Analysis of the Role of Digital Media in LGBT Movement

Dr. Ishdeep Kaur Bhandari

Assistant Professor
Department of Anthropology, University of Lucknow, Lucknow.
EmailId- kaur_ishdeep@lkouniv.ac.in

Abstract:

The role of digital media in the LGBT movement has been transformative, providing a powerful platform for advocacy, awareness, and community building. Digital platforms such as social media, blogs, and online forums have allowed LGBT individuals and activists to connect across geographic boundaries, share personal stories, and organize collective action. These spaces have been crucial in raising awareness about LGBT rights, combating misinformation, and challenging societal norms. This paper explores secondary sources that attempt to understand and explores how the digital media was used to spread LGBT rights movements, raise LGBT voices, activism, and have created social change. #LoveWins and Pride campaigns have had wide spread attention and support, and have effected public attention and changed policy in many areas. However, digital platforms have secured safe digital spaces that make it possible for LGBT people in countries without legal recognition of or human rights protection of their identities to be able to show who they are and access basic resources and services. However, digital media has made the LGBT issues more seen but more online harassment and discrimination have been endured by the community. Nevertheless, its impact in creating the present LGBT movement cannot be denied, and this remarkable tool since then has been agile, diverse, and a broad instrument to conquer in the struggle of equality and the rights to the human being in the world.

Keywords*:-LGBT Activism, Digital Advocacy, Social Media Empowerment, Global LGBT Rights*

Introduction

Digital media has produced a sea change in the role it plays in the LGBT movement as a medium for activism, advocacy, and community support, and as a powerful resource for visibility and societal change. The digital platforms that dominate communication in an era are used by LGBT people and activists to undermine traditional barriers of representation and amplify their voices and galvanize a global consciousness of solidarity. Before the emergence of digital media, LGBT activism was usually limited to physical spaces like bars and community centers, print media, and

the people within those spaces, which effectively left such work localized and unable to reach beyond those we already had the support of in places where the LGBT right is not welcomed. But the internet has magnified this reach radically, unleashing instantaneous connections across borders, giving voice to people to share and tell stories, debate, and mobilise. #LoveWins and #TransRightsAreHumanRights are trending hashtags that have highlighted legal and societal recognition of LGBT rights and snowballed into action around the world to support their existence. Furthermore, digital platforms can also offer safe spaces in which they can express their identity in conservative and oppressive societies, where doing so could generate legal or social consequences. Though it has so many advantages, digital media has its issues, too, like online harassment as well as the spread of misinformation directed toward LGBT communities.

Despite this, however, the contemporary LGBT movements continue to exist on the digital landscape as a vital space for the shaping of modern LGBT movements, and for modern advocate, education, and activism on an incomparable scale. This is how it has made more inclusive representation, seen intersectional identities within the LGBT spectrum, and given open doors for voices to be heard from the margins. More and more, as digital media is transforming the movement, it's also working as a catalyst for societal acceptance and the urge for legal reforms that bring equality and justice to LGBT people worldwide. Digital media has provided them a platform to express, show their identity and to establish the connection with the society to inform them about their lifestyle and movements.

Research Problem

The question of interest in our research problem of how have digital media changed the strategies, visibility, and impact of LGBT activist and advocacy is complicated by how digital media work in contexts in which two or more of these claims were resistance to state domination, solidarity, and building power. In a historical sense, LGBT activism has been bound to localized, in person efforts, inhibited by geographic, cultural and political barriers. But digital media has opened up new possibilities for LGBT people and organisations to come together worldwide, share resources and to campaign for equal rights as never before. This shift presents several research questions: Digital media has increased our visibility and representation of diverse LGBT identities with special focus on diversity in terms of race, gender and class. Digital media's role in mobilizing support for LGBT rights in regions where traditional media is censored or at best dismissive and openly hostile to building the community. Why do digital platforms enable as well as push back on LGBT activists,

in terms of online harassment and the spread of false information? This is important to understand, if not so as to assess how much digital media has transformed the global LGBT movement in terms of its opportunities for advocacy and potential risks. Through analyzing how digital media amplifies LGBT voices, promotes activism and contributes to social and legal change and the challenges this presents to the movement's sustainability and inclusiveness. This research seeks to answer how digital media plays a role in LGBT voices, activism, and social change.

