THE INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING ON THE BEHAVIOR AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ILESA EAST LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF OSUN STATE, NIGERIA

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Abstract

The purpose of the study is to determine the influence of social networking on the behavior and academic performance of secondary school students in Ilesa East Local Government Area of Osun state, Nigeria. The study aimed to find out extent at which students are engaged on social networking site, identify the various categories of social networking that adolescents are exposed to, and ascertain the influence of social networking on students' behavior. The population for this students comprises of one hundred students selected from five schools in Ilesa Fast I and Government Area of Osun State, Nigeria and simple random sampling techniques were adopted in selecting the respondents for this research work. The instrument used for data collection was questionnaire, chi square was used to analyze the data gathered from the respondents at 4 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance. The finding establishes that there is a significant relationship between social networking site and the academic performance of students, there is significant relationship between social networking site and the behavior of students in secondary school and that there is danger of social networking site on students. It was recommended among others that students should reduce their exposure to social media and pay more attention to their studies, especially those aspiring to record huge academic success should guide themselves against the indiscriminate use of social media, and that government, schools and other well to do individuals should encourage hard work by rewarding successful students through scholarship schemes and other incentives, parent should monitor the usage of social media by their children.

Key words: Social Networking, Social Media, E-Learning, Academic Performance, Behavior

Introduction

Electronic communication has become an integral part of our global society. Presently, information is at the domain of everybody because the world is in the era of information technology. In this technological era, information is no longer left for only a few privileged people who can afford the use of land line telephone in offices and homes. Even the people in the remote village in Nigeria and elsewhere can access information through the cell phone, available internet and social network sites (Asemah and Edegoh, 2016). Social networking is a means of communication through which tools like wall posts, status updates, activity feeds, thumbs up and profiles are used and perhaps characterized online communications namely facebook, myspace Melog, Flicker and twitter(Oye, 2016).

Social networking is online destination which focuses on connecting people they already know and those they do not know. Social networking as the use of online sites(social networking sites) for people to get to know new people, share their profile, trace their old friends, share pictures, video ,publish upcoming events of their societies and countries. Social media is the latest technological explosion in the information world. Adomi and Ejirefe (2012) refer to social networking as activities, practices and behavior among groups of individuals who congregate online to share information, experience and express an opinion utilizing interactive media. The interactive media are web-based applications that make it possible to create and efficiently transmit content in forms of text, pictures, videos and audios. According to Kaplan and Halein (2010), social media is a group of Internet-based application that builds on the ideological and technological foundation of the web and allows the creation and exchange of old user-generated content. Social networking site allows users to share activities, ideas and interest within their individual network (Kojo, Agyekum & Artur 2018)

Social network is a social structure made up of individuals or organizations called "nodes", which a re tied (connected) by one or more specific types if interdependency, such as friendship, kinships, common interest financial exchange, dislike, sexual relationships or relationships of beliefs, knowledge or prestige. Social network can also be referred to as a map of specified ties, such as friendship, between the nodes being studied (Asemah & Edegoh, 2016)

In operational term, social networking is a platform through which individuals' interest, profiles, pictures, activities, events or news and academic issues are shared and communicated so as to maintain and adopt substantial balance between their academic requirement and individual interest. Social networking as Advent of era of information is the use of dedicated websites which enable social interaction

and applications to interact with other users or find people with similar interest to their own.

Social networking as a new development has been described as a stage for facilitation and development of adolescences social adaptation. Also, people use social networking to share their feelings and disposition to individuals of their networking. It is a platform through which people communicate and disclose their personal thoughts, feelings and life events. Operationally, social networking, therefore imply platform or online media where individual privately unleash their identities, problems, views to life for others in the same network to comment. Social network platform includes 2go, Facebook, what Sapp, twitter, instagram, goggle, to mention a few (Asemah, 2016). Secondary School students use social network for various reasons, some use it for personal information, to exchange ideas, express their feelings to take or and send pictures and videos. Students now spend more time on Facebook, whatsApp and other social media through smartphone that are now in abundance even to the detriment of reading activities. Charlton and Danforth (2007) are worried, hence noted that there seems to be an alarming rate of social media obsession among students today. A trend that might affect their academic, social and spiritual live negatively if not controlled.

