

**USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AMONG PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS IN EGOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA OF EDO STATE,
NIGERIA**

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT
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CERTIFICATION

We the undersigned names hereby certify that this research work was carried out by Osarounamen Faith FREDRICK with the Matriculation Number EDU2001624 of the Department of Educational Management, Faculty of Education, University of Benin, Benin City in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the award of Bachelor Degree (B.Sc. Ed) Honours Education Economics.

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DEDICATION

This study is dedicated to my parents, Mr and Mrs osarenwinda Fredrick

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The researcher's inherent gratitude goes to God Almighty who has been the source of her strength in this great institution, for his unfailing love, grace and mercy which sustained him irrespective of the uncertainties she encountered throughout the duration of this course.

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ABSTRACT

This study was designed to investigate the use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. To achieve the purpose intended for the study, four research questions were raised to guide the study. The questions raised and examined include to what extent does the use of social media influence student academic performance in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State? Which social networking sites public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State visit more often? What purposes do students in public secondary schools in Egor use their chosen social media for? Which Information Communication Technologies do students' mostly use to explore their social media?

The population of the study comprised of four thousand eight hundred and sixty-four students (4,864) in the twelve (12) secondary senior schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The sample for the study consists of four

hundred and eighty-six (486) students which 100% of the total population drawn from three (3) senior secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The simple random sampling technique was used in selecting these three schools from the total numbers of Senior Public Secondary Schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. One hundred and sixty-two (162) students were drawn from each school with the use of purposive random sampling technique. The reliability index of the instrument was 0.73 using Cronbach's alpha statistical formula from data from the pilot study carried out on it. The data collected were analysed using frequency count, simple percentage, and mean score standard.

Findings from the study revealed that Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies. It was discovered that female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections. It was seen that gender determines the level of social media network usage from the study it was recommended that students should be educated on the influence of social media on their academic performance. Students should be monitored by teachers and parents on how they use these sites. provision for adequate information and communications technology facilities for teaching student in senior secondary schools. Teacher should properly utilize the available information

and communications technology facilities in teaching student in senior secondary schools.

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

Background to the Study

Social media is a digital communication tool that allows individuals and organizations to create, share, and exchange information, ideas, and content through virtual communities and networks. It encompasses various online platforms and websites that enable users to connect with others, communicate, interact, and engage in activities such as sharing photos, videos, text posts, and updates. Social media platforms enable users to create profiles, establish connections with friends, family, colleagues, and strangers, engage in conversations, share interests and experiences, and discover new content. These platforms serve as channels for networking, socializing, entertainment, news dissemination, marketing, and information-sharing.

The use of social media by students refers to the engagement and interaction that students, typically in secondary schools or higher education institutions, have on various online platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, Snapchat, TikTok, and others. This use of social media includes activities such as sharing

photos, videos, and updates, communicating with peers, accessing news and information, participating in online communities and groups, and engaging in social networking. Students often utilize social media as a means of connecting with friends, classmates, and acquaintances, either within their school community or from other locations. They may use these platforms to stay updated on social events, share academic achievements or challenges, and express themselves creatively. Additionally, social media can serve as a source of entertainment, news, and information, as well as a tool for networking and building relationships with potential mentors, collaborators, and future employers. The use of social media by students is a prevalent aspect of modern-day academic and social life, providing opportunities for both positive and negative interactions. While social media can facilitate communication, collaboration, and information-sharing, it can also present challenges in terms of privacy, cyberbullying, distraction, and mental health concerns. Therefore, it is important for students to practice responsible and mindful use of social media, recognizing its potential impact on their academic performance, behaviour, and well-being.

The impact of the use of social media in public secondary schools is an interesting topic and concern among educators, parents, and students alike. As

social media platforms continue to gain popularity among adolescents, the influence they have on academic performance, behaviour, and mental health is a subject that requires close examination.

