

Information Practices and Resources of Filipino Immigrants in Canada

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Abstract

This study examines the information practices and resources of Filipino immigrants in Canada. Since information plays a significant role in immigration, distinguishing their practices and resources are critical to their social inclusion and integration to their host society. Three semi-structured interviews were conducted using the information horizon method with Filipino immigrants between the ages of 20 to 26 who have lived in Canada for less than 10 years. The themes found in this study were social support systems (family, friends, and community), opportunities, Internet and social media, homesickness, and challenges which influence and shape their immigration and settlement experiences. Exploring these themes provide a better understanding of the information needs of immigrants, specifically of the Filipino immigrant community. Findings of this study can be applied in making resources for immigrants more available, accessible, and targeted to specific immigrant communities. This study also identifies different aspects of immigration and settlement that have not yet been documented and have potential for future research. Thus, the information practices and resources of Filipino immigrants influence how they maintain and connect with their ethnic identity which ultimately help them adjust to life in Canada.

Author's Bio

Stefanie Martin is a first year Master of Information student at the University of Toronto. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at Ryerson University. Her research interests include media representation, community archives, and social networks and technology.

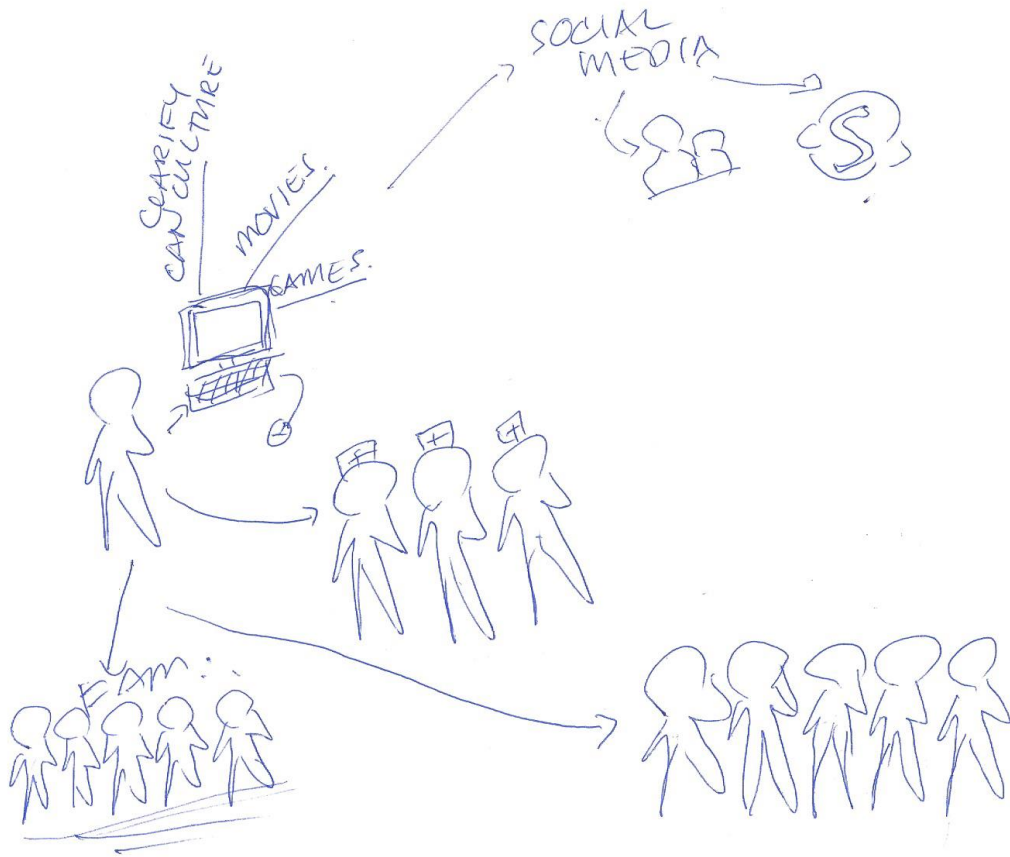


Figure 1. Bruce's Information Horizon Map

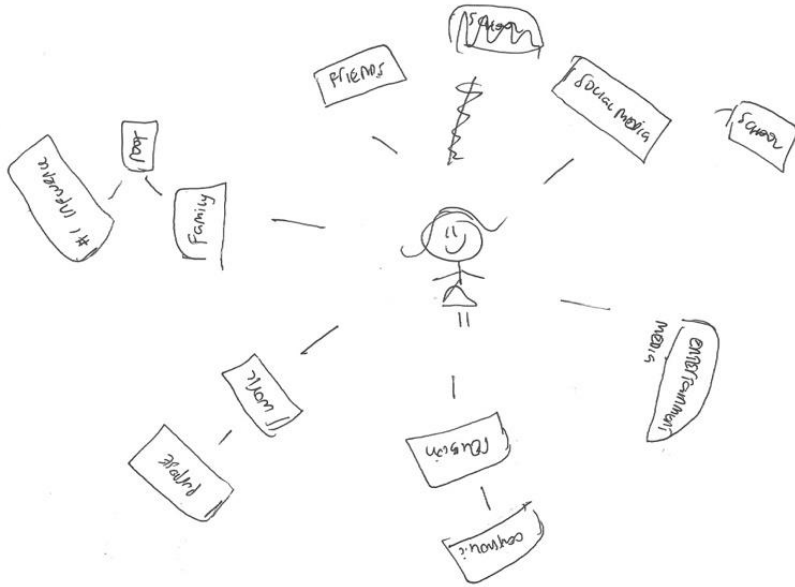


Figure 2. Trisha's Information Horizon Map