

Risks and Prevention of Adolescents from Cyber Crime through Social Networking Sites

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ABSTRACT

Most of people in India are using gadgets and social networking sites like other developed countries. India is one of the very few countries to enact IT Act 2000 to combat cyber crimes. The present study was conducted in Ayodhya district of Uttar Pradesh. Four schools were randomly selected. Total sample sizes 300 school students in age group (12–19 years) adolescents would be selected randomly for the study purpose. In this research it was found that respondent's age limit was 12-19 years which is defined as teenage. 15 to 18 years age group teenagers were more active and quickly used new technologies of social networking sites. Boys and girls were both involved in social networking sites. But of these females were more involved than males to get contact with social networking sites because they spent more time in home and school so they use more social networking sites. Girls are more facing cyber crime in comparison boys like cyber bullying; Misuse of photos, ID hacked etc. ICT is an important element in the education scenario in order to prepare citizens for the future. Since, its inception constraints influencing the use have not been studied; hence an exploratory research study is aimed at finding those constraints among the students. Age of teenagers is one of the most important characteristics in understanding their use of social networking sites. Age may refer to the length of time that a teenager has used social media. Current cyber crime policy is concerned with particular online risks adolescents are exposed to harmful or illegal content. Policy should first and foremost try to make youngsters resilient in using the internet and facing all its risks and opportunities. Second, for those risks that are too high to leave to the overall resilience of children and parents, notably when considerable harm may follow, policy should try to take measures that focus on decreasing these risks. The prime responsibility in protecting youths lies with parents and increasingly also with youths themselves.

Key words : Risks; Prevention; Adolescent; Cyber crime; Social networking sites;

A social networking site is the phrase used to describe any website that enables users to create public profiles within that web site and form relationships with other users of the same web site who access their profile. Social networking sites can be used to describe community-based websites, online discussions forums, chatrooms and other social spaces online. Information and Communication Technology is an important element in the education scenario in order to prepare citizens for the future. Since, its inception constraints influencing the use have not been studied; hence an exploratory research study is aimed at finding those constraints among the students (Malik and. Godara 2020).

Korean students, measured in terms of self-reported mental problems and suicidal thought. The bulk of previous research on the pros and cons of online social media use is based on cross-sectional data, thereby precluding causal inference. Using longitudinal data, the current research offers more conclusive evidence on the direction of causation (Harris, 2016). Information Communication Technology tools play an effective role in educational media. Use of ICT in the Agricultural Universities has increased and various professional bodies are now aiming at setting ICT standards for students and teachers. The majority of the students use ICT tools for education and research career (Wankhade et al, 2017).

Social networking sites have become an integral part of the lives of most of the youth today. It has encouraged new ways to communicate and share information. The relative freedom afforded by social networking sites has caused concern regarding the potential of its misuse by individual patrons. This questions the safety and security of the users, especially girls who are more preyed upon particularly in relation to online sexual predators (Malar, 2012). The global nature of the Internet allows criminals to commit almost any illegal activity any wherein the world, which makes it essential for all countries to adapt their domestic offline controls to cover crimes carried out in cyberspace. This attention is important, because with the growing (mobile) internet use of ever younger youths, the number of online risks grows. Safety for adolescents, both offline and online, is primarily a responsibility of parents, but where parents cannot or do not sufficiently manage this; it is also a matter of public policy to see that young people are protected. Alongside protecting youths against risks and harm, however, protection also involves fostering self-development and freedom in adolescence. As we will elaborate in this article, adolescent autonomy is relevant for youths to develop into responsible and independent adults. Part of this maturing process involves youths conducting risk-taking and experimental behaviour, including online sexual exploration that as such is perfectly healthy even though it may sometimes involve particular vulnerabilities or harm. Offline behaviors, as clique-forming, bullying, and sexual experimentation. Awareness among the users about the availability of Electronic Information Sources (EIS) was found satisfactory. EIS were mostly used for research needs. User's perception of e-resources as a replacement for printed material to meet their information needs has reached a very high extent: e-resources have become a substitute for printed material. The probable reason for high level of extent use of Information Communication Technology by students is due to their more and more need of information and awareness about these ICT resources which is easily provided to them. Frauds may be prosecuted. Cyber Crime prosecution was however not resorted to in many instances due to lack of awareness (amongst both the victims and the enforcement authorities) about the applicability of such general laws to cyber crimes (like Phishing). To add to this, administrative delegation of powers treated offences

under the IT Act differently to those falling under general laws. (Nappinai, 2010). Cyber harassment amongst youth on social networking sites (SNS), interfaces automatically showing a reflective message when harassment is recognized could be integrated. Such message encourages users to reconsider and to eventually self-censor their post. This study examines whether reflective messages reduce harassment among adolescents on SNS. We conducted an experimental study to test the effect of three different types of reflective messages, as well as a mere time delay, on the change in intention to engage in harassment on SNS (Van et. al 2017).

METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in the Ayodhya district of Uttar Pradesh. It was selected purposively. The selected respondents were of class VI to XII. Total 300 students were selected from all the schools for the study purpose. The list consists of students ranging between the age group of 12 to 19 years. Factors which affect socio-economic status are age, sex, education, caste, father education, mother education, father occupation, mother occupation, family size, family type, monthly income of family etc. Independent variable were such as gadgets, social networking sites, benefits, risks etc. The respondents were interviewed personally with the help of structured interview schedule for obtaining necessary information. Statistical analyses are procedures used in finding out the numerical value of the whole study. The statistical techniques for data analysis used in the study are as percentage Chi-square test (χ^2) and Correlation coefficient (r).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to sex, 50.0 per cent of boys and 50.0 per cent of girls were found in the study area. Boys and girls are both involved in social networking sites. But of these female have more involve than male to get contact with social networking sites because they spend more time in home and school so they use more social networking sites. Girls are much more likely to say they are attached to their social networking sites. Girls just seem to care more about the way they appear in pictures, the number of friends they have, and, most importantly, about having perfect social media versions of themselves. Boys were more likely than girls to use

video games as a conduit for conversation, while girls tended to keep up with friends through texting and social media.

Table 1. Distribution of adolescents according to their sex (N=300)

Sex of respondents	No.	%
Boys	150	50.0
Primary	150	50.0
Total	300	100.0

(Figures in parentheses indicate the percentage)

According to age group, 48.3 per cent of respondents among which 53.3 per cent were boys and 43.3 per cent were girls belonged to 15 to 18 years of age group whereas, 38.3 per cent of the adolescents consisting of 40.0 per cent of boys and 36.7 per cent girls belonged to 12 to 15 years of age group. 13.4 per cent of respondents among which 6.7 per cent were boys and 20.0 per cent were girls belonged to 18 to 19 years of age group in the study area. The observed value of χ^2 (11.769**) was significant at 1.0 per cent level of significance.

Table 2. Distribution of adolescents according to age group (N=300)

Age group (yrs)	Boys	Girls	Total
12–15	60 (40.0)	55 (36.7)	115 (38.3)
15–18	80 (53.3)	65 (43.3)	145 (48.3)
18–19	10 (6.7)	30 (20.0)	40 (13.4)
Total	150 (100.0)	150 (100.0)	300 (100.0)

χ^2 11.769** P < 0.01

(Figures in parentheses indicate the percentage)

Table 3. Distribution of adolescents according to prevention of cyber crime through social networking sites (N=300)

Prevention	Boys		Girls		Total	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Do not chat with strangers	-	100	-	100	-	100
Do not share password	100	-	100	-	100	-
Do not share unnecessary post	100	-	100	-	100	-
Change password regularly	60	40	20	80	40	60
Do not share personal information on social site	10	90	80	20	45	55
Be careful what information you like online	60	40	70	30	65	35
Have account security	10	90	60	40	35	65

The perusal of table reveals the prevention of cyber crime through social networking sites. 100.0 per cent of respondents prevented sharing of password and

unnecessary post in the study area whereas, 65.0 per cent of the respondents among which 60.0 per cent boys and 70.0 per cent girls were careful to share information online. 45.0 per cent of the respondents of which only 10.0 per cent boys and 80.0 per cent girl adolescents were cautious of sharing personal information on social networking sites, while 40.0 per cent of the respondents among which 60.0 per cent boys and 20.0 per cent girls were changing their password regularly, while 35.0 per cent of the overall respondents of which 10.0 per cent boys and 60.0 per cent girls were having account security.

Table 4 shows the correlation coefficient between involvement and risks of cyber crime and independent variables. Education (0.2208*), mother's education (0.2317*) Father's education (0.2332*) and family income (0.2416*) were positively and significantly correlated with knowledge and involvement of adolescents in the social networking in the study area while age of the adolescents was negatively correlated with involvement of the respondents in facebook, twitter and google sites. Education, mother's education and father's education were negatively correlated with risks of social networking sites account intrusions, waste of life, security and privacy risks, sleeping disorder, online harassment and cyber bullying. Income was positively correlated with risks like headache, identity theft, photo and information and account hacking.

Table 4. Correlation between involvement and risks of cyber crime and independent variables

Variables	Correlation coefficient	
	Involvement	Risks
Age	0.2116	0.1662
Education	0.2208*	-0.0291
Caste	0.1015	0.1181
Mother's education	0.2317*	-0.0016
Father's education	0.2332*	-0.1918
Family income	0.2416*	0.2064*

CONCLUSION

Cyber-crime in all of its forms is one of the fastest growing areas of criminality. Adolescents' special attention in social networking sites. Current cybercrime policy is concerned with particular online risks adolescents are exposed to, for example online grooming and sexting, and other issues such as exposure to harmful or illegal content. Policy should first and foremost try to make youngsters resilient in using the

Internet and facing all its risks and opportunities. Second, for those risks that are too high to leave to the overall resilience of children and parents, notably when considerable harm may follow, policy should try to take measures that focus on decreasing these risks. The prime responsibility in protecting youths lies with parents and increasingly also with youths themselves. Current policy is tilting too much towards criminal law approaches and

surveillance, as it focuses almost exclusively on controlling risks through repression and supervision while disregarding the opportunities that the Internet also offers to people growing up today, including resilience-building skills. Most importantly, the most promising approach is to try and make children and adolescents more resilient, by fostering digital literacy and safety skills. This also applies to parents, whose digital literacy can be improved as well.

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