The emergence of social networking has both negative and positive implications. In recent times, students are becoming addictive in their social networking site like email, Facebook and 2go while they spend less time on the internet for academic purpose. Social networking has impacted negatively on the adolescents and this has caused anxiety on families and friends. The involvement of students in social networking has deprived them the opportunity to read their books and other necessary things. School work and social interaction have been affected at the advent of those social media (Moon, 2016).

In essence, students have lost control due to their unrestricted commitment and engagement in social networking, making them vulnerable to academic problems such as poor study habits, truancy, examination malpractice, poor result, disrespecting school rules and regulation and other inappropriate behaviors.

Excessive mental preoccupation with social networking, repetitive thoughts about limiting or controlling the use, failure to prevent the desire for access, craving for using the internet when access is not available are the remarkable problems with social networking addiction. There seem to be an alarming role of social networking obsession among adolescents today: a trend that could affect their academic, social and spiritual lives negatively if not properly controlled. The pathetic position social networking is taking towards falling standard of Nigerian

educational system has become dangerous because it is left unchecked. Due to addiction to social networking, the individual suffers complications and disturbances which affect them negatively in their academics.

This has made many students feel passive during family gathering and school activities, In the class where students' attention is highly ne ded in order to adjust and make maximum use of the time, some students appear not to be paying attention to anything and to anybody e v eimthe thick traffic roads simply because of earphones (Ufuophu & Agobami, 2014).

Statement of the Problem

The Internet is today the most important source of information and the growing dimensions of the use of social media by students cannot be underestimated (Kolan, & Dzandza, 2018). Evidence abound that in school, adolescents spend so much time in social network such as Facebook and others (Asem to, 2016). It is generally believed that the academic performance of students is facing a lot of neglect and challenges as a result of their exposure to social media. Some of these in-school adolescents experiences academic maladjustment in school. For example, some of the adolescents do not use such timetable to study and some study habits skill. Consequently, some of the school adolescents who are always on social networking sites are likely to have reduced academic performance. Some of these adolescents failed in both internal and external examination which they fail and fail again. The in-school adolescent academic maladjustment leads to their antisocial behavior such as examination malpractices; dropping out of school.it is against the background that the researchers investigated the influence of social networking on academic performance of students in secondary schools.

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to determine the influence of social networking on the academic performance of students' behavior in Ilesa East Local Government Area of Osun state. Specifically, the study sought to achieve the following objectives.

- i. Identify the various categories of social networking that adolescents are exposed to in Ilesa East Local government area of Osun state.
- ii. Ascertain the influence of social networking on academic performance of adolescents

iii. Ascertain the influence of social networking on student behavior.

Research Questions

The following research questions guided this study:

- i. What are the various categories of social networking sites that adolescents are exposed to in Ilesa east local government area of Osun State?
- What is the influence of social networking on academics performance of students?
- iii. What is the influence of social networking on student behavior?

Research Hypotheses

The following hypotheses are postulated for the purpose of this study, they include:

- i. There is no significance relationship between the use of social networking sites and the academic performance of students
- ii. There is no significant relationship between social networking site and the behavior of students in secondary school.

Significance of the Study

The findings of this study would be of immense benefit to the teacher, school psychologists, counselors, parents, student and curriculum planners. It would help the teacher to identify the various categories of social networking that adolescents are exposed to and their influence on students 'academic adjustment. Teacher would understand the important role they would play in adjustment pattern of adolescence with regards to their academic achievement. The knowledge of the influence of social network on adolescents' academic performance would help them to know how to modify and counsel adolescents with regards to social network related issues. The results of the study would help the parents to ascertain the influence of social networking on academic performance of their wards.

