

## Taiwanese Tourist's Mistake in South Korea

A 24-year-old Taiwanese man, known as “Yoyo,” has been stuck in South Korea for months. He faced a travel ban after a South Korean woman said he photographed her without permission during his trip to Seoul’s Hongdae area in December 2023.

Hongdae is a popular area in Seoul, especially among young Taiwanese tourists drawn by South Korea’s rich culture. On Dec. 21, Yoyo was taking street scene photos there when a young woman reported him to the police because she thought he was acting rudely and unpleasantly. He doesn’t speak Korean, though. Therefore, he had a difficult time trying to explain the situation when he was being questioned by the police, which led to him being pushed down and handcuffed.

Even though he was released the next day, Yoyo was not allowed to leave Korea. Running out of money, he reached out for help from the Taiwanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) in January. However, he said that MOFA thought his case was **minor** and could be solved by paying a fine after two



months, not actively helping him.

MOFA emphasized South Korea’s strict laws on personal privacy and image rights, warning against photographing individuals without permission, as it’s treated as sexual harassment. Taiwanese tourists have faced more and more cases like this in recent years, so MOFA now offers lists of local lawyers for legal support. Yoyo’s situation shines light on the difficulties international travelers face, stressing the importance of understanding and respecting local customs and laws.

## Reading Comprehension

- ( ) 1. What is the passage mainly about? (**main idea**)
- (A) Yoyo's experience as a Taiwanese tourist in South Korea.  
(B) South Korea's laws on personal privacy and image rights.  
(C) The popularity of Seoul's Hongdae area among young Taiwanese tourists.  
(D) The challenges faced by international travelers in unfamiliar environments.
- ( ) 2. How does the author begin the passage? (**organization**)
- (A) By giving a definition. (B) By mentioning an incident.  
(C) By explaining a law. (D) By providing statistics.
- ( ) 3. What does the word "**minor**" in the third paragraph most likely mean? (**words in context**)
- (A) Major. (B) Senior. (C) Unserious. (D) Dangerous.
- ( ) 4. Which of the following pictures best matches the case described in the passage?

(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



## Vocabulary and Phrases

- |                            |                               |   |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. tourist <i>n.</i> 遊客    | 4. permission <i>n.</i> 允許，許可 | 7. the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) <i>n.</i> 外交部 |
| 2. stuck <i>adj.</i> 陷入困境的 | 5. handcuff <i>v.</i> 用手銬銬住   | 8. privacy <i>n.</i> 隱私                                 |
| 3. ban <i>n.</i> 禁令        | 6. release <i>v.</i> 釋放       | 9. harassment <i>n.</i> 騷擾                              |

# Virtual Love: The Appeal of AI Dating

**D**erek Carrier has an AI girlfriend. Originally drawn by interest and personal challenges in traditional dating, Carrier found peace and joy in talking with his AI companion, Joi. His relationship, though digital, brought real emotions and a sense of connection.

AI dating has become more popular around the world. 1 of these “dating apps” offer features such as voice calls and picture exchanges, deepening the human-bot relationship. Users often develop real emotional connections, using these apps for various needs — from dealing with loneliness to 2 comfort.

AI dating allows individuals to experience companionship and emotional support, 3 for those who tend to face challenges in traditional dating situations. These digital relationships can provide a sense of being accepted and understood, allowing users to explore and express their feelings in a safe and judgment-free environment.

Even with these benefits, there are 4 about data privacy and the lack of laws that surround these

apps. Experts also worry about AI companions replacing humans and creating unrealistic expectations between people. Dorothy Leidner, a professor 5 AI and human relationships, points out the lost opportunity for personal growth and learning how to solve conflicts.

The influence of AI companions is far-reaching. With millions of active users, apps use internet data and user feedback for training, making the line between digital and real companionship unclear. This raises questions about our future interactions and emotional dependence on AI.



