

## **Communication Explosion And Its Ramifications On The New Generation With**

### **Reference to Select Contemporary Indian English Fiction**

The communication explosion brought about by new modes of communication has indeed left its footprints in culture and society as is clear from an analysis of the novels taken up for study here- Hari Kunzru's *Transmission*, Chetan Bhagats-2 *States*, *One Night at the Call centre*, Shruti Saxena's *Stiletto in the Board room*.

Observation of the youth in IT enabled workplaces show that a new generation is being weaned, more self-confident and pre-occupied, trying to navigate tradition and modernity, westernization and Indianness in language, behavior, and dress. In the IT world, tradition is often seen as being flouted, as identity becomes submerged in new codes of behavior. Internet, once used for dissemination of knowledge, has now taken on evil proportion, becoming not only a browsing site for shopping but also for delivery of sexuality and violence.

Mobile phones paradoxically invented to ease communication has cut off conversation among people in the real world Yet, people are communicating all the time- interacting, exchanging ideas and information, as words cross borders and relationships are built and made stronger between friends and strangers alike. Gmail and Face book, sometime bring a semblance of identity to define one's self. Chat, SMS, VOI and other easy methods of communication have codified language into something that conveys messages using minimal spellings. SMS lang is not only used by youngsters, but also by the elderly.

The border-hopping-Indian youth, live a stressful life, faced with target achievement, layoffs, irregular work schedules, constant travel and up-dating of information. This triggers a process of unending stress, and the constant drifting in search of jobs, migration, and temporary settlement often oriented around a pay packet, does not mitigate the tensions. Financial independence, also causes generational anxiety, as children earn more than their parents. The attraction for Engineering courses, mainly lies in the placement opportunities, foreign sojourns and fat pay packets that IT enabled jobs offer.

Easy access to information/mis- information, and availability of anything and everything off the Internet is changing the face of a society that has hitherto been customized and tradition bound. Communication has exposed the Indian youth to a new lifestyle, that closely apes the West. Display of wealth in the form of swanky cars, bikes, apartments, latest model cell phones, smart phones, lap-tops and other gadgets continue to be flashed as the consumer power increases. For a generation which has mostly given up on reading newspapers, the Google is the solution to all questions, be it health, career or psychological.

However exposure to a wider world has not completely erased Indianness, as was evident from observations of the young in IT enabled work places. The ramifications of communication explosion on culture, leaves an imprint, but cannot effect a total transformation. Tradition is still retained as repositories to return to, when faced with an identity vacuum.

It speaks a lot for the Indian cultural ethos that it has not only survived British colonization, but also the domination at various periods, by different invaders in the course of its multifaceted history. Any culture that can assimilate, absorb and transform to renew, never dies. Like the Phoenix it rises from its own ashes.

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