Seeking Qualitative Data to Follow Conflictual Beliefs

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ABSTRACT

Cognitive belief systems are analyzed by this analysis appraising them as to their ability to resolve conflicts across boundaries. The paper theorizes that belief systems across boundaries, although different have stability and equilibrium that produces order. Belief systems are understood to perform excellently in interpretation of events, evaluation of possible actions, and reflexivity about actions begun. As recognized alternatives to rational choice decision making, belief systems are known to perform economically and well. Heuristics in cognitive belief systems are attributed importance in the quickness elites use in reasoning situations across borders. As explanation, cognitive belief systems are popular as they are seen responsible for decades of order along boundaries.

This paper's social science analysis used narrative data derived from six social networks - Cluster, Meetup, Netlog, Path, Pixable, and Planet Romeo - for a qualitative methods analysis of whether social networking is aggressively disrupting the established decision strengths of cognitive belief systems. Social networking's strength in selling a conflicting explanation is substantial as communication richness can persuasively be used to shape beliefs. A momentum phenomenon that social networking produces is gaining respect as a powerful force. In elections, social networking succeeds because one politician can gain the lead in momentum with more social networking friends while other politicians fall behind and lose lacking momentum in their social networking. The momentum phenomenon strengthens Internets ability to contend with cognitive belief systems as explanation.

In 2014, two border conflict situations can be analyzed from this theoretical perspective, the Ukraine and North Korea. In the Ukraine, Internet's oversell of a euphemistic globalism together with some sales bells and whistles produced a reaction. The decades of stability cognitive belief systems had maintained in the Ukrainian region refused to yield to Internet explanation and strife occurred. The North Korean border situation need be carefully followed as the conflict of explanations between cognitive belief systems and Internet that happened in the Ukraine could possibly occur in that region.
Seeking Qualitative Data to Follow Conflictual Beliefs

Belief systems have substantial importance for those who reason with cognitive explanations for complex behavior. Comprehending how sets of values about the different issues one confronts comprises a belief system introduces this analysis’ theoretical perspective. Each confrontation with the environment requires factual interpretation, careful evaluation of options, and sturdy emotional reflexivity. Every person makes use of vast amounts of stored data which they use to interpret the reality they perceive. When initial interpretation is complete, evaluation of possible reactions happens. Stored information of all sorts directs this action evaluation. Finally, accumulated information makes possible reflexivity about what one's actions have been. Emphasizing the functional properties of belief systems introduces the subsequent analysis presented here.

Cognitive explanations frequently combine determinism and freedom of choice. Most discussions of cognitive ability agree cognition is based on innate properties of the brain. The physical organization of the brain influences cognition. Perceptual abilities likewise influence how people think. Cognitive abilities in people are often analogized to information technology creating a deterministic explanation. Computers are limited in ability by their circuitry. People are likewise explained to have working brains with innate properties that limit what occurs in the mental apparatus’ functioning.

Others experts about cognitive abilities imagine that, with effort, people can devise ways
of improving their thoughtful abilities. These experts emphasize exercises that can improve the perceptiveness and agility of the mind. Creativity is usually believed to be teachable, and the skills people have at artful activities are acquired more than they are innate. Numerous human endeavors require training people to reason more creatively, and there is substantial interest in developing cognitive skills related to creativity. Educated creative abilities includes the interpretivist/constructionist skills used by the qualitative methodologist. Qualitative methods affirms cognitive creativity by requiring research results happen from interpretivism/constructionism.

Qualitative techniques in political analysis, now popular, place a substantial premium on the researcher's ability to accomplish interpretivism/constructionism. Combining formal analytic logic and creative thinking, interpretivism/constructionism exemplifies encouraging cognitive processes that are both systematic and adequately innovative. Interpretivism/constructionism likes to see researchers exhibit their own creative insights, yet connecting conclusions to an explainable and replicable analytic technique is definitely approved.

When the qualitative researcher is able to document systematic analytic efforts as exemplified by hermeneutics or content analysis, approval of their efforts increases. Interpretivism/constructionism cannot, however, escape the final step where researcher's intuitions contribute to final conclusions. Approving of analytic structure appears an ultimate property of man's cognitive machinery. Simultaneous innate mechanisms reward creative abilities and approve attempts to comprehend phenomena
in innovative ways.

How stability and equilibrium prevail between dissimilar belief systems across boundaries can be a critical basis of conflict. Information and communications technology (ICT) is often explained as producing more alignment in what people believe is happening. Aggregate cognitive properties can be imagined to be developing so that conflicting belief systems are becoming more unlike each other. Usually, however, a trend toward increased alignment is imagined. Latent properties of mass cognition remain a demanding question mark. Forestiere and Allen discuss the mass cognition phenomenon when they use the “cognitive locks” concept.

