

INFLUENCE OF INTERNET ON YOUNG MINDS



Abstract

This research aims to critically examine the interplay between the internet and young minds and a nuanced understanding of both the positive and negative impacts of the internet on the younger generation. This study employs an experimental research design to investigate the effects of the internet on young minds. Through qualitative interviews with 10 participants, open-ended questions are used to delve into their perceptions and viewpoints. Thematic analysis is employed to identify recurring patterns and themes within the interview data.

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Introduction

Research Background

The primary reason for undertaking this research is to analyze the impact and influence of the usage of internet on the young minds. This research aptitude will critically focus on examining both the positive and negative influences of the Internet in forming the mindsets of young users. The increasing implementation of digitalized techniques has created a situation where children are found prone to use the internet in order to fulfil their tasks. This situation can have both positive and negative implications on the psychological orientation of the children. This research shall thus focus on analyzing the role of Internet on the young minds.

Problem Statement

The implications of the internet have created a rift between normal lives and the time spent by children through interacting approaches in a digitalized medium. The Internet has provided a large number of learning sources for children but along with it the negative impacts of this tool cannot be neglected at large.

Research Rationale

What is the issue?

The usage of the Internet helps to expand the resources available to fulfil the academic approaches of children. In order to make the educative approach much more feasible and interesting the usage of the internet has enabled the cooperative effort of children to be invested in the teaching-learning procedure. But this aspect has made the children much more dependent upon the usage of the Internet and thus hampers their childhood which leads to reduced time for mutual interaction and physical play time.

Why is the issue pertinent in the present context?

It has been observed that children in the present context have suffered from communicative approaches due to their increased screen time. In fact, they are not mature enough to understand the dynamics of Cybercrime and violence. Thus, at times, children are found to fall prey to the evils of the internet in the present context

Aims and Objectives

Aim

The aim of the research is to critically analyze the influence of the Internet on young minds including the positive and negative impacts.

Objectives:

- To analyze the majority of channels' influence on people's minds.
- To assess the positive and negative impact of the Internet on young people.
- To analyze the futuristic impact of the internet to influence young minds.

Research questions

- What are the major social media channels, that influence the minds of young people?
- How internet positively and negatively influence young people's lifestyles and mindsets?
- What are the factors that show the futuristic impact of the internet to influence young minds?

METHODOLOG

Qualitative Interviews:

- Young respondents engaged.
- Open-ended questions to explore emotions and viewpoints.
- Conversational approach for candid insights.

Thematic Analysis:

- Data deciphered through thematic analysis.
- Identification of prevalent themes and patterns.
- Key themes extracted to define study findings.



Analysis

Several recurring themes and patterns emerge from the responses:

- **Internet Usage Preferences:** A variety of internet platforms are used, with TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat, and YouTube being prominently mentioned.
- **Time Spent Online:** Participants spend varying amounts of time online daily, ranging from around 3 to 7 hours. It was gathered that almost all youngsters spend more than 5 hours.
- **Influence on Decision-Making:** A common thread is the internet's influence on participants' decisions. It plays a role in shaping interests, guiding choices in hobbies, fashion, and even career aspirations.
- **Emotional Impact:** The Internet plays a huge role in the lives of youngsters as most of them spend the majority of their time on social media. It naturally affects the decisions that they make in terms of anything.
- **Advantages and Disadvantages:** Participants recognize the internet's educational benefits, convenience, and opportunities for creativity. However, a consistent concern is the addictive nature of the internet and the potential to miss out on real-world experiences.
- **Digital Communication vs. Cursive:** The younger generation's decreasing reliance on cursive writing is apparent. The prevalence of digital communication has led to diminished cursive writing skills.
- **Views on Cyberbullying:** There is a unanimous disapproval of cyberbullying.
- **Balancing Internet Use:** Participants recognize the internet's value as a tool for learning, connecting, and self-expression. However, they also stress the importance of finding a balance between online and offline activities.
- **Suggestions for Healthy Internet Use:** Suggestions revolve around setting limits, focusing on real-world experiences, and practicing digital well-being to ensure a balanced lifestyle.

Conclusion

Major social media platforms like Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, and YouTube wield significant influence over young minds, emphasizing visual engagement.

The internet's impact on youth balances educational and creative opportunities with emotional fluctuations and addiction risks.

Looking forward, the decline of cursive and the persistence of online interactions foreshadow a future where digital communication shapes behavior and relationships.

This study highlights the internet's transformative role, advocating a balanced approach to harness its benefits while mitigating challenges.