

PRE-UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ATTITUDE TOWARDS USE OF FACEBOOK**Dr. G. R. Angadi**

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Abstract:

This study explored the attitude towards use of facebook among Pre-University students and to what extent this social network site was subjective to their everyday requirements. In this respect 100 Pre-University students from Vijayapur city were randomly chosen and after reviewing several studies on Facebook use, a questionnaire containing 20 close-ended questions was framed and circulated them in their free times. The collected data was tabled and analyzed with the assistance ms excel. Finally, the study summarizes that the Pre-University students access Facebook for various purposes in their everyday life in which, academic search, online shopping, developing (social) relations, sharing data, chatting, and killing loneliness are primary. The study also confirms and supports the results of previous studies that the consumption of Facebook influences students' academic, health and social life both negative and positive manners. It is alarmed that if the dependency of students on Facebook is not taken seriously by parents, teachers and policymakers, it would influence their social relationship, health status, moral attitude and academic performance to a large manner in coming years.

Key Words: Facebook, Social sites, Pre-University Students, effect, Social-Health-Academic life.

Introduction

Today, students are one of the extensive users of Facebook and without its existence they feel their social and academic lives are truncated and unfeasible (Debatin et al. 2009). Compared to the past years, today students are networked with each other through the digital communication technology as much as interpersonal communication, (Heiberger & Harper, 2008). They are interconnected with each other for sharing their everyday experiences, making plans, passing their times, falling in love, and expressing their opinion on different issues with each other comparatively to the face to face communication. They have become more addicted to the internet and have networked their life to a large scale of the digital communication technology. In these several forms of new media, social media particularly Facebook, Blog and Twitter are making Pre-University students' lives more interesting and convoluted (Martin, 2008). But on the other hand, experts believe that the readymade information on the internet and social networking sites, making students physically lethargic and mentally dull.

These habits are reducing their learning and research capabilities. It has been found that the students who spend more time on social media, the less time they spend socializing with others. The students who use Facebook in excess are also affected in terms of their mental and physical health. Some studies also confirm that due to the long chatting on Facebook students do take their food on appropriate time and not take proper rest. They drink excessive amount of tea, cigarettes, and coffee to remain active.

But likely the developed countries the activity of using Facebook among students has been becoming a common thing for some years in India. Despite the opposing of parents and teachers

they are using it for dispelling their boredom, making friends, sharing feelings and developing relationships. Most researchers believe that the excessive exposure to Facebook affecting their family and social relationships, health conditions, academic performances, allure them to indulge in premature sexual activities. Facebook addiction is the new term invented by psychiatrists as its addiction will damage the sleeping habits; health and interest in studies and interaction abilities of real life. Social networking media have both negative and positive effect on the academic life of the youth. According to techcrunch.com nearly 85 per cent of Pre-University students log on to Facebook every day. Thus Facebook has become an addiction activity for most of the Pre-University students.

But like other activities, students mostly use Facebook to keep in touch and develop relationship. Researchers express their concerns that instead of children concentrating on their homework or studying for a big test the next day, they spend hours looking through pictures, answering their page comments, and chatting with friends. Many scholars have claimed that Facebook lowers academic performance and face-to-face communication is in danger. Continuous use of social networking sites by students are reduced their grades and influence their academic performance negative ways. Though, many scholars also found a positive association between using Social Networking Sites and academic performance of the students. It is confirmed that students who use internet scored higher in several important test.

The social media, today, is a significant tool to exchange the thoughts and get advice from experts. It also provides a creative environment to explore ideas, creativity, and students opinions on national and international social and political issues. Media users are not passive. They play an active part in interpreting and integrating mass media into their personal lives. Unlike other viewpoints, they are responsible for selecting media to meet their requirements and necessities to attain gratification. Supporting these viewpoints, Nielsen A.C. (2009) also commented that most of the youngsters used social networking media as a key source of information and advice. He further found that 57% of teens claimed that they used Facebook for advice on their everyday activities and solving their difficult problems.

While using Facebook is a primary part of the everyday life of Pre-University students, there are a lot of threats associated with social networking sites use. There are a number of negative effects on mental health and an exposure to problematic and unlawful content and privacy violations. Social media particularly Facebook is extremely dangerous for students and has become extremely common and widespread in the last four-five years, (M. Trusov, R. E. Bucklin, & K. Pauwels, 2009). Facebook can distract students' attention and waste their time worthless activities. According to some researchers social media have been influenced the socialization and learning, of Pre-University students and has raised some serious issues for educators, parents, researchers and policymakers.

