

Queer App Interviewees

Interviewee	Identity	Age	Occupation	Education	Hometown	Current location	Others	Interview Date
Yige and her friend	Lesbian	19	Student	Berkley College	Southern China	Boston		10/02/2022
Qu Jiaying	Lesbian	25	Architect	Columbia Master	Northern China	New York	Not typical tomboy appearance	10/02/2022
Zhang Fanghemei	Bisexual to Asexuality	23	Student	NEU Mater	Beijing	Boston	Not typical tomboy appearance	10/02/2022
Ren Junkun	Lesbian	27	Student	MIT PHD	Sichuan	Boston	Not typical tomboy appearance, but her girlfriend is	10/02/2022
Dongdong	Gay	25	Architect	Columbia Master	Fujian	New York	Very gay appearance in US, not in China	10/02/2022
Chen Sixuan	Gay	27	Architect	Columbia Master	Guangdong	New York		10/03/2022
Liu Wencheng	Gay	22	Not working yet	Bachelor	Nanchong, Sichuan	Chengdu, China		10/04/2022

Queer App Interview 01 Details

	Yige and her friend	Qujiaying	Zhang Fanghemei	Ren Junkun	Dongdong	Chen Sixuan	Liu Wencheng	
<b>Social experience</b>								
<b>Recent Travel / socialExperience</b>	2022.06 To Singapore, met a Singapore musician, who took them to gay bars	2020 To Northern China(Shenyang, Changchun, Beijing); met a musician whose studio at an art community	2021 To Yunnan, China, with 2 gay friends	2019 To Qingdao	2020-2021 Working in Beijing, with 25 yr old girlfriend	2020 To Gansu with ex	2019 To Chengdu	2021 To Xi An with ex-boyfriend
<b>Queer bar experience</b>	Very hidden, not gay only	No trans culture, rustic, not very modern; gay/lesbian only	The most famous gay bar in Yunnan, providing drag queen show, opens from 12. Very hidden, only a door, no signs, can't be found on Gaode Map(Chinese google map)	None, don't go to queer bars when touring in China	None	None, he wasn't very open to it before coming to NY at 2021	Searched the 2 most famous gay bars, but one was shut down, another was disappointing.	No, he didn't go to gay bar in Xi An. But he goes to those in Chengdu.
<b>Worry about Identity reveal?</b>	No, young people don't worry about it; As tourists, not discriminated	No.	No, Not typical tomboy appearance	No, big cities have more modern atmosphere	Ren not, but her girlfriend worries a lot. Holding hands are okay because it's "normal", but her girlfriend would avoid close distance or any further action - both know how to behave in China	No, because all know how to behave oneself in China	Yes, worry when going to another cities. He will search for local culture on homosexuality before going.	No, because he just sees himself as a tourist, not a gay.
<b>Current app</b>	Little Red Book > Tiktok > Ctrip (for tickets only)	Little Red Book, airbnb, Dazhongdianping, Ctrip	Ctrip, Baidu, WeChat	Weibo	Airbnb, Ctrip - hotel Dazhongdianping, Little Red Book	Weibo, Zhihu	Little Red Book	
<b>Problem and concern</b>	Little Red Book: too much repetitive information Tiktok: too commercial, fake advertisement and info	Dazhongdianping : for food search, like Yelp, can be filtered into categories, quantitative, but Little Red book: for sightseeing, mainly picture attraction, more fake info, more ads than Dazhongdianping		Weibo: The blogger is an icon( a celebrity etc.), starting from fans groups	Dazhongdianping: not up to date Little red book: young people love image oriented quality		Little Red Book: low restriction, not very qualified content The recommended content is not precise	
<b>Queer Related Info</b>								
<b>Information source</b>	Local friend	Local friend	Local friends in life	Local friends, met A Qiang who founded PFLAG China in a Harvard MIT Mixer party		Local friends, follow famous icon on Ins	Friends	
<b>Current platform</b>	Weibo, WeChat	Rela	WeChat	WeChat, Rela, Douban(before)	WeChat	Aloha(gay ins), little red book, Weibo, ins, small Wechat group, Blued	Ins, Weibo, Zhihu, Wechat, Blued NY: AXS - for concert tickets, RA Guide - weekend dancing, Hinge - dating app, Grinder - "booty call" app	Blued, WeChat
<b>Problem and concern</b>	WeChat: Lesbian groups have very strict entry group verification system, send verification message (picture, introduction, voice, etc.) to the administrator, because some accidents happened when some parents, men and pretended lesbians got in  Weibo: The blogger is an icon, and form a group, need verification	The platform will be suddenly censored and will lose some users. Personally not prefer online social  WeChat: Not very active, fear to talk in it, only share some news and then discuss; Some online activities charge fees.	