LGBTQ’s Online Movements in China in the face of Online Censorship

Yixuan Xie
4. CONCLUSION

From 2018 to 2021, about the iconic Internet censorship to LGBTQ topics and related online movements

Representative online movements

Take the example in 2018

3. Methods to avoid being banned

Sarcastic, especially some wordplays unique to Chinese

4. CONCLUSION
April 2018
the most rigorous censorship of LGBTQ topics

April 2019
Censorship only for Lesbian topics

April 2020
The first LGBTQ Speaking Out Month in China

July 2021
“unnamed accounts”: All sexual minority associations in Chinese universities were banned with no reason

https://mp.weixin.qq.com/s/6MkWt2IIIR-xglj2mnVtsaw
https://www.rfa.org/mandarin/yataibaodao/meiti/qi-04252019094312.html
# LGBTQ’s movement in the face of online censorship in 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>trigger</th>
<th>Weibo launched a three-month content clean-up campaign under the Cyber Security Law, removing much gay content.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| content being censored | LGBTQ-related hashtags, pictures and videos on Weibo  
LGBTQ social organizations’ accounts on Weibo |
| online movements | Mainly in Weibo |
| demand | 1. an end to the clean-up of LGBTQ content  
2. detailed rules for censorship of social media |
| performance | HASHTAGS: #我是同性恋（I AM GAY)#  
#我是同性恋我拒绝被清查（I'm gay and refuse to be censored）#  
SHARING: LGBTQ groups and their families shared their felling and experiences on Weibo |
| result | People's Daily, the official medium of the Chinese government, published an article calling for an end to the clean-up |

同志之声(Gay Voice), one of the most famous, influential organizations for gay people, had to announce in 2018 that it was suspending all work and no longer posting content on Weibo.

https://weibo.com/tongzhier?nick=%E5%90%8C%E5%BF%97%E4%B9%8B%E5%A3%B0

上海梅姐(Mei sister in Shanghai), the mother of a gay man, using the hashtag#我是同性恋(I AM GAY)# to show her support for her son and all sexual minorities, spoke out against the cleaning-up on Weibo.

https://weibo.com/n/上海梅姐

https://weibo.com/tv/show/1034:4858481602396218?from=old_pc_videoshow
## Methods to avoid being banned

### BASIC METHODS
- rotate the angle of the image
- Mosaic the LGBTQ elements in the image

### SPECIAL METHOD (wordplays)
- Based on the same Chinese characters
  - 同性恋(tóng xìng liàn) → 同志(tóng zhì)
  - Homosexual → comrade
- Based on the homophonic occurrence of Chinese and English
  - Lesbian → 拉拉(lā lā) → 热拉(rè lā) → The L
- Based on icons and emoji
  - Rainbow & 彩虹(cǎi hóng) & 🌈🌈 → LGBTQ group
- Based on the need for self-mockery or sarcasm
  - 社会主义兄弟情(socialist brotherhood) → Veiled gay relationships in film and television

---

CONCLUSION

1. LGBTQ’s online movements in mainland China are always appeal to refuse to be banned and blocked.

2. Ambiguous censorship system and official attitude have compressed the Internet living space of the LGBTQ group.

3. Many methods used to circumvent censorship are just a helpless move to preserve the opportunity to be heard.

4. Social media provides opportunities for LGBTQ’s movements to shift from small-circle offline mutual assistance to extensive online movements, which unites the community and increases its visibility in society.
THANK YOU
MISSION

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and the smallest one in the entire Solar System.

VISION

Saturn is the ringed planet. It’s a gas giant, composed mostly of hydrogen and helium.
Instructions for use

In order to use this template, you must credit Slidesgo by keeping the Thanks slide.

You are allowed to:
- Modify this template.
- Use it for both personal and commercial projects.

You are not allowed to:
- Sublicense, sell or rent any of Slidesgo Content (or a modified version of Slidesgo Content).
- Distribute Slidesgo Content unless it has been expressly authorized by Slidesgo.
- Include Slidesgo Content in an online or offline database or file.
- Offer Slidesgo templates (or modified versions of Slidesgo templates) for download.
- Acquire the copyright of Slidesgo Content.

For more information about editing slides, please read our FAQs or visit Slidesgo School:
Fonts & colors used

This presentation has been made using the following fonts:

Londrina Solid
(https://fonts.google.com/specimen/Londrina+Solid)

Barlow
(https://fonts.google.com/specimen/Barlow)

#3c2555 #563f6e #76ddeb #00d1c6 #ae66b #ffbd73 #ff7c7c #fc3d60 #faf8f1
Create your Story with our illustrated concepts. Choose the style you like the most, edit its colors, pick the background and layers you want to show and bring them to life with the animator panel! It will boost your presentation. Check out how it works.