Research Report

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# Main Question

What are the main barriers for people with different cultures to communicate in a neighborhood?

# Hypothesis

We expect to learn what makes it hard for people from different backgrounds to communicate with each other and figure out some ways to get over it.

# Sub question

* How to overcome these barriers?

# Research goal

The goal of the research is to find out why it is hard for people with different cultural backgrounds to communicate and how to get over this.

# Methods

In this research, we are going to use the method Literature Study. We will use this method to find out what scientific and psychological studies say about our questions. After conducting this online study, we will know what kind of features can be implemented in our app in order to prove our research to be successful and so people don’t have a hard time communicating with each other.

# Elaboration of the questions

* *What are the main barriers for people with different cultures to communicate in a neighborhood?*

Culture diversity makes communication between people difficult due to their mindsets being different. Different cultures have different languages, opinions and behaviors. When people belonging to different cultures communicate, these factors become barriers. The main barriers are language, behavior and religion.

Different cultures have developed their own language as part of their heritage. Rather than working hard to learn new languages, people are comfortable talking in their own language. However, when people communicate with each other in their own language, they end up having some misunderstandings.

People with different cultures have unlike personalities and behaviors which often leads to miscommunication.

For example, for certain cultures maintaining eye contact while talking is very important where in some it is considered rude and disrespectful.

Good communication only occurs when people with different cultures take time to learn and accept each other's differences.

Religion also causes miscommunication between people. Religious views influence how people think about each other. It causes a difference in opinions. People often find it difficult to talk to one another because of these different views.

* *How to overcome these barriers?*

Cross-cultural communication is not only a barrier but also an opportunity to learn about different cultures, new perspectives and open to new ideas. However, it is possible to overcome these barriers.

Even though you two speak different languages, if you ensure clear and polite communication there is still a possibility to understand each other. You can always use simple words and visual methods in order to communicate. Also avoid using slang words and phrases.

# Conclusion and recommendations

Based on the literature study we can conclude that cultural barriers occur when people from different cultures speak different languages and have different behavior and religious views. This is mainly due to lack of cultural awareness, knowledge and communication. To make communication effective between people, the barriers need to be eliminated as much as possible. Cross-cultural understanding must be increased as it decreases communication barriers caused by cultural differences.

It is recommended that we can make an application that would help to reduce these cultural barriers as much as possible.

# App functionalities based on research

* Would be nice for users to be able to translate posts in any language they would like.
* Based on events, people from different countries can say the main points of what to expect at the event, or the basic phrases in their language.
* A feature where you can request help from your neighbours.
* Join events and see existing events.

# Reflection on the research

The research ended up giving quite a lot of new information that we did not know. The context about the language barrier was clear to us since people from different countries speak their own language, so that would be a disadvantage when it comes to communication. What we were not aware of was that people from other cultures tend to have different behaviors and religious views. Therefore, they play a big part when it comes to communication.

When people from different backgrounds come together, they are not sure what to expect. However, it’s always better to take time and get to know everyone as well as learn about their culture, beliefs and opinions as well as respect them in order to maintain a good relation and keep the communication going.

# Sources

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