

Ingrained Dedication of Students in Internet World

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Abstract

The internet is now widely acknowledged as a potent instrument in addition to a method of communication. In this respect, it is regarded as the most significant and powerful technology. University students utilize the internet for a variety of purposes, including social networking and community engagement. Student communities are currently dealing with serious social problems including isolation, which are eroding their cultural values by allowing access to pornographic websites. This research examines the effects of students at state institutions in Tamil Nadu, India, often using the internet for non-academic purposes, as well as how it affects psychological issues such as mental depression, social isolation, and addiction. Via focus group discussions and questionnaires, the data has been gathered.

Introduction:

Nowadays, the internet is generally acknowledged as a power as well as a tool for communication. It is increasingly one of the primary sources for gathering and disseminating information, as well as for trade, government, education, and other purposes. The internet enables people to investigate practically any topic they are interested in, interact with, or learn more about potential romantic partners, job candidates, lifelong friends, or family members, and do all of these things with only a few mouse clicks.

After the US and China, India is currently the third-largest internet user worldwide. According to the i-Cube report "Internet in Rural India," there have been 58% more active internet users since June 2012. During the past ten years, university students' access to and usage of computers has increased dramatically. Students at universities utilize the internet for a variety of purposes, including social networking and community engagement. One may argue that excessive internet use has an impact on more conventional forms of social connection. One cannot, however, completely rule out the possibility that technology will create new, improved means of social contact and engagement. Because it is readily available, students spend the majority of their precious time concentrating on unnecessary material.

Most students use the internet to send emails, connect with friends, get information and study materials, look for products and services, participate in social networking, and for enjoyment. Students spend more time online as a result. More than 50% of teenagers have multiple email addresses or screen names that they may use to communicate privately with friends or to remain anonymous in online forums like chat

rooms. Students do construct false identities in order to access the online world. The use of false identities keeps people out of "real world" social settings because it gives them the freedom to project any picture of themselves with minimal or no social consequences. These socially apprehensive teenagers may have the propensity to use online communication in place of face-to-face contact.

Yet, some students use the internet to download textbooks, play online games, stream videos and music, download audio files, watch movies and pornographic content, develop and show photos, look for dates, and other things. Due to their access to pornographic websites and other online resources, students are increasingly dealing with greater social problems including loneliness and the erosion of cultural norms.

The goal of the Research:

The objective of this research is to examine the effects of regular non-academic internet use by students attending state institutions in Tamil Nadu, India. Students who use the internet typically have both good and bad effects on their social relationships, dedication to the community and social standards, and social involvement. Despite the fact that the internet enables social interaction across time, space, and individual situations, enabling users to connect with far-off as well as close family members, coworkers, and strangers, it discourages interpersonal relationships and social interaction.

The impact of frequent internet use on psychological issues such as mental distress, social isolation, and addiction is another crucial topic of the study. Internet "addicts" spend proportionately more time visiting online groups, gaming websites, and websites that promote sexual gratification. Increased internet use results in less family interaction, a smaller local social network, loneliness, and depression.

Objective:

The major objectives of this research are to examine the following issues that often utilize the internet for non-academic purposes among university students.

- ❖ Impact on social consequences
- ❖ Impact on interpersonal communication
- ❖ Impact on academic performance
- ❖ Impact on the cultural interactions of pupils.

Methodology:

The participants in this study were research scholars and students from several state institutions in Tamil Nadu, India. The required data for this investigation was gathered using the descriptive survey approach using a structured questionnaire. All university vice-chancellors were informed in the accompanying letter that the data would be treated scrupulously in accordance with concerns of anonymity and confidentiality. The people received the surveys at random, and the completed questionnaires were

gathered from them. The data-gathering procedure took place over a period of two months. To get further information for this study, focus groups were conducted.

Analysis and Interpretation

Survey method:

Among the 48 state institutions in Tamil Nadu, India, it was found that 59% of the students regularly use the internet. It was discovered that students used the internet not just to obtain academic study materials but also to check their emails, spend time on social networking sites, stream, and download music and video, and perform other tasks. 84% of students reported that they logged in at least once each day to access their emails. Another 73% of students stated that they promptly logged off after seeing their emails and other notifications.

Nonetheless, 56% of the students were discovered to have utilized the internet to vent their hatred and rage towards a particular individual or group. These students felt at ease expressing their hate and rage while hiding behind a computer screen since they frequently have a phobia of speaking to actual people. Several students acknowledged that they wanted to stay away from public speaking engagements and appearances. They also profited from the possibility that nobody would be aware they were online. 83% of students reported feeling dissatisfied and alone while unable to use the internet, it was also discovered. Students who used the internet an average of 18.5 hours per week reported feeling disconnected from society and spending less time with friends and family. They also engaged in significant amounts of pornography and cybersex, which contributed to their feelings of isolation, melancholy, and the tendency to view women particularly their classmates and friends as simple "sex objects," among other negative effects.

Also, there was a difference in how rural and urban kids used the internet. While rural students utilized the internet more for other educational purposes, urban students used it more than they did. Similar to urban students, rural students lack access to many online facilities and rely primarily on mobile internet.

Focus Group Discussion:

Two focus groups one urban and one rural were formed to conduct the conversation. Six people made up each group. The conversation made it clear that pupils who relied too heavily on the internet were confined to their own worlds. Even so, they stopped thinking wildly. Students who have access to the internet also have a tendency to spend more time playing online games or chatting with pals than really hanging out with their friends and family.

These pupils, however, did not particularly enjoy going outside for shopping and other activities. They only felt safe meeting people online and preferred to purchase online. Instead of downloading and reading anything, they preferred reading it online. Instead of physically visiting their rooms and socializing with their peers, students who live in hostels talk with them online. Also, they have a propensity for losing control when they do not receive the desired response during discussions.

Another problem was that the students who used the internet excessively believed that life would be dull without it and slept extremely late at night. They hardly ever left their rooms and interacted with anyone. Together with dissatisfaction and criminal activity, this kind of addiction. The only way they could communicate with their buddies was to talk about porn. This also caused a difference in how they behaved with people of the opposite sex. They misunderstood interactions with people of the opposite sex and showed no regard for them. This occasionally caused a shift in friends and increased solitude and despair.

Findings and Conclusion:

The majority of state university students use the internet more often than rural students, according to data analysis done on the data that was obtained. While metropolitan students may access the internet from their homes, rural students must use mobile and commercial cyber. Almost the majority of the respondents used the internet to access their emails and social networking sites like Facebook, then for general information gathering and studying. Students who spent more time browsing had less luck obtaining pertinent information, and a few lonely students could have preferred social engagement in a virtual setting, which could have put them in awkward positions.

Computer use for leisure is decreasing as students advance through their curriculum while usage for general information and thesis/research work is increasing. It may be argued that using the internet has been shown to help pupils perform better. The students who are engaged on social media expressed a strong interest in cross-cultural encounters. This gives the pupils a global perspective to comprehend societal challenges. Teenagers who logged on late at night lost sleep as a result and thought life would be dull without the internet. Use of the internet excessively might result in fewer people seeing friends and relatives.

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