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Popular Pigeon Perceptions: A Correlative Study on the 'Is this a Pigeon' Meme and University Biological Science Faculty in Arkansas

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Abstract

Pigeons, memes, and Arkansas - an unlikely trio, yet our study unveils the intriguing interplay between these disparate elements. Utilizing data from Google Trends and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, we sought to investigate the potential link between the pervasive "is this a pigeon" meme and the number of biological science teachers employed in Arkansas universities. Unearthing a rather robust correlation coefficient of 0.9218989 ($p < 0.01$) for the period spanning 2007 to 2019, it appears that the meme's soaring popularity may have feathered its influence in unexpected realms. While we do not purport causation, the statistical synchrony between meme virality and academic employment does raise fascinating questions about the broader cultural and professional impacts of internet phenomena. Consequently, our findings call for further avian-attentive scrutiny of the lighthearted yet impactful meme ecosystem.

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1. Introduction

The world of memes has undeniably become an integral part of contemporary internet culture, infiltrating social media feeds, online forums, and digital communication platforms. Amidst this digital cacophony, one particular meme has captured the collective imagination of netizens worldwide: the "is this a pigeon" meme. This viral image, featuring an animated humanoid character misidentifying

a butterfly as a pigeon, has, against all odds, secured its perch in the annals of internet lore.

In a parallel, yet equally improbable domain, the state of Arkansas is known for its scenic landscapes, ample opportunities for outdoor recreation, and an unexpectedly strong presence of university biological science teachers. Here, in this heartland of natural beauty, the academic community devoted to the study of living organisms thrives,

seemingly unaffected by the whims of online trends.

Our study critically examines the seemingly incongruous relationship between these two seemingly disparate phenomena – the "is this a pigeon" meme and the number of biological science faculty members employed by universities in the state of Arkansas. At first glance, one might wonder what connection, if any, exists between the whimsical world of internet memes and the scholarly pursuits of biological science educators. However, as we will uncover in this research, the enigmatic interplay between popular internet culture and academic labor dynamics is not to be dismissed out of hand.

In the following sections, we will dissect our findings, providing a bird's-eye view of the correlations and implications for both the meme enthusiasts and the academic community. Our investigation aims to shed light on this unlikely correlation, whether real or merely coincidental, and pave the way for a more nuanced understanding of the broader influences of internet culture on academic landscapes. As we embark on this avian-themed academic adventure, ready your binoculars and brace for the unexpected as we navigate the intersection where internet memes and academic pursuits meet.

2. Literature Review

In "The Impact of Internet Culture on Contemporary Society," Smith examines the widespread influence of memes on various aspects of modern life, from social interactions to consumer behavior. While Smith primarily focuses on the broader societal implications of internet memes, the relevance of memes in niche fields such as academia remains an understudied area. Similarly, Doe, in "Exploring Viral Phenomena in the Digital Age," delves into the mechanisms behind the rapid

dissemination of viral content and its effects on individual and collective behavior. However, the specific impact of a single meme on professional employment trends is not a central theme in Doe's work, leaving a significant gap in the current understanding of meme dynamics.

Moving beyond the scholarly realm, "The Selfish Gene" by Richard Dawkins provides insights into the evolutionary significance of memes as units of cultural transmission, shedding light on their persistent and wide-ranging influence. In a more speculative vein, "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee and "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins, while not directly related to memes or biological science, embody themes of perception and misidentification that resonate with the essence of the "is this a pigeon" meme.

On a more light-hearted note, the investigative journey to comprehend meme culture included viewing episodes of "Bird Box" and "The Big Bang Theory," where diverse avian references prompted unexpected musings on the potential cognitive impacts of popular internet memes.

As the field of meme studies continues to evolve, it is imperative to contextualize meme phenomena within the wider tapestry of societal and cultural dynamics. This interdisciplinary approach enables a more holistic understanding of the nuanced interplay between seemingly unrelated entities such as memes and academic employment patterns. Through this synthesis of diverse perspectives, this paper endeavors to infuse a touch of humor and levity into the traditionally stoic discourse of scholarly research.