Literature Review

The world is rapidly growing technologically. Life style of people has become digitalized. That is why companies, organizations and individuals are shifting to

digitalization. In recent times, human activities like education, communication, employment- opportunities and businesses have become obessed with technology and still breathing the new wave. One of the technological innovations is social networking (Ahmed and Qazi, 2011). Networking on the other hand is a system of interconnected people or things (Seo, 2014). This implies that networking is a way of reaching out to other people. According to Moon (2016), social networking is online destination which focuses on connecting people they already know and those the y do not know. Social networking is therefore a means of communication through which tools like wall posts, status updates, activity feeds, thumbs up and profiles are used and perhaps characterized online communication namely Facebook, Myspace Metlog, Flicker and Twitter (Seo, 2014) Shana (2013) asserted that social networking service is an online platform or site that focuses on facilitating the social relations among people who, for examples, share interests, activities, backgrounds or real life. Social networking is a community of individuals or a phtfbrm through which their interests, profiles, pictures, activities, events or news and academic issues are shared and interconnected so as to maintain and adopt substantial balance between their academic requirement and ind vidual interest

On the view of impacts of social networking on cognitive development of students, Yang (2017) argued that social networking sites have enough capacity for a good 'official' education matching the social contexts of learning and promoting critical thinking in learning. Studies have indicated that in recent times, 90 percent of youths worldwide consider social networking so important regardless of its adverse effect on their academic pursuit (Moon, 20 l6).

Studies have indicated several benefits students gain from social networking. Facebook helps students to build a stronger social skill and use it to improve academic performance.

Social networking has the capacity to change educational system and motivates students for better learning rather than being passive attendees of a classroom. It is expected primarily that social media allow in-schools adolescents to accomplish online many academic tasks that are important to them which could not be accomplished offline (Moon, 2016). Some media website includes:

- i. Social Bookmarking: interact by tagging website and searching through website book marked by others (Blink list, simple).
- ii. Social News: interact by voting for articles and commenting on them.

- iii. Social Networking: interact by adding friends, commenting on photo and profiles, sharing groups for discussions (Facebook, 2go, BB chat)
- iv. Social Photo and Video Sharing: interact by sharing photos or videos and commenting on the user sub-mission.

Students Exposure to Social Media

Students connect with computer to send and receive information's anywhere on the globe. The manufacturing and distribution of equally sophisticated ceilular phones has complicated the situation, as students no longer need to visit a cybercafé before they send and receive messages. Some schools are so equipped that there is internet connection made available within the school premises as well as in the library (Asemah, 2016). It is a common thing to see a student reading in the library and putting the books aside on hearing the sound of a ping from the phone.

Influence of Social Media Network on Student Academic Performance

Media reports have continuously reported negative impacts of social networking. Other researchers have found that recreational internet use is strongly correlated with impaired academic performance (Ahmed and Qazi, 2016). Students who reported internet caused schoolwork problems were found to have spent five times more hours online than those who did not, and they were also significantly more likely to report that their internet use caused them to stay up late, get less sleep, and miss classes. Students who reported academic problems were more likely to use the internet for real-time social activities such as instant messaging and chat rooms.

Though there have been many social, economic, and environmental factors that have added to the pressure of secondary students in the past ten years, the drop-out rate for students is still a major national problem. Current statistics show that secondary students in Nigeria are under increased pressure due to higher academic standards in higher institution of learning, and it has become more important than ever for educators to encourage readership and further education.

Usage of Social Media and Students' Academic Performance

According to Shana (2013), social media users often time experience poor performance academically. Similarly, McQuail (2016) posits that social media is negatively associated with academic performance of student and is a lot more

momentous than its advantages. Internet addiction consequently gave rise in internet usage within the last couple of decades. McQuail (2016) recommended that addicted users prefer using internet setting to back their personal and professional responsibilities which ultimately leads to poor academic performance.

