

Abstract

The bachelor thesis focuses on the experiences of young members of the LGBTQ community with dating apps in Tbilisi, the capital of Georgia. The study takes an in-depth look at the young LGBTQ community in Tbilisi and their strategies for dating and establishing both serious and short-term purely sexual relationships. The research seeks to uncover how the digital environment affects relationship building and interaction in general within this specific community. It also analyzes how the socio-cultural context of Georgia influences the experiences of young LGBTQ individuals in their search for a partner. In the present work, attention is paid to the current situation of acceptance of LGBTQ members and their rights in Georgian society, as self-disclosure is complicated and unwelcome in this strongly religiously oriented country. In order to conduct proper research, three currently widely used "dating apps" were chosen, namely Tinder, Bumble and Grindr. This is qualitative research that consists of several semi-structured interviews with members of the LGBTQ community, both women and men. The research revealed how members of the LGBTQ community function in the digital environment and how they present themselves outside of it. Many young members are also involved in activism, so the research also focused on the respondents' relationship with religion and God himself. The aim of the bachelor thesis is to gain a deeper understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of dating apps used by young LGBTQ members in Tbilisi. The results of the thesis provide new insights into areas of digital relationships and expand awareness of the lives of LGBTQ members outside of Europe.