

Spontaneous communication

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The communication which come out spontaneously stands for hidden idea of the community. Most of media represent the majorities' voice of the society, or they deceive people by using their privilege and power. They usually distort our world on one side, and filter minorities' opinion. The message on the wall such as graffiti and tag involves people's hidden idea, complaint. Some of graffiti and tag represents territory, political opinion, complain on society, culture of the community.

Based on my cultural background or experience in South Korean, graffiti and tag is also familiar communication like European sense. I experienced these spontaneous communication in my early age. When I was school kid (perhaps 5~6year old), I used to draw my territory on the 2 people desk. My classmate and I used to divide the border by pen or cutters. I suppose that I as a little kid was instantly looking for my individual territory. What I had changed as grew up is that I share one certain image with my close friend. It was only a simple animal image, but we used to tag it everywhere in order to have our own symbol. However, my tag did not continue after then. For me, it was an expression of my territory and community. As my boundary of world widen physically and socially, I began to discover political graffiti in shantytown near the my middle school. At that time, people in the neighbor were getting banned by municipality in aggressive ways. One way that they used was spraying in threatening message or image on the wall. In same time, the residents also wrote their argument in strong red color. Any kinds of protests were not announced by media in those days, and the news shows people the clean neighborhood after redevelopment. The only way that general public were able to notice was to see the protest, to listen it from others or to read the graffiti on the wall. The graffiti was the alternative media to communicate with the weak in society. In the fact that the spontaneous communication has a role to link between low class and society, it obviously has good effect. Recently, one graffiti became a hot issue, which was against G20 Leaders Summit. The tagger was accused because he paints a mouse on the G20 poster. (G pronounces as mouse in Korean, and which present also nickname of Korean president) This happening brought debate on not only graffiti on public property but also freedom of spontaneous message of society. In the aspect that it is a communication tool of society, our society needs more reflection against one side messages.

However, I sometimes feel unpleasant with some sentence on the wall. For example, one of harsh graffiti is thing which degrade human value. I have ever seen the graffiti for advertisement of illegal organ purchase, which are not either to communicate spontaneously or represent the community. These secret messages cause to corrupt or to decompose the community. In my opinion, the reason why graffiti is valuable is that they reflect hidden voices and desire in society, and it makes to communicate each other with alternative way. However, crime should be banned with such a misuseage on wall.

What I would like to write on the wall is basically to communicate with existing graffiti. The idea is to reply or add my idea after reading the message of others. As an urbanist, I want to use wall communication space to exchange opinion with resident. I think that it is important to listen and react it not only to insist my own story as my young age. What I have done on the top of stripped dinosaur graffiti is also same motivation during the workshop. I replied to the formal message 'never forget' with new sentence 'still in my memory'. This work is meaningful for me because I could go deep into the graffiti to understand when I replied.