Research on the Parent-child Relationship Between College Students and Their Parents Based on the WeChat platform —— Cites Tibet University

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Abstract: The purpose of this study was to explore the influence of WeChat usage and WeChat usage motivation of Tibetan University students on the parent-child relationship. Using the questionnaire survey method, the study subjects were mainly students from Xizang University. In this study, the questionnaire and obtained 412 valid samples. Analysis was performed with SPSS21.0 statistical software, including population frequency analysis, t-test of independent samples, univariate analysis, and correlation analysis. The results show that women use more WeChat functions than men, and the parent-child relationship between Tibetan students and their parents is better than Han students; the distance and time from home significantly affect the WeChat motivation and parent-child relationship. The more college students use WeChat B 1, the stronger motivation of WeChat B 1, which is more beneficial to the development of parent-child relationship.

Keywords: WeChat usage, WeChat usage motivation, parent-child relationship

1. Introduction

With the continuous progress of science and technology, smart phones and the rapid development of the network, on February 3, 2021, the scale of Chinese Internet users reached 989 million, the Internet penetration rate reached 70.4%, in China's Internet user group, students are the largest, accounting for 21.0% [1]. However, with the rapid development of new media, the proportion of Internet users aged 50 and above increased from 16.9% in March 2020 to 26.3%, representing that the Internet has further penetrated into the middle-aged and elderly groups. Since its launch in 2011, WeChat has attracted much attention for its convenience in remote communication. According to a survey, WeChat accounts for 72 percent of the way parents communicate with their children at Tibet University [2]. In order to know more about their children, parents want to timely know their children's life, safety, pressure and other information, especially college students, they choose to use smart phones to add their children's WeChat friends, through various functions of WeChat to timely know their children's school situation.

2. Research hypothesis

This study explore influence the WeChat on college students' family parent-child relationship, from different gender, nationality, time away from home, distance from home, and other variables in WeChat function usage, WeChat use motivation and parent-child relationship, the difference of the WeChat each function is used, WeChat use motivation and Tibet university students and their parents how to parent-child relationship correlation [3].

According to the direction of investigation, the following hypotheses are made:

L1: The relationship between college students and their parents is generally normal, regardless of the existence of serious conflicts, divorce, single-parent families and other special circumstances;

L2: College students and their parents have the ability to use WeChat;

L3: There are network conditions in high altitude areas of Tibet;

L4: There is no time difference in countries other than China;

L5: It is assumed that individual students who voluntarily sample can be representative of the population.
3. The research methods

3.1. Questionnaire survey

The object of this study is Tibet university students. The topic of the questionnaire refers to the more commonly used functions of WeChat, and combined with the “parent-child relationship scale”, the questionnaire design is modified and completed, and the final design is the preliminary draft of the questionnaire on the influence of WeChat on parent-child relationship of College Students. After the preparation, part of the questionnaire was recovered through the pre-survey. After the pre-questionnaire processing, Cronbach’s-α coefficient was tested and part of the content of the preliminary draft was revised to compile the formal questionnaire.

3.2. The questionnaire recovery

The sample population of this project is college students in Xizang University. The method of voluntary sampling is adopted, and the formula is adopted to determine the number of voluntary sampling: 
$$n = \frac{z^2 \times \sigma^2}{d^2}$$
calculates the sample size, n sample size, z represent the statistics of the confidence level, 95% the confidence level: 1.96. \(\sigma\) represents the standard deviation of the population, usually 0.5. In practice, d means the survey error, here is 5%.

3.3. Reliability and validity of the questionnaire

The Cronbach’s s Alpha coefficient commonly used academically was used to test the reliability and validity of this study. Cronbach’s s Alpha coefficient above 0.8 indicates high reliability, and Cronbach’s s Alpha coefficient between 0.7 and 0.8 indicates acceptability. Table 1 shows that: When the Cronbach’s s Alpha coefficient of WeChat function use, WeChat use motivation and parent-child relationship is above 0.8, it indicates high reliability. The higher the reliability value is, the more reliable the test results are.