Social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, and Twitter have become integral parts of teenagers' lives, serving as a means of communication, self-expression, and social connection. The widespread use of these platforms has allowed students to share thoughts, photos, and videos with their peers instantaneously, making it easier to stay connected even outside of school hours. However, the constant exposure to social media also presents potential risks and challenges for students. One of the primary concerns regarding the impact of social media on public secondary schools is its effect on academic performance. Studies have shown that excessive use of social media can lead to distractions, procrastination, and decreased focus on schoolwork. According to a study conducted by the Common-Sense Media organization, 59% of teenagers surveyed reported that they were distracted by social media while doing homework (Common Sense Media, 2020). This constant availability of social media notifications and updates can make it difficult for students to concentrate on their studies, leading to lower grades and academic achievement.

In addition to its impact on academic performance, social media use in public secondary schools can also affect student behaviour. Social media platforms provide a space for students to express themselves and interact with their peers, but they can also be used for negative purposes such as cyberbullying, gossiping, and spreading rumors. According to a survey conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics, 37% of students reported being the target of cyberbullying on social media (National Center for Education Statistics, 2019). The anonymous nature of social media can make it easier for students to engage in harmful behaviours without facing consequences, leading to negative emotional and psychological outcomes for those involved.

Furthermore, the impact of social media on the mental health of students in public secondary schools cannot be ignored. The constant comparison to peers' curated online personas, fear of missing out on social events, and exposure to negative comments and feedback can contribute to feelings of anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem among adolescents. A study published in the *Journal of Adolescent Health* found that excessive social media use was associated with increased feelings of social isolation and discontentment with one's own life (Primack et al., 2020). These negative effects on mental health can not only impact

students' overall well-being but also hinder their ability to focus on their studies and engage in positive social interactions at school. Despite the potential risks and challenges posed by the use of social media in public secondary schools, there are also benefits to be considered. Social media platforms can serve as valuable tools for educational purposes, allowing teachers to communicate with students, share resources, and facilitate discussion outside of the classroom. In addition, social media can be used to promote positive behaviours, showcase student achievements, and create a sense of community within the school.

Statement of the Problem

Since the advent of social media sites in the 1990s, it is assumed in some quarters that the academic performance of students is facing a sort of neglect and divided attention between social networking activities and their academic work. It is observed that students devote more attention to social media sites than they do to their studies.

Therefore, this study is an effort to understand the possible impact of social media has on the students in relation to their academic performance among secondary school student.

Research Questions

The following research questions were raised for this study;

- 1 To what extent does the use of social media influence student academic performance in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State?
- 2 Which social networking sites public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State visit more often?
- 3 What purposes do students in public secondary schools in Egor use their chosen social media for?
- 4 Which Information Communication Technologies do students' mostly use to explore their social media?

Purpose of the Study

The general purpose of the study is investigate the use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State the specific purposes of the study are to;

- i. determine the extent does the use of social media influence student academic performance in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State.
- ii. find out the social networking sites public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State visit more often.
- iii. find out the purpose's students in public secondary schools in Egor use their chosen social media for.
- iv. examine the Information Communication Technologies students' mostly use to explore their social media.

Significance of the Study

The study will be of immense benefits to Students, Parents, Guardians and School Teachers, Researchers and policymakers,

Students: Senior secondary school students will benefit from understanding how social media use can impact their academic performance and mental well-being.

Teachers: Educators can use the findings from the study to develop strategies for integrating social media into the classroom in a constructive and educational way.

Parents: Parents can gain insights into how social media usage affects their children's academic performance and overall well-being, allowing them to set appropriate boundaries and guidelines for their children's online activities.

School administrators: The study can help school administrators in implementing policies and programs to support responsible social media use among students and improve the school environment.

Researchers and policymakers: Researchers and policymakers can use the findings from the study to inform future research and develop evidence-based

guidelines for promoting positive social media usage among senior secondary school students.

Scope and Delimitation of the Study

The scope of this study is to investigate on the impact of the use social media in public secondary school in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The study is delimited to SS2 students in Public secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State.

Definition of Terms

The following are defined as used in the study

Social media: They are forms of electronic communication which facilitate interactive based on certain interests. Social media include web and mobile technologies such as computers, G.S.M and mobile phones.

Social Networking: This is the use of internet to make information about yourself available to other people especially people you share an interest with. The essence of social networking is to share idea and exchange messages.

