


Chapter 1

Transhumanism and Ethics: Navigating the Future of Human Enhancement – A Bibliometric Study

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ABSTRACT

The primary objective of this study is to conduct a detailed bibliometric analysis to gain an in-depth and detailed analysis of Transhumanism, specifically focusing on ethical dimensions of human enhancement. This research will elucidate all the aspects of transhumanism including keyword trends, thematic trends, and cluster analysis to provide an understanding of the concept in the last two decades. This research will also make a significant contribution in listing the emerging themes, prominent articles, authors, institutions, and countries. A bibliometric methodology has been adapted. This study includes the usage of the Vos Viewer and R studio-Biblioshiny tools to visualize the results of performance analysis and knowledge foundations which include co-citation, co-occurrence, co-authorship, and keyword

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trend analysis. This multi-faceted approach also follows a critical examination and exploration of the present literature facilitating insights into the concept and evolution of Transhumanism and ethics in navigating the future of human enhancement. The study highlights the ethical implications of AI and technology associated with human enhancement.

INTRODUCTION

Transhumanism has an intrinsic link between fourth industrial revolution technologies, as these technologies enable the primary idea of Transhumanism. 4IR technology offers an unprecedented opportunity to improve and enhance the human body, condition, nature, and mind. ‘Human Enhancement’ is the primary goal of employing these technologies and can be considered as the final stage of technological transformations of humans into transhuman and posthumans (Radun, 2023). Human life has been subject to significant shifts and oscillations in all contextual domains- economic, political, social, and particularly technological- since Huxley coined the phrase “transhumanism” in the 1950s (Martins & Martins, 2023). Julian Huxley, a renowned philosopher, has used the word “transhumanism” for the first time in 1957. One of this ideology's leading proponents, (More, 2013), explains, “Transhumanism is a philosophical movement that fiercely encourages the usage of science and technology to increase many elements of human potential, including physical strength, intellectual brilliance, and lifetime (T & S, n.d.). In recent years, transhumanism has gained a lot of attention and it has been the subject of a great deal of writing and discussion over the last 10 years, and the future scope of transhumanism during the next ten years, there will undoubtedly be a great deal more. There is evidence that humans have been improving and extending their skills for numerous centuries via the creation of gadgets and activities (Pedace et al., 2020). Transhumanism encourages an interdisciplinary approach to comprehending and assessing the chances that technological advancements have created to improve the human situation and the human biology (Malapi-Nelson, 2022; More & Vita-More, 2013). Transhumanism will benefit humanity by allowing man to transcend himself and realize new potential within his human nature (Şentürk, 2023). One of the things that makes us human is the yearning to go beyond what it is to be human, various interpretations of this dream may be found in mythology, religion, science, and literature (Hanna, 2022). The term “Humanism”, prioritize humans wherein, on the other hand, Transhumanism, adds the prefix “Trans” to humanism, suggesting a ‘transition from something to something else’ pushing humans to go beyond the current boundaries (Can, 2023). Aim to transcend the human nature and condition to create a new human being through the merging of humans and technology, with

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