Literature Review

Blackwell, L., Hardy, J., et al (2016) in their article "LGBT Parents and Social Media: Advocacy, Privacy, and Disclosure during Shifting Social Movements" examine the use of social media as a platform through which LGBT parents navigate the process of parenting and as a means of advancing their rights and visibility. The proliferation of digital communication gives parents these 'outlets' to share their experiences, dispute stereotypes, and build community supports to have a cohesive voice in this broader discussion of family diversity. This is also accompanied by problems of privacy and the possibility of public identity. This research considers how LGBT parents engage in negotiating their identities on the internet, weighing the advocacy with safety, while trying to keep their families in the dark. The research highlights the intersection of parenting and digital activism as social movements advance to address the ways that social media is both a tool for empowerment, and a site of tension. That duality speaks to societal shifts generally heading towards acceptance and struggling for equality for those involved in family life.

Pullen, C., & Cooper, M. (Eds.). (2010) in their paper "LGBT Identity and Online New Media" was an exploration of the ways that how digital platforms have transformed the formation, expression, and representation of LGBT identities. They have examined online identity formation as cultural practice. The dawn of social media, blogs and online forums has given people safe places to connect, share experiences, join community, not only but become visible and accepted. Through these, diverse narratives spread easily and break figurative traditional stereotypes and create feelings of sense of belonging among vulnerable groups. In the research, they have explore how new media online is used for activism by LGBT people who are able to use the internet to advocate for rights, to educate others, and to mobilize support during pivotal social movements; further investigating virtual identity, privacy, anonymity, and harassmenting visibility and acceptance. These platforms facilitate the dissemination of diverse narratives, challenging traditional stereotypes and fostering a sense of belonging among marginalized groups. The research examines

194

how online new media serves as a tool for activism, enabling LGBT individuals to advocate for rights, educate others, and mobilize support during critical social movements.

Ng, E. (2013) Gay streaming is the trending concept related to the emergent trend of mainstream narratives and characters featuring LGBTQ+ characters, largely settling on palatable, normative portrayals reflective of mainstream ideals. Joining this shift raises questions about homonormativity — the idea that the goal of queerness can be achieved through the pursuit of assimilation and acceptance within heteronormative frameworks that too often marginalize aspects of queer identities. This integration is analyzed in terms of how it shapes activism, community solidarity, and the politics of representation and whether marginalized voices are displaced in favors of more mainstream friendly narratives. The study interrogates these tensions of visibility and authenticity to argue that an 'after gay' world where the fight for true inclusivity and the celebration of alternative experiences is still urgent within the context of the commercialization and conformity.

Craig, S. L., McInroy, L., et al (2015). Media: A Catalyst for Resilience in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer Youth examines how the media cultivates resilience in LGBT youth. This lack of representation, validation and empowerment from traditional family and community structures is often met by media which is under provided. Role models and relatable narratives: Positive portrayals on television, film, and online platforms let youth know that it's okay if you're LGBTQ+ and help you find your way through the minefield of your understanding. Finally, the research asks whether and how access to diverse media content facilitates the development of self-acceptance and resilience among LGBTQ+ youth, enabling them to envision an eventual future in which they will thrive.

Wargo, J. M. (2017). These lifestreams become powerful tools for self-representation and connection in an age of digital communication. Online, LGBTQ youth spread the community and belonging love by sharing images and stories, creating a tapestry of how they lived and how their peers in turn lived. Through these digital narratives, the study explores how these narratives seek to thwart the production and existence of stereotypes and for visibility, so peripheral identities can move around them.It speaks to the complications of self-presentation, of authenticity, privacy and the effect of social norms, research that demonstrates how new media is an important space for LGBTQ youth to construct identity and narrative and makes relevant to larger conversations about representation and inclusion in this time. Narratives in challenging stereotypes and promoting visibility, allowing individuals to navigate their identities in a supportive environment. It also

195

highlights the complexities of self-presentation, including issues of authenticity, privacy, and the impact of societal norms. the research underscores how new media acts as a vital space for LGBTQ youth to construct their identities and narratives, contributing to broader conversations about representation and inclusion in contemporary society.

Craig, S. L., & McInroy, L. (2014). "You Can Form a Part of Yourself Online: The Influence of New Media on Identity Development and Coming Out for LGBTQ Youth considers what takes place on the digital platforms, the way in which they created influence the identity development and coming out processes of LGBTQ youth. With new media, safe spaces exist for digesting and exploring, and sharing and expressing, in a landscape where support systems may be absent. Online communities allow people to connect with like-minded people who have gone through the same experiences which is in itself a way to feel like you belong and are not alone. LGBTQ teens can discover and play with their identities using social media, blogs, and forums and then use that realization and an opportunity to start revealing themselves in their life offline.

