

Impact of Internet on Users

Rahul Chauhan*

M.Phil. of Sociology, M. D. University, Rohtak

Abstract – It is a technological marvel of the modern world, and it has already revolutionized the way in which people think, interact, gather and process information, do research, earn a living, educate and entertain themselves. Human institutions are going to change their style of operation and established new relationships with citizens nationally and internationally. It is suggested that about 60 million people used the Net in 1995, the number of users increased to 200 million at the beginning of 2000 and internet users by a billion people all over the world in 2005. This is one sixth of the total population on earth. This may be a highly optimistic estimate. Actually the internet links subscribers are globally through the world wide web. Every subscribers can be reached within minutes, if not seconds. It is a supercomputer network. However, there is no doubt that the number of Nets users in increasing fast. Therefore, in this paper we have tried to explore the impact of internet in terms of its positive as well as negative on the users. Further, media often report that intense use of the internet increases the risk of isolation, alienation, and withdrawal from society. Illegal or inappropriate material can be found in the internet and also it can be used for spreading computer viruses. But available evidence shows that internet actually increases sociability, civil engagement, interchange ideas and materials among university/college professors and students and the intensity of family and friends relationship, in all culture.

Keywords : Impact, Internet Communication, Computers.

-----X-----

In this paper we have trend to explore the impart of internet on young users. As we all know that internet has grown immensely more than any other medium over the span of a decade. Computers are not only interlinked for quick transmission of ideas, accounting data and personal records internally, but also for communication with other business and factories. The internet is a worldwide system of computers interlinked by wires and cables, and by microwave, satellite and radio links of telecommunication networks. It is right to call it the nets. It is technological marvel of the more world, and it has already revolutionized the way in which people think interact, gather and process information, earn a living, educate and entertain themselves. Human institutions are going to change their style of operation and establish new relationship with citizens nationally and internationally. The internet links subscribes globally through the world wide web. Every subscriber can be reached within minutes, if not seconds. It is a supercomputer network. The universalization and democratization of news and information are made possible by it (Velanilam, 2000).

The concept of internet users can be viewed from different aspects such as according to Solomon (2009) suggests that non-a-days individuals are getting hooked on the internet such as on internet gambling, online shopping, searching for non-important information or chatting etc. for a very

longtime. It happened because it is compulsory for the students to use internet, working with the internet is effective and productive, and feeling comfortable with online friends than the real one, playing game online and also easy internet access to all online friends than smart phone, tablets or other mobile devices. Young (1999) think that when it is during online the young internet uses feel, excited, thrilled, uninhibited, attractive, supported, and more desirable. Whereas online situation make him and/or her frustrated, worried, angry, anxious and depressed. These strong positive emotions reinforce the compulsive behaviour refers to that internet addiction to young adults create a humbling effect. Kandell (1998) commenting on the psychological point of view argued that due to increase tolerance to the effect of being online, increase number of investment of sources on internet related activities, unpleasant feelings when offline and denial of the problematic behaviours are main reasons for dependent on the internet. On the other hand, the internet brings the world so close together today, by its positive aspects such as conducting research, performing business transactions and communications, accessing library journals and communicating with social relations, etc. Unfortunately, the internet is misused by some groups of individuals. Some individual tend to get obsessed in midst of getting exposed and familiarised with the internet (Sukunesan, 1999). According to Hechanova and Cznez (2009)

internet is being used issued by the teenagers in Singapore to obtain information on sports, entertainment, science and technology and hobbies. In Malaysia, people set up profiles, upload photos and add friends on social networking sites to keep in touch and share events with friends (Chadra, 2011).

Wellman and Gulia (1999) reported that online relationships can be strong and could strengthen real world relationships but later it could be faded. As such 75.5 percent of respondents prefer to use the internet when they feel isolated, 50 percent respondents reported complaints from family members for being online for longer hours than 50 percent respondents think that they were more effective online than offline. Li and Chung (2006) stated that it is very important to know how internet users formed their relationship with friends through online or normal social life. According to them it is also necessary to check whether the people are missing their social engagement, whether they are more comfortable with online friend and reduce the contact with the people in reality or not. In addition, the interpersonal problems are also identifiable based on the family members complaints toward excessive internet users. Another study conducted by Kubey et al (2001) suggested that heavy internet recreational use of the internet among a group of 572 college students was correlated with additional problems including, late evening use, social isolation and sleep disturbances and a decline in academic performance. Brignall (2005) in his study on the impact of internet communications on social interaction reveals that the internet is clearly on the way to becoming an integral tool of business, communication, and popular culture in many parts of the world. Computer mediated communications has a wide range of supporters and detractors. It is argued that the internet will lead to revolutionize social interaction, whereas other argue that the internet will lead to loss of privacy, impersonal communications and isolation.

POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE EFFECTS

The internet is so popular now a day that almost anyone uses it. It is accessible by almost any person who tries to connect to one of its central, main networks. Moreover, it can be accessed by users of any age and condition. The internet has positive aspects including informative, convenient resourcefulness and fun, but for the users these benefits become detriment. There are some opinions on internet's positive effect. Kaye and Johnson (2004) state that internet users are more actively involved and engaged in using the internet because of its interactivity. Roy (2009) found out that internet users experienced self-development, wide range of exposure, relaxation and leisure and higher global exchange of information and views.

Further, the internet has a lot of benefits to the users and for the young working adult. It is significant to

see whether internet is a helpful tool in their work to improve work performances by expanding the respondents reading, writing and information processing skills. Finally, this is required to identify whether the internet has made the world wide communication possible to the respondents and has helped them in working as well (Kim 2008).

The negative effects of internet include, the impact on interpersonal relationship where the individual might face behavioural problem due to over usage of internet where they may react differently than the normal behaviour (Kubey, Lawin & Barrow 2001). Some other physical problems might occur due to long use of the internet. Some physical problems are migraine, or headache, sleep pattern disrupt etc. In the opinion of Young (2006) the excessive internet users exhibit more severe internet behaviour. The extent of internet uses increases depression and decreases self-esteem.

CONCLUSION:

The internet is the decisive technology of the information age. The studies indicate that the major group of compulsive internet users are young adults. It is suggested that people develop problems from their uncontrollable abuse of internet usage which is associated with other pathologies such as depression, loneliness and social anxiety. Moreover, those who exercise compulsive usages of the internet are declining their school/college performance and withdrawal from an academic institution. Putting aside the negative impacts, the internet addiction however brought some positive impacts to the users. The internet provides users with information, connecting worldwide, promoting research, work with other people from overseas country affectively. Hence functional usage of internet might be more beneficial to the users.

REFERENCES

- Brignall, T.W. and T.V. Valey (2005). The impact of internet communications on social interaction, *Sociological Spectrum*, Vol. 25, Issue, 3.
- Chandra, D.R. (2011). Do have Facebook Addiction Disorder? Retrived Aug. 11, in from www.bumingemilang.com
- Chung, R.M. and Sm. Li (2006). Internet function and internet addiction beahviour, *computer in human behaviour* Vol. 22, pp. 1067-71.
- Hechanova, R. and Cznez, J. (2009). Internet addiction in Adia, Reality or Myth, www.internetworldstats.com

- Kim, J.U. (2008). The effect of a R/T group counseling programme on the internet addiction level and self esteem of internet addiction university students, *International Journal of Reality Therapy*, Vol. 27, No. 2, pp. 4- 12.
- Kaye, B.K. and Johnson, J.J. (2004). A well for all reasons. The uses and gratifications of internet resources for political information, *Telematics and informatics*, Vol. 21, No. 3, p. 634.
- Kubey, R.W. et al (2001). Internet use and collegiate academic performance decrements, *Journal of Communication*, Vol. 51, pp. 366-82.
- Kandell, J.J. (1998). Internet addiction on campus. The vulnerability of college students, *Cyber Psychology & behaviour*, Vol. 1, pp. 11-17.
- Roy, S.K. (2009). Internet uses and gratification ; A survey in Indian context, *Journal of Computers in Human Behaviour*, Vol. 25, No. 4, pp. 878-86.
- Solomon, R. (2009). Is internet addiction real? Retrieved from <http://gadgets.email.com>
- Sukunesan, S. (1999). Internet addiction, university press, published master Thesis ; Malaysia.
- Vilanillam, J.V. (2005). *Mass Communication in India – a sociological perspective*, Sage Publications, New Delhi.
- Wellman, B. and Gulia, M. (1999). Net Surfers don't ride alone in B. Wellman (ed.) *Net works in the global village*, Boulder company, West view.

Corresponding Author

Rahul Chauhan*

M.Phil. of Sociology, M. D. University, Rohtak