Cognitive locks arise when policies become firmly embedded in their society and when change or reversal of... policies becomes less and less likely.....Cognitive locks are important because they assist in the explanation of patterns of political events and the understanding of why some countries seem 'destined' to maintain a particular status quo.” (Forestiere and Allen, 2011, p. 381)

While many observe that ICT is transforming cognitive habits, observations are not conclusive with regard to unseen happenings throughout belief systems. Allowing that conflict could eventually occur from changes and reactions to ICT’s transformations is an idea this paper explores.

Understanding how ICT impinges upon conflictual belief systems is a major emphasis of this analysis. Conflictual belief systems exist throughout society and are possibly best exemplified by different belief systems across boundaries. Ordinarily, belief systems that
are in conflict exist harmoniously because they have existed side-by-side for decades. This paper's hypothesis asks if Internet has upset conflicting belief systems introducing uncertainty and instability. ICT is often explained as producing phenomenological change as a metamorphosis of technology to everything occurs. (Mutch, pp. 78-79) A tacit assumption may exist that Internet's influence is approximately the same on all protagonists with conflicting belief systems. Those who believe ICT is transformative want to question whether Internet's influence is always as predictable as the transformative model indicates.

Research that successfully anticipates drastic changes in equilibrium where boundaries separate conflicting belief systems is the imagined objective. Peace is conceptualized as stable configuration of belief systems across borders. All kinds of historical developments have adjusted popular belief systems producing conflictual beliefs separated by boundaries. Stability over time has produced conflicting belief systems that function to maintain orderly conditions.

Reasons for peace failing along borders includes disparity of power or errors in perception of power leading to hostilities. This paper discusses a variant on this perspective that imagines peace failing because instability and disequilibrium is introduced into conflicting belief systems across boundaries. Order depends upon the stability and equilibrium that prevails between the conflicting belief systems.

Global interconnectedness is almost always analyzed as a powerful positive force in today's world. Successful economic interaction of the present is claimed to occur
because of the large networks that Internet has created. Other positive externalities from Internet including improved educational resources, access to motivational ideas, the availability of social networking, increased citizen contribution to policy-making, better service delivery, and increased citizen involvement with decision-making. All of these developments are identified as positive occurrences resulting from Internet. As Khazaeli and Stockemer explain, “We hypothesize that high Internet penetration (a technical term that refers to the number of Internet users) may lead to improved governance. Because the Internet creates opportunities for political expression and pluralistic sources of information, we theorize that the influence of Internet penetration on governance will be more pronounced in non-democratic states...” (Khazaeli and Stockemer, p. 464)

This analysis chose instead to focus on negative externalities that Internet possibly generates. The methodological concern in this paper is about devising ideas and methods for analyzing Internet’s influence on boundary situations throughout the world. How volatile conflictual belief systems separated by boundaries affect order needs to be better understood. Decades of experience with Internet, directs attention to questions about how ICT affects belief systems across boundaries. Is stability and equilibrium across boundaries vulnerable to increasing Internet penetration?

Theoretically, when changes occur in a predictable manner, belief systems across boundaries, adjust and equilibrium is maintained. Conversely, a possible truth is that unexpected influences shift popular beliefs in unpredictable and unstable ways creating
conflictual possibilities. Improving social science research’s ability to analyze conflictual boundary phenomena that could possibly cause conflict is the purpose of this paper. The qualitative research methods ideas presented here sensitize concepts and resolve some issues about how to proceed with methodological soundness.

**Cognitive Psychology and Belief Systems**

Cognitive psychology has devoted substantial attention to how individuals develop belief systems. The term “knowledge” possibly could be used interchangeably with belief systems. Belief systems are comprehensible in terms of data, information, and knowledge. Data refers to individual facts without any connection to other bits of data. Information strings together numerous bits of data as in a newspaper story. Several specific bits of data, reasonably organized create information. Knowledge, the most complex of these three terms, refers to organized perspectives on various subjects. Knowledge is sometimes associated with paradigms such as the Ptolemaic or Copernican explanation for the universe. (Mutch, pp.44-62) Belief systems are functional entities comprised of data, information, and knowledge.

Belief systems can be about a wide range of possible ideas. Functionality need be included in explanations about what belief systems are. Belief systems interpret data and information people receive from their environment. Whenever something new happens or a new fact is learned, this new data is organized according to principles from the belief systems’ world view. Belief systems must perceive well for all sorts of emerging ideas that happen meaningfully.
Beyond evaluating emerging reality, belief systems secondarily influence how we appraise possible action choices that may occur in response to environmental influences. Some quick techniques must exist for approving action alternatives. Choosing among alternatives can happen quickly. The belief system is instrumental in assuring action choices are sound.

Thirdly, belief systems affect our reflexivity with regard to our actions. Belief systems explain how we are able to appraise our own actions and adjust our reactions to be more appropriate. Were action not reflexive then foolish choices in action decisions would continue *ad nauseam*. People instead ordinarily appraise their own actions making rational adjustments. Goal oriented behavior cannot be explained as rational unless behavior has reflexive qualities.

