

**SEARCH: The Journal of the
South East Asia Research centre
for Communication and Humanities**

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the second issue of the third volume of SEARCH: The South East Asia Research centre for Communication and Humanities. This peer reviewed journal publishes original research in communication and the humanities.

This issue has four papers, each of which discusses the media and the impacts that it has on society. In the first paper, Toktam Namayandeh Joorabchi, Md Salleh Hj Hassan and Musa Abu Hassan write about Iranian women undergraduates and their use of the Internet. They find that the uses of the internet and the gratifications it provides are in a significant and positive relationship.

The second paper by Yang Lai Fong and Md. Sidin Ahmad Ishak examine the controversial Lina Joy case in the Malaysian media. They examine the coverage in the newspapers and the handling of the case in the Malaysian Courts. The underlying political, religious and constitutional issues surrounding religious conversion in Malaysia are well examined.

The third paper by Wong Fei Mun, Lean Mei Li and Prasanna Rosaline Fernandez examine the impact of the mobile phone on human relationships. Using the Uses and Gratifications Theory, they examine the effectiveness of the mobile phone in communicating effectively and find that face-to-face communication is still the preferred mode of communication.

The fourth paper by Jomi Thomas examines the use of the Internet among undergraduate students in India. He finds that the Internet platforms are used more for entertainment purposes rather than for serious purposes by affluent students who are more interested in glamour and entertainment than in serious journalism.

I would like to thank the authors for their contributions, the reviewers for providing valuable feedback, Ms Sumangala Pillai of Taylor's Press for her painstaking work in ensuring quality for this journal and the Management of Taylor's University for financial support in publishing this Journal.

We welcome suggestions for improvements to this Journal and hope that all readers benefit from the articles contained in this issue.

Associate Professor Dr Lokasundari Vijaya Sankar
Editor-in-Chief