According to Yang (2013), social media a tool that could be used for good or bad, it all depends on the person. Social media has its layers of good and bad. Yes, it is easier to remember the bad rather than the good but, social media sites have created opportunities for people all over the world. Hasnain, Nasreen & Ijaz (2015) carried out a research to study the relationship between the use of social medal and students' academic performance in Pakistan. The results suggest, social media has an inverse relationship with academic performance. Social media platform use in a positive manner it can help students and youth in gaining knowledge that can be used to enhance their academic performance. Khan (2012) explored the impact of social networking websites on students. A research questionnaire was designed to determine the factors of social networking websites that have impact on students. Variables identified are age, gender, education, social influence and academic performance. The result of the study shows that Respondents whose Age ranges between 15 to 25 generally uses social networking websites for entertainment while Gender analysis shows that male mostly uses social networking websites. Several studies have been carried out by different researchers assess how the use of social media impact students' academic performance. Choney, (2010), MehMood & Taswir, (2018), Kist (2008), Jacobsen & Forste, (2011), believe that the use of technology such as Internet is one of the most important factors that can influence educational performance of students positively or negatively. It stated that many parents and guardians are worried that students now spend too much time on Facebook and other social media sites and do not have enough time to study.

Students' Addictiveness to Social Media

The mass appeal of social media on the internet could be a cause for concern, particularly when attending to the gradually increasing amount of time students spend online (Ahmed and Qazi 2016). Students spend more time on Facebook, Twitter and other social media through smartphones that are now in abundance among these youths.

It is a common sight to see a youth chatting in sensitive and highly organized places like church, mosque and lecture venues. Some are so carried away that even as they are walking along the h gh way, they keep chatting. Attention has been

shifted from visible to invisible friends, while important ventures like study and writing are affected in the process.

This phenomenon has become a source of worry to many who believe in knowledge and skill acquisition. Internet addiction is significantly and negatively related to students' academic performance as well as emotional attributes.

Methodology

Saunders, Lewis & Thornhill (2009) emphasized that the selection of any research design is based on many factors with the ultimate being the features of the variable or participants being used. Consequent upon this, the design for this study was a descriptive research design. This design is appropriate for the study to collect data on a given population in order to describe or present the facts of the population as it is. This design was chosen in line with the purpose of the study which is to investigate the influence of social networking on the academic performance of student and behavior in Ilesa east local government area of Osun state. The simple random sampling technique was used in the selection of five schools in Ilesa East Local Government. Sampling techniques using class register was used in selecting the respondent for the research. The randomly selected schools are: Babalola memorial High School Imo, Ilesa, Arimoro Grammar School, Arimoro, Ilesa, Ilesa High School Okeesa, Ilesa, United High School Ilesa and Hope Grammar School Bolorunduro, Ilesa. The instrument used for data collection for the study was a well-structured questionnaire. Administered questionnaire were analyzed using Chi-square in order to determine the influence of social networking on the academic performance of student and behavior in Ilesa East Local Government Area of Osun state. Responses gathered from the questionnaire in section A (Biodata) were analyzed using tables and percentage analysis.

Result and Discussion

The data collected were analyzed to answer the research questions posited for the study and the analyses are presented in two Sections A and B. Section A which analyzed the Demographic Data are presented in Tables 1 - 3. Section B tests the three research hypotheses.

Section A: Demographic Data of the Respondents (Bio data)

Table 1: Distribution of the Respondents by Gender

Sex	Frequency	Percentage%
Male	58	58
Female	42	42

Figure 1: Distribution of Respondents by Gender

From Table 1, the number of male respondents was 58, which made 58% of the total respondents, also female respondents were 42 which représented 42%.

Table 2: Age Distribution of the Respondents

Age	Frequency	Percentage%
13-15	26	26
16-18	60	60
18 above		
Total	100	100

Figure 2: Age Distribution of the Respondents

Table 2 showed the distribution of the respondents by their age, 26 (26%) of the total respondents were between age 13-15 60 (60%) years of age, while 14 (14%) were 18 years and above.

