

Communication and Media

Student's Name

Institutional Affiliation

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

Communication and Media

During my free time, I communicate a lot with my friends online. Though I know most of them I also have some friends online that I have not met face to face. My media of communication is through Facebook, twitter and Palm chat and I can easily access this platform on my mobile phone and laptop. It was until lately that I started thinking of social media sites and their disadvantages to the user. Initially I knew that the social media was a platform that made communication easier and that it also promoted unity among peers. I has also know that the social sites could be used as platforms of cyber bullying and that's all there was to it.

At the beginning of this research I was looking for the answer to commonly asked question, "do the youths and teenagers know the side effects of social media?" I wanted to fully understand the implication of this sites we use every single day to us as the youths and community on a large scale. I planned for the research to take only two weeks and with search a short period of time the first place I visited was the internet. I stared by searching for the keyword "social media" and the results I got were a lot. There were blogs, books and articles on the topic so I had to narrow down my research to "disadvantages of social media." The findings were also a lot but this time they were manageable. By the end of this search I wrote my first draft copy and I was ready to move to the next step.

The next thing was to find out what my peers knew about the topic. I posed the question to them every time I found them sited in groups. This was easier since most of them could discuss the issue and brain storm together. I also asked this question to two of my teachers and the respond I got contributed greatly to the final draft of my work. The last place where I did my

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA

research was in the school library. I collected the information from different books most of them from the social categories and read a few articles on the same topic.

During this research there was only one major setback. During my planning I had set the research to take two weeks but I used three weeks. The time factors was not observed this was because the feedback I received was a lot and it took a lot of time than I had anticipated for, to synchronize what was valuable and what was not.

Findings

About 50- 52% of young people use the social platforms per day and about 72% of this number use there cellphones. 22% -25% of the youths uses the social media more than 10 times a day. The first finding was that young people are at a higher risk of cyber bullying. Most of the users of social sites have heard about cyber bullying but they do not have enough information on how it happens and how one can protect themselves. This lack of information among youths and teenagers makes them an easier target for the predators.

The second finding is that most youths are at risk of being exposed to pornography and adults contents. This has made the parents to be on alarm since exposure to search content may led to poor moral behaviors. It is there for true to say that teens and youths are aware of the consequences that come with social platform even if they tend to assume them