

## Impact of Internet on our youth



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Technology advancement has massive impact on youth. The whole world is accepting and adopting the ways towards the advancement of technology. The youth is playing a vital role in this rapid pace. The strong and mighty cultures are also facing the problems.

In this global village, firstly our youth was allured to divert their attention towards the internet. They have changed a lot by the usage of internet. A few of them have inclined for knowledge, information, awareness and exposure but the majority of them appear to have misused the internet.

Today more than 1.5 billion Internet users around the world. (Jaffe.A.&Chen.A.2010) The Internet has become an integral part of our society. It has spawned a revolution not only for business but also for social communication & interpersonal behavior.

“This technology is changing the way of people are socializing, studying, working,

Shopping, searching for jobs and spending their leisure time.(DiNicola.M.D.,2004) The Internet acts as a mechanism for information dissemination for educational purposes, for social interactions and entertainment.

Internet is both a boon and a bane. Internet has helped man to see the other part of the world at the click of a mouse. We know what is happening everywhere- may it be any current affair, floods, earthquakes, politics, latest treatment, invention of electronic gadgets, astronomical discovery etc. Secondly, Internet has helped people to connect—emails for one-to-one interaction, blogs for expressing & discussing, groups for specialized discussion.

Thirdly, it helps saving lives of people in several ways. Medical research, new drugs, organ donors, infertility treatments, unusual surgeries...we now are aware where we can go for treatment. Fourthly, business is totally dependent on internet. For any company, there are offices globally. Employees connect with each other, have video conferences, and have meetings on internet. Sales and marketing is highly efficient because world is a global village.

Fifth, online shopping is the in-thing now. It saves time, energy.

Again, people from one part of the world can order anything from a distant place.

There are many more miscellaneous benefits—tracking courier, online reservations, online examinations, online lecture classes etc.

It has short coming also. Today there are websites which showcase pornography. Rapes, sexual abuse has increased. Kids at a very young age get exposed to things which they shouldn't be at their age.

One can have multiple email addresses. People make fake addresses and misuse this independence. Kids keep on chatting with anonymous people the whole night. Their eyes are badly affected. Carpel Tunnel Syndrome is becoming too common. Medicine has now recongnized “addiction to internet” as a disease. I do not recollect the actual name given to this problem. There are short comings but advantages are more than disadvantages. Visual media has created world very small place and connected the world.

The telecommunication companies in our country have been inclined towards introducing new and attractive packages for youth. The question arises why these companies are introducing these packages without the social mobilization to check the mindset of the youth.All necessary and normal interactions can be dealt with during daytime but the companies offer the packages that start after end of family or business communication. My feeling is that these packages are more likely to spoil and ravage our youth than to do anything else.

In our youth segment the majority is student community that is spell bounded by these packages. They are losing the essence of their studies. They are derailing and deviating themselves. They are getting away from their goals, destinies and motives. Their minds are becoming stagnant and static. They are wasting their time and not serious about their studies. The most important is that they use internet more for chatting not for studies.

The SMS and chat rooms are spoiling their time and mind both. For good SMS young people are wasting at least two hours a day. When I talk to my respondents I found that few have decided their partners just in chat room without asking general

information of each other and as a strange case one spoke that without meeting face to face he has decided to marry a girl. As a researcher I have doubts and I am sure that these type of thinking will take them to depression in future.

As a teacher when I guided my research students I could see that beyond class, caste and category students are using mobile for various purposes. I decided to take up one research on the issue. I decided that I will select 100 respondents from P.G. students and through sampling method I scientifically selected 100 students,50 girls and 50 boys.

The questionnaire was used as a tool to collect the data. Once I selected the respondents I delivered questionnaire to them. After collecting the questionnaire I codified it and prepared Tables.

**Following are the results:**

- 1 Most of 90% students have mobile and it was purchased by their parents.
- 2 Most of the parents believed that they must know the movement of their sons and daughters.
- 3 10% respondents had two mobiles.
- 4 Most of the respondents use pre-paid sim card.
- 5 When they phone to their parents, they just give them Miscall.
- 6 All 100% respondents use mobile for SMS, playing games, using Internet and Face book, moreover every respondents using mobile as a Camera.
- 7 All the respondents using phone to talk and discuss issues and if they are comfortable with bill than they use it for sending SMS for Indian IDOL.
- 8 90% respondents are paying for Caller tune.
- 9 80% respondents playing games regularly on mobile at least for 10 minutes a day.
- 10 85% respondents are sending regular SMS to friend and for the purpose they have subscribed special schemes from the companies.

- 11 60% respondents are using Nokia,20% are using Reliance and rest of the respondents using Chiana made instruments.
- 12 35% respondents using Internet on phone.
- 13 Almost 20% girls and 40%boys have visited chat rooms.At least 90% of them have partners on chat room and they regularly at least for 15 minutes contact each other.
- 14 All of these young boys and girls send SMS to their chat room friends.
- 15 20% of girls who are using Internet have decided their partners and 60% boys have decided to marry a partner in Chat room.
- 16 Most of them yet not economically independent but they believe that they have bright future and they will manage the partnership.
- 17 Most of the respondents daily once visiting the chat room without fail.
- 18 90 % respondents felt that chat room's talk is their powerhouse.

Most of them want to purchase tablet or laptop if economy permits, otherwise they are comfortable with the situation.

The Internet represents both risks and opportunities for young people. To protect youth who are at risk for online addiction, bullying, and solicitation, we need more research to understand which youth may be most susceptible and to develop targeted interventions to protect them. The Internet also has many positive aspects and can be used to enhance youth learning and empowerment; although it is a tremendous health resource and can be used to cheaply deliver interventions, we need to understand how to better implement them to enhance their effectiveness. It can help us to EMPOWER.