WeChat: - Mode: The group members propose an activity idea, the organizer initiates a vote, and those who participate in the same activity are pulled down to another small group; buy tickets by themselves, Find someone to carpool with in the small group  1. Need to know someone in the group to add you 2. Not too many active members (50/200), some block the group because of too much unrelated information 3. very rely on the volunteered organizer; Energy consuming for organizer (QR code expired etc.) 4. Some groups have strange and strict rules - kicked out because being too active, have the rules of sending photos  Rela: Mostly a dating app, time-consuming  Douban (before): "Les Sky Group" and other very exclusive groups in different categories: les, gay, trans, etc.	As an introvert, Ren is not super into social activities, so the WeChat group works for her.	Aloha: can follow bloggers like on Ins  Little red book: related to Ins, follow one's little red book and then follow on ins  WeChat: not for him, Dong can't fit in big local WeChat group community, it is often small groups with familiar friends and organize activities there  -Need to know the coded language because obvious queer related phrase or words are blocked or flow restricted when searching  Blued: dating app		Blued: likes the function of showing those near you and their distance from you, mostly will add to WeChat contact; mostly for sexual relationship	
<b>Other</b>	Lesbians in Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Shanghai areas love Live-house; Bars are formed - attract other les and gays through a queer boss or bartender;	Question the importance on emphasizing identity in China, Some gay friends have their own social circle and may not want to meet new ones Really want an app that is not for booty call or romantic relationships, pure info share Can collaborate with local organizations for data	30+ queers: more exclusive social circle, prefer couples traveling	Her girlfriend fear and do not like to involve in queer community in public, but she look into it in private The index may not be useful because it only reflects an average level, but she prefer go to queer-friendly hotels or restaurants.	The global scope index is more helpful, and for people abroad. Chinese are less violent, but like in Brazil will be beaten, will be side-eye for showing queer behaviors. ; for people at home have been accustomed to how to behave.(A Friend's studio go to Tunisia, search for relevant index and penalties, can kiss, hold hands, clothes?)  We are privileged people, maybe others do need Index  <b>Advice on data collecting for index:</b> - Gay club and communities are related - Transportation matters (like the NY Brookline L line) - See the location where users are most active online, and booty call location/frequency, on queer apps like Blued	Preferred activities: Drag queen( sophisticated performance), exhibition, Open Air Movies, bar, club, party Other may preferred: Volleyball, hiking	Preferred activities: Dancing Drinking Livehouse Playing video games	

Queer App Interviewees 02

Interviewee	Identity	Age	Occupation	Education	Hometown	Current location	Others	Interview Date
Yige	Lesbian		19 Student	Berkley College	Southern China	Boston		11/09/2022
Xiyuan Li	Lesbian		25 Photographer	College	Shanghai	LA	#50	11/08/2022
Jenny Pan	Lesbian		22 College - marketing	College	Shanghai	Boston	#49 Volunteer in queer organizations	11/09/2022
Yuxin Yang	Lesbian		IT consultant-engineering			LA	The founder of Upwmxn	11/10/2022
Junyi Huang	Lesbian		24	College		Shanghai		11/13/2022

Queer App Interview 02 Details

	Li Xiyuan	Jenny Pan	YIGE	Junyi Huang	Yuxin Yang
1. How do you currently socialize, relax, and get information? (Not limited to queer activities) What kind of leisure and entertainment or activities do you usually like to participate in?	<p>Social media: Weibo before, friends now; ins, Weibo (in an icon cased on)</p> <p>WeChat group: before, not reliable, now have verification procedures: voice, photos, etc.; now emotionally stable, do not need to develop social circle will not want to join, now most of the withdrawal or dead group. WeChat group seen in microblogging, concern about the big bloggers.</p> <p>Tinder downloaded immediately uninstalled, because the type of people is not their favorite.</p> <p>Yelp, mass review: the main food platform, giving more information, you can search for niche information, there will be offers.</p> <p>Lesbian: Weibo platform 2020.3 once wanted to go to pitch for gf and friends, and then had target did not send; currently are 00, now self-introduction MBTI, prefer a certain personality. Before is t/p, age etc. The L, Rela: feel useless, just blink, back and forth a lot, not enough direct, chat process is too troublesome, but also to search the nearby people. Blinked feel useless, and also have object in post, confused; paid can hide the whereabouts, for less shy.