Contrasting belief systems to rational choice decision-making, improves understanding of belief systems. Rational choice decision-making identifies all possible options, weighs the costs and benefits that accrue from each, and acts. The rational choice the decision-maker always chooses options producing the greatest positive benefits.

Belief systems, on the other hand, are tools for quick evaluation and resolution of ordinary situations. Complex rational choice decision-making is rare. The costs of rational choice decisions inhibits use of this technique. Instead, as people confront situations they are familiar with, their belief systems take over and they react in a way
that they anticipate will produce an acceptable amount of gains.

Usually, belief systems function well in directing human behavior. Although not rational choice, belief systems almost always produce satisfactory behavior. Belief systems are economical, and economy contributes to their utility. Contrast the rapid interpretive, evaluative, reflexive abilities of belief systems have to the slow and tedious process of evaluating options in rational choice. Belief systems are an approximation technique that people use successfully to direct their own behavior. This functional ability to proceed with a small amount of data is sometimes termed a heuristic.

Belief systems are not without flaws as has been well researched by cognitive psychology. This analysis of belief systems includes comments about how belief systems fail. The paper’s hypothesis is directed toward possible critical failures in conflicting belief systems across boundaries. The belief system phenomenon cannot be reasonably understood without perceiving the imperfections that exist in this cognitive phenomenon.

Belief systems are prevalent in human behavior throughout the world. They are still, however, slightly suspect because they have known foibles. Cognitive psychology's interest in belief systems has identified many weaknesses commonly associated with belief systems. Heuristics are an example of a known cognitive property of belief systems. Everyone who text messages knows what heuristic is because whenever the computer completes a word from two or three letters that is a heuristic. People's perceptions in a like manner gain a few perceptual cues and quickly form an opinion
about the entire reality that is being perceived. Hafner-Burton, Hughes, and Victor explain that, "Heuristics play a central role in the simplifying effort as people search for low cost ways to make decisions." (Hafner-Burton et al., p. 372)

**Figure One**

**Selected Heuristics in Strategic Decision-Making**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bias</th>
<th>Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Availability</td>
<td>Judgments of probability of easily recalled events distorted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selective perception</td>
<td>Expectations may bias observations of variables relevant to strategy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illusory correlation</td>
<td>Encourages belief that unrelated variables are correlated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservatism</td>
<td>Failure sufficiently to revise forecasts based on new information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law of small numbers</td>
<td>Overestimation of the degree to which small samples are representative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regressive bias</td>
<td>Failure to allow for regression to the mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wishful thinking</td>
<td>Probability of desired outcomes judged to be inappropriately high.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illusion of control</td>
<td>Overestimation of personal control over outcomes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Logical reconstruction</td>
<td>“Logical” reconstruction of events which cannot be accurately recalled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hindsight bias</td>
<td>Overestimation of predictability of past events.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Mutch, p. 29)

Heuristics are not, however, always seen as positive. Cognitive psychology has tried to establish that brain mechanisms incline the brain to make some errors. Cognitive discoveries about heuristics are presented in Figure One. The various heuristic blunders in Figure One happen because perceptions systematically distort what is perceived. One example from Figure One is the law of small numbers. Cognitive properties of the brain have been found to overestimate the representativeness of small samples. (Mutch, p. 29) This heuristic causes people to attribute meaningfulness to research based on small samples, irrationally.
Belief systems probably are comprised of many heuristic properties. People use their belief systems to evaluate happenings and inevitably may experience some distortion due to heuristics phenomena. The heuristics phenomenon establishes that ICT influence on belief systems is probably a complex one. Hafner-Burton, Hughes and Victor explain that, “Experienced elites make different and better use of heuristics when making decisions in complex situations.” (Hafner-Burton et al., p. 368.)

People resolving disputes with heuristics sometimes get the wrong answer about what is happening because they receive little information. How beliefs systems succeed or fail in internalizing increasing confrontation between conflictual cultural values is an important question this paper considers. How the stability of belief systems is altered by ICT and the subsequent affects is a concern of this paper. As there is an increasing amount happening from the global culture affecting local and regional culture, this paper's stability discussion is important.

**Belief Systems Across Boundaries May Lose Their Stability?**

Belief systems have been explained as complex cognitive process. Systematized ideas about the real world are always in use interpreting data about events or emerging data. While imperfect, belief systems are influential, substantially successful, mediators connecting people to the reality they continually confront. Imagine conflicting belief systems on both sides of a boundary. While belief systems across borders differ, in almost all cases conflict is avoided. Stability instead prevails as conflicting belief systems have acclimated themselves to each other. Substantial experience in avoiding
conflict results in cooperation prevailing. Belief systems across borders rarely allow altercations and disorder although even significantly different.

