

The Enlightenment of Network language violence from the Perspective of Language Inequality

Yibo Li

School of Nanning Normal University, Nanning, China.

Abstract

As a communication tool, language is essentially equal, but language inequality exists widely at the level of language use, and it is the product of social inequality. Language inequality can be divided into three forms: subjective inequality, narrow language inequality and communication inequality. In recent years, with the rapid development of the network, it has also given birth to the problem of network violence. In the past, a large number of studies have focused on the impact of language inequality on education, but there are few studies on network language violence from the perspective of language inequality, and there are few studies on the effects and causes of this kind of prejudice. therefore, this study adopts the method of questionnaire to explore the causes of network language violence from the perspective of language inequality.

Keywords

Language Inequality; Network Language Violence; Hudson's Theory.

1. Introduction

Network language is a new language phenomenon associated with the network. Like the network, network language plays an indispensable role in our daily life. By dividing the development of network language into three periods: the starting period, the development period and the active period, and combined with the diachronic analysis of each language bearing platform, we can see that the trend of the development of Chinese network language is: from text symbols to the mixed form of text, picture and image, the mixing mode of symbols in different systems is becoming more and more complex, and the style is gradually changing from spoken language to the integration of spoken and written language. The diffusion ability of network language is gradually enhanced, and the trend of out-of-network diffusion is obvious. However, in recent years, with the rapid development of Internet social media, online game platforms and video sites, the phenomenon of online language violence is becoming more and more serious.

There are many studies on the causes of cyber language violence at home and abroad, but each cause is from a different point of view, including critical discourse analysis, social psychology and so on. However, there is no research to reveal the motivation or causes behind cyber language violence from the perspective of language inequality.

It is necessary to have a set of scientific and practical theories, tools and methods to analyze network language violence from the perspective of language inequality. However, due to the influence of space, culture and other factors, a lot of successful experience, especially the foreign experience can not be directly copied to the local research. This study focuses on the people who have experienced online language violence, who are all Arena of Valor mobile game players, trying to explain the causes of online language violence through the theory of language inequality, so as to provide reference for future research and practice.

2. Literature review

The purpose of this paper is to make a sociolinguistics analysis of the phenomenon of network language violence by using Hudson's theory of language inequality. Because this perspective has not been paid attention to by predecessors, the author focuses on the theory of language inequality and the development of network language violence in the literature review.

2.1. Development of Language Inequality

Hudson, a famous British linguist, has been devoted to sociolinguistic research for many years. As an expert in theoretical linguistics, Hudson is critical of the traditional views and practices in the field of linguistics. As we all know, linguistics, as a scientific study of language, should be descriptive rather than prescriptive. However, in Hudson's view, this cliché slogan still causes problems. In Hudson's words, "it is much more difficult to avoid stipulation than many linguists realize, because the historical development of linguistic theory is so closely related to the description of famous variants (that is, standard language)." Hudson made a great contribution to the systematization of language inequality. His classification of language inequality has been widely recognized by linguists. He divides them into three categories: subjective inequality, strict linguistic inequality and communicative inequality. These three types of language inequalities are discussed in the rest of this chapter. In each case, language inequality can be seen as the cause of social inequality, but in turn, language is also the result of social inequality. Because language plays a key role in the process of social inequality handed down from generation to generation.

J.E. Bonnin, a professor at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, has studied the relationship between religious and political discourse in Latin America. In his paper "New Dimensions of language inequality: an Overview", he defines language inequality as "a particular form of language contact, which is the result of unequal social values of language, variety or choice (by region, age, class, etc.). And the style of communication said or written in a particular community. Therefore, because of the indicative nature of language, language inequality is the producer and repeater of broader social, economic and cultural inequality. At the same time, it creates and strengthens the relationship between subjects, thus ensuring the speaker's identity and community concept. Obviously, language inequality is interpreted as a double-edged sword. Subjective inequality is most closely related to our daily life, which involves people's subjective views on language users. Communicative inequality is concerned not only with the knowledge of linguistic items themselves, but also with how users use linguistic projects to communicate effectively." In other words, communicative inequality is concerned with the question of whether language users will say the right thing on the right occasion. The "slip of the tongue" that we often talk about is the best interpretation of social inequality. In a narrow sense, language inequality involves the words that language users know, the rules that make words into legal sentences, and the restrictions on these rules. The language used by language users is related to their environment, so the inequality caused by the use of language that reflects their environment is strict language inequality.