</p> <p>Soul: chat software, there are different methods of matching, voice matching, first chat 1min and then decide whether to reveal themselves, but basically only chat 1min, met a les, but hit the number, deleted Qq group: a long time ago, no verification, are more trust each other, 200+ people, directly in the group said to find t/p, and then private development, the group is just a platform "</p>	<p>Little red book: look at the feedback comments, travel, dinner, recipes cooking, looking for work ETC, when doing Baidu mass review</p> <p>yelp</p> <p>WeChat public number: tweet</p> <p>Queer-related: party group</p> <p>Concerts: weibo, ins, twitter</p> <p>Domestic: after joining the pride festival, participate in big gathering party, bar sponsorship with bar sponsorship, birthday, livehouse, exhibition, watching movies, playing video games, eating (small-scale dinners)</p> <p>Airport star chasing Meet and greet</p> <p>Party</p> <p>Park visits</p> <p>Queer-related volunteer activities - ladies who tech - lectures (Shanghai this year because of the epidemic activities canceled, other activities in Beijing Shenzhen is still doing)</p> <p>Travel, want to go skiing and hiking</p> <p>Overseas: buy grocery, shopping, watch movies, travel, concerts (Taylor, lala, Hebe 2014), Career related meetings - career social event - only for LGBTQ"</p>	<p>Seeing shows, good restaurant visits, going to the cornucopia on Halloween, Rhode Island trips, driving go-karts + arcade + trampoline</p> <p>Eating - Little Red Book, Tiktok (see food photos)</p> <p>Shows - YouTube see info, tickets</p> <p>Friends recommend</p> <p>queer related.</p> <p>Domestic, bars, niche music livehouse general les more, from weibo, shake sound number, small red book, related to many similar content</p>	<p>Art Exhibition</p> <p>WeChat, group chat</p> <p>Little Red Book</p>	<p>Wechat group chat</p>
2. What do you think about the software/platform you are using to get information now? What features do you like and what do you dislike (WeChat, Eventbrite, Yelp, Google Map, Opentable...)	<p>"Little red book: not targeted content, no related info like more direct, no tedious steps, big data pushed information is more accurate; WeChat group: before, not reliable, now have verification procedures: voice, photos, etc.; now emotionally stable, do not need to develop social circle will not want to join, now most of the withdrawal or dead group. WeChat group seen in microblogging, concern about the big bloggers.</p> <p>Tinder downloaded immediately uninstalled, because the type of people is not their favorite.</p> <p>Yelp, mass review: the main food platform, giving more information, you can search for niche information, there will be offers.</p> <p>Lesbian: Weibo platform 2020.3 once wanted to go to pitch for gf and friends, and then had target did not send; currently are 00, now self-introduction MBTI, prefer a certain personality. Before is t/p, age etc. The L, Rela: feel useless, just blink, back and forth a lot, not enough direct, chat process is too troublesome, but also to search the nearby people. Blinked feel useless, and also have object in post, confused; paid can hide the whereabouts, for less shy.</p> <p>Soul: chat software, there are different methods of matching, voice matching, first chat 1min and then decide whether to reveal themselves, but basically only chat 1min, met a les, but hit the number, deleted Qq group: a long time ago, no verification, are more trust each other, 200+ people, directly in the group said to find t/p, and then private development, the group is just a platform "</p>	<p>"Little red book: look at the feedback comments, travel, dinner, recipes cooking, looking for work ETC, push mechanism is better, will recommend according to the location; especially in foreign countries, foreign web site does not meet the taste, and foreign restaurants do not have pictures; however, push has limitations, difficult to go to find not browsed, outside the circle of content; can group chat (bloggers build groups), not commonly used ins: I follow celebrity, in order to get timely information about a person; want some close friends, like IG story, do not need to think too much care too much; according to friends sent ig can interact, can plant, know the location, go up to search for other related information</p> <p>Popular review: similar to yelp, is already know which store you want to go to, and then go to the above to check the relevant information; a variety of activities together is more convenient, like review, will shoot to the dishes, environment, etc.; from social media to see photos, can track to where the stars; will have a list, must eat list black pearl, etc., group purchase of discount information</p> <p>Yelp: the interface is difficult, inaccurate recommendations; like the map