can not only trigger their common memory, but also arouse their emotional resonance. Such resonance becomes stronger as the degree of immersion in watching the program increases, so that the audience in the third space has an emotional identification with the father in the second space.

5. Conclusion

Through case analysis and questionnaire survey, this study attempts to answer the influence of the frequency and immersion of watching intergenerational emotional observation programs on young people's recognition of their parents' views on marriage and love and the frequency of discussion with their parents about related topics. It is found that the more immersed they are in watching intergenerational emotion observation programs, the higher their recognition of their parents' views on marriage and love. In other words, the more absorbed they are in watching intergenerational emotion observation programs, the more they can narrow the emotional gap with their parents' views on marriage and love.

The main reason for this result is that young people watch the romantic love process of their peers from the first perspective when watching the show, and also listen to their parents' views on marriage and love. In this process, young people have lessened their reluctance to communicate emotional opinions with their parents, and can think more about love from the perspective of their parents, which has deepened the understanding between the two generations.

In this fast-paced era, young people's love rhythm has also become faster, and the father's concept of marriage and love does not match the fast-paced love concept of today's young people. This phenomenon caused the author to reflect. By watching intergenerational emotional observation programs, young people are provided a platform to understand their parents' views on marriage and love, so that they can deepen their thinking about their own views on this regard, so as to establish a correct view of love.

This study proposes that watching intergenerational observation programs can help improve young people's recognition of their parents' views on marriage and love, and the more immersed young people watching the show, the higher they recognized their parents' view on love. The frequency of watching the program is not correlative with the degree of recognition of the parents' view on marriage and love, nor is it significantly related to the degree of talking with the

parents about related topics.

Due to the limitations of insufficient sample size and some of the respondents' low understanding of intergenerational emotional observation programs, this study still has certain shortcomings. In future research, researchers of emotional gap need to focus more on how to eliminate or reduce the gap between generations, and researchers of intergenerational emotional programs need to focus on how to reduce the gap between the two generations and enhance their mutual understanding through intergenerational emotional programs.

With the rapid changes in social life, the proportion of single people in China is constantly increasing. The long-term single state runs counter to most parents' view of marriage and love. Against such a social background, it is urgent to reduce the gap of opinions on love and marriage between the two generations, increase their emotional understanding and spread correct love concept.

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