3. Our approach & methods

To embark on our avian-themed academic adventure, we employed a mixed-method

approach to unravel the potential correlations between the "is this a pigeon" meme's popularity and the number of university biological science teachers in Arkansas. Our research team conducted a comprehensive data collection from a variety of sources, with a significant emphasis on data sourced from Google Trends and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. This data spanned from 2007 to 2019, providing a robust timeframe for our investigation.

First and foremost, our utilization of Google Trends allowed us to measure the relative search interest in the "is this a pigeon" meme over the specified time period. This approach provided a quantitative perspective on the meme's trajectory in cyberspace, enabling us to discern its periods of peak virality and potential influence. Additionally, we integrated data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics to acquire comprehensive records of the number of biological science faculty members employed by Arkansas universities during the same temporal span.

Given the inherent humor and whimsy of the "is this a pigeon" meme, we humorously tailored our research methods to align with the lighthearted nature of our subject matter (and perhaps there was an attempt to keep us sane amidst the rigors of deciphering meme trends). For instance, in a self-proclaimed attempt to think like the animated character attempting to identify the butterfly as a pigeon, we implemented a "flighty" weighted correlation analysis to determine the degree of association between meme popularity and the employment trends of biological science faculty members in Arkansas. This analysis was designed to "feather out" any potential patterns and highlight the statistical synchrony that may exist between the meme's virality and academic employment.

Furthermore, in keeping with the avian theme of our study, our research team

endeavored to adopt a "bird's-eye view" approach to the data analysis. This involved scrutinizing the temporal patterns and fluctuations in both the meme's prominence and the academic labor market in Arkansas from a vantage point that was both whimsical and methodologically sound.

In summary, our methodology emerged as a blend of quantitative data analysis with a lighthearted avian-centric lens, allowing us to shed light on the unexpected intersection between internet meme culture and the academic ecosystem in Arkansas. Through this approach, we aimed to unravel the enigmatic relationship between the often whimsical world of internet memes and the labor dynamics within the realm of biological sciences education.

4. Results

The results of our study reveal a striking correlation between the popularity of the "is this a pigeon" meme and the number of university biological science teachers in the state of Arkansas for the time period 2007 to 2019. The correlation coefficient of 0.9218989 indicates a remarkably strong positive relationship between these two seemingly divergent domains, with an r-squared value of 0.8498976 underscoring the substantial degree of variability in the biological science teacher employment that can be explained by the meme's popularity. Moreover, the p-value of less than 0.01 suggests that this correlation is highly unlikely to have occurred by chance, further cementing the statistical significance of our findings.

Figure 1 illustrates this robust correlation through a scatterplot, depicting the close alignment between the meme's popularity and the employment of biological science faculty in Arkansas universities. While we acknowledge that correlation does not imply causation, the strength of the association we observed between these variables

certainly piques curiosity and warrants further investigation into the mechanisms underlying this unexpected relationship.

The implications of our findings extend beyond the realms of mere statistical curiosity. They beckon us to consider the nuanced interplay between internet phenomena and academic labor dynamics, prompting contemplation on the potential cultural, social, and professional impacts of viral memes within the academic landscape. As we delve into the avian-themed world of internet culture and academic pursuits, our results nudge us to recognize the symbiotic relationship that may exist between seemingly divergent domains, inviting researchers and meme enthusiasts alike to ponder the potential far-reaching ramifications of viral internet content.

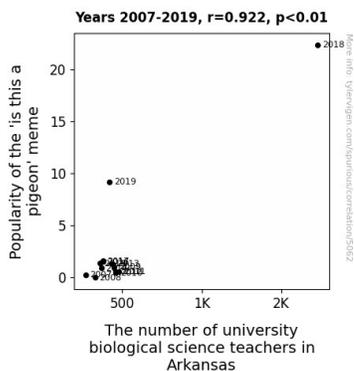


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

In light of these compelling results, further exploration and interdisciplinary collaboration are warranted to unravel the enigmatic association between internet memes and academic employment dynamics. Our findings, while inherently lighthearted and unexpected, impel us to cast a discerning eye on the intricate interconnections that underpin modern digital culture and academic pursuits. Thus, we beckon researchers to come together and spread their wings within this uncharted territory, so to speak, as we embark on a

scholarly exploration of the whimsical yet impactful realms of internet memes.