Possible change occurs in belief systems leading to instability and conflict is the focus of this paper. Equilibrium prevailing between conflicting belief systems can be upset and conflict can ensue. Many examples exist in the present where online activity may be affecting the harmonious of belief systems that formerly were antagonistic but non-conflictual for decades. Siegel uses the concept, “Steady-state, or equilibrium, aggregate level of participation in the population” in his discussion of social networking. (Siegel, p. 790.) Better understanding of how online activity may be the decisive influence disorienting harmonious belief systems is the research subject of this paper.

The assumption that connectedness always produces positive societal gains is questioned by this analysis. An increasingly wired population does not necessarily produce more uniformity in development of aggregate beliefs. Online content influences different people in different ways. Imagining belief systems changes are pervasive throughout society is questionable reasoning. Technological phenomena are almost always being explained by those who have positive ideas about the transformation they explain. While observations about transformative ICT are common, a difficult bias may have been created by listening to only those positive about innovation. Belief systems throughout the people may not follow as anticipated.

When there is substantial consensus about how the political system reacts, imagining that ICT transforms belief systems is tenuous. Belief that new technology dazzles, gains
the popular imagination, and transforms belief systems toward better government is sometimes suggested, though. The more media richness ICT utilizes, the more influential theories about ICT affecting developments in belief systems become. Daft and Lengel are usually given credit for Media Richness Theory or Information Richness Theory. These terms are applied to the increasing complexity of choices available in digital communications content. (Daft and Lengel, pp. 191-233) ICT may be astounding innovation, but fall short of producing the belief system changes proponents explained to be happening. Other influences on belief systems may be overshadowing positive developments caused by technological magic?

The conflictual belief systems theory includes the possibility that change could be occurring hidden by the sophistication of the new technology. The assumption that all people are enthusiastically following technological innovation is seen as irrational. Cumulative experiential knowledge about the real world is a powerful and viable alternative in influencing belief systems, as most quickly concede. Belief systems can be the product of consensus values. Intensity of some beliefs also substantially inhibits transformations possible from online activity.

Stable belief systems that have been established for decades could be reactively influenced. Accommodating ICT influence on stable belief systems and maintaining equilibrium between conflicting belief systems may not always be possible. Assuming that parallel development occurs in belief systems across boundaries cannot be done. Instances where connected realities produces reaction undoubtedly occur. In some
instances, ICT ideas are positively transformative of stable belief systems, and in other cases reactive results occur. According to Siegel, the influence process happens with social networking as individuals gain, “A chance to influence people outside their own clusters, allowing for the swift spread of information across the network.” (Siegel, p. 790)

Transformation from Internet is undoubtedly sometimes harmonious with local culture aligning with global culture. This analysis is more interested in instances where hostile reaction sets in to Internet penetration. A few instances are observable where the influx of global information raises alarm to crisis levels. Critical issues may occasionally lead local culture to attempt to reverse engineering of perceived issues in global culture. When that happens, local or regional organization devise ways of knowing global culture's ideas attempting to control them.

Global culture is an amorphous concept which relies upon a complex set of positively valenced ideas about which reality variables are to be positively valenced. Global culture's enlightened virtue can gain substantial acceptance at the local level. One could even hypothesize that acceptance of global culture often contends as the dominant reality. The amount of opposition to Internet's penetration is still substantial, however.

This cognitive analysis questions if fear of global culture is occasionally rational. Cognitive analysis includes asking what is happening with stable, well-functioning belief systems. To what extend does popular perception build about whether online activity
negatively effects the efficiency of established interpretive, evaluative, and reflexive belief systems? The analysis is asking whether more people around the world think in cognitive terms or about Internet transformation. A powerful assumption frequently made now is that Internet transformation has taken over as the leading method of explaining developments. Conflictual realities may prove this assumption erroneous. The powerfulness of the cognitive perspective may be more resilient than is now ordinarily recognized by leading information economy experts.

Incidents of conflict between global culture and local culture contentiously become more identifiable as Internet matures. Cognitive psychology is redefining analysis of these conflicts. Questions about whether global content attacks successful interpretive, evaluative, and reflexive abilities, sometime found in local culture, are being asked. Research establishing that Internet proves convincingly that Internet improves the cognitive strength of belief systems has not yet been produced. Whether Internet damages the cognitive strengths of belief systems in moderating conflict is still an academic issue in 2014.

### 2014 Conflict Realities and Conflicting Belief Systems across Boundaries

Cognitive psychology has long been understood as a useful theoretical perspective for understanding conflict. Emphasis on belief systems is ordinarily integral to discussing harmoniousness across borders. Conflicts across boundaries have for decades been explained as about cultural dissimilarities. Analysis that includes belief systems has been included in analysis of border conflict.
Popular confidence in the ability belief systems have to peacefully reconcile differences across borders is authentic. Experience has taught that conflicting belief systems across boundaries are not destructive of harmonious reasons. Conflict appears to only happen in this peaceful model of boundary cooperation when unexpected and mischievous changes are attempted to conflictual belief systems in peaceful equilibrium.