Academic Performance: Students success in terms of pass or failure in subject offered in schools in both internal and external examination.

CHAPTER TWO

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter deals with the review of related literature the use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. Therefore, this study would be examining under the following sub-headings

- The Concept of Social Media
- Purpose of Using Social Network Site by Secondary School Student
- Social Networking Sites Pubic secondary School Students Visit More Often
- Purpose for which Public Secondary Student Use their Chosen social media
- Information Communication Technology Student Use to Explore Social Media
- Review of Related Empirical Study
- Summary of Literature Reviewed

The Concept of Social Media

Social media is that means that employs mobile and web-based technology to create highly interactive platforms via which individuals and community share, co-create, discuss and modifies user-generated content (Kietzmannn, 2015). Social media is a phrase being tossed around a lot. It is a website that does not just give you information but interact with you while giving you information. It is a group of internet-based application that allows the creation and exchange of users generated content. It is easy to confuse social media with social news because we often refer to members of the news as the media. Adding to it, that social news site is also social media site. Some media website includes:

- **Social Bookmarking:** interact by tagging website and searching through website book marked by others (Blink list, simple).
- **Social News:** interact by voting for articles and commenting on them (Digg, propello).
- **Social Networking:** interact by adding friends, commenting on photo and profiles, sharing groups for discussions (Facebook, 2go, BB chat)
- **Social Photo and Video Sharing:** interact by sharing photos or videos and commenting on the user submission. (Youtube and Fliki).
- **Wikis:** interact by adding articles and editing existing articles. (Wikipedia, wikia).

Social media refers to the means of interaction among people in which they create, share, exchange and comment among themselves in different networks. Andreas and Michael (2020) are of the opinion that social media is a group of internet-based application that builds on the ideological foundation and allows the creation and exchange of users – generated content. Social media has become one of the major channels of chatting through platforms such as 2go, BB chat, blogger and wiki a. There has been an increase in the mobile social media which has created new opportunity for browsing.

The internet usage effect of social media, in views of Nielsen (2021) is that, students continue to spend more time on the social media than any site. The total time spent on social media across mobile devices increased by 37%, 121 billion minutes in July 2012 compared to 88 billion minutes in July 2011. Kaplan and Haenlein (2020) classified social media into six different classes as follow:

Collaborative Project (Wikipedia) Blogs and Micro blogs (Twitter) Content Communities (Youtube) Social Networking Site (Facebook; 2go; BB chat), Virtual Game World (World of war craft), Virtual Second World (Second life) Technology includes the blogs, picture sharing, music sharing, crowd sourcing, e-mail, instant

messaging and voice over. These services could be integrated via social network aggregation platforms.

Social Networking Sites Public Secondary School Students Visit More Often

It is used to describe any website that enables users to create public profiles within that website and form relationship with other users of the same website who access their profile. It is used to describe community base website, online discussion forum, chat rooms and other social space online. Commonly, the phrase “social networking sites” is used as an umbrella term for all social media and computer-mediated communication, including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Myspace, as well as the inaugural social networking sites of Cyworld, Bebo and Friendster.

Ellison and Boyd (2017) define social network sites as web-based services that allow individuals to construct profiles, display user connections, and search and traverse within that list of connections. A social media is an online service or platforms that focus on facilitating the building of social network among people who share interest, activities and background on real life connections. It is a website that allows users to share information within a selected group. It is a great way to stay connected and a convenient way to share photos from trips (Awake,

2012). It consists of a representation of each user (profiles), social links and a variety of additional services. For detailed analysis of social networking, the following terms will be discussed:

- Impact of Social Networking Site
- Features
- Social Networking and Education
- Constraints in Education

Influence of Social Network on Business Education Students Collaborative Learning

On the internet, students engage in collaborative learning activities some of which may be potentially addictive. (Kuss & Griffiths, 2011). The mass appeal of social media on the internet could be a cause for concern, particularly when attending to the gradually increasing amount of time students spend online. Undergraduates spend more time on Facebook, Twitter and other social media through smartphones that are now in abundance among these youths. Many students cannot go for two-three hours without checking and updating their profiles on these social networks even at the detriment of other activities such as educational and career pursuit. (Morahan- Martin and Schumacher, 2022) explain

social media addiction as the excessive use of the internet and the failure to control this usage which seriously harms a person's life.

