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Supporting to Acquire New Fans of Local Idols by A Novel-Game That Allows to Vicariously Experience Old Fans' Experiences

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Recently, many local idols play an active part in vitalizing local regions. In these activities, continuous

acquirement of new fans is important. However, enthusiastic cheering and unique rules of the existing

fan community form a barrier that prevents potential new fans from joining the fan community. In this

research, in order to alleviate this barrier, I create a novel-game based on the role action learning

methodology, which allows the potential new fans to vicariously experience the old fans' experiences,

and examine whether it can effectively increase understanding and affection to the local idols as well as

their old fans. As a model case, I collected actual experiences from the existing fan community of the

Nishi-Kanazawa Shoujo-dan, which is a local idol group based in the shopping district of Nishi-

Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture. I implemented a novel-game named BNO-Story to which the collected

episodes are incorporated. I conducted experiments in which I asked some subjects to play this game to

evaluate whether the game is effective. From the results, it was suggested that this novel game works

effectively for potential fans who are initially interested in the target idol, and was also suggested that it

can improve the impression of old fans.

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