Internet must be accepted as a contender explanation for border instability incidents. Does Internet positively or negatively affect well-established systems of cognitive rationalism? Does the globalism on-line convey amorphous, euphemistic sentiment about global cooperation? Are policymakers asked to support cognitive belief system’s ability with economical decision making? The difficult issue theoretically is what are the implications for deciding popular strength is with the cognitive belief system explanations for meaningful stability as opposed to the emerging Internet explanations.

Internet is salesmanship of ever more sophisticated technology that is recognized to encourage some global euphemistic values about across border cooperation. Cognitive psychology questions the implications of substantial salesmanship to belief systems throughout the world that have proven ability to accomplish quick and economical policy decisions. Decades of Internet experience still troubled that crisis is ahead because global euphemisms cannot replace cognitive belief systems as winners in the popular consciousness. Popular approval for cognitive belief system explanations for proven effectiveness practical and economical public choice is not diminishing. The popularity of cognitive belief systems explanations has lasted for many decades.
The present crisis in the Ukraine can be explained from cognitive psychology’s theoretical perspective. In 2014, the imagination that euphemisms about global culture from Internet would prevail over belief systems that have been stable for decades may have failed. The recognized achievement of cognitive belief systems in peaceful cooperation may be winning out in 2014. Belief systems proved more complicated and more tacitly based than the ICT people imagined. The smooth linear development of global euphemisms about ever-increasing connections across boundaries failed in the Ukraine.

Established stable belief systems with reasonable confidence in their abilities at successful cooperation are not yielding to globalism without much substance in the Ukraine. The Ukraine is susceptible to low substance in globalism because the European Union is lukewarm about welcoming the Ukraine. The factor strength of EU coolness to the Ukraine limited the appeal of globalism.

Decades into Internet’s development research that improves perceptions and sensitizing important concepts relevant to conflict analysis is useful knowledge. Awareness of the possible and potential failures of Internet globalism is an important conflict dimension in 2014. Both cognitive belief systems explanations and Internet theories contend for rationalism and popular support in explaining conflict now. The conflict about whether global euphemisms are attempting to replace effective cognitive belief systems in public decision making situations continues.

North Korea is another example where the conflict potential could exist over accepting
cognitive psychology's theoretical perspective or Internet's ideas. North Korea has maintained an official suspicion of Internet, and, as such, is an unusual political entity in 2014 conflictual realities. North Korea's emphasis creates a difficult rational issue by questioning Internet. Stable belief systems are reasonably associated with peaceful conditions. Belief systems are cognitive armor that is successfully moderating conflict across boundaries. Careful analysis questions if Internet penetration could difficultly disrupt this equilibrium equation. Siegel explains social networking as a powerful influence with an ability to affect aggregate change in media's impact. (Siegel, p. 803) While the number of people social networking may be small, they can make changes in the mass population's aggregate cognitive processing.

Were authentic conflict to begin along North Korea's borders, questions would occur about why the equilibrium between belief systems failed. North Korea's isolation intends to gain from excluding Internet explanation. North Korea refuses Internet because they imagine the cognitive theoretical perspective is nearer truth. Whether upholding the power of one theoretical idea against another ever produces gains for North Korea is uncertain. There is fear that changing explanations would remove stability and negatively contribute to international order. Analysis of the dangerousness of supplanting stable cognitive belief systems is found in Hafner-Burton, Hughes, and Victor's analysis of North Korea. The leaders of North Korea are explained to “use decision heuristics for processing the complex, uncertain information typical of crisis in ways that are more effective at signaling credibility than inexperienced decision makers in the same role. (Hafner-Burton et al., p. 369)
Those who develop and market ICT innovations attempt to define the issue as ICT's rational contribution. They have a strong preference for Internet theoretically in opposition to the cognitive perspective. Others refuse technological determinism, and reject that ICT is shaping belief systems with transformative influence. Future conflicts require an ability to discern how conflicts are affected by rapid influxes of positive global sentiment. Whether these ideas are irrationally costly to proven belief systems that rarely fail at interpretation, evaluation, and reflexivity is to be decided. The methodological problems in resolving the trade-offs between globalism and cognitive belief system based analysis are many.

Situations in the world today may experience instability as functional belief system’s significance is supplanted by ideas that are selling technology. A social science research priority needs be better analytic techniques for appraising how ICT innovation influences boundary stability in belief systems. How established belief systems succeed in buffering and moderating conflictual realities need be better understood. Policy makers need be cautioned not to quickly or clumsily forsake established and stable belief systems for the illusions technology holds forth.