Some experts claimed that excessive use of Facebook leading students to many unethical, anti-social and psychological problems. After discussing some significant viewpoints and studies, it is necessary to conduct empirical study on the effects of Facebook on Pre-University students' life.

Statement of the Problem

This study was aimed to determining the impact of Facebook on the social behaviour and everyday activities of the Pre-University students at Vijayapur city Karnataka state.

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the effects of Facebook use on the lives of pre-university students.
 2. To study the extent Facebook influence the daily activities of pre-university students'.
 3. To know the Facebook helpful for the overall development of pre-university students.
 4. To study the purposes use of Facebook by pre-university students.
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Methodology

Collection of the Data

It is quantitative study both primary and secondary data were comprised. The primary data for the study was collected through the questionnaire. For secondary data searched in library government online and offline records have been consulted. A large amount of data also collected from the different published research studies for reviewing the literature and justifying the present study.

Sample of the Study

A sample of 100 students was randomly selected from Pre-University students of Vijayapur city Karnataka state. First it was find out that how many were students using Facebook and then a close ended questionnaire containing 20 questions have been distributed to the students in their leisure time. The collected data was carefully analysed by using the statistical techniques.

Data Analysis Techniques

The descriptive statistical methods were used to analyse the collected data. Firstly, the data has been entered into the MS excel sheet and then analyzed and calculated the results.

Findings of the Study

Table 1: Frequency of using Facebook by Pre-University students' everyday

Frequency of using Facebook	N	%
One to Three times	51	1
Four to Six times	20	20
Seven to Nine times	13	13
Ten times or More	16	16
Total	100	100

The results of above table 1 display that a large part of the sample was using Facebook daily for around 1-2 hours and 20% of respondents accepted that they used the Facebook for four to six times in a day while 16% and 13% people expressed that they had login seven to nine times and ten times or more respectively in 24-hour.

Table 2: Length of every visit of Facebook

Length of visit	Frequency	%
1 to 10 Minute	34	34
10 to 15 Minute	35	35
15 to 30 Minute	10	10
30 to 45Minute	14	14
45 to 60 Minute	3	3
1 hrs to 1.25 hrs	4	4
Total	100	100

The results of above table 2 displayed that 35% of the students used Facebook for 10 to 15 minutes in their every visit. Similarly, around 34% of participants login Facebook for one to ten

minutes in every visit. Some of the students used the Facebook for 15 to 30 minutes, 30 to 45 minutes, 45 to 60 minutes and one hour to one and quarter-hour.

Preferred location for using the Facebook

As depicted in the table below most of the respondents used the Facebook at their home while 17% of the sample used it in their bedroom. Only a little percentage of the sample stated that they used Facebook in college.

Table 3: Location of use Facebook mostly

Location	N	Percent
College	3	3.0
Home	80	80.0
Bedroom	17	17.0
Total	100	100.0

Table 4: Purpose of using the Facebook

Purpose	N	Percent
Keeping in touch with friends	22	22.0
Chatting	19	19.0
Getting information about friends	2	2.0
Telling people about myself	9	9.0
Uploading and following photos, videos, events etc.	13	13.0
Getting news	3	3.0
Spending time	4	4.0
Making new friends	12	12.0
To kill loneliness	16	16.0
Total	100	100.0

College students login Facebook for different purposes with different reasons. Majority of the students used Facebook to keep in touch with their friends while 19% of sample used Facebook for chatting with friends. Around 16% respondents went to Facebook for avoiding their loneliness. Sharing and following was also one of the prime factors for using Facebook.

Table 5: Habit of checking Facebook while speaking with people

Frequency	N	Percent
Sometimes	61	61.0
Never	33	33.0
Frequently	6	6.0
Total	100	100.0

As shown in table no. 5 that 61% of students checked occasionally their Facebook account for message/updating while talking to others. Only 33% of total sample denied to doing this manner while 6% were doing frequently the activity.

Checking Facebook till late night

Table 6: Use of Facebook until midnight

Checking Facebook till late night	N	Percent
Sometimes	40	40.0
Never	56	56.0
Frequently	4	4.0
Total	100	100.0

The above table-6 indicated that 56% of college students accepted that they checked their Facebook for updates till late night. A 40% percent of sample told that they did not check the Facebook late night for any new message or other updating information. A little percentage (4%) checked frequently the Facebook account till late night for new comment or message.

Table 7: Mood or behaviour after using of Facebook

Mood after using of Facebook	N	Percent
Feel more active	17	17.0
Feeling lethargic	35	35.0
Feel no change	48	48.0
Total	100	100.0

The finding of the study asserted that most of the students did not feel any physical and mental changes in their mood or behaviour after using Facebook. Besides this, only 35 participants felt some lethargic feeling in their mood. And positively 17% of sample experienced some lively and energetic feeling in their behaviour.