function (including airbnb), photos to see a complete lack of appetite</p> <p>WeChat public: tweets</p> <p>Queer-related: party groups</p> <p>Concerts: we know from weibo, ins, twitter, certain fans will transfer tickets on it, but also can not guarantee</p> <p>Buy tickets: foreign ticket master official, live mason but not enough protection; domestic scalpers, official difficult to buy tickets, follow the large support will go together to buy, barley network - no second-hand exclusive function</p> <p>ticket master - can sell second-hand, can compare prices, price information transparent</p> <p>google map: mark travel destinations</p> <p>youtube: Les couple-rose&amp;rose to do translation for rookie subtitle group</p> <p>Career related: career social event</p> <p>Rela: very poor, UI/UX is very difficult, often can not send, brush can not send something; audit released things are very strict, do not let send; good is around who, but know can not chat up; Chinese chat is more formal, online do not know people difficult to open chat topics; squeeze eye function to express the information is very vague, like? Face to face will be better"</p>	<p>Little red book: personal feeling there will be gaps, some bloggers to maintain their persona will exaggerate the sense of experience; like - play all aspects, location information is very full, but also have to judge for themselves, according to the comments, filters, menu ETC; if the food recommendations described in detail will not be wrong; do not like - only suitable for a general purpose</p> <p>Jitterbug: more suitable for browse around, some conscientious bloggers push better; but the commercialization is very serious, big data is very accurate, will push not only the circle they are concerned about</p> <p>B station: suitable for browse around, focus on the content, get an idea from here and then go to other places to search; attention to the travel bloggers</p> <p>YouTube: must first find an accurate term, the search results are too detailed, not generalized</p> <p>Ins: social software, will be with selfishness in, want to show off, shaping persona, chaotic push, not real; all go to the place where everyone knows</p> <p>Domestic music festivals, concerts, livehouse publicity is better in the small red book, shake, WeChat public number, weibo push, after the attention will be private letter to each person</p> <p>Overseas is very chaotic and less publicity, you have to pay attention to the singer to find his information</p> <p>Wechat: there are many local groups</p> <p>Rela: can meet a lot of friends, only this one method: good - large user base, many types, bad - the culture is not very good, many mentally immature people, although engaged in adult verification but there are loopholes</p> <p>Self-labeling is very serious, there is a type of label selection, I wear a dress on the comments attack</p> <p>Some live, even the function of the mike, and there is no education popularization and so on, it is a pity</p>	<p>Little red book: biased visual, know the information and then search; previously resisted because the content looks pompous, biased; in fact, it is point-to-point traffic rate conversion is very high, the people who pay attention to trust is very high, it is likely to go; will go to see the review, and then go to buy; homogenization recommended too much; previously done related to share, write a long flow is not high, very partial flow-oriented need a strong visual impact to attract</p> <p>WeChat public number: often subscribed to will often look; advantages: higher authority, media identity, more serious content; generally now the public number to see, and then go elsewhere to understand - release platform: integration is very high; suitable for doing in-depth content content; previously done fashion editor, selection, outline, please author to write, the highest view rate is "open relationship"</p> <p>related interviews - love to see: and their own related, know a little but break through my imagination; GQ public number is very special, emphasizing interactivity; there is a sense of luring, teasing the audience; disadvantages: too much information, the article will be very long, greater than 6 screens will be tired; too many other channels, now more scattered; no way to screen information for users</p> <p>WeChat group: if the number of people, only look at the key information, do not look at the interaction; 10-30 people group, will look deeply at the content and participation</p> <p>queer related: through good friends, bars, follow public numbers and groups</p> <p>Rela: mainly communication, wink - very cute, I tend to know offline, first offline to know people and then go to rela; live not too much like; rarely send