2.2. Development of Network Language Violence

In the first edition of the Great Chinese Dictionary, "violence" is interpreted as "coercive force" and "coercive force used against hostile classes especially for the benefit of their own class". In the sixth edition of the Modern Chinese Dictionary, "violence" is also interpreted as "coercive power; force" and "specifically refers to the coercive force of the state". From the standpoint of the public health field, the World Health Organization regards violence as a public health problem, and the definition of "violence" is more comprehensive: "deliberately use the power or power of the body. Threaten or harm oneself, others, groups or society, causing or most likely to cause injury, death, mental injury, developmental disorders or deprivation of rights and

interests." Language violence is a kind of "discourse behavior". When "language" becomes a kind of "coercive force", it not only has the superficial aggressiveness, but also includes a more invisible hegemonic control contained inside. reach the level of violence in a repressive way.

With the popularization of the network and the development of technology, people have been used to vent their emotions and communicate their feelings through the network platform. Because of the anonymity, virtuality and freedom of the network, there is often no limit to people's personal expression. People will use the network to carry on the abnormal, irrational expression and communication, and even send out attacks such as verbal abuse and hurt others, which leads to the emergence of network language violence. In the papers on the study of network language violence, some people think that network language violence refers to "in the network, people attack or abuse others through the network communication platform, which causes them to cause some psychological or ideological harm." There are also people who define cyber language violence in this way: "in a hegemonic way on the network belonging to emerging media, using words that are immoral, do not conform to the scope of thinking of ordinary people, and do not conform to legal norms, by organizing language without logical order and depriving others of some discourse rights, the result is serious mental or even physical harm to others."

The research achievements of scholars(not Chinese scholars) on the issue of network violence language mainly focus on two aspects: network rumor and violence language. Scholars generally carry out the study of rumors from the perspectives of psychology, communication and sociology. Especially in the field of psychological research, Olbert and others conducted a systematic study of rumors. in the book "Psychology of rumors", they clarified the relationship between rumors and psychological variables such as motivation, attitude and cognitive structure, and summed up a formula for expressing the degree of rumors: $R_i \times a$ (R is Rumor "r rumors", I is important "importance", an is ambiguous "vagueness"). On the other hand, the book "rumors" by the American jurist Cass Sunstein introduces us to a series of true knowledge about rumors. The author believes that the lack of factual experience, emotion and prejudice lead to the breeding, spread and influence of rumors. At the same time, he also believes that it is impossible to eliminate rumors simply by maintaining a balance between freedom of expression and legal control. In view of the proliferation of rumors on the Internet, he believes that the most fundamental solution is to find out the psychological mechanism of rumors spreaders and the spread mechanism of rumors. In view of the spread mechanism of rumors, he put forward three concepts:"information flow waterfall", "group polarization" and "biased absorption". Unfortunately, the author also failed to come up with a perfect solution to the rumors. Generally speaking, there are few studies on language violence abroad, and only a few studies mainly deal with the problem of violence from Internet rumors, failing to make a systematic, comprehensive and in-depth discussion on this kind of problem.

There are not many academic papers related to network language violence in China. At present, the domestic research on network language violence has three characteristics: first, the research time is short. Related papers have been published since 2006. at the beginning of the research, the number of related papers is very small and the research angle is single, and the more research years are concentrated in the period from 2014 to 2017. A total of 114 academic papers were searched with "network language violence" as a single keyword. Among the documents retrieved with the word "language violence", one of them is news report. Second, the field of discipline is narrow. The research perspective basically focuses on communication and linguistics, and fails to analyze the chaos of network language violence from a multi-disciplinary perspective. Third, there is a lot of attention to reality and lack of theoretical construction, which is mainly manifested in the emphasis on case analysis rather than basic theory.

2.3. The Interweaving of Linguistics and Network Language Violence

Wang Pin's "Rebirth, Redemption and empathy: a positive discourse Analysis Perspective of language violence" takes the evaluation system of systemic functional linguistics as the theoretical framework. This paper examines a speech by Monica Lewinsky and the attitude resources in the audience's response to the speech, intended to point out that discourse analysis of language violence should not only focus on exposure and criticism, but also pay attention to the positive factors reflected in the relevant discourse. It includes how the victims of language violence are reborn in adversity, how the perpetrators of language violence repent, how the public show sympathy for the victims, how to recognize the evil of language bullying and so on. This paper shows the constructive role of discourse after the occurrence of language violence.

Wang Renhua's "Network language violence from the Perspective of metaphorical Cognition" takes the typical incidents of network language violence in China in recent years as an example to explore the cognitive process of metaphorical meaning in the language of network violence. It includes the metaphorical content, manifestation and meaning cognitive process of the violence metaphor in the network language. It is found that the metaphorical contents of violence metaphors in network language mainly include derogatory animals, typical negative characters, ghosts, waste excrement, etc., and the forms come from the crisscross combination of Noumenon, metaphorical body and metaphorical bottom. The difficulty of cognitive process decreases with the increase of the clarity of metaphorical elements. This paper opens up a metaphorical cognitive perspective for network language violence.

