The Impact of Social Media and Social Networks on Education and Students of Pakistan

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Abstract

The impact of social websites can be good on students but if we have a closer look on the real impact of social networks. Today it is ruining the future and carrier of students. The social networking websites like https://www.linkedin.com, http://www.facebook.com/, https://twitter.com/ and https://www.orkut.com/ etc. are continuously distracting students from their studies. The main focus of student should be education but unfortunately today's student are emphasizing on such sites which can be a complete wastage of time. Social Networks was only an electronic connection between users but unfortunately it has become an addiction for students, teenagers and even adults. This paper presents impact of social networks on education, students and impact on life of teenagers, further it describes how social networking websites are auditory and dangerous for youth and teenagers.

Keywords: *Social Networking, Education, Students, Impact of Social Networks.*

1. Introduction

Internet is a very essential part of life from shopping to electronic mails and education, internet is very important. It is a very large community which is using internet for pure education but unfortunately we have also a very large number of people including majority of youth and teenager using Internet only for social networks. Internet is very big evolution of technology but when we talk about the social networks it is extremely dangerous for youth and become enormously common and widespread in past few years [2]. The phenomena of social network is quite simple to understand, it is a web based facility which allows individual user to build a profile identity and generate subjective associations and connections among himself and list of other friends and communicate with them at a central location [1, 2]. These websites are powered by many international companies because these websites are centrally visited by millions of people thus companies can get benefit of advertisements, this is how social networks are get paid; user can register himself free of cost in social networking sites like facebook.com, orkut.com and linkedin.com etc. [5]. People get connected to one another after registration and then post news, information, fake news and other things including videos and pictures etc. [3, 4]. Although social network can be used for good purposes but it is generally used for involvement of digital snapshots, illuminating demographic material and information, exposing securities, and conducting online conversations, because many communities motivate user for this kind of inappropriate actions [4] and these communities has almost spoiled the image of social networks. In late 1990's social network born with Web 2.0 introducing features of blogging and posting with the website named sixdegrees.com (1997) which allows user to create profiles and make friends, later it come up with new features in year 2003 a new face of social networks linkedin.com and myspace.com but in year 2003 facebook.com and orkut.com change the total concept of social networks in the history of social media and web sciences, it changes the definition of social networks. After year 2003 social networks were very much advance with new features, by new features the user even can change the whole front end appearance of the website on his profile which is a step

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towards evolution. Figure 1.1(a) shows the evolution of social networks from 1999 to 2011. It is briefly dissipated the use of social networks from the very first social network website sixdegrees.com to the doom of decade, facebook.com as shown figure 1.1(a) and 1.1(b), it has shown the year of websites popularity and probability of the usage in the given graph for every particular website in figure 1.1(b) it has been plotted the history of social networks from 1999 to 2011 that how social networks come up with a very big ratio of usage today.
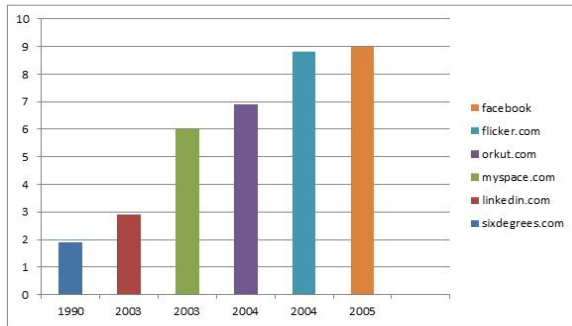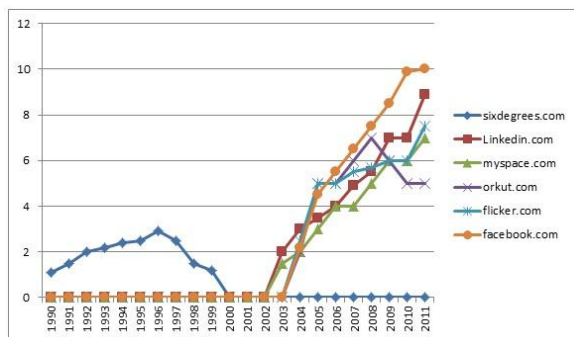

Fig. 1.1(a)

Fig. 1.1(b)

When talking about law and jurisdiction unfortunately we don't have any law for Social networks in Pakistan, as it is international law that user must be minimum 18 years old or more to register yourself in any social network website. We don't have any authority or third party to check the user if user is underage or acceptable age. After a survey it has been analyzed that one of very large number of underage users, using social network websites beside this, one user can have one ID (Identity) or profile at the same

time but according to survey one user is facilitating him by fake identities on same time as shown in figure 1.2.
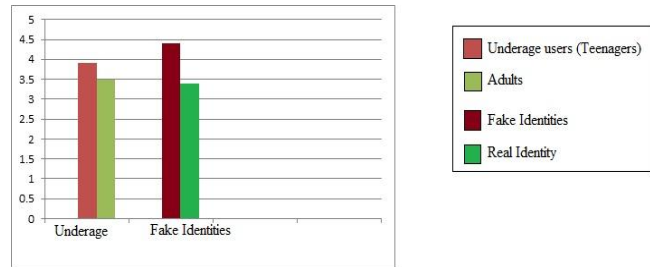

Fig. 1.2 Graph Representations Of Underage User And Fake Identities

Figure 1.2 shows the average of fake identities and underage users. According to the survey a very large number of fake identities exist in social networks, these fake identities perform many kind of violations on social Networks in which they register themselves as a fake identity on name of someone else and upload of inappropriate material (Porn or adult) with fake identity it is very much common act of violation. Those users who share their personal information online are badly victimized by fake users [7]. It has also recorded a very large number of underage user using social networks which is almost double of adults (18+) users, social networks are used by three categories of people one of which is teenagers second one is young adults and the third one is adults (18+). According to another survey it has been recorded the ratios of teenage users by categorizing the users in three categories one of which is teenagers (12 - 17) second one is young adults (18 − 21) and the third one is adults (22+) as shown in figure 1.3.
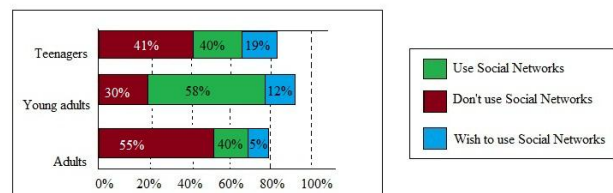

Fig. 1.3 Ratio of teenage, young adults and adults users

As shown in figure 1.3 it has shown the ratios of teenage users with the average of using social networks, not using social networks and wishes to use social networks. The average of users those who use social networks are those users which use social networks regularly on daily bases, while those users who wish to use social networks are those who don't have internet or parental permission or any other problem to use social networks but they wish to use social networks. It has been recorded another community of people those who don't use social networks

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in fact they don't want to use social networks because they dislike social networks.

2. IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORKS ON EDUCATION

Education is very essential part of an individual's life for every teenager education is more important than anything. Today teenager shows very much interest for using social networks but unfortunately Social Networks affect education badly [3]. Previous research has calculated that more than 90% of college students use social networks [9, 10]. Technology has shown a fast development by producing small communication devices but these small communication devices can be used for accessing social networks any time anywhere, these devices include pocket computers, laptops, iPads and even simple mobile phones (which support internet) etc. Technology is step towards betterment, no doubt but any technology which can provide ease of social networks can be dangerous for social network addicts. Providing ubiquitous facility of social networks is a straight invitation of addiction to any teenager and even an adult, as academic satisfaction is not enough for those students who suffers from social isolation [11]. Social Networks grab the total attention and concentration of the students and diverts them towards non educational, unethical and inappropriate actions such as useless chatting, time killing by random searching and not doing their jobs. As social network has introduce many attractive tasks like gamming, advertisements etc. so that people can never get enough of these things. The social network addict becomes a useless node for parents, friends and other associated people. They cannot succeed because they have no sense of upcoming future and competitions in their careers.

Social networks use support of difference implicit applications by virtue of which it grabs the attention of students and increase the number of users. The applications include games, advertisements, and other online activities like online live television etc. User can use these applications free, so that's why gaming freaks and addicts use to play these games without any installation and any other formality any time anywhere, these free of cost pleasure destruct students from their education, and they do not concentrate on their education. As all of the applications are based on 2D screen play so by watching long time same screen could cause high blood pressure and anxiety which could be dangerous for education and health. According to survey students do not take their meals on time and do not sleep on time which causes a very non serious attitude with education. All they need after addiction is use of social networks. Social network connect them with one another so they not even bother to solve their home tasks and they contact elders and seniors to help them in cloning their educational material. Social networks provide a virtual life to the students, those students who not even speak in front of anyone could feel freedom in their virtual life. When they use social networks they feel like in heaven but this addiction kills their inner self confidence for ever. Becoming addict of social networks feels like you have so many friends but in real all of the contacts are virtual contacts. This act of going far from your family, friends, teachers and other associations could be very much dangerous for life and education. It changes the mindset of student completely like fantasies. This virtual life of student destructs his thoughts from education towards other activities and by living inside fantasy world student slowly starts to hate educated life and studies. One of very common action performed by almost every user on social networks is eavesdropping. It is phenomenon of understanding the other users by spying their profiles, actions, likes, comments and other activities performed [8] In this regards opposite gender can be attracted by one another and to find loyalty of any friend all most each and every student spoils months and weeks on eavesdropping. According [1] U.S. Military banned use of social networking websites on solders in 2007 and Canadian government banned employees from social networking websites in 2007 while U.S. Congress has proposed to block such social networking websites in schools and library. Social networking websites obligate a very negative impression people of every age including teenagers, young adults and adults are continuously attracted towards social networks, international and national jurisdiction must take action against social networking websites.

4. Conclusions

The social networking websites has become essential need today, but it should not be motivated at all. It could ruin the future of teenagers and children and it had a very bad impact on education as it is discussed above. There is no third party or any other community which could check for what actions are been performed by which user, so it is strongly recommended to check children's activities on social networks and don't let them use social networking websites. It is also a strong recommendation for Govt. and international cyber jurisdiction to take part and ban these types of websites, other than government and jurisdiction, every parent should strictly ban use of social networks on their children and secure their future.

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