In an article on the Daily Trust newspaper, Itodo (2021) posits that there seem to be an alarming rate of social networking obsession among students today; a trend that could affect their academic, social and spiritual lives negatively if not properly controlled. Many concerned parents have expressed grave concern that they could hardly get the attention of their children and wards, as they seem to have been carried away by the fascinating world of social networks. Some youths are such social freaks that they have now carved out for themselves a world of fantasy and illusion far detached from reality. Bello (2020) of the Sunday Observer observes that if the dangerous trend of social media network "obsession" if left unchecked could further affect an already collapsing education system in Nigeria. The reason students are performing poorly in school these days might not be farfetched. While poor quality of lecturers can quickly take the blame, one might think harder if the phrase "Facebook frenzy" has not been heard of. It is a common sight to see a youth chatting in sensitive and highly organized places like church, mosque and lecture venues. Some are so carried away that even as they are walking along the high way, they keep chatting. Attention has been shifted from

visible to invisible friends, while important ventures like study and writing are affected in the process.

This phenomenon has become a source of worry to many who believe in knowledge and skill acquisition (McQuail 2018). Jeong (2015) noted that internet addiction is significantly and negatively related to students' academic performance, as well as emotional attributes. In a study of 884 students of different universities in Nigeria, (Olowu & Seri 2012). Indicated that students in Nigeria are spending too much time on social networking sites at the detriment of other necessary things such as their studies. They explained that Youths' use of these social networking sites even point towards obsession. The youths have made the social media their top priority and continued to need more usage in order to feel satisfied in Ogedebe, Emmanuel & Musa (2016), a study on Facebook and Academic Performance in Nigeria Universities was carried out on 122 university students; they tested six hypotheses to know the effect of Facebook on the academic performance of students in selected universities. The study tested among other hypotheses that the more time a student spends on Facebook, the lower his or her grade point average will be.

In Olubiyi (2017), the author observed that the bone of contention of the social media is the obsessive attitude of Nigerian youths towards its use. He pointed out that students waste their time through idle chats and other immoral acts. Students are so engrossed in the social media networks that they are almost 24 hours online. Even in classrooms and lecture theatres, it has been observed that some students are always busy ping-pong, going or Facebooking, while lectures are on. The result is that quality time that ought to be spent on academic research and other productive networking is lost.

Purpose for which Public Secondary Student Use their Chosen social media

Though there have been many social, economic, and environmental factors that have added to the pressure of university students in the past ten years, the drop-out rate for students is still a major national problem (Bowen, 2018). Current statistics show that university students in Nigeria are under increased pressure due to higher academic standards in other countries, and it has become more important than ever for educators to encourage graduation and further education (Bowen, 2018). However, with more and more students being preoccupied with social media networks and technological social lives, how will this affect their studies? It

is estimated that even those students who do graduate high school, one out of three does not have possess the knowledge and skills that would lead him or her to the next level, such as college or an advanced trade school (Bowen, 2018).

The top academic areas that many school professionals are concerned about are English (ELA) and advanced literacy (Williams, 2018). The current generations of teens live in a fast-paced technological world with many different types of communication happening all at the same time. For example, he or she may be on the computer on a SNS, while also talking on the phone, sending instant messages to a friend, and emailing someone else all at the same time (Williams, 2018). While there may be some advantages to this, such as the teen learning how to type faster and multi-task many things at once, there may also be a breakdown in much of that communication (Williams, 2018).

Literacy has also taken a dive in the past decade, which has caused many educators to question what can be done to help students improve their reading, writing, speaking, and thinking- all of the most basic skills for a successful future (Wise, 2019). As one researcher stated, “Literacy is, in reality, the cornerstone of student achievement, for any student, in any grade” (Wise, 2019,). The question

that many school professionals have with regards to communication is whether or not a tertiary institution student is able to follow school curriculum in courses like English or Language Arts (Williams, 2018). Also, will it be possible to teach them without the use of multi-tasking and using new forms of technology.

