

WEEK 2 RESEARCH NOTEBOOK UPDATE:

Menopause can occur naturally or be induced. When an individual experiences menopause, there are numerous hormonal changes that take place. These changes affect the individual's mind and body. In order to understand these changes, individuals often reach out to medical personnel. But they are not always readily available to the people. This forces individuals to seek help from the internet by acquiring knowledge about the changes they are experiencing. They also reach out to support groups on the web and end up consuming any and all information available on the internet.

As we all know that the web is practically an information overload. The ample availability of internet resources has made it extremely simple for users to acquire information and assistance. This has also posed new issues for text analysis. The greatest obstacle faced is the variability in vocabulary and language that is used to explain menopause. This makes it almost impossible to analyze and compare the text sources effectively. Another problem faced is gender bias in portrayal. As the language and characterization used by different genders are different. This usually affects the accuracy of text analysis.

The variability of the support-seeking behaviour of the individuals and the intricacy of the topic are a few more obstacles to text analysis as everyone seeks support for different things and they also have their own way to describe the reason for seeking support. Since this is a very complex topic as individuals have physical and mental effects, for most people, it is extremely difficult to put into words what they go through and what they need.

These obstacles emphasize the necessity of exercising caution while assessing and studying literature sources about menopausal support. In order to improve the accuracy of text analysis and to acquire a better understanding of the experiences and needs of the individuals seeking support, it is very important to acquire more knowledge about the problems.

Summarizing the problems faced while performing text analysis to find information related to menopause:

- **Lack of standardization:** No standard way of discussing or representing menopause exists. This leads to differences in language and characterization depending on the forum and source of information. This leads to the ambiguity of the language used.
- **Gender bias:** while representing menopause and the problems faced, there is gender bias as the language and characterization are different depending on the gender of the author.
- **Heterogeneity of support-seeking behaviour:** The individuals seeking support during menopause might do so for different reasons and in different ways. This leads to a lack of consistency in the language and terminology used.

- **Complexity of the subject matter:** Menopause is a complex biological process that affects the afflicted individual's physical and psychological state. This makes it difficult to understand the requirements and experiences of the individuals seeking support.