Table 3: Class Distribution of the Respondents

Class	frequency	Percentage %
SSSII	54	54
SSSIII	46	46
	100	100

Figure 3: Class Distribution of the Respondents

Table 3 revealed the distribution of the respondents by their class, 54 (54%) of the total respondents were in SSS II students, while 46(46%) were in SSS III students.

Analysis of Research Questions and Testing of Hypotheses

The questionnaire distributed were analyzed and examined under each of the research question stated with hypothesis for this study. They have been done in a

table spread analysis which reveals findings and basic decision making for this study.

Table 4: Level of Exposure to Social Media by Students

S\N	ITEMS	SA	0/0	A	0/0	D	0/0	SD	0/0
	I am exposed to Facebook social network	49	49.0	46	46.0		3.0		2.0
2.	I have good exposure and usage of twitter	19	19.0	31	31.0	20	20.0	30	30.0
3	I use Eskimi to chat with my friends	19	19.0	13	13.0	31	31.0	37	37.0
	2go has been exposed to me for a very long time		42.0	35	35.0	12	12.0		11.0
5	I am very good user of whatsApp	52	52.0	21	21.0	19	19.0	8	8.0
	Level of exposure to social media	High	Low	Total					
		65.4	34.6	10					

Table 4 is a frequency table that sought to know the level of exposure to social media by students, from the table above, it is clearly seen that the level of exposure to social media is very high, this is observed from the mean of responses given by the respondents, the mean of total agreed responses by the respondents to their level of exposure to social media is 65.4 while 34.6 disagreed.

Table 5 Influence of Social Networking on Academic Performance

S	N	ITEMS	SA	O/O	Α	O/O	D	0/0	SD	0/0
		Chatting through social network sites deprive students the opportunities to read their books, which in turn affect the students' academic performance		26.0	47	47 (18.0) 9	9 ()
2		Social media result in students having poor study habits because of deep interest in social network site which result in the student performing badly in their academics		35.0	43	43.0		15(1)	7	7.0
3		Excessive mental preoccupation with social networking will negatively affect the academic performance of the student		28.0	39	390	25	323		10.0
4		I am not interested anytime my teacher is teaching in the class because I am addicted to social network chatting	1()	100	6	6.()	33	3434	131	31.0
5		Social media reduces students motivation for educational productivity due to the things they see online	19	190	41	41.()	33	33.()	7	7.
	, INC	ence of social networking on academic High	Low	Total						
		628	37.2	100.0						

Table 5 is a frequency distribution table that sought to know the influence of social networking on academic performance. The table showed the social media has a negative influence on the student: the mean total value of respondents that agreed with this is 62.8, while a total mean of disagreed respondents is 37.2. This is an indication that social media if not used well will result in low academic performance of the students.

To test if there is significant relationship between social networking site and the academic performance of student, a chi-square (X²) calculation was used to analyze this and the formula used is shown below

X² calculated figure or value =

The chi-square X2 calculated value for hypothesis one=46.18

Degree of freedom (df) = (5-1)(2-1)

=4x1=4 Level of significant (LOS) =0.05

The critical of X² at a degree of freedom of 4 is 9.48

Table 6: Chi-square Table and Calculation

Calculated Value	Critical Value	Degree of Freedom	Level of Significance		
46.18	9.48	4	0.05		

From Table 6, having calculated the for a value of 46.18 and critical value being 9.48 at 4 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance, it was observed that the critical < calculated. Since calculated (46.18 > 9.48), therefore the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between social networking site and the academic performance of students is rejected. This is in line with (Ufuophu and Agobami. 2017) who stated that "the mass appeal of social media on the Internet could be a cause of concern, particularly when attending to the gradual increasing amount of time student spend online. Students spend more time on Facebook, Twitter and other social media through smart phones that are now in abundance among these youths. Many students cannot go for two-three hours without checking and updating their profiles on these social networks even at the detriment of other activities such as educational and career pursuit.