Information Communication Technology Student Use to Explore Social Media

Through email and instant messaging, online communities are created where a gift economy and reciprocal altruism are encouraged through co-operation. 2go and other social networking tools are increasingly the objective of scholarly research. Scholars in many fields have begun to investigate the impact of social networking site, investigating how such site may play into issues of identity, privacy, social, youth culture and education.

Several website are beginning to tap into the power of the social networking model for philanthropy. In 2011 HCL technologies conducted research that showed that 50% of British workers are banned from the use of social media during office hours. In this view, when one is chit-chatting, the content of the message reveals a lot about an individual. In chatting, comments, photos, and status should speak less of an individual. Kim in summary says: “if you are mindful of what you are doing, you can maintain a measure of privacy on a social network” (Awake, 2012); and,

in reference to this, Proverbs 10:19, states that “In the abundance of words, there does not fail to be transgression, but the one keeping his in check is acting discreetly”. “It’s a vortex that sucks one in and one has no idea you’ve been trapped. One of the ironies of the internet is that it keeps you apart from the most important things’. It is a great way to stay connected with people but you just have to know when to shut it down. Raquel concluded that it seems that when people go on a social network they lose their mind” (Awake, 2021).

The social media engages students and have to be examined as entrepreneurs of understanding. The medium of internet is marketing with increase in its programs. The interactive character of online conditions has extended with social networking. Hooking up through social networking began as being a niche activity, though time it's a phenomenon. The web sites are employed in many ways like developing metropolitan areas, speaking, blogging etc. Additionally, different institutions even nowadays are developing groups on several Websites (Mehmood 2013). The improved usage of Websites has become a worldwide phenomenon for quite some time. What began out as being a hobby for several computer literate people has converted to a social norm and existence-style for individuals from around the globe (Ellison, 2017).Teens and teenagers have especially recognized

these internet sites to be able to contact their peers, share information, reinvent their personas, and showcase their social lives Nicole Ellison,(2017).While using the increase of technology helpful for getting together with others along with the recognition on the internet, Internet sites are now being an activity that's done mainly on the web, with Websites Vaughn, Coyle (2018).

According to Khan (2019), social media users often time experience poor performance academically. Similarly, Englander, Terregrossa & Wang (2020) posit that social media is negatively associated with academic performance of student and is a lot more momentous than its advantages. Internet addiction consequently gave rise in internet usage within the last couple of decades. Nalwa & Anand (2003). Recommended that addicted users prefer using internet setting back their personal and professional responsibilities which ultimately leads to poor academic performance. In the same vein, Karpinski (2019) pointed out that social media users devoted lesser time to their studies in comparison to nonusers did and subsequently had lower GPAs. Karpinski & Duberstein. (2019). Also mentioned that among various unique distractions of every single generation, social media remains a major distraction of current generation.

Review on Related Empirical Study

Research question two it was discovered that students have unlimited access to Facebook and this has affected their academic performance negatively. It was revealed that students engage in academic discussions on twitter and this has improved their academic performance. It was According to Khan U (2019), social media users often time experience poor performance academically. Similarly, Englander, Terregrossa & Wang (2020) posit that social media is negatively associated with academic performance of student and is a lot more momentous than its advantages. Internet addiction consequently gave rise in internet usage within the last couple of decades. Nalwa & Anand (2022). Recommended that addicted users prefer using internet setting back their personal and professional responsibilities which ultimately leads to poor academic performance. In the same vein, Karpinski (2019) pointed out that social media users devoted lesser time to their studies in comparison to nonusers did and subsequently had lower GPAs. Karpinski & Duberstein. (2019). Also mentioned that among various unique distractions of every single generation, social media remains a major distraction of current generation.

According to most research done on the topic, the number of teenage girls and boys who communicate on these social media networks are equally divided (Bonds-Raacke & Raacke, 2018). Research has shown that though girls and boys are both likely to have a SNS account, the reasons for the accounts may vary based on gender (Bonds-Raacke & Raacke, 2018). For girls, social networking sites are primarily placed to reinforce pre-existing friendships; for boys, the networks also provide opportunities for flirting and making new friends (BondsRaacke & Raacke, 2018). Girls are also more likely than boys to post sexually explicit pictures of themselves, and to talk about sexual activity in public forums (Rafferty, 2019). However, boys are more likely to create an account simply because they are trying to meet a significant other, or because they are already in a relationship with someone who has requested them to join (Bonds-Raacke & Raacke, 2018).