| Variable                  | Category                  | Frequency | Percentage | Mean value | Standard deviation |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Gender                    | male                      | 179       | 43%        | 1.5        | 0.49               |
|                           | female                    | 233       | 57%        |            |                    |
| Ethnic group              | The Han nationality       | 180       | 44%        | 1.5        | 0.49               |
|                           | Tibetan                   | 232       | 56%        |            |                    |
| Time to leave home        | Week                      | 18        | 4%         | 2.9        | 0.84               |
|                           | Month                     | 86        | 21%        |            |                    |
|                           | Half of a year            | 253       | 61%        |            |                    |
|                           | Year                      | 28        | 7%         |            |                    |
|                           | More than a year          | 27        | 7%         |            |                    |
| Distance from home        | Same province and city    | 50        | 12%        | 2.9        | 1.13               |
|                           | Across provinces and cities| 128     | 31%        |            |                    |
|                           | Different provinces and close distances| 33 | 8% | | |
|                           | Different provinces and long distances| 201 | 49% | | |
|                           | half a year               | 412       | 100%       |            |                    |

Table 2: The reliability

| Measurement variable        | Mean value | Variance | Cronbach’s Alpha |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|------------------|
| Use of WeChat function      | 3.777      | 0.565    | 0.85             |
| Motivation for using WeChat.| 3.735      | 0.017    | 0.925            |
| Parent-child relationship   | 3.515      | 0.014    | 0.932            |

The validity of this study was tested by KMO and Bartlett sphere test in SPSS21.0 version. In general, when the value of KMO is greater than 0.7, and the correlation rate of Bartlett sphericity test is less than 0.05, it means that the commonality is higher, which is suitable for factor analysis. Table 2 showed that the KMO values of WeChat use function, WeChat use motivation and parent-child relationship scale were all greater than 0.7. The concomitant rate of Bartlett sphericity test was Sig. It tends to be 0.000, indicating that the validity of the scale is good.
4. Questionnaire analysis

According to the results of the questionnaire survey, SPSS21.0 version was used for data analysis in this study, including frequency analysis of demographic variables and reliability and validity analysis of the questionnaire. For hypothesis testing, mainly involved in independent samples t test to detect gender and ethnic differences, by single factor test to detect the time and distance from home to home to of the difference of parent-child relationship with the Person ‘sr correlation coefficient to detect WeChat function usage, WeChat university student motivation and the correlation of parent-child relationship.

5. The results of the study

As can be seen from Table 3, there is a significant difference in the use of WeChat functions by gender. Female college students use WeChat functions more than male students, and it reaches a significant level. Female college students have stronger motivation to use WeChat than male college students, but not significantly; female college students have better parent-child relationship than male college students, but not significantly.

Table 3: Gender differences in various variables

| Measurement variable   | Gender    | Mean value | Standard deviation | t   | Sig. (both sides) |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|--------------------|-----|-------------------|
| Usage of WeChat function | Male      | 47.5       | 9.199              | -3.389 | 0.001             |
|                        | Female    | 50.3       | 7.38               |      |                   |
| Reasons for the use of WeChat | Male    | 40.5       | 8.787              | -1.34 | 0.181             |
|                        | Female    | 41.6       | 7.47               |      |                   |
| Parent-child relationship | Male   | 28.0       | 6.698              | -0.378 | 0.705             |
|                        | Female    | 28.2       | 7.261              |      |                   |

As can be seen in Table 4, has significant difference to the parent-child relationship, parent-child relationship Tibetan college students is better than the han nationality college students, and to achieve significant difference, the han nationality college students WeChat function usage than Tibetan college students, but not significant, the han nationality college students WeChat use motivation than strong Tibetan college students, but not significant.

Table 4: Ethnic differences in the variables

| Measurement variable   | National | Mean value | Standard deviation | t    | Sig. (both sides) |
|------------------------|----------|------------|--------------------|------|-------------------|
| Usage of WeChat function | Han nationality | 49.72     | 7.65               | 1.367 | 0.172             |
|                        | Tibetan nationality | 48.61   | 8.81               |      |                   |
| Reasons for the use of WeChat | Han nationality | 41.48     | 8.49               | 0.859 | 0.391             |
|                        | Tibetan nationality | 40.79   | 7.75               |      |                   |
| Parent-child relationship | Han nationality | 27.21     | 7.74               | -2.274 | 0.024             |
|                        | Tibetan nationality | 28.83   | 6.32               |      |                   |

Single factor analysis in SPSS21.0 was used to test the differences between distance from home and WeChat function use, reasons for WeChat use and parent-child relationship.

