



Dimensions of Communication Breakdown in Digitally Mediated Relationships


Mariam. Grigoryan¹, Bálint. Tóth^{2*}

¹ Department of Educational Psychology, American University of Armenia, Yerevan, Armenia



² Department of Criminal Law, Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest, Hungary

* Corresponding author email address: balint.toth@elte.hu

Editor

Manijeh Daneshpour
Department of Couple and Family
therapy, Alliant International
University, California, United States
of America
mdaneshpour@alliant.edu

Reviewers

Reviewer 1: Ali Akbar Soleymanian
Associate Professor of Counseling Department, Bojnord University, Iran. Email:
Soleymanian@ub.ac.ir
Reviewer 2: Hajar Torkan
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Islamic Azad University, Isfahan
Branch (Khorasgan), Isfahan, Iran. h.torkan@khuisf.ac.ir

1. Round 1

1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

Consider addressing possible self-selection bias; individuals active in such spaces may differ in technology use or relational openness compared to the broader population.

Explain how language exclusion might have influenced cultural or socio-demographic diversity. Were bilingual participants treated differently?

Clarify how many participants participated and what feedback they provided. Did any findings change because of their input?

Include additional descriptive details such as digital communication frequency or average relationship length to contextualize thematic results.

Some concepts (e.g., “perceived disinterest” under Delayed or Absent Responses and “feeling ignored or unprioritized” under Emotional Disconnection) appear overlapping. Consider refining categories or explaining conceptual boundaries.

Given that the sample is Hungarian, clarify how culturally specific these barriers might be. Could algorithmic jealousy triggers or privacy concerns generalize beyond this context?

This is an innovative angle. Expand by linking to literature on algorithmic transparency or social media surveillance to contextualize and strengthen the argument.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Provide sample questions or an appendix with the full interview guide. This would help readers assess content validity and comparability to other qualitative studies.

Consider adding researcher positionality—how the team’s cultural or technological familiarity might have influenced coding and interpretation.

Expand on how the coding tree evolved. Were axial codes defined collaboratively? Include an example table or diagram linking raw codes to themes.

While quotes like “I just joked about being late with a laughing emoji...” are engaging, ensure balanced representation across all four themes; some (e.g., Technological Mediation Barriers) have fewer direct voices.

Consider explicitly linking findings to broader relational models such as Media Richness Theory or Social Presence Theory to enhance theoretical contribution.

Expand on how this concept of “digital fatigue” advances beyond existing constructs like communication overload or techno-stress.

Discuss whether specific digital behaviors (e.g., switching to video calls) can be systematically taught as interventions, making the practical implications clearer.

Response: Revised and uploaded the manuscript.

2. Revised

Editor’s decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief’s decision: Accepted.