Table 7: Influence of Social Networking on Student Behavior

S/N	ITEMS	SA	%	A	%	D	0/0	SD	0/0	TOTAL
	Due to much time spent on social media, students tends to ignore house chores and responsibilities	36	36.0	39	39.0	13	13.0	12	12.0	100
2	Bad attitude towards academic activities in school	13	13.0	50	50.0	26	26.0		11.0	100
3	Students exhibit more satisfaction on the social network at the expense of their academic work	24	24.0	45	45.0	25	25.0	6	6.0	100
4	Social networks lead to identifying theft and irrational behaviors by the students		13.0	35	35.0	36	36.0	16	16.0	100
5	Social networking causes physical discomfort	11	11.0	28	28.0	36	36.0	25	25.0	100
	Influence of Networking on students behavior	High 58.8	Low 41.2		Total 100					

Table 7 is a frequency distribution table that sought to know the influence of social networking on students' behavior. From the table, it was shown that the social

media has a negative influence on the students' behavior if not handled well. The mean total value of respondents in harmony with this is 58.8, while a total mean of disagreed correspondents is 41.2. This is an indication that social media, if not used well will result in students misbehaving.

Table 8: Chi-square Table and Calculation

Calculated Value	Critical Value	Degree of Freedom	Level of Significance
36.85	9.48	4	0.05

From Table 8, having calculated the for a value of 46.18 and critical value being 36.85 at 4 degree of freedom and 0.05 level of significance. It was observed that the critical <calculated. Since critical <calculated, (36.85>9.48) therefore the null hypothesis which states that there is no significant relationship between social networking site and the behavior of adolescent in secondary school is rejected. This verdict is supported by Oye (2016), that stated that excessive mental preoccupation with social networking, repetitive thoughts about limiting or controlling the use, failure to prevent the desire for access, craving for using the Internet when access is not available are the remarkable problems with social networking addiction. There seem to be alarming role of social networking obsession among students today; a trend that could affect their academic, social and spiritual lives negatively if not properly controlled. The pathetic position social networking is taking towards falling standard of Nigeria educational system has become dangerous because it is left unchecked. Due to addiction to social networking, the individuals suffer complications and disturbances which affect them negatively in their academics.

Conclusion

Social networking sites have great potential for educational use and it is found that by chatting using Facebook, Twitters and chatting online result in increase of the English communication. It also serves as platform to reach the students during the covid-19 lockdown. The inferiority complex of talking and writing in English is decreased. The students are trying their best to write and speak English which results in better communication. Social networking sites get updated with the news and other information which results in increasing the General knowledge and current affairs which in results make a child ready for competitive examination. These social sites increase the links of the friendship with reputed person and famous personalities and scientists which on request guide and motivate these students. The challenges should not make parents to go against the use of the

social network in schools rather, they should endeavor to imbibe some of the recommendations below.

Recommendations

Based on the findings from this study, the following recommendations are made:

- i. Students should reduce their exposure to social media and pay more attention to their study.
- ii. Students, especially those willing to record huge academic success should guide themselves against the use of social media.
- iii. The government, schools and other well to do individuals should encourage hard work by rewarding successful students through scholarship schemes and other incentives
- iv. The government should consider the possibility of evolving a policy on teenagers exposure to social media
- v. As a way of instilling discipline in students, school managements should restrict the usage of Social Networks to hours of break-time for students or grant limited access, in terms of time, to school internet where facility is available. It is not advisable to totally disallow it but clear rules and policies may be set to help in this wise.
- vi. The government, through the ministry of Education, should maintain the regulatory role in setting out policies on Internet Use with social networking use as a sub-section to be implemented and enforced in private and public secondary schools across its areas of jurisdiction.
- vii. Seminars, workshops, symposia etc. should be organized in the state by management of schools to orientate the students and their parents on the various possible negative effect of Social Network usage in school on students' academic performance.
- viii. Parents and guardians should monitor the usage of social media by their children
- ix. Parent should ensure that their children are up to the age of 18 years before they are allowed to use the social media.

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