

Labels Are A Necessity in The Organization of Knowledge, But They Also Constrain Our Understanding.

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Understanding

Introduction

Labels are defined as the descriptive languages attached to an object or an item to describe what it is. As such, it makes assertions of the items before classified them into particular systems. They act as shortcuts of comprehension that briefly describe something instead of displaying in-depth information. For example, electronic devices such as computer systems are given labels to describe what they do and how they are handled instead of including detailed information for example about all functionalities and how to be used as well. It is, therefore, evident that labels are an important way of facilitating the process of communication and the organization of knowledge as affirmed by Lehrer (2018). But what is organization of knowledge? It is the process through which knowledge is acquired or created. Knowledge constraints are factors that render impediments towards ideal attainment of knowledge. Since labels are highly prone to errors, they can delude people into from seeing the real truth about something even though they are fundamental when it comes to the organization of knowledge. In this paper, the reasons as to why labels are integral in the organization of knowledge will be discussed and how they inhibit the process of knowledge understanding as well. Two areas of knowledge will be utilized in this study; they include religion and human science and faith and language as ways of knowing.

Human Science

By studying the social element of how individuals communicate with each other in the world, human science (AoK) explores the existence of humans. Human psychology, in general, explores human culture, thought, and how they act. In the study of human social dimensions, labels are important. For example, we heard about the importance of labels in psychological therapy

experiments in our IB psychology class. In defining the different marks applied to human actions, language (way of knowing) is important. Language (way of knowing) is the system of signs, such as sounds, gestures, letters, images, and symbols with meaning. Language is collective and important to the success and survival of humanity. Language (way of knowing) helps people to arrange and exchange the roots of knowledge. A mark is a type of language that permits information to be ordered (Serrell, 2015). In order for their clients to have a clearer view of their condition, therapists use labels such as abuser, psycho, or mental issues. Assigning a patient a new condition name lets them recognize their dilemma and obtain clinical assistance. Psychiatrists agree that the labelling of mental disorders lets patients get the right care. According to Arnold et al. (2016), there are challenges and hurdles that have to be faced straight-on, which necessitate the use of the correct language. In addition, the essence of labels can be attested by affected people who are able to finding support systems (groups) with whom they could be having a common problem. In the field of psychiatry, psychiatrists are able to recognise mental patients and how to help them by the use labels.

Counterargument

To a significant extent, labels are capable of impacting our understanding of knowledge especially because there is the likeliness of illicit response that could be bias or based on stereotypes. For example, bullies, nerds, and other group of individuals are negatively depicted by labels. As seen above, labels have the ability to not only illustrate but also impose a strong believe of an individual's behaviour. There lacks ideal justification of some beliefs in relation to how there are communicated through labels. Thus, labels have proved to result to stigmatization of individuals which then becomes a social problem. When a person is given an identity through labelling, they are more likely than not to act more according to their identity. Bullies can become

terrible bullies while the effect could be have detrimental psychological effect on some individuals. The language, a way of knowing, can be a destructive tool when used in the wrong ways in labels. Language is important in the exchange of ideas, but when people use names, uncertainty, and irony, it is fundamentally faulty. Because of names, people who have been wrongly convicted of murder appear to turn out as serial killers. The death may be due to an accident or self-defence. Labelling one as a killer, however, has a negative effect on an innocent citizen (Serrell, 2015). Individuals who commit violence and serve jail sentences alter and have become responsible individuals in the society. It is unfair to mark those persons as offenders, yet they have been rehabilitated. This method of marking will inspire them to go back to their old ways of life such as becoming lethal criminals. Thus, it can be argued that labels inhibit the understanding process as well.

Religion

There are vast religion systems in the world which are fundamental in providing a solid background for a large number of people around the globe. As an area of knowledge, religion is a sensitive topic that sparks strong debates as people stick strongly to their beliefs. It is deemed to hold answers to the critical questions that are always asked about the human life. Faith is a way of knowing that plays an indispensable role of facilitating the religious belief's study. Many religion systems in the world make use of labels for identifications. Thus, each faith can have own description. For example, theistic faith is labelled as the belief in a supreme deity, God. There are further subdivision of the faith that encapsulates monotheism and polytheism. In this correspondence, Christians, Islam, and Judaism are labelled as monotheists. Hindus are labelled as polytheists. There are other religion systems such as Hinduism which have strong beliefs in reincarnation.

Muslims have distinctive marks or logos that they use to describe themselves (Wach, 2019). For example, a particular mark that distinguishes them with others is the Hijab way of clothing. The mosques uses special architectural styles that are separate from all other constructions. On top of the mosques, there is a crescent moon and a star, symbolising the Ottoman Empire. Such marks are important logos that are recognised by any Muslim adherent. Likewise, Christians also have their labels that they use for identification. They include the cross, which can be seen above many church buildings. Thus, it is rightful to argue that labels are important in religious system as they facilitate ideal organization of knowledge.

Counterargument

To a significant extent, labels can also limit the understanding by inhibiting the process of information acquisition. For example, in ancient times, labels such as the Holy Church's crusaded sparked violence and deadly excursions in the Middle East. They represented the religious war that arose between the Christians and Muslims with each system frantically attempting to take over major cities for religious affiliations (Wach, 2019). To conceal their malicious intentions connected with the systematic assassination of poor civilians who'd been forced to choose Christianity or death, the church used marks. The Crusades, like the Teutonic Knights, the Knights Templar, and the Hospitallers, gave birth to theological knightly military orders. The church committed crimes against humanity through a highly trained soldiers referred to as the Knights Templar. The assassinated and executed people that were suspected or caught talking ill things concerning Christianity and the church.

In the past, labels have been used inappropriately to stereotype about Muslims as terrorists. In Arab countries, terrorist groups hide behind Islam to terrorize other civilians. Both terrorists are, arguably, Muslims, but not all Muslims are terrorists. By pretending to be waging Jihad (Holy

War) against the western state, jihadists deceived young people. They thus succeeded in radicalizing and attracting many young people who took part in the suicide mission. Labels like Jihad have been misused by those with sinister intentions to blackmail individuals (Combs, 2017). There are illustrations of how it is possible to also use labels to narrow our interpretation of knowledge.

Conclusion

As seen in this discussion, labels have proved to be integral in the organization of knowledge. They help enable easy identification of things. They can be used by the psychiatrists to treat people with mental issues and can't express themselves well. Since such patients can identify others with similar labels, they feel a sense of belonging. Nonetheless, the labels can also be used for wrong identification of people, hence, causing stigma, and consequently causing adverse psychological damage for individuals. Labels also represent religious systems such as Christians and Muslims. Such identity can be used to spark religious war between the followers of different religion systems.

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