Table 8: Forgetting or skipping meal

Forgetting or skipping meal	N	Percent
Sometimes	21	21.0
Never	20	20.0
Frequently	59	59.0
Total	100	100.0

Table 9: Discontentment and depression after checking profile of other people

Discontentment and depression after checking profile of other people	N	Percent
Sometimes	20	20.0
Never	25	25.0
Frequently	55	55.0
Total	100	100.0

Nearly 55% participants agreed of feeling always some discontentment and depression after checking the profile of people on Facebook. Merely, 20% students had not any such feeling.

Table 10: Impact on study

Impact on study	N	Percent
Disturbance	42	42.0
No effect	58	58.0
Total	100	100.0

Majority of students denied any negative effect of Facebook usage on their studies while 42% of respondents accepted that Facebook usage influenced their study negatively.

Table 11: Experience without surfing Facebook

Experience without surfing Facebook	N	Percent
Feel no change	31	31.0
Feel something is missing	54	54.0
Difficult to spend the day	15	15.0
Total	100	100.0

A large portion of the sample claimed that they felt missing something in the whole day without login Facebook. Whereas, 15% of students experienced difficult to spend their day without Facebook as compared 31% who felt no importance if they did not login.

Table 12: Adverse effect on health

Variables (Adverse effect on health)	Never	Sometimes	Frequently
Feel back pain	30	49	21
Feel shoulder pain	58	33	9
Feel wrist pain	51	37	12
Feel headache	53	39	8
Feel eye irritation	22	65	13

Similarly other negative effects, Facebook also influences the health status of students. Most of the participant sometimes felt irritation in their eyes while or after using the Facebook. Many respondents confirmed that they sometimes experienced back pain, shoulder, and headache and wrist pain during or after surfing Facebook. Some students frequently felt these physical symptoms.

Discussion and Conclusion

Because of the social, economic and psychological factors, the amount frequency of Facebook use is not same among the college students. They use it minimum at least three times for 10 minutes in one day and maximum more than one hour a day. Mostly, they use it at their home for remaining in touch with their friends, gossiping and killing their aloneness. But their occasional and frequent login of Facebook is influencing all their life activities. They do not sleep well at night, use Facebook instead of studying, ignore their foods, overlook others and do not go outside for other social activities. It is summarized that Facebook psychologically making students' life stressful and discontent. When they do not get any comment or like for their post, they become depressed and it forces them to think differently. Today, Facebook is playing a vital role in developing and destroying relationship, shaping children opinion about world, and motivating their attitude and behaviour. Therefore, it is the responsibility of parents to look at what their children are doing on Facebook in the closed doors. Countries like China and others have been blocked the access of Facebook in their lands. It is also need to formulate some strict policies in India.

Nicole E. Hurt, Gregory S. Moss, Christen L. Bradley, Lincoln R. Larson, Matthew D. Lovelace, and Luanna B. Prevost (2012) observed a significant change in students' attitudes. The researchers also found the students who used Facebook were well acquainted with their classmates, and learnt more study. So we can say Facebook may help to increase college student engagement in certain learning contexts by cultivating classroom community and stimulating intellectual discourse. Even some other study also point out that internet sites such as Facebook offers an innovative educational instrumental for engaging students and motivate them for intelligent talks.

In India, Facebook or Internet was introduced only five to six years back in, but in this short span of times it has changed the way people interact, feel, and see the world. Till today a number of studies with various objectives have been conducted to measure the impact of Facebook on college

students. This study finds that the most of the students have become addicted to Facebook and cannot spend their time without it. However, persistent with previous studies this study also concluded that students mostly used Facebook for connecting with people, sharing and killing aloneness rather than other creative or educational objectives. Students use Facebook especially to have fun, to contact with friends and to follow photos, videos, events etc. Consumption of excessive Facebook affects students all daily activities. They ignore their meals, feel some physical restlessness and find less times for study. According to the study of Kim & Kim (2002) addiction is well-known to destroy people and their interactions. Addiction of internet and social media is no exception in this respect. Thus, it is confirmed that Facebook also deteriorate the face to face communication and family relationships.

This study has various limitations but here I will discuss only a few important constraints. Firstly, one hundred samples of students are not sufficient to measure the impact of Facebook use. Studying bigger sample may give more comprehensible and profound results. The second limitation was its confined objectives. There is a need to conduct a correlative study in which parents, children and teachers should be involved. In essence, the study did not explain the gender separately and not included family background.

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