Lucero, L. (2017). Safe Spaces in Online Places: With Social Media and LGBTQ Youth, the role social media plays in being supportive environments for LGBTQ youth is the focus. In the midst of a world that does not always validate traditional social structures, youngsters can escape to websites to express their identities without being seen as odd, despised or segregated. These virtual safe spaces allow for connection, connection to others like minded peers, building of community, building of belonging. LGBTQ youth congregate online to share the experiences, stories, and resources few can provide in the offline world. What the research does highlight is that the greater use of social media allows for a greater exploration of identity for youth, allowing them to engage with a range of narratives and perspectives.

Yue, A., Nekmat, E., et al (2019). Digital Literacy through Digital Citizenship: Online Civic Participation and Public Opinion Evaluation of Youth Minorities in Southeast Asia scrutinize the implication between digital literacy and civic engagement of youth minorities in the Southeast Asian region. It is also increasingly embedded in political discourse as well as the tools of political activism and while this is developing, there is a need for young people to be equipped with the ability to navigate the online environment. This investigates the effects of digital citizenship to weave critical thinking into youth and enable them to assess and participate in informed social and political discussions. Using online platforms, these minority groups can raise their voices, mobilize for change, and help create democratic processes that may be challenging to the status quo. The

196

research points to the capacity of programs to build digital literacy skills that can make youth more capable of assessing information critically, articulate their rights, and take part confidently in civic life. In the end though, it ends by highlighting how digital engagement can become a transformative force that can actually make something new out of a Southeast Asia that promises to be more inclusionary and participatory.

McInroy, L. B., & Craig, S. L. (2017). LGBTQ Emerging Adults' Perspectives of Depiction and Impact of LGBTQ Media Representation studies representations of LGBTQ in media and how those representations influence what LGBTQ emerging adults will create for themselves. The study underscores the significance of representation that is authentic in television, film and online, realizing that such depictions greatly shape society's views and an individual acceptance of self in society. In interviews and surveys, LGBTQ emerging adults speak to diverse, and complex characters and storylines that reflect their lived experience. Results show that positive representations can promote a sense of belonging and validation and negative, or stereotypical portrayals can contribute to internalized homophobia and continued stigma against gay men.

Fox, J., & Ralston, R. (2016). Queer Identity Online: Social Media platforms become a site for LGBTQ individuals to learn and teach about queer identities and experiences: Informal Learning and Teaching Experiences of LGBTQ Individuals on Social Media. Users engage in informal learning with diverse content, including personal narratives and educational resources, to help shape self-understanding and community building, as the study highlights. LGBTQ people interact on platforms like Instagram, and Twitter, to share knowledge, challenge stereotypes and support one another, creating an empowerment and resilience space. This research underscores the importance of peer led education within overlooked subject matter by traditional educational framework standards such as gender identity, sexual orientation and mental health. The study presents the transformative potential of social media as a key resource for affirming and exploring identity, and ultimately for the development of community in navigating the ongoing search for queer identity in contemporary society.

Research Methodology

Digital media not only allows LGBT people to document various aspects of their identity but also to represent themselves, build connection and to experience feelings of belongingness. This paper explores secondary sources that analyse the influence of digital media on LGBT activism and identity formation. This paper is an attempt to understand and explores how the digital media was

used to spread LGBT rights movements, raise LGBT voices, activism, and have created social change.

LGBT Movement

LGBT movement is a social and political campaign which was started for the rights and equality of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender. It tries to fight against discrimination, legal inequalities and pull elsewhere prejudices people from the LGBT community and calls for social acceptance, legal protection and equal opportunity. Origins of the movement go back to early actions to oppose anti LGBT law and social repression with important landmarks, such as the Stonewall Riots of 1970 in New York and considered to be one of the main catalysts for the LGBT rights movement. The movement has since grown into a global movement covering a plethora of issues including decriminalizing homosexuality, the right to marry and adopt, anti-discrimination laws in the workplace and public spaces and healthcare and education. In recent years, the movement's focus has expanded to advocacy on behalf of transgender rights, support for identifying and the provision of healthcare to transgender people. The success of the LGBT movement has come from a mix of grass roots activism, litigation, political lobbying, and media campaigns that have made our lives harder in certain sectors but marked real progress in terms of shifting public perception and winning critical legislation in many countries. While there has been progress, however, LGBT individuals, particularly those living in regions where homosexuality remains criminalized or in those that deeply hold on to anti-LGBT sentiments and values in their social norms and legal systems, still face discrimination. Intersectionality is also built into the movement, acknowledging that LGBT people also experience discrimination owing both to their identity and aspects such as race, gender and socioeconomic status. The LGBT movement works to enable individuals to live openly and authentically, without any discrimination and violence. And taking the support of a world in which sexual orientation and gender identity was taken as basic human rights, through partnerships among locales and around the world. Nowhere new, the movement's efforts go on, shoving society around the globe into greater inclusion, equality, and justice for all.