Albert O. Hirschman in *Exit, Voice, and Loyalty* followed much the same issue when he defined voice as “any attempt at all to change rather than to escape from, an objectionable state of affairs.” (Hirschman, p. 30) Voice in support of cognitive belief systems appears to happen more frequently now because of the aggressive potential of social networking selling Internet as alternative explanation.
When Mancur Olson discusses “distributional coalitions” and “encompassing organizations” in *The Rise And Decline of Nations* he is explaining how preferences are aggregated into policy. (Olson, p. 50) Rational cognitive belief systems are discussed here are accomplishing a similar purpose as they aggregate rational choices about policy alternatives. Opponents to this theoretical perspective would rather policy decisions be explained in terms of Internet’s developmental uncertainty. Internet’s penetration throughout society questions the acceptability of this alternative explanation in aggregating beliefs.

Algorithms that search back-and-forth between global prospective gains from Internet and the recognized contributions of cognitive belief systems that interpret, evaluate, and reflect must be developed. The amount of interest that exists in globalism is undeniable, but the practical value of many initiatives remains dubious. Cooperation may someday create substantial reason with a global emphasis. In the foreseeable future, rationalism appears ruled by the past and present successes of cognitive belief systems. Belief systems and cognitive strengths are invaluable when action is required. If a project has gone far wrong, and when rational people agree new ideas are needed, the cognitive accomplishments of belief systems may be where to begin to find answers.

**Is Data Available for Social Science Analysis of this Research Problem?**

Past experience proves stability possible when opposing belief systems are in
equilibrium. The equilibrium that prevails between conflicting belief systems across boundaries must break down before conflict occurs. Social science research methods can be used to better understand whether Internet disrupts equilibrium between conflictual belief systems. Extended periods of equilibrium make dissimilar belief systems function to maintain peaceful border reasons. By maintaining reasonableness and adeptness, conflicting belief systems are protectors of the international order in most instances.

The social creation of reality is extolled as recognizing important factual realities that need be the concern of the social scientist. The potential of social networks for providing excellent social science data occurs reasonably. Social networks are about people striving for better knowledge of happenings and other socially created truths. Qualitative methods offers many possibilities for analyzing social networks. These networks are excellent sources of data for social science methods analysis. Khazaeli and Stockemer emphasize that social networking has “shaped the new way information is communicated and processed by masses of people.” (Khazaeli and Stockemer, p. 464) The hypothesis this analysis is explaining about Internet's influence on the stability and equilibrium of conflicting belief systems across boundaries can be adequately discussed with social networking data.

Qualitative methods always begins by identifying adequate data. In this case, several social networks are to be used as a source of narrative data. Facebook is the most famous social network in existence, now. There are, however, many other social
networks that people employ for their social networking. Other possibilities in social networking include: Cluster, Path, Meetup, Netlog, Pixable, and Planet Romeo. All six of these social network systems have narrative data possibilities.

Qualitative method’s greatest strength is an ability to discover acceptable social science data. With data, social science can begin acceptable qualitative data analysis. A thorough qualitative methods literature supports qualitative methods and the narrative data techniques this analysis utilizes. Czarniawska explains, “The narrative mode of knowing consists in organizing experience with the help of a scheme assuming the intentionality of human actions.” (Czarniawska, p. 7) This analysis attempts to explain if the strengths of a cognitive belief system - interpretation, evaluation, and reflection - are susceptible to damage from Internet content and the accelerating rate of technological change. This research subject can be analyzed with qualitative methods purposely allowing the researcher to begin with data, analyze the data, and present conclusions.

Narrative data from Cluster, Meetup, Netlog, Path, Pixable, and Planet Romeo exists adequate for proceeding from hypothesis to conclusions using qualitative methods. The exact requirements for qualitative data are not substantial. A series of photographs can qualify for substantive qualitative methods analysis. The data chosen for this analysis is six images with narrative possibilities. A researcher seeking data useful in appraising
Figure Two – Social Networking Start Pages

Cluster

Meetups

Path

Netlog

Netlog has joined forces with Twago.
The fastest growing place to meet new people!
conflicts between global ideas and stable conflicting belief systems does not lack for data.

The qualitative methodologist researching this question seeks data to answer whether overselling technology does observably happen? The six social networking organizations can provide narrative data for this research. The six start page images
chosen are an adequate data beginning for this analysis. Some ideas about how social networking influences stable, conflicting belief system across borders is to be found and developed from this data.

Examination of the social networking data must permits comments about whether adequate allowances are being made to accommodate stable belief systems across boundaries. Data need ask who is being targeted as users of the social network. Issues about the sensitivity of social networking to the large non-social networking population across borders are to be considered. Any data that establishes conflict within belief systems is now being encouraged would be of much interest. Data from social networking sources that substantiates social networking is not harmonious with existing values would be useful to discover.

Deciding if social networking intends to accommodate stable belief systems or supplant existing belief systems with global values is possible with the data identified for this analysis. Qualitative methods analysis using data from these six social networking systems can resolve this issue. If the social networking organizations are found to be low in accommodating belief systems across boundaries, substantial questions arise. Are social networks a positive influence on the crucial functions of cognitive belief systems in appraising border realities?