Girls are also more likely than boys to share personal information about their daily lives (Merten & Williams, 2019). Results of a recent study involving Facebook, MySpace, and Xanga showed that though most teenagers aged 13-17 used these sites for fun and positive reasons, 55% of girls shared personal stories about depression, anxiety, and relationship problems (Merten & Williams, 2019). Only 15% of boys shared any personal information besides their hobbies, interests,

and friendships (Merten & Williams, 2019). This study also showed that adolescents use SNS when dealing with a death of a peer, and use forums and member profiles to help their grieving process (Merten & Williams, 2019).

In a recent study, it was shown that boys seem to benefit more from social media use and communication technology than girls do (Peter & Valkenburg, 2019). This was hypothesized because boys tend to have more difficulty expressing their thoughts and emotions face-to-face with others than girls do (Peter & Valkenburg, 2019). The early stages of social networking, as mentioned earlier, included web technology such as AIM, which helped many “chats” with others on the computer rather than in person (Peter & Valkenburg, 2019). The number of teenagers, both male and female, participating on social networking sites is staggering, and this may explain why certain problems arise from these sites that have become a major problem in today’s society.

Summary of Literature Reviewed

There are many issues concerning students in business education and social networking site participation. On one hand, there may be benefits for students who use these sites properly and appropriately. Other research suggests that there are clear risks involved when students become too consumed with the Internet and

social networking websites. It was discovered that social networking sites are the most common used social media networks among students and also Wikipedia has the main resort point for students for research purposes. Students engage themselves with one activity or the other on the various social media on day-to-day activities. However, Undergraduates spend more time on Facebook,

Twitter and other social media through smartphones that are now in abundance among these youths. Many students cannot go for two-three hours without checking and updating their profiles on these social networks even at the detriment of other activities such as educational and career pursuit. Smart phones, android phones as well as tablets were seen to be the major ways through which students gain easy access to the internet to be on the various social media network platforms. Again, this chapter discussed the age usage as well as the gender usage of social media websites. According to most research done on the topic, the number of teenage girls and boys who communicate on these social media networks are equally divided. Majority of students in Nigeria visit at least one social networking site approximately twenty times each day. Cell phones have been banned from classroom and schools have blocked many popular social media

websites due to the repercussion the social media might have on the academic performance of students.

Hence, for the purposes of this research project, the researcher will examine the level of student addictiveness to social media, how often they use them, how they use them, and how this is affecting their academic studies. A comparison will also be made between male students and female students, since much research has shown a difference in SNS participation based on gender as well as in age. At the conclusion of this research project, there will be a better understanding regarding students in business education and whether or not they are able to balance a life of social networking and academic performance.

CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

This chapter describes the methods and procedures used to carry out the study under the following sub-headings:

- Design of the Study
- Population of the Study

- Sample and Sampling Technique
- Research Instrument
- Validity of the Instrument
- Reliability of the Instrument
- Method of Data Collection
- Method of Data Analysis

Design of the Study

Descriptive survey research design was employed for this study. This design was adopted for the study because it was a description of already existing phenomenon.

Population of the Study

The population of the study comprised of four thousand eight hundred and sixty-four students (4,864) in the twelve (12) secondary senior schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. (Source: Edo State Ministry of Education, 2024).

Sample and Sampling Technique

The sample for the study consists of four hundred and eighty-six (486) students which 100% of the total population drawn from three (3) senior secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The simple random sampling technique was used in selecting these three schools from the total numbers of Senior Public Secondary Schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. One hundred and sixty two (162) students were drawn from each school with the use of purposive random sampling technique.