Digital Platforms Empowering the LGBT Movement

Digital platforms are a key force in the empowerment of the LGBT movement, offering a place for visibility, building communities, advocacy, and activism. And social media like Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube has allowed LGBT people and organizations to broadcast their message to the worldwide community without dependence on traditional media, which has often marginalized

or misrepresented their lives. With the dawn of these platforms, LGBT related content is being spread at breakneck speed from personal stories of coming out to campaigning for legal and social change, drawing attention to and building empathy amongst different audiences.

Among the big advantages of digital platforms is that they make it easier for LGBT people especially those in isolated and hostile places to connect to a supportive global community. You can find help, chat with people who've experienced the same thing, and share your experiences on specialized LGBT apps and in online forums, groups, and communities like Tumblr, Reddit, and more. The platforms have also become a very important tool for activists to organize events like Pride marches, protests, and the same sort of thing: the marriage equality campaign, the anti–discrimination protection campaign. Millions have been mobilized by hashtags such as #Pride, #LoveIsLove and #TransRightsAreHumanRights to help bolster global awareness and support around LGBT matters. Besides activist, digital platforms have also delivered democratization of the content creation, letting LGBT creators do the storytelling and representation as they wish. YouTube channels, podcasts and blogs from LGBT people represent an authentic channel to share stories that represent different sexual orientations, different gender identities and experiences that pertain to the LGBT community. The technology and platforms aren't biased, and have helped to tear down stereotypes, challenge mainstream portrayals of the LBGT community for greater societal acceptance.

Digital Media and Intersectionality in the LGBT Movement

The LGBT movement has not only been advancing with the help of digital media, but it also has amplified intersectionality, from the interconnected natures of social categorizations, like race, gender, and sexual orientation, that can combine to produce overlapping systems of discrimination or disadvantage. Digital media has allowed diverse experiences within this LGBT community to be highlighted and examined through platforms like social media, blogs, online communities, which in turn, has done in making the space more inclusive and understanding of the intersectionality that exists in the movement itself.

Mainstream LGBT advocacy has largely focused on the experiences of cisgender, white, middle class individuals for many years, often to the exclusion or marginalization of the unique experiences of people of colour, trans folk, folks with disabilities and other folk who exist at the intersections of multiple marginalized identities. But digital media is kind of shifting this narrative because it's

199

allowed underrepresented voices to speak out and tell their stories. For instance, #BlackTransLivesMatter, #DisabilityPride, and #QueerIndigenousStories have appeared, so that people could start to share how they suffer doubly, or more, and that the LGBT movement needs urgently to speak for all backgrounds and not just the more visible or affluent.

Digital media offers a key advantage in that it is able to circumvent the classic gatekeepers to information, such as Mainstream Media or political institutions, and delivers voices from the global marginalized communities directly to a global audience. That has been particularly empowering to queer folx of color, disabled folx, and trans folx, who, frankly, our experiences are often ignored or misrepresented in traditional media. These people have formed their own narratives through blogs, YouTube channels, and podcasts and shared their stories across social media accounts, to advocate for their own rights and to find others that have shared the same experiences.

Second, across movements, digital platforms have also helped in cross movement collaborations, as activists of different social justice causes can connect, share resources, and orchestrate actions more easily. For example, historic digital media interactions between the LGBT and Black Lives Matter movements have sparked discussion surrounding the intersection of the relationship of racism and LGBT people, as well as how the fight for racial justice and LGBT rights have connected. As a result, this has opened up new ways of thinking about how prevailing systems of oppression, such as homophobia, racism and albinism, intersect and should therefore be combated simultaneously. Unlike physical platforms, which are limited in number, digital platforms are limitless. They're both an opportunity for visibility and an opportunity for marginalized groups to be online harassed, share hate speech, and misinform. Queer people of colour, or transgender people, for example may be targets of attacks that take advantage of both their sexual orientation and the ways in which they fact other aspects of their identity. Digital media has effectively facilitated the promotion of intersectionality in LGBT movement, by amplifying the many experiences shared by the community. The specificity of the unique obstacles experienced by those who exist at the intersections of several identities highlighted by digital media contributed to the development of a more inclusive and inclusive movement that calls for justice and equity for all LGBT people.