post; mainly look at people post, mainly photos, personal user initiated small activities - playing ball"</p>	<p>As a USER and ORGANIZER</p> <p>Currently are posted on Wechat, are PAIN POINTS, organizers post propaganda on Rela</p> <p>online discord channel - global, difficult to shrink to regional groups</p> <p>Wechat: bad - full supervision mode, the previous event in a group of friends organized to do cos activities, sent a link, a small group of people, the police directly to the home in China, although people in the United States; high activity, everyone is chatting, brush away the activity announcement; group announcement is very manual, more independent, can not and webpage connect; difficult to keep track of Want to care about new members, but quickly brushed off; admin can not see an opendata source to analyze; third-party data interface is very poor</p> <p>Wechat-Panorama prison mode</p> <p>Discort: can partition chat topics</p>
3. What events do you think would be popular with les/gays? (Place, event...)	<p>Playing games - e-sports, most les more introverted, regardless of the epidemic before and after, basically online more than offline to participate in; online the first step is better, online KTV, pure chat</p>	<p>Concerts - Fletcher / Les halloween cruise events</p>	<p>Storytelling - oddball stories, concerts, livehouse, vintage stores</p> <p>Sports, dog/cat walking, concerts, vintage buying and selling, art, touring around, food</p>	<p>bar, pride festival founder goodbye party - with themed events, sharing sessions (static), pure chat</p> <p>Roxie bar-les bar; Missing gallery-les bar, went without knowing it was</p>	<p>Organized activities.</p> <p>online study seminar lecture - Vancouver doctoral cooperation, 2 chapters of reading every two weeks, online discussion, lecture + discussion, each seminar 2h, after the clip lecture part, after wanting to combine with art, music offline holiday and local restaurant cooperation, 80+ people social activities</p> <p>hiking, sport event active ten; Halloween carving pumpkin 30+</p>
4. When was the last time you participated in an lgbtq-related event? How did you get the relevant information?	<p>Online: 2019 weibo bloggers organized voice chat rooms with topics (straight women who have hurt lesbians), in an app</p> <p>Offline: 2016 Shanghai la bar, didn't understand at the time, quiet, no imaginary crazy, hitting on... looks like a normal bar, a les gathering place.</p> <p>2015 Shanghai people's square Hong Kong underground street, central square, every weekend les matchmaking, chatting activities</p>	<p>2020 Shanghai Pride Festival volunteers, train and get on board</p> <p>WeChat public number, acquaintance</p>	<p>I don't know them deliberately, but I know more of them from performances.</p> <p>The family concerts organized by themselves, vintage sales activities, etc</p>	<p>Friends; the last picnic in the oil tank lawn, happened to meet the gays gender violence activities, some sharing sessions, games (blindfolded body perception), very focused on physical interaction</p>	<p>As above</p>
5. What are the problems and challenges in meeting people from the same community?	<p>Only through online, in reality rarely queer</p>		<p>If you meet online first, it is easy to break contact unless you talk very well; you can only rely on some activities, opportunities to be better, offline is difficult but very important</p> <p>Universal knowledge of homosexuality is basically lacking</p>	<p>Too much control</p>	<p>Lesbians are mostly shy and nervous about trying something new</p>
6. About Wechat group					
• Your experience with the group? What information did you learn in the group?	<p>Need voice verification, join overseas Chinese group of 280+ people, random chat, no hardcore messages. Mainly key few acquaintances are chatting, about 10 of them. Others send some helpful messages like pet adoption, rentals, etc. Unless one is very active, it is hard</p>	<p>Pulled in by a friend, schoolgirl known from Rela, into the group need to introduce themselves, change the note, upload burst photo; weekly staff to accept complaints, kick out the random addition of people, suspected of having problems; domestic pulled into the group of flower small carved colleagues, the New Year gift exchange activities; the group are quite active; hiking activities.</p> <p>But it is difficult to talk in large groups to meet people, it is difficult to chat; not a lot of direct meeting opportunities</p>	<p>Lesbian groups have very strict entry group verification system, send verification message (picture, introduction, voice, etc.) to the administrator, because some accidents happened when some parents, men and pretended lesbians got in</p>	<p>Not encountering large groups, but not often.</p>	<p>There are 20-30 people in the group. If you have participated in the academic activities organized by in person on campus, you will be pulled into the group.</p>