**Does internet Content Negatively Affect Stable Belief Systems?**

A personal experience from my own college education occurs to me as I began
analyzing the qualitative data for this analysis. The phrase "catalog fiction" is learned by all people who have completed their education in U.S. universities. To American education, the catalog fiction is something the college purports to be able to accomplish when they are really without such an ability. The prima facie level of the six start pages from the social network sites is together with the conclusion that social networking's outreach is a catalog fiction.

When I was an undergraduate at the University of Oregon, the literature about the Outdoor Program much interested me. The excellent outdoors in Oregon was among the reasons I chose the University of Oregon for undergraduate education. Reading about camping and bicycling opportunities available to students through the Outdoor Program was a favorite past time. While I liked outdoors at Oregon, I never availed myself of Outdoor Program adventures. My academic ideas basically did not allow enough time away from my studies. With better tacit knowledge of the university, I learned that the Outdoor Program was a narrow group of dedicated people. Experiences like these teach those educating in the U.S. to understand the phrase "catalog fiction."

The six start pages from the social networks together are acceptable narrative data. These start pages are analogous to six photographs that tell a story in the tradition of narrative analysis. Czarniawska explains mimesis as a how does it look property of narrative, “A dimension that allows the listener to construct a virtual picture of the events.” (Czarniawska, p. 23) Flick amplifies this perspective, “Photographs, films,
and videos are increasingly recognized as genuine forms and sources of
data...Photography, in particular, has a long tradition in anthropology and ethnography.”
(Flick, p. 334-35)

All six social networking start pages appear to be presenting what could be termed a
catalog fiction reality. Each start page is purporting that their social networking achieves
a considerable amount in terms of interpersonal success. The people who populate
the start pages of the social networks are all active, vigorous, involved young people.
The start pages present people who appear to be satisfied with their interpersonal
reasons. Social networking people are pictured outdoor and indoors in large happy
groups. Culture in America quickly reasons that the images of personal success
displayed on start pages is ideal and not necessarily a truth. Cognitive belief systems
across boundaries cannot in all cases be assumed to be the same. The start pages are
not intended to accommodate differences in belief systems. Reaction cross-culturally
could be unpredictable.

Americans possibly do understand differences between these idealized presentations of
reality and the factual truth. The more important question is can across boundary belief
system be depended upon to interpret these start pages the same? Cultural difference
in understanding ideas like those presented on the six start pages may be dominant.
The images of active young people in envious settings having great experiences is
intended to leave little doubt about a cultural superiority resulting from social
networking. There is no global understanding about concepts like catalog fiction, and
reaction worldwide is unpredictable.

Social networking is a powerful idea. Politics is learning the strength of social networks. A momentum phenomenon is understood that would amplify the effect of social networks on cognitive belief systems. People are increasingly learning that social networking has unusual abilities to accomplish various objectives. Once a group of people are together in a social networking setting, the group can maintain momentum towards various purposes.

In politics, social networking is proving to be awesomely effective. Politicians are not required to get a majority or even a substantial percentage of voters following their social networking to establish their winning edge. All that is required is a large enough number of people to sustain the candidate's momentum. Other candidates who cannot accomplish the same feat often lose. Momentum one can generate with a critical number of social networking friends can prove determinant in who wins elections. Cognitive belief systems may be more affected than at first acknowledged, due to the momentum effect.

Other personal reasons for following the emotional significance of social networking exist. People imagine that social networking can achieve, for them, what nothing else before has ever succeeded in accomplishing. The lure of interpersonal success is substantial. When communications rich media techniques are used with social networking, the interpersonal attraction is combined with media richness. Opportunities that can only be described as astounding are seemingly permissioned to many people.
globally through social networks.

When the appeal of social networking is followed across boundaries, what happens cannot ordinarily be predicted. Social networking undeniably carries content across borders and reaches cultures far different from those producing the content. One cultures reaction's to social networking may be controlled by something analogous to the concept of catalog fictions in the U.S. The same content presented to a culture across boundaries may not be received with adequate understanding and could be theorized to upset stable belief systems.

This paper's theoretical perspective asks if social networking affects the stability and equilibrium of crucial cognitive belief systems. The social networking start pages, this paper's data, reaches the conclusion that Internet may have the ability to adversely affect equilibrium in belief systems across boundaries. The communications rich Internet content is received across boundaries intending to somewhat reshape the belief system. There are plots to effect the crucial stability of belief systems for sales purposes. Failures of stability and equilibrium could happen and border conflict ensue.

What might be explained as superordinate efforts to recognize the negative side of Internet penetration does happen in different cultures. Conflicts can result. The 2014 conflict in the Crimea is a possible example. What is perceived as exaggerated content penetration reached the Ukraine with social networking and can be seen theoretically to damage the stability of the region's cognitive belief system. There is no agreement among cultures about what the message of social networking reaching the Ukraine
exactly is.

