Public Perceptions of Relationships with AI Chatbots

Introduction

This report presents the findings of a survey conducted by Couple.com, Inc., aimed at understanding public attitudes towards relationships with AI chatbots. The survey, conducted in January 2024, targeted singles aged 18 to 65 in the United States and Canada. Participants engaged in a 10-minute conversation with a chatbot on DateABot.ai before responding to an online questionnaire. The objective was to establish a baseline understanding of public thoughts on human-chatbot relationships.

Methodology

The survey was disseminated to 30,000 singles in the specified age and geographical range. The methodology involved a pre-survey interaction with an AI chatbot, followed by a series of multiple-choice questions. The focus was to gauge the participants' perceptions post-interaction with the chatbot.

Survey Results

AI Chatbots as Conversationalists:
- 74% of respondents rated AI chatbots from DateABot.ai as better conversationalists compared to their last human partner.

Improvement of Small Talk Skills:
- A significant majority (74%) believed that enhancing small talk skills could increase their chances of finding a romantic partner.
- 65% thought that practicing small talk with DateABot.ai could enhance their conversation skills in real-life dates.

Emotional Expression and Understanding:
- Nearly half (48%) felt more confident expressing their feelings to a chatbot than to a real person.
- 61% believed chatbots understand their romantic and emotional needs better than most humans.

Time Investment for Compatibility:
- On average, respondents believed that around 9 hours of conversation with a chatbot are needed for it to understand them well enough to find a compatible human partner.

Perceptions of Cheating:

- 35% considered it 'cheating' if their significant other engaged in a romantic relationship with a chatbot.
- 30% viewed it as 'cheating' if their chatbot engaged in a romantic relationship with another human.

Legal and Social Aspects:
- 39% believed that humans will legally be able to marry chatbots in the future.
- A substantial majority (70%) perceived a social stigma associated with dating chatbots.

AI Companionship in Society:
- 65% of respondents opined that AI companionship will become a norm in society within the next decade.

Discussion

The survey results indicate a growing acceptance and comfort with AI chatbots as conversational partners. A significant portion of the respondents rate chatbots highly in understanding emotional and romantic needs, suggesting an evolving relationship between humans and AI in personal and intimate contexts. However, the concept of romantic involvement with AI evokes mixed reactions, with notable concerns about cheating and societal stigma.

The belief that AI companionship will become normalized within the next decade aligns with the increasing integration of AI in daily life. However, legal and ethical considerations, particularly concerning the definition and boundaries of relationships, remain complex and largely unaddressed.

Conclusion

The findings from Couple.com, Inc.'s survey reveal insightful trends in human-AI relationship dynamics. The data suggests a shift in societal perceptions, with a significant number of individuals considering AI chatbots as viable companions and conversationalists. As AI technology advances, these perceptions are likely to evolve further, warranting ongoing research and dialogue about the implications for personal relationships and societal norms.