Wang Dongyan's "Research report on language violence in the Network and Family Environment" is a research report formed on the basis of previous investigation. This study mainly focuses on the two aspects of network language violence and family language violence, analyzes people's cognition and attitude towards network and family language violence through open questionnaire and semi-structured interview, and explains the causes of network and family language violence. and according to the survey results to reflect on the phenomenon of language violence, and then try to put forward solutions. Based on real data statistics and objective interpretation, this paper provides a reliable basis for further research.

3. Methodology

3.1. Methodology and Process

This paper takes the college students of Nanning normal University as the research object, and carries out the investigation activity with the theme of "network language violence of college students in Nanning normal University". In order to ensure the authenticity and reliability of the survey results, a total of 110 college students from Nanning normal University were selected from different grades, colleges and majors, and 100 questionnaires were distributed. 100 valid questionnaires were collected, with a recovery rate of 90.91%.

The questionnaire for cyber language violence consists of three parts: (1) the basic personal information of the interviewees, including age, gender and education. (2) to understand the interviewees' cognition of language violence. The purpose of this part is to know the interviewees' understanding of language violence through the data. The design problems include the judgment of language violence, the places prone to language violence, the impact of language violence, the psychological reaction to language violence and so on. (3) the questions about cyber language violence include: jargon language violence, language violence caused by slip of the tongue, and language violence caused by subjective judgment. It is hoped that through these problems, we can feel the impact of network language violence from the personal experience of people, so as to find practical solutions.

Table 1: Types of language violence


Types of language violence	Percent
Subjective language violence	70%
narrow language inequality	8%
Interpersonal language violence	22%

4. Discussion

4.1. The Realization of Language Inequality in Network Language Violence

Subjective inequality involves people's subjective perception of each other's language. Subjectively, an individual or a language group will have its own interpretation of a certain way of speaking, and it will also have its own recognition of the people who speak in this way, although such a judgment based on language may be extremely wrong. The vast majority of people will make a judgment according to a certain characteristic of the judged object and according to their own subjective opinions. Now a more common situation is to judge people' views on the event directly according to the emojis added by people'



comments. Such as the expression “”, with the development of the times, this expression is gradually given a lot of other meaning, and more often reflects a negative mentality, which is a kind of irony that you don't want to pay attention to and disdain each other.

Communicative inequality is concerned with the knowledge of how to use linguistic projects to communicate effectively, not just the knowledge of linguistic projects themselves. This behavior is very common in daily life, and the most direct manifestation is a slip of the tongue or inappropriate language. Under many events or news, there are often some unconventional messages, and other people will advise them to correct them when they see such comments, even in the case of network language violence.

narrow language inequality is related to the language items that a person knows. The so-called lexical items refer to lexical items, various rules (used to combine the sounds and meanings of these lexical items in sentences), and various restrictions on these rules. The language used by a person is closely related to his natural environment and social environment. The circle or class may be a direct manifestation of this inequality. By analyzing the news of many events, the author finds that some professional terms that the public do not understand often appear in these comment areas, for which many people think that they show off their words. in order to carry on the language violence to it.

5. Conclusion

The network language violence from the perspective of language inequality is from three perspectives, namely, subjective language inequality, narrow language inequality and communication inequality. After systematically studying sociolinguistics, the author thinks that language inequality is a perspective to analyze the phenomenon of online language violence.

In this paper, the author uses the theory of language inequality, combined with the current situation of network language violence, looks at the causes of network language violence from the perspective of language inequality, and draws corresponding suggestions according to the

causes. At present, the network language violence occurs frequently, more and more people inadvertently use language violence, at the same time, more and more people suffer from language violence. The author hopes to use his linguistic knowledge from the perspective of language inequality to explain the causes of network language violence and make his own contribution to the containment of network language violence.

References

- [1] Furth, C. (1974). The Language of Inequality: An Editorial, *The Journal of Asian Studies*, Vol.34(1974) No.1, p. 5-6.
- [2] Xiaoyu Tang: Summary of the World report on violence and Health(People's Health Publishing House, China 2002).
- [3] Yanlong Wang: Research on the spread and Control of Network language: also on the Network Literacy Education of minors (Sichuan University Press, China 2009).
- [4] Junliang Hu: A study of Habermas' Dialogue Ethics (China Social Sciences Press, China 2010).