Table 5: One-way ANOVA analysis of distance from home

| Different options       | WeChat function | Reasons for the use of WeChat | Parent-child relationship |
|-------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| The total average       | 3.78            | 3.74                         | 4.26                      |
| Same province and city  | 3.82            | 3.79                         | 4.58                      |
| Same province and across cities. | 3.78 | 3.75 | 4.52 |
| Different provinces and close distances | 3.79 | 3.77 | 4.06 |
| Different provinces and long distances | 3.76 | 3.71 | 4.06 |
| Significance            | 0.098           | 0.881                        | 0.004                     |
| Multiple comparison     |                 |                              | 1>4,2>4                   |

It can be seen from Table 5 that there is no significant difference between college students with different distances from home and WeChat functions and the reasons for WeChat use, but there is a difference in parent-child relationship.

Through multiple comparison conclusions, it can be known that the parent-child relationship of college students with distance from home in the same province and city is significantly better than that of college students with distance from home in different provinces and cities, and the parent-child relationship of college students with distance from home in the same province is significantly better than
that of college students with distance from home in different provinces and cities.

Single factor analysis in SPSS21.0 was used to test the difference between time away from home and WeChat function use, WeChat use motivation and parent-child relationship.

Table 6: One-way ANOVA for home time

| Different options | WeChat function | Reasons for the use of WeChat | Parent-child relationship |
|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| The total average | 3.78            | 3.61                          | 4.26                     |
| A Week            | 3.68            | 3.91                          | 4.72                     |
| A Month           | 3.81            | 3.73                          | 4.45                     |
| Half of a year    | 3.8             | 3.63                          | 4.24                     |
| One year          | 3.68            | 3.48                          | 3.75                     |
| More than one year| 3.62            | 0.881                         | 4.11                     |
| Significance      | 0.514           | 0.051                         | 0.004                    |
| Multiple comparison |                |                               |                          |

Through multiple comparisons, it can be seen that students who leave home for one month are more motivated to use WeChat than those who leave home for half a year. Students who leave home for one month are more motivated to use WeChat than those who leave home for more than one year. Those who left home for a week had better parent-child relationships than those who left home for half a year, and those who left home for a week had better parent-child relationships than those who left home for a year.

Pearson correlation analysis in SPSS21.0 was used to examine the differences between distance from home and WeChat function use, reasons for WeChat use and parent-child relationship.

Table 7: Table of correlation between parent-child relationship, reasons for using WeChat and the use of WeChat functions

| Parent-child relationship | Pearson correlation | Reasons for the use of WeChat | Usage of WeChat function |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Motivation for using WeChat | Pearson correlation | 1                             | .682**                   |
| Usage of WeChat function  | Pearson correlation | 1                             | .427**                   |

According to the analysis in Table 7, parent-child relationship, WeChat use motivation and WeChat function use are significantly correlated with each other, showing a significant positive correlation. This shows that the more functions college students use WeChat, the more motivation they have to use WeChat, and the more beneficial it is to the development of parent-child relationship.

6. Conclusion

(1) Female college students use WeChat more than male college students. In terms of WeChat use motivation, there is no significant difference between it and parent-child relationship. However, the average of female college students’ WeChat use motivation and parent-child relationship is higher than that of male college students, that is, female college students’ WeChat use motivation is stronger than that of male college students, and female college students’ parent-child relationship is better than that of male college students.

(2) In the study of the influence of nationality on parent-child relationship, it can be found that Tibetan college students have better parent-child relationship than Han college students.

(3) The parent-child relationship of college students whose distance from home is the same province and the same city is better than that of college students whose distance from home is different province and the distance from home is farther.

(4) College students who leave home for one month are more motivated to use WeChat than those who leave home for half a year. College students who leave home for one week have better parent-child relationship than those who leave home for half a year, and those who leave home for one week have better parent-child relationship than those who leave home for one year.

(5) Use WeChat regularly to communicate with family members and promote the development of parent-child relationship. The more functions college students use WeChat, the stronger the motivation to use WeChat, which is more beneficial to the development of parent-child relationship.
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