



Pros and cons of internet usage among children

Sudesh Rawal

Associate Professor in Psychology, Chaudhary Ishwar Singh Kanya Mahavidyalaya Dhand Kaithal, Haryana, India

Abstract

This paper discusses how the Internet has reached the lives of children and examines some of the possible positive and harmful effects on kids. Although the impact of the Internet on a particular child differ according to the nature of each child and how the child uses the Internet, adults also need to provide a basic grasp of these general potentialities. The temperament and psychological criteria of a child often eventually change the impact of the Internet over him or her. Without being directed and supervised by their parents and teachers, many of the children may have accessed the Internet. That makes them vulnerable to the Internet's harmful impacts. It is quite important for parents to track their child's actions and relationships and to ensure a better use of the Internet.

Keywords: internet usage, positive effect, negative effect

Introduction

Internet studies began by researching who has access to the Internet. Researchers also proceeded to explore the current use of the Internet, including how much time users spent on the Internet and what they do. Two decades previous to the disappearance of the Internet Access in separate developed nations. Consequently there have been a lot of issues in the exclusion of the Internet. It has been shown that many young kids need to get homework details via internet as early as possible as in elementary school years ^[1]. Next, the Internet is at the centre of a modern generation, the Net Generation. The Net generation, according to Don Tapscott, consists of babies still in diapers for individuals who are in their 20s ^[2]. Internet use amongst young children under the age of thirteen has risen in recent history. More than thirty million children visit online websites each year, making it the largest Internet-dependent audience. For young people, the Internet is not yet a modern invention. It is a normal part of the lives of children. Every year, the number of children and teenagers who use the Internet is increasing rising. As of September 2003, 705.70 million persons worldwide were online.

In the United States, between 75 and 90 percent of teens use the Internet to send emails, instant messaging (IM), visit chat rooms and browse other World Wide Web sites. According to the new study published by the American Psychological Association (APA) in a special issue of Developmental Psychology, spending a lot of time on the Internet may have both negative and positive consequences ^[3].

Internet Influence on Kids ^[4]

There has been a rapid rise in Internet usage over the last few years. Among these usage, there are many users who are teenagers. Internet use by teenagers has grown exponentially.

The Internet is effective for children. However, there are certain negative impacts that can directly affect children. If proper supervision is not ensured and advice is not provided to children, it can lead to some dangerous circumstances.

Pros of Internet Usages

Children may use the internet to improve their academics in a constructive way. They are able to access more knowledge about the various topics that they are taught in classrooms. Reading a wide variety of documents on the Internet helps children to develop their skills. Their imagination is often stimulated by the games and learning resources they are exposed to online.

Cons of Internet usage

The Internet, on the other hand, has adversely impacted children's communication. Over-dependence on the Internet has caused children to abandon their conventional face to face experiences. It has led to a strained relationship with their families, friends, and, as a result, has led to difficult contact even in their schools due to stunted growth. Children who use the internet are usually sitting for a long time. This affects their health by increasing obesity and making their eyesight low ^[5]. Sitting in front of the screen for a long time limits the time for physical activity and keeps them from playing outdoors. Spending too much time on the most popular technological devices, such as computers, smartphones and tablets, can cause interruption and concentrating difficulties. One of the adverse impacts of technology on children is that it influences their academic performance. The negative impact of technology on children's social skills typically arise when a children are playing so many activities on a computer because they are detached from real life. A child who does not connect, engage and share with their world will focus on fulfilling all these needs in a virtual environment.

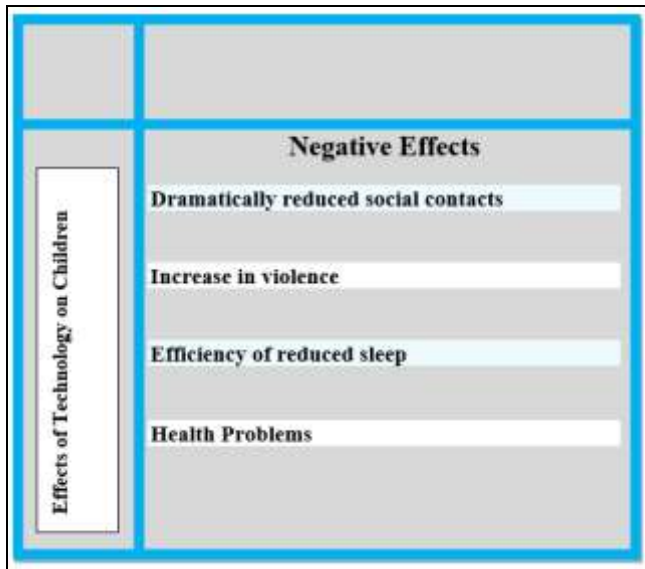


Fig 1

Directions to Prevent Children from Unsafe content on the internet

Practically every home broadband router has some kind of filtering built-in that allows you to block access to adult content. For example, You'll need to refer to the instruction manual that came with your router or ask your ISP for advice [6]. In most instances, a dedicated content philtre that includes parental controls, such as Panda Dome Advanced, offers an additional (essential) layer of security. Similar to the router philtre system, any web request is reviewed to ensure that the website or service does not host harmful content. Often demand that your children never disclose their real names (first, last, or imaginary) or where they live, go to school, hang out or play. The same rule applies to all other personal and confidential information.

- Set your sights on your internet browsers.
- Instruct children to retain private information sensitive.

Children to be revealed Material that is unacceptable on the Internet

There is a huge range of extremely unhealthy materials that children can unwittingly be linked to online, such as adult or sexual content, content that is controversial, such as criminal activity, cults, hostility and intolerance, and websites for illegal drugs. This also involves links to offensive pop-up advertisements and to alcohol, tobacco and lottery pages. The protection company found that 92% of respondents who are parents said that restricting children's access to harmful content was their top priority. Another 62% said that tracking children's behaviours online was their key reason for using parental control software, while 49% said that setting restrictions on internet access was their primary concern [8].

Awareness to content of video

YouTube has a beneficial material for infants. There is also some material, however, that children can never watch. It's just a matter of time for kids to get exposed to material like MOMO and the Blue Whale or cartoon characters that cut each other up. Let's say-you've shielded your child from risky games like the Blue Whale.

Provide a Protected Internet Platform for Children

Often talk to your child

If you're not an oppressive parent who shakes his or her finger all the time, and if you don't suppress the kid, he or she will be more open to you. If your child is secure enough to consult you when they feel suspicious, you will be aware of the possible hazards. Internet protection for children means that children should feel safe to share their concerns and fear with you.

Teach your kids the difference between the illusion and the reality.

Understand that he / she should not be afraid of the scary / ugly characters that might appear on the Internet and close the material that he / she does not like. Raising awareness on this topic would reduce the negative emotional effect of technology on children.

Using the parents Monitor and Security Program

Set up sensitive security settings for your browser. Filter fear-an inciting, abusive, obscene material. These interventions would reduce the harmful impact of technology on children. After doing this, don't stop being in charge. Be in close touch with your child and wonder what they're doing on the Internet.

Conclusion

In conclusion, while the internet offers a lot of benefits to students in their everyday lives, students can learn how to prevent the negative effects of the internet while using it. Teachers and parents play a major role in teaching students the best way to surf the Internet. For example, parents should track how much time their children spend on the Internet and, if necessary, specify the time table to restrict the time they need to use the Internet. Technology has its own effect, as it can either be a curse or a blessing. Only drugs recommended by the physicians should be taken. The same is true of the internet. It should be used as per their needs. If you use the internet more than they need, that will take away your imagination and time, and that's not healthy.

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