Advocacy and Activism through Digital Media

Advocacy and activism in the LGBT movement have been revolutionized by digital media, offering strong tools for organizing, alerting, and rallying the public with regards to support for equal rights. Today, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and even YouTube have become key to LGBT activism,

affording activists the ability to send an instant message to a global audience, by going around traditional media and institutional barriers. Digital activism through hashtags, viral campaigns, and social media posts has provided a louder megaphone for the voices of marginalized LGBT people to make a statement about marriage equality, transgender rights, anti-discrimination laws, and health care access.

Among the most outstanding examples of digital advocacy are the use of hashtags like #LoveWins, #TransRightsAreHumanRights, which have been picked up all over the world. These campaigns aren't just spreading the word and linking LGBT issues to human ones but they also humanize and give personal stories, which help shift public opinion to where it ought to be. On top of that, social media is becoming a necessary part, such as organizing protests, pride events, and online petitions, some spreading equating to the global Pride marches and demos against anti LGBT policies, especially of digital coordination.

Fundraising for LGBT cause is also facilitated by the digital media. GoFundMe and Patreon, two of the many crowd funding platforms out there, have helped fund a number of LGBT activism projects, from legal battles to community shelters, to providing aid to individuals struggling to remain safe and save collateral money for medical care. Activists have found a way around this funding restriction through this model, and gained an online crowd funding source that allows them to collect money from their communities. Digital advocacy also comes with challenges and extending the spread of misinformation, cyberbullying and online hate targeted against LGBT people. To this day, however, digital platforms remain a vital space for LGBT activism for the resources they can provide to people to push back on injustice, connect with allies, and create a more inclusive world. Using digital media effectively, the LGBT movement has radically changed how activism is done in the new era of visibility and advocacy.

The Globalization of LGBT Rights through Digital Media

The globalization of LGBT rights owes too much to digital media that empowers activists and advocates in scaling beyond geographical boundaries to reach a global audience with their message. In the past, for example, LGBT movements have been localized within the social, political and legal environments of individual countries. Though it has taken on a global network of interconnected movements sharing strategies, stories and resources that seek to promote equal rights, LGBT activism today is still not fully removed from the closeted nature of past movements.

201

Connecting activists through digital media is one of the large ways that digital media has helped globalize LGBT rights. LGBT people and organizations can easily share their experiences, create land campaigns, and strengthen solidarity with movements in other countries through platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube. This crossborder sharing of activists has allowed for activists in more progressive countries to offer support and resources to other countries where LGBT rights are clamped down or no longer exist. For example, during Pride Month we often see global solidarity displayed as countries come together to collaborate online with common hashtags like #Pride, #LoveIsLove, and #EqualityForAll.

Digital media has also played a role in gaining attention on LGBT issues in repressive countries where traditional media is controlled or state censored. In states where being gay is to an extent illegal or would bring social stigma, LGBT activists use digital platforms to get around such persecution and reach out to a larger number of people. And here, in regions where supporting the LGBT community can be a step to persecution, or even legal issues, this has been particularly important. In these kinds of situations, digital media becomes a lifeline to activists, allowing them to organize, to share and get information and to seek international support more safely. Internet petitions, video campaigns and social media mobilization have generated pressure on governments and international organisations to act against human rights violations of the LGBT communities.

Additionally, the global rise in LGBT rights has been subject to international human rights organizations and governments. LGBT communities all over the world have undergone capture through digital media, a global discourse has emerged around LGBT rights, as the essential human rights. For instance, before same sex marriage was even legalised in countries like the United States, Canada and some parts of Europe, global digital campaigns mounted to raise awareness and drive public opinion in support of equal rights did contribute significantly to the law being implemented.

Digital media has been instrumental to the globalization of LGBT rights, yet struggles to catch up with issues related to internet access or digital surveillance and censorship, even in countries where access to the internet is limited. However, digital media remains an indispensable tool for advocating for LGBT rights around the world, for building community, and for insisting on legal and social change under the most repressive of circumstances. Through these platforms, in a world that is no longer understanding of having an LGBT view, the LGBT movement has risen on a global scale, fighting for a more equal and inclusive globe.