• Is it effective for the current feeling of socializing and participating in activities in WeChat groups?	<p>No, would rather play the game; when organized, the announcement will be sent in the group.</p>	<p>Upwomxn some want to do mentor program, speed dating; are doing gender study, anti-domestic violence lectures; the most profound impact is the pride festival activities, summit type activities are bigger, the group will talk about just a few, share daily; the number of small groups will talk more; the group will send related to their own activities (comedy, band, Looking for people)</p>	<p>"previously a famous les microblogger, but was blocked, now built the group, basically tomboy, before there were more than 300 people, from many parts of the country, now only 94 people.</p> <p>University above grade group will only have offline activities, send microblogging activities, sharing the process of coming out, barbecue, only in large cities"</p>		<p>In addition to academic exchange activities, the group met Barbecue, Halloween haunted house. I think that sexual orientation is only one aspect, and I don't want the division of friends to be so clear. So I think the best function of this group is academic discussion.</p>
• How was the whole experience of attending the event? What would you like to see improved?	<p>/</p>	<p>As the organizer, need a chanel, WeChat public number mainly to do the release, WeChat group is just communication</p>	<p>/</p>		
Solution Discovery					
7. What do you think can be done to help you solve the problem of the lgbtq community's difficulty in getting information about events and making friends?	<p>/</p>	<p>Restart rela, like offline, do not like to start from online</p>	<p>Rela has been hard to come by, and the policy addresses</p>		<p>Its really hard...</p>
8. Why is there no platform that simply provides information about lgbtq event now? If so what features, functions, and experiences would you like to have?	<p>How to make me keep not uninstall, provide lily film resources, message board - troubleshooting (similar to the forum), do not necessarily participate but want to see, want to understand</p>	<p>The purpose is to make new friends, find their own group, make connection; queer only activities need to explain the need for an inclusive, exclusive environment, to find a more secure and comfortable group; queer, trans exchange is not a problem, subdivision classification?networking no problem There is no problem with networking, but there will be a problem with dating if it is not inclusive</p>	<p>Want to know what's going on locally</p> <p>Big data: based on what has been seen and searched for MBTI personality-Korean variety show, E people I people to distinguish, activities need E people to bring I people-very effective</p> <p>Self-organized activities want to let more people know, stickiness will be big</p> <p>If you study abroad, you want to directly know the school queer, rela brush into the not necessarily within the school, you can participate in their own school, other school queer activities</p>	<p>Want to have a completely different point from the current app, not limited to queer only, to everyone; show everyone, diversity of each gender, very inclusive platform (Previously do exhibition: female artists + female perspective) professional research, professional interpretation - female perspective, monthly magazine, broadcast</p>	<p>The domestic blocking of lgbtq is too serious. In the new era of spreading information on the internet is clearly supposed to be the most convenient. But for the lgbtq community, instead of paper dissemination &amp; word of mouth is more effective.</p>
9. What are you currently doing/using to address the issue of the Lgbtq community having difficulty getting information about events and making friends?					
- What do you like and dislike about this solution?		<p>The biggest problem - I don't know which day will be shut down, there has been a group in Shanghai said a sensitive word, the group can no longer speak, can only pull a new group; public number will blow up, the whole disappeared "unnamed public number", need to change the name etc..</p>			<p>Using the dating app gives lesbians the convenience of dating. But because it is a dating app, more social is one on one, there is no community. now too much pandemonium, the vetting method is very strange. There are a lot more people playing hot la in China than in North America, and it's hard to hide location information in deep cabinets.</p>