Research Instrument

The research instrument that was used in collecting data from the respondents is the questionnaire. The questionnaire titled use of social media among public Secondary School Students (SPSSSQ) in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The questionnaire consisted of two Sections. The first section (Section A) contains the socio- demographic characteristics of the respondents. The second Section (Section B) contain twenty (20) items questions bordering on use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The items were structured to get information on

the research questions raised to guide the study using a modified Likert Scale Formate of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree and Strongly Disagree.

Validity of the Instrument

The instrument was designed by the researcher and subject to careful scrutiny by the project supervisor and two other experts from the Department of Vocational and Technical Education. Their correction was used to make the final draft of the instrument.

Reliability of the Instrument

In order to a certain the reliability of the instrument the internal consistency of items was adopted using the Cronbach Alpha reliability Index. In doing these twenty (20) students were selected from the secondary school who were excluded from the study's sample. A reliability index value of 0.73 was determined.

Method of Data Collection

The administration of the instrument was done by the researcher and two other assistants by giving out the questionnaire to the respondents individually and

therefore wait to collect them on the sport in order to prevent loss or reduce the chance of errors in the process of filling the instrument.

Method of Data Analysis

The responses to the questionnaire items were analysed using descriptive statistics, involving simple percentage, means and standard deviation. For the mean score, a criterion means of 2.50 was adopted for decision making.

CHAPTER FOUR

PRESENTATION OF RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

This chapter focuses on the presentation of results collected from the investigation. The findings are also discussed. The analyses were also done with the demographic data of the respondents and the research questions examined.

Question 1

To what extent does the use of social media influence the performance of students?

Table 1: Distribution of responses on extent at which the use of social media influences the performance of students.

	ITEMS	N	Mean Score	Remark
1.	Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies.	486	2.57	Agree
2.	Female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections.	486	3.15	Agree
3.	Gender determines the level of social media network usage	486	2.71	Agree
4.	Males are more effective at using social networking sites for nonacademic purposes	486	3.28	Agree

Criterion Mean: 2.50

Source: Field Survey, 2024.

The data in Table 1 above shows that items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 met the mean score standard of 2.50 and, therefore, were agreed. This, therefore, means that Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies.

It was discovered that female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections. It was seen that gender determines the level of

social media network usage. It was concluded that males are more effective at using social networking sites for nonacademic purposes.

Question 2

Which social networking sites do students' visit most?

Table 2: social networking sites students' visit the most.

ITEMS	N	Mean Score	Remark
1. Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies	486	2.54	Agree
2. WhatsApp	486	2.62	Agree
3. My Space	486	2.59	Agree
4. Facebook	486	3.25	Agree

Criterion Mean: 2.50

Source: Field Survey, 2024.

The data in Table 2 above shows that items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 met the mean score standard of 2.50 and, therefore, were all agreed. This, therefore, means that Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies, it was discovered that WhatsApp, My Space, Facebook are the most visited social networking sites by students'

Question 3

What purposes do students' use their chosen social media for?

Table 3: purposes students’ use their chosen social media for.

	ITEMS	N	Mean Score	Remark
1.	BB Chat	486	2.64	Agree
2.	The usage of Wikipedia for research has helped improve my grades.	486	2.88	Agree
3.	Engaging in academic forums on yahoo increases my rate of understanding.	486	2.51	Agree
4.	I use materials gotten from blogging sites to complement what I have been taught in class	486	2.78	Agree

Criterion Mean: 2.50 Grand Mean: 2.93

Source: Field Survey, 2024.

The data in Table 3 above shows that items 1, 2, 3, and 4 met the mean score standard of 2.50 and, therefore, were all considered high, it can therefore be concluded that BB Chat is a purpose of social media by students, it was seen that the usage of Wikipedia for research has helped improve my grades, it was concluded that engaging in academic forums on yahoo increases my rate of understanding, it was discovered that I use materials gotten from blogging sites to complement what I have been taught in class.

Question 4

What amount of time do students invest into the use of social media?

Table 4: amount of time students invests into the use of social media.

	ITEMS	N	Mean Score	Remark
1	6 hours and above	486	2.64	Agree
2	4-5 hours	486	2.54	Agree
3	3-4 hours	486	2.78	Agree
4	2-3 hours	486	2.71	Agree

Criterion Mean: 2.50 Grand Mean: 2.93

Source: Field Survey, 2024.