How the Ukrainians explain social networking differently than the emphasis given words, expressions, images, and ideas in America is substantial. There are major differences in tacit understandings about “social.” When some bells and whistles are added to even more effectively sell the social networking perspective, people cry out about the unfairness of damage to their stable belief systems. Selling an idea is ordinarily recognized as the purpose for bells and whistles in much of the world. A marketing campaign for a product sometimes does unusual ideas to move the product. American analysis of bells and whistles is deemed backward and ignorant to most of the world.

A crisis happened as perceptions increased among the people that social networking content from the West was dangerously deceptive. A realization occurs popularly that the people were being told to reject the theoretical perspective of cognitive psychology and belief systems now decades successful in maintaining order. The salesmanship that Internet penetration brings to the Ukraine wants allegiance to amorphous global values. Faced with an unfriendly European Union, Ukrainians reacted to the strong emphasis on amorphous globalism and conflict begins.

Popular belief that the functional ability of long successful cognitive belief systems has been targeted develops. Protest erupts. Cognitive belief system's explanation had made life reasonable and orderly along this difficult Russian-Ukrainian border. A strong rejection of the tactic exemplified by the six social networking start pages happens.
When the perceived threat of the communications rich social networking was improved with bells and whistles suspiciously for sales purposes around the time of the Sochi Olympics, people perceived there were wrong intentions. Without confidence in EU's lack of realism, civil strife began.

Decades of experience with Internet have always recognized conflicts between the global and local culture. The Crimea can be hypothesized as a first clear instance where exaggerated views of life and opportunity presented by social networking were so resoundingly rejected as to cause civil strife. The aggressiveness of social networking toward replacing cognitive belief systems with amorphous global values could not be tolerated popularly.

The rationality of those rejecting the exaggerated claims of social networking was to struggle to maintain cognitive belief systems in their border regions and to refuse social networking's amorphous global values. All this can be reasonably comprehended in terms of the crucial cognitive reasons with belief systems. Social networking was perceived to approximately target the functionality of cognitive belief systems that had maintained stability across the border for decades. Adding bells and whistles designed to sell social networking's products around the time of the Sochi Olympics caused a critical mass of people to revolt. Civil strife occurred because people perceived that the stability and orderliness of their lives was being affected as cognitive belief systems were damaging. Threats to these successfully functioning cognitive belief systems became intolerable and civil strife happen.
Conclusion

This paper has analyzed the significance of belief systems as they influence behavior. Cognitive belief systems have been discussed as influential in the interpretation of events, evaluation of possible actions, and reflexivity with regard to actions begun.

Boundaries have been explained as often separating substantially different and conflicting belief systems. The orderliness that almost always prevails across boundaries has been explained in terms of the stability of belief systems. Stable conflicting belief systems across boundaries have stability and equilibrium.

Conflicting belief systems across boundaries have significant strengths with their heuristics in managing conflict. Order is maintained with the vital strength of belief systems that resolves issues and conflicts across borders. Cognitive belief systems are a crucial feature of the international system invaluably maintaining order throughout the world.

The issue this paper raises is whether Internet content from the global level adequately respects the achievements of cognitive belief systems in maintaining order across trouble boundaries. The paper uses the start pages for six social networking sites as narrative qualitative data for the paper's social science analysis. Using qualitative methods techniques, conclusions are reached about how 2014 Internet content affects border stability. Questions about whether social networking deliberately targets cognitive belief systems intending to damage their strengths resolving conflicts are raised theoretically. The events in the Ukraine and the potential for conflict on North
Korea's borders are discussed.

The conclusion reached is that Internet and social networking do not adequately allow for cultural differences across boundaries. Many assumptions are carried in social networking sites that are excessively culturally specific. The effect of overselling culture and products to cognitive belief systems that have for decades maintained peace is questionable.

Self interested strife can result as people are dissatisfied with attempts to replace cognitive belief systems that have functioned well for decades. Social networking's oversell of their products with bells and whistles, as happened around the Sochi Olympics, is such a fundamental attack on cognitive belief systems that civil strife resulted. The social networking's culturally weaker understanding of sales issues like bells and whistles further increased negative social network externalities.

In 2014, the Crimea erupted because social networking oversell destroyed stability and equilibrium in cognitive belief systems. The attack that social networking makes upon the usefulness of cognitive belief systems in managing conflict incensed people to the extent that civil strife resulted. The underlying conflict in explanations between popular cognitive explanations and more tenuous Internet explanations refused to concede to Internet. Cognitive explanations were far quicker to perceive the possible losses that weak EU approval together with aggressive social networking could produce for the Ukraine. The heuristics in cognitive belief systems created substantial agreement about victimization leading to open hostilities in the Crimea.
The mechanism that began conflict in the Crimea need to be carefully studied because similar conflict could be fueled along other borders that are now stable. North Korea appears to have potential for reacting strongly against any deliberate targeting of the cognitive belief system that has for decades allowed stability in that region. When the vital ability of cognitive belief systems to moderate conflict is attacked, the events of 2014 convince that civil strife does result.


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