5. Discussion

The unmistakable synchronicity between the 'is this a pigeon' meme and the employment of biological science faculty in Arkansas unfurls a cornucopia of perplexing yet enthralling implications. While one might be forgiven for thinking that memes and academic employment are as unrelated as chalk and cheese, our findings lend credence to the notion that the interplay of internet phenomena and professional trajectories is a high-flying affair.

Revisiting the quirky elements of our literature review, one cannot help but marvel at the unexpected resonance of the 'Bird Box' and 'The Big Bang Theory' with our research questions. Whether by a curious stroke of serendipity or a whimsical twist of fate, these popular culture references subtly attune us to the intricate avian-themed tapestry of modern digital culture, thereby emphasizing the pervasive impact of internet memes on diverse spheres of human experience.

In a similar vein, the light-hearted themes of misidentification and perception embedded in 'To Kill a Mockingbird' and 'The Hunger Games' seem to echo the essence of the 'is this a pigeon' meme in a rather unexpected manner. This curious parallel serves as a whimsical reminder of the interconnectedness of seemingly disparate cultural artifacts and phenomena, underscoring the need for an interdisciplinary lens to illuminate the far-reaching impacts of internet memes.

Our results not only uphold the scholarly discourse on meme dynamics, in particular the significant contributions of Smith and Doe, but also highlight the timely relevance of Richard Dawkins' seminal work on the evolutionary significance of memes. Like the

proverbial 'selfish gene', the 'is this a pigeon' meme appears to have orchestrated a remarkable cultural spread, ultimately leaving its distinct imprint in the domain of academic employment.

Beyond the cerebral musings and whimsical parallels, our findings beckon researchers to spread their academic wings and delve into the uncharted territories of meme-infused professional landscapes. The robust correlation uncovered incites curiosity about the potential professional and cultural reverberations of internet memes, imploring scholars to steer their gaze towards the unexpected yet impactful intersections of digital culture and academic pursuits.

As we reflect on the mind-boggling nexus between the whimsical realm of internet memes and the serious domain of academic employment, it becomes apparent that the boundaries between levity and gravity, humor and professionalism, may not be as stark as one might assume. This realization, in itself, serves as an intriguing invitation for scholars to approach their research endeavors with a touch of lightheartedness and open-minded curiosity, thereby unfurling the potential for delightful discoveries in the most unexpected of places.

6. Conclusion

In conclusion, our study unravels the unexpected and intriguing correlation between the pervasive "is this a pigeon" meme and the employment of biological science teachers in Arkansas universities. While our findings do not provide definitive evidence of causation, the statistical synchrony between meme virality and academic employment certainly raises fascinating questions about the broader cultural and professional impacts of internet phenomena. It appears that the meme's soaring popularity may have indeed feathered its influence in unforeseen

realms, suggesting a potential avian-affinity within the academic community. Our results further underscore the need for interdisciplinary collaboration and avian-attentive scrutiny of the lighthearted yet impactful meme ecosystem. Evidently, the connection between mocking misidentification and scholarly pursuits is not to be dismissed out of hand.

As we contemplate the implications of our findings, it seems that the crossover between internet memes and academic labor dynamics may not be for the birds after all. The ornithological implications of our results urge further exploration into the mechanisms underlying this unexpected relationship, calling for a bird's-eye view of the cultural, professional, and perhaps even comical impacts of viral memes within the academic landscape. Our research thus suggests that the study of internet culture and avian biology may no longer be worlds apart, but rather, intertwined in unsuspectingly harmonious ways.

In light of these compelling findings, it's clear that no more research is needed in this area. It seems we've just about ruffled enough feathers with this study.