UGC CARE I

Conclusion

Digital media has upended the LGBT movement to the point that new ways to advocate, act, and connect to our communities remain available. LGBT people and organizations have been visible, and through social media, blogs, and online forums, have reached global audiences and built networks of support and solidarity deep and broad. It has made it easier for activists to organize movements, to share their personal stories, to raise awareness of LGBT issues: by opening up a way to bypass traditional barriers of state censorship and societal stigma applied to LGBT activism. #LoveWins and #TransRightsAreHumanRights are just two recent examples of digital media's ability to mobilize global support and to spawn social and legal change. At the same time, the digital platforms have brought challenges such as online harassment, misinformation and the digital divide that restricts access in places too. These obstacles still exist however digital media still serves as a valuable part of the LGBT movement to bring these unrepresented voices forward and to address specific challenges pertaining to the LGBT individual at the intersecting points of race, gender, and class. While digital media has not only amplified the presence of the LGBT movement but, in fact, has helped to completely reshape the way in which the movement continues its fight for equality, visibility and justice for all members of the LGBT community.

References

1. Ayoub, P. M., & Garretson, J. (2017). Getting the message out: Media context and global changes in attitudes toward homosexuality. Comparative political studies, 50(8), 1055-1085.

2. Blackwell, L., Hardy, J., Ammari, T., Veinot, T., Lampe, C., &Schoenebeck, S. (2016). LGBT parents and social media: Advocacy, privacy, and disclosure during shifting social movements. In Proceedings of the 2016 CHI conference on human factors in computing systems (pp. 610-622).

3. Craig, S. L., & McInroy, L. (2014). You can form a part of yourself online: The influence of new media on identity development and coming out for LGBTQ youth. Journal of gay & lesbian mental health, 18(1), 95-109.

4. Craig, S. L., McInroy, L., McCready, L. T., &Alaggia, R. (2015). Media: A catalyst for resilience in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer youth. Journal of LGBT youth, 12(3), 254-275.

UGC CARE I

5. Dimond, J. P., Dye, M., LaRose, D., & Bruckman, A. S. (2013, February). Hollaback! The role of storytelling online in a social movement organization. In Proceedings of the 2013 conference on Computer supported cooperative work (pp. 477-490).

6. Downing, J. D. (Ed.). (2010). Encyclopedia of social movement media. Sage Publications.

7. Fox, J., & Ralston, R. (2016). Queer identity online: Informal learning and teaching experiences of LGBTQ individuals on social media. Computers in human behavior, 65, 635-642.

8. Ghaziani, A., Taylor, V., & Stone, A. (2016). Cycles of sameness and difference in LGBT social movements. Annual Review of Sociology, 42(1), 165-183.

9. Goh, K. (2018). Safe cities and queer spaces: The urban politics of radical LGBT activism. Annals of the American Association of Geographers, 108(2), 463-477.

10. Gray, M. L. (2009). Out in the country: Youth, media, and queer visibility in rural America (Vol. 2). NYU Press.

11. Jenzen, O. (2022). LGBTQ youth cultures and social media. In Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication.

12. Lucero, L. (2017). Safe spaces in online places: Social media and LGBTQ youth. Multicultural Education Review, 9(2), 117-128.

13. McInroy, L. B., & Craig, S. L. (2015). Transgender representation in offline and online media: LGBTQ youth perspectives. Journal of Human Behavior in the Social Environment, 25(6), 606-617.

14. McInroy, L. B., & Craig, S. L. (2017). Perspectives of LGBTQ emerging adults on the depiction and impact of LGBTQ media representation. Journal of youth studies, 20(1), 32-46.

15. Mowlabocus, S. (2016). Gaydar culture: Gay men, technology and embodiment in the digital age. Routledge.

16. Ng, E. (2013). A "post-gay" era? Media gaystreaming, homonormativity, and the politics of LGBT integration. Communication, culture & critique, 6(2), 258-283.

17. Pullen, C., & Cooper, M. (Eds.). (2010). LGBT identity and online new media. Routledge.

18. Stein, M. (2022). Rethinking the gay and lesbian movement. Routledge.

19. Wargo, J. M. (2017). "Every selfie tells a story…": LGBTQ youth lifestreams and new media narratives as connective identity texts. New media & society, 19(4), 560-578.

20. Yue, A., Nekmat, E., & Beta, A. R. (2019). Digital literacy through digital citizenship: Online civic participation and public opinion evaluation of youth minorities in Southeast Asia. Media and Communication, 7(2), 100-114.