

Exploring incivility and moral foundations toward Asians in English-speaking tweets in hate crime-reporting cities during the COVID-19 pandemic

Bumsoo Kim, Eric Cook and Seong-Kyu Kim (2020)

Purpose

The purpose of this study was to find out how many Twitter users were participating in immoral and ethically dubious comments on specific Asian countries and residents. The integrated threat theory (ITT) has been utilized to develop issues about rudeness and moral implications in COVID-19-related Twitter dialogue (Kim et al, 2020).

Research Design

The authors brought the English-speaking United States (US) through three stages: (1) early diagnosis of COVID-19 in China, (2) high COVID-19 death rates in the United States, and (3) news that a vaccine will be available in the U.S shortly. They gathered tweets and retweets from Twitter users (Kim et al, 2020).

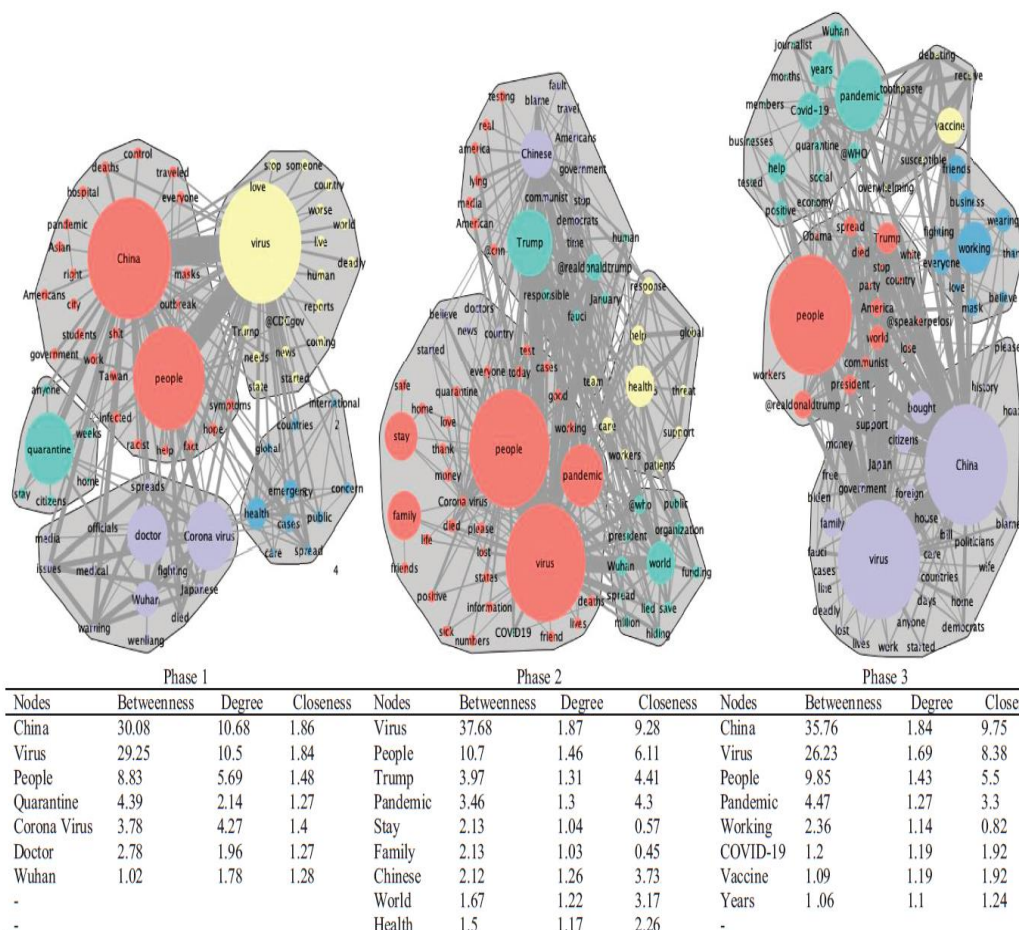
Findings

The authors discovered substantial disparities in disrespectful tweets written in cities with higher hate crimes against Asians than in low-level areas. Finally, while describing China and its culture and population, English-speaking Twitter users preferred to employ moral virtues and moral evils (Kim et al, 2020).

Critique of figures

The limitations of this study are as follows: First, it's a figure 1 that shows a step-by-step change, but it's not clear which city it's targeting or specific information about it because we used Twitter data. In addition, the authors did not collect information from all cities in the United States. In addition, it seems necessary to cover more sample cities with more diverse search keywords, including future researchers, to investigate the link between disrespect and actual aggressive behavior on social media (Kim et al, 2020). Also, in order to identify the interaction between tweets, it is thought that other variables may be included to generate more interesting visualizations. This, in turn, indicates the need for further research to supplement the data. In other words, there is a limit to generalization.

Figure 1.
Semantic network
analysis with
frequently mentioned
keywords across the
three phases



Note(s): The network maps above were generated with raw datasets (before generating numeric datasets). The Louvain method was used to create clusters, and node sizes were constructed based on betweenness centrality (closest paths between nodes). Betweenness centrality values above 1.0 are presented with degree and closeness centrality values in this figure

References

Kim, B., Cooks, E., & Kim, S. K. (2021, August 26). Exploring incivility and moral foundations toward Asians in English-speaking tweets in hate crime-reporting cities during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Internet Research*, 32(1), 362–378.

<https://doi.org/10.1108/intr-11-2020-0678>