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Electronic Resources and Academic Libraries

Exploring New Trends, Technologies, Practices, Services and Management

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Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites among Prospective Teachers

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Abstract

Social networking sites are play a dynamic role for explosion of information one to another. Students, teachers and prospective teachers were using the social networking sites everyday activities for learning the information and sharing the information from one to another. This article discussed the attitude of social networking sites among prospective teachers. The findings of the study as follows: 63.8 percentages of the Girl's respondents using SNS at Moderate, followed by 65.8 percentages of the urban area respondents using SNS at Moderate, there is no significant difference between the boys and girls respondents regarding the usage of SNS, there is no significant difference between the rural and urban area respondents regarding the usage of SNS, and there is no significant difference between the nature of the college (both boys and girls college) respondents regarding the usage of SNS.

Keywords: Attitude, Social Networking Sites (SNS) and Prospective Teachers.

Introduction

Social networks are broadly defined as associations of people linked by diverse motives, which configure a structure consisting of nodes that are interconnected by more than one type of relationship (Hernández, 2008). In the context in question, social network web services allow this general definition to be refined, in the sense that they offer people with shared interests the opportunity to get in touch with each other via the Internet and to jointly exploit resources such as the creation of sub-groups, public or private messaging, chats and so on. The origin of these online platforms is as varied as the platforms themselves: some of them, like Facebook for example, were developed to support different student groups on American campuses, while others have a more professional focus, such as LinkedIn, the aim of which is to establish work or business contacts through networking (Esteve, 2009; Santamaría, 2008) social networks have gradually become powerful spaces of interaction between different social groups, some of which are ever more specialised, where it is possible to meet people or find old friends or colleagues who share the same interests.

Review of Related Studies

Mahat (2014) revealed that SNS are providing platform for giving suggestions on various social issues. Adolescents are getting more aware about social issues through Facebook. One should focus on ethical use of these SNS because it serves the society in a right way. Adolescent's can play an important role in society as SNS are boon and curse for the Indian society.

Jain (2012) revealed that SNS are acting as a means for mobilization. People feel free in sharing their thoughts on various issues. Even adolescents raise their voice against social acts like corruption, reservations, and violation of human rights. Social networking sites are successful in providing a platform where people can share their views on these social issues.

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Objectives of the Study

1. To find out the level of attitude towards usage of social networking sites among prospective teachers.
2. To find out the level of attitude towards usage of social networking sites among prospective teachers with respect to gender.
3. To find out the level of attitude towards usage of social networking sites among prospective teachers with respect to locality.
4. To find out the level of attitude towards usage of social networking sites among prospective teachers with respect to nature of the college.
5. To find out whether there is any significant difference in attitude towards usage of social networking sites among prospective teachers with respect to their gender, locality of students and nature of college.

Hypotheses of the Study

H₀1: There is no significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.

H₀2: There is no significant difference between rural and urban area prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.

H₀3: There is no significant difference between boys and girls college prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.

Method Used

In the present study the investigator has adopted the survey method.

Population and Sample

The population for the present study consisted of prospective teachers, who are studying B.Ed. degree in St. Xavier's College of Education and St. Ignatius College of Education, Palayamkottai. The investigator has used simple random sampling technique for selecting the sample from the population. The sample consisted of 111 prospective teachers.

Tool Used

Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites Scale was prepared and validated by the Arockiasamy and Raja (2016).

Statistical Techniques Used

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

Analysis of Data

Table - 1

Level of Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites among Prospective Teachers

Variable	Low		Moderate		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	27	24.3	68	61.3	16	14.4

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Table - 2

Level of Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites among Prospective Teachers with respect to Gender

Variable	Gender	Low		Moderate		High	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Male	15	23.4	38	59.4	11	17.2
	Female	12	25.5	30	63.9	5	10.6

Table - 3

Level of Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites among Prospective Teachers with respect to Locality of Students

Variable	Locality of Students	Low		Moderate		High	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Rural	11	31.4	18	51.4	6	17.2
	Urban	16	21.1	50	65.7	10	13.2

Table - 4

Level of Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites among Prospective Teachers with respect to Nature of College

Variable	Nature of College	Low		Moderate		High	
		N	%	N	%	N	%
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Boys	15	23.1	39	60.0	11	16.9
	Girls	12	26.1	29	63.0	5	10.9

Table - 5

Difference between Male and Female Prospective Teachers in their Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' value	Remark
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Male	64	25.17	2.670	0.22	NS
	Female	47	25.06	2.316		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96, NS - Not Significant)

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Table - 6

Difference between Rural and Urban Area Prospective Teachers in their Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites

Variable	Locality of Students	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' value	Remark
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Rural	35	24.97	2.662	0.43	NS
	Urban	76	25.20	2.460		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96, NS - Not Significant)

Table - 7

Difference between Boys and Girls College Prospective Teachers in their Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites

Variable	Nature of College	N	Mean	S.D	Calculated 't' value	Remark
Attitude towards Usage of Social Networking Sites	Boys	65	25.15	2.653	2.13	S
	Girls	46	25.09	2.336		

(At 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96, S - Significant)

Results and Discussion

- The table 1 reveals that 24.3% of prospective teachers have low level, 61.3% of them have moderate level and 14.4% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.
- The table 2 reveals that 23.4% of male prospective teachers have low level, 59.4% of them have moderate level and 17.2% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites. Regarding the female prospective teachers, 25.5% of them have low, 63.9% of them have moderate level and 10.6% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.
- The table 3 reveals that 31.4% of rural area prospective teachers have low level, 51.4% of them have moderate level and 17.2% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites. Regarding the urban area prospective teachers, 21.1% of them have low, 65.7% of them have moderate level and 13.2% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.
- The table 4 reveals that 23.1% of Boys College prospective teachers have low level, 60.0% of them have moderate level and 16.9% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites. Regarding the girls college prospective teachers, 26.1% of them have low, 63.0% of them have moderate level and 10.9% of them have high level in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.

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- The table 5 reveals that there is no difference between male and female prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.
- The table 6 reveals that there is no difference between rural and urban area prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites.
- The table 7 reveals that there is difference between boys and girls college prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites. While comparing the mean scores of boys college (Mean=25.15) and girls college (Mean=25.09) prospective teachers, boys college prospective teachers are better than the girls college prospective teachers in their attitude towards usage of social networking sites. This may be due to the fact that the boys college prospective teachers have more facilities and opportunities to use social networking sites than female college prospective teachers.

Conclusion

Social network sites (SNSs) have the potential to fundamentally change the character of our social lives, both on an interpersonal and a community level. Changes in interaction patterns and social connections are already evident among young people, who are the heaviest users of these sites. As adoption spreads to a wider audience, we expect such changes to be amplified across all segments of society. At an interpersonal level, the identity information included in public profiles serves to lower the barriers to social interaction and thus enable connections between individuals that might not otherwise take place. On a community level, the organizing features of these sites lower the transaction costs for finding and connecting with others who may share one interest or concern but differ on other dimensions. Both of these processes have the potential to have positive effects on society at large because they encourage disparate individuals to connect, communicate, and take action.

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