## Cloze

- |                      |              |                |                |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| ( ) 1. (A) One       | (B) Little   | (C) Many       | (D) Much       |
| ( ) 2. (A) lacking   | (B) seeking  | (C) warning    | (D) accepting  |
| ( ) 3. (A) similarly | (B) secondly | (C) positively | (D) especially |
| ( ) 4. (A) concerns  | (B) averages | (C) missions   | (D) locations  |
| ( ) 5. (A) study     | (B) studies  | (C) studied    | (D) studying   |

## Vocabulary and Phrases

1. virtual *adj.* 虛擬的
2. companion *n.* 伴侶；同伴
3. digital *adj.* 數位的
4. app *n.* 應用程式 (= application)
5. bot *n.* 機器人 (程式)
6. companionship *n.* 伴侶關係
7. privacy *n.* 隱私
8. unrealistic *adj.* 不切實際的
9. feedback *n.* 意見回饋

### 譯

#### 臺灣遊客在韓國犯錯

一名 24 歲的臺灣男子「柚柚」被困在韓國數月。他在 2023 年 12 月前往首爾弘大地區，期間有一名韓國女子聲稱他未經許可拍攝了她的照片，之後他遭到限制出境。

弘大是首爾的熱門地區，尤其受到被韓國豐富文化吸引的年輕臺灣遊客的歡迎。12 月 21 日，柚柚在那裡拍攝街景，一名年輕女子認為他行徑下流且令人不悅，因而向警方舉報。不過，他不會說韓語。因此，在接受警方詢問時，他難以解釋情況，導致他被推倒並戴上手銬。

儘管在隔天就被釋放了，但柚柚仍不被允許離開韓國。由於缺錢，他於一月向臺灣外交部尋求協助。但他表示，外交部認為他的案子並不嚴重、兩個月後繳罰款就可以解決，沒有積極協助他。

外交部強調韓國對個人隱私和肖像權有嚴格的法律，警告不要在未經許可的情況下拍攝個人，因為這被視為性騷擾。近年來，臺灣遊客遇到的此類案件越來越多，因此外交部現在提供當地律師名單以尋求法律支援。柚柚的情況揭示了國際旅行者所面臨的困難，強調理解並尊重當地習俗和法律的重要性。

### 譯

#### 虛擬愛情：人工智慧約會的吸引力

Derek Carrier 有一個人工智慧女友。Carrier 最初是因為有趣以及傳統約會中的個人挑戰而被吸引，在與他的人工智慧伴侶 Joi 交談時找到了平靜和快樂。他的戀情雖然是數位化的，但卻帶來了真實的情感和連結感。

人工智慧約會在世界各地變得越來越流行。這些「約會應用程式」許多都提供語音通話和圖片交換等功能，加深人與機器人的關係。使用者用這些應用程式來滿足各種需求——從應對孤獨到尋求安慰，經常建立起真正的情感聯繫。

人工智慧約會可以讓個人體驗陪伴和情感支持，特別是對於那些往往在傳統約會情境中面臨挑戰的人而言。這些數位關係可以提供一種被接受和理解的感覺，讓使用者在安全和沒有批判的環境中探索和表達自己的感受。

即使有這些好處，人們還是會擔心資料隱私以及缺乏針對這些應用程式的法律。專家也擔心人工智慧伴侶會取代人類，並造成人與人之間不切實際的期望。研究人工智慧和人際關係的教授 Dorothy Leidner 則是指出這會令人失去個人成長和學習解決衝突的機會。

AI 伴侶的影響力是深遠的。擁有數百萬活躍用戶的應用程式利用網路數據和用戶回饋來進行培訓，使得數位陪伴和真實陪伴之間的界線變得模糊。這引發了有關我們未來與人工智慧的互動和對其情感依賴的問題。

閱讀測驗解答：1. D 2. B 3. C 4. A

綜合測驗解答：1. C 2. B 3. D 4. A 5. D

### Acknowledgments

“Taiwanese Tourist’s Mistake in South Korea” by Steph Pai

“Virtual Love: The Appeal of AI Dating” by Steph Pai

審者：魏宏軒

### Picture Credits

All pictures in this publication are authorized for use by Shutterstock.



三民新聞宅急通



三民東大英文  
LINE