The data in Table 4 above shows that items 1, 2, 3, and 4 met the mean score standard of 2.50 and, therefore, were all considered high, it can therefore be concluded that 6 hours and above, 4-5 hours, 3-4 hours, 2-3 hours is the amount of time students invests into the use of social media.

Question 5

Which Information Communication Technologies do students' mostly use to explore their social media?

Table 5: Information Communication Technologies students' mostly use to explore their social media

	ITEMS	N	Mean Score	Remark
1.	Computer	486	2.54	Agree
2.	Smart Phones	486	2.62	Agree
3.	Tablet	486	2.59	Agree
4.	Others	486	3.25	Agree

Criterion Mean: 2.50 Grand Mean: 2.93

Source: Field Survey, 2024.

The data in Table 5 above shows that items 1, 2, 3, and 4 met the mean score standard of 2.50 and, therefore, were all considered high, it can therefore be concluded that Computer, Smart Phones, Tablet, Others are the Information Communication Technologies students' mostly use to explore their social media.

Discussion of Findings

From research question one it was discovered that Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies. It was discovered that female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections. It was seen that gender determines the level of social media network usage. It was concluded that males are more effective at using social networking sites for nonacademic purposes. This was in line with work of Prensky (2001) who

claims that the advent of social network platforms may also be impacting the way in which learners engage with technology in general. For a number of years,) dichotomy between digital natives and digital immigrants has been considered a relatively accurate representative of the ease with which people of a certain age rate, in particular, those born before and after 1980, use technology. Social networking and their educational uses are of interest to many researchers. Living Stone and

From research question two it was revealed that male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies, it was discovered that WhatsApp, My Space, Facebook are the most visited social networking sites by students'

This was in line with the work of Brake (2010) in their opinion said 'social networking site, like much else on the internet representing a moving target for researchers and policy makers'. Recent trends indicate that 47% of American adults use social network. A national survey in 2009 found that 37% of online teenagers use social networking site which increased to 55% three years later (Len Hart, Purcell, Smith and Zickuhr, 2010). It has also, shown that it provides opportunity within professional education.

From research question three it was concluded that BB Chat is a purpose of social media by students, it was seen that the usage of Wikipedia for research has helped improve my grades, it was concluded that engaging in academic forums on yahoo increases my rate of understanding, it was discovered that I use materials gotten from blogging sites to complement what I have been taught in class. This was in accordance with the work of (Williams, 2018) who stated that most of the available media in today society such as BB chat, Wikipedia and google are used by students for their academic activities.

From research question four it was revealed that 6 hours and above, 4-5 hours, 3-4 hours, 2-3 hours is the amount of time students invests into the use of social media

From research question five it was concluded that Computer, Smart Phones, Tablet, Others are the Information Communication Technologies students' mostly use to explore their social media. This was in line with work o (Nicole Ellison, 2017) who claims that smart phone, computer and tablet are most of the gadget that students used to explore the internet.

CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Summary

This study was designed to investigate the use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. To achieve the purpose intended for the study, four research questions were raised to guide the study. The questions raised and examined include:

To what extent does the use of social media influence student academic performance in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State? Which social networking sites public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State visit more often? What purposes do students in public secondary schools in Egor use their chosen social media for? Which Information Communication Technologies do students' mostly use to explore their social media?

The population of the study comprised of four thousand eight hundred and sixty-four students (4,864) in the twelve (12) secondary senior schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. (Source: Edo State Ministry of Education, 2024).

The sample for the study consists of two hundred and forty-three (243) students

which 5% of the total population drawn from three (3) senior secondary schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. The simple random sampling technique was used in selecting these three schools from the total numbers of Senior Public Secondary Schools in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. Eighty-one (81) students were drawn from each school with the use of purposive random sampling technique. The reliability index of the instrument was 0.73 using Cronbach's alpha statistical formula from data from the pilot study carried out on it. The data collected were analysed using frequency count, simple percentage, and mean score standard. The results obtained from the analysis were quite revealing and instructive.

Findings

The findings from the study include:

was discovered that Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies. It was discovered that female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections. It was