

SOCIAL MEDIA

INFLUENCE ON YOUTH IN THEIR PSYCHO-SOCIAL BEHAVIOURAL FUNCTIONS

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AWARENESS OF SOCIAL MEDIA NETWORKING AMONG SECONDARY TEACHER EDUCATION STUDENTS IN TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

Social media can be an effective tool for engaging with learners and communicating with parents, and communities. Teachers who model good social media use will grow learners who apply positive, respectful values in their interactions on social media platforms. New technologies bring new concerns for teachers. But of course, it can be a challenge to incorporate social media into lessons and teaching. There are many grey areas for teachers to navigate in the use of social media. Teachers can routinely use blogs to write about the world of teaching and invite comments from students and academics all over the world. They can expand their class room conversation through social media outposts by using techniques like Twitter chats globally. Teachers may use social media as flipped classrooms. Social media may be used as an extended classroom provided the teachers should be aware of them.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

Today, social media is not only used to stay connected with friends and family but also for other purposes like professional teaching and learning, networking and researching. The involvement of social media in teaching has given a new dimension to this teaching industry. With the presence of social media in education industry, teaching has changed drastically. The importance of social media has increased not just for students but also for the teachers. Although, at times most of the parents do not take use of social media in education positively, they think it can do more harm than benefit. But this combination; teen students and social media is a great one if teachers understand and help students to make effective use of this social media to build their knowledge base.

Various social media websites like Facebook offers great platform for study purpose. Educators can use Facebook to set up the pages related to their lesson plans. Using online platform, students can easily collaborate with each other, even shy students can participate more actively. Through various other platforms like Google Hangout or Skype, teachers can easily initiate discussions or debate.

Lesson Planning becomes easy and effective with social media tools like Instagram and Pinterest. It enables teachers to easily upload photos and graphics related to their lesson plan. Teachers can also use Twitter and Facebook to guide their students in research projects with links. Today, Twitter is one of the best platforms that help teachers and students to create professional learning networks.

OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the level of awareness of social media networking of secondary teacher education students.

2. To find out whether there is any significant difference between secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking with regard to gender.
3. To find out whether there is any significant difference between secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking with regard to marital status.
4. To find out whether there is any significant difference between secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking with regard to location of college

HYPOTHESES

1. There is no significant difference between male and female secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking.
2. There is no significant difference between married and unmarried secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking.
3. There is no significant difference between rural and urban secondary teacher education college students in their awareness of social media networking.

DELIMITATION OF THE STUDY

1. The study is limited to secondary teacher education students in Tirunelveli district only.
2. The investigator has proposed to choose only 100 teacher education students as sample for the study.

METHOD USED

Survey is a fact finding study. (Best, 1986) states that "The survey method involves interpretation, comparison, measurement, classification, evaluation and generalization. All directed towards a proper understanding and solution of significant educational problems". So the researcher has chosen survey method to study the "Awareness of social media networking among secondary teacher education students".

POPULATION AND SAMPLE

The population of the present study is secondary teacher education students, from the colleges of education in Tirunelveli district, Tamilnadu. The investigator has used simple random sampling technique for selecting the sample from the population. The sample consists of 100 secondary teacher education students among them 34 are male and 66 are female students.

TOOLS USED

This study aims to measure the awareness of social media among secondary teacher education students. Awareness of Social Media Networks Scale (ASMNS) developed and validated by the Gabriel and Michael J Leo was used (2015).

STATISTICS TECHNIQUES USED

Percentage analysis and 't' test were used in this study.

ANALYSIS OF DATA

Table 1

Level of Awareness of Social Media Networking of Secondary Teacher Education Students

Variable	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Awareness of Social Media Networking	22	22.0	70	70.0	8	8.0

Table 2

Difference between Male and Female Secondary Teacher Education Students in their Awareness of Social Media Networking

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	Remark
Awareness of Social Media Networking	Male	34	70.68	7.757	0.447	NS
	Female	60	69.92	8.253		

Table 3

Difference between Unmarried and Married Secondary Teacher Education Students in their Awareness of Social Media Networking

Variable	Marital Status	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	Remark
Awareness of Social Media Networking	Married	26	70.65	8.163	0.378	NS
	Unmarried	74	70.01	8.065		

Table 4

Difference between Rural and Urban Secondary Teacher Education Students in their Awareness of Social Media Networking

Variable	Location of College	N	Mean	S.D	't' value	Remark
Awareness of Social Media Networking	Rural	30	69.06	7.703	1.986	S
	Urban	70	71.10	8.016		

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. Table 1 reveals that the level of awareness of social media of secondary teacher education students is moderate. In this 22.0% have low, 70.0% have moderate and 8.0% have high level of awareness of social media networking.
2. Table 2 reveals that there is no significant difference between male and female secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking.
3. Table 3 reveals that there is no significant difference between married and unmarried secondary teacher education students in their awareness of social media networking.
4. Table 4 reveals that there is significant difference between rural and urban secondary teacher education college students in their awareness of social media networking. While comparing the mean scores, urban (71.10) secondary teacher education college students are better than rural secondary teacher education college students (69.10) in their awareness of social media networking. This may be due to the fact that the urban students have better access to social media networking as it is a relatively new advancement in technology and they are highly available in urban areas. Further they get ideas and exchange it with one another in the urban setup that helps them to be more aware of social media networkings.

CONCLUSION

The world is getting closer every day and everyone wants to be connected. Social media Networking is a revolutionary idea with a very bright future and vast scope for advancements. The opportunities provided from this medium are immense and many teachers and teacher educators are making use of this medium for making better their practices. Teachers and teacher educators are no longer at the mercy of the media to advertise or convey their message. With the help of social networking they can communicate and share their educational resources in a more efficient way.

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