

Abstract

Internet is a popular topic which has been explored by various academic scholars already. It used to be considered as an information pool for information acquisition. More and more people are actively involved in frequenting Internet in communicating with other people, the discussion medium is not limited in face to face, telephone and the like anymore, then the netizens have opened a new space for their open discussion as well. According to the case study on current affairs coverage and reader discussion in qoos.com and cyberctm.com in Macau, it helps to understand how online forums to regard as alternative media and reinforces the political participation for ordinary people in Macau. This thesis had examined discourses from the selected online forums (i.e. CyberCTM, Qoos BBS and Orchidbbs)and found that the concept of public sphere had ignored the latest cultural phenomenon on the Internet. The netizens in online forums are not limited in public debate, but also a “grounded aesthetics “presentation, which Habermas’s concept of public sphere has been ignored and these new expression has become to be a current trend in Internet culture.