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Web-BBS mediated with characters

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Research background:

With rapid growth of Internet infrastructure, a study of network community becomes important. One of the characteristics is information exchange by word of mouth on a Web-BBS. In particular Word of mouth information can widely distributed to get a many people in a Web-BBS. However, Communication on the Web has anonymous property, and people have a little friendly feeling.

Objective:

In the conventional Internet communication, friendly feeling is lost by the anonymous property. In order to enhance their friend-ship, we consider Web-BBS mediated with characters. It will be improve their confidence.

Experiment method:

We construct a prototype Web-BBS, which has the following functions.

1. Five kinds of viewer.
2. Log-file strongly maintained by an individual post.
3. A selection of a preference character as their identity.

This Web-BBS has been examined for two months. We ask the users questionnaires to the users. Which is based on the psychological background : self-consciousness and character-consciousness.

Results:

There were 1500 accesses in about 2 months. As a result for questionnaire, we found the correlation of between self-consciousness and character-consciousness. It is suggest that characters are contributed to mediate between users of communication on the Web-BBS.

Conclusion:

We think Web-BBS mediated with characters which enhance their friend-ship.