

AWARENESS OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND UTILIZATION FOR LEARNING AMONG STUDENT-TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

This present study explores the Awareness of Social Media and Utilization for Learning among Student-Teachers. Social networks are becoming rather popular throughout the world. Their multi-dimensional uses and specifications increase every day. However, research shows that their scientific and educational functions are still limited. We believe that social networks have the potential to create new contexts and opportunities that increase students' ability and knowledge. This study consists of 200 Student-Teachers used simple random sampling technique. An analysis of the results was carried out using the SPSS software package. And the finding of this study shows that Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning are low for Student-Teachers.

KEY WORDS

Social Media, Awareness, Utilization, Learning, Networks

INTRODUCTION

Social media has discharged as a set of online sermon where the people create content, share it, bookmark it and network at a phenomenal speed. Because of its ease of use, speed and reach, social media is fast changing the public discourse in society and setting trends and plan in topics that range from the situation and policies to technology and the entertainment.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Social media are computer-mediated technologies that allow individuals, companies, NGO's governments, and other organizations to view, create and share ideas, information, career interests, and other forms of expression through virtual communications and networks. Social media use web-based and mobile technologies on smartphones and computers to create highly interactive platforms through which individuals, communities and organizations can share, co-create, discuss, and modify user-generated content or pre-made content

posted online. They introduce substantial and pervasive changes to communication between businesses, organizations, communities, and individuals.

ADVANTAGES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- We can keep in touch with friends in today's busy world.
- We can improve ourselves by sharing our ideas, information and knowledge with those, who have same interests, even if they are so many miles away from us.
- Teachers and professors are making groups on SNS to extend classroom discussion, to post assignments, tests & quizzes and to assist students with homework.
- Many companies are developing interactive communities that connect individuals to share business needs & experiences.
- Students are connecting with employers via LinkedIn kind of SNS for job opportunities and internships.
- We can find our friends easily, if we lost contact.
- Generally social networking sites have a positive atmosphere. For example, Facebook doesn't send notification, if someone is removed as a friend. So there is a least chance for the person to know that.

DISADVANTAGES OF SOCIAL MEDIA

- People are increasingly comparing their lives with others that are projecting their life as perfect. This decreases happiness levels and also can lead to self-esteem issues.
- Privacy is a big drawback of SNS. Some people are using other person's personal information for malicious intentions.
- Addiction is another big drawback of SNS.
- Lot of SNS users are prefers online conversation rather than face-to-face. It'll affect communication skills, relationships and even mental health.
- There is a high risk for children and teenagers from cyber stalking.
- Gossips and rumors spread soon.
- Spending in front of computer for long hours creates many health problems.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the present study are as follows;

1. To measure the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning of Student-Teachers.
2. To find out the significance of difference, if any between Male and Female Student-Teachers with respect to their Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning.
3. To find out the significance of difference, if any between Hosteller and Day Scholar Student-Teachers with respect to their Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning.
4. To find out the level of correlation between Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Student-Teachers.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY

The hypotheses of the present student are as follows;

1. The mean score on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Student-Teachers in the colleges of Education in Tiruchirappalli District is high.
2. There is no significance difference, if any between the mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning with respect to gender.
3. There is no significance difference, if any between the mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning with respect to residence.
4. There is no significance of correlation between the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

The investigator followed the survey method for the study. Awareness of Social Media Scale and Utilization of Social Media Scale was developed and administered by the investigator to the Student-Teachers in Tiruchirappalli District.

SAMPLE

The population for the study consisted of Student-Teachers in Tiruchirappalli District. The investigator selected 200 Student-Teachers from the selected Colleges of Education by using simple random sampling technique.

STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES USED

The data were tabulated and statistically analyzed by percentage analysis, differential analysis and relational analysis.

DATA ANALYSIS

HYPOTHESIS – 1

The mean score on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Student-Teachers in the colleges of Education in Tiruchirappalli District is high.

TABLE 1.1

Mean and Standard Deviation Scores of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Student-Teachers

S. No	N	AWARENESS		UTILIZATION	
		MEAN	S.D	MEAN	S.D
1.	200	37.13	10.72	35.01	16.16

From the above table (1.1) that the Mean and Standard Deviation scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media are 37.13 and 10.72. It is interpreted that the level of Awareness of Social Media is low. It is also seen the Mean and Standard Deviation scores on the level of Utilization of Social Media for Learning are 35.01 and 16.16. It I revealed that the level of Utilization of Social Media for Learning is low. Hence, the null hypothesis framed is rejected.

HYPOTHESIS – 2

There is no significance difference, if any between the mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning with respect to gender.

TABLE 1.2

Significance difference between the Mean scores of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers with respect to their Gender

Dependent Variables	Gender	N	Mean	S.D	‘t’ value
Awareness of Social Media	Male	55	37.69	12.42	0.415**
	Female	145	36.91	10.04	
Utilization for Learning	Male	55	40.92	15.31	3.321*
	Female	145	32.77	15.95	

**** - Not Significant at 0.05 level**

*** - Significant at 0.05 level**

From the table 1.2 the ‘t’ value (0.415) for the Awareness of Social Media is less than the table value 1.96. Hence, it is not significant at 0.05 level. It is understood that there is no significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media among Male and Female respondents.

It is also revealed that the ‘t’ value (3.321) of Utilization of Social Media for Learning is greater than the table value 1.96. Hence, it is significant at 0.05 level. It is understood that there is a significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Male and Female respondents.

Hypothesis – 3

There is no significance difference, if any between the mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning with respect to residence.

TABLE 1.3

Significance difference between the Mean scores of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers with respect to their Residence

Dependent Variables	Residence	N	Mean	S.D	‘t’ value
Awareness of Social Media	Day Scholar	173	36.51	10.36	1.848**
	Hosteller	27	41.11	12.26	
Utilization for Learning	Day Scholar	173	34.75	16.47	0.648**
	Hosteller	27	36.69	14.14	

**** - Not Significant at 0.05 level**

From the table 1.3 the 't' value (1.848) and (0.648) for the Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media is less than the table value 1.96. Hence, it is not significant at 0.05 level. It is understood that there is no significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers with respect to their residence.

Hypothesis – 4

There is no significance of correlation between the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers

TABLE 1.4

Significant correlation between Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning

Variables	N	'r' value
Awareness of Social Media	200	0.025**
Utilization for Learning		

**** - Not Significant at 0.05 level**

From the table 1.4, it is observed that the obtained 'r' value (0.025) is not to significantly correlate. Hence, there is no significant correlation between the Awareness of Social Media and Utilization for Learning among Student-Teachers.

FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

1. The Mean Awareness scores of Student-Teachers towards Social Media is Low.
2. The Mean Utilization scores of Student-Teachers towards Social Media for Learning is Low.
3. There is no significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media among Male and Female students.
4. There is a significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Utilization of Social Media for Learning among the Male and Female students.
5. There is no significant difference between the Mean scores on the level of Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning with respect to their residence.
6. There is no significant correlation between the Awareness of Social Media and Utilization for Learning among Student-Teachers.

CONCLUSION

The present study has investigated into the Awareness of Social Media and Utilization of Social Media for Learning among Student-Teachers of Colleges of Education in Tiruchirappalli District. The study has shown that there is wide scope for improving the Awareness of Student-Teachers and there is a grave need to improve the Utilization of Student-Teachers towards Social Media. Awareness towards the Social Media and their useful tools for the rich enhancement of learning which concentration on sustaining and improving this adequate knowledge and developing Student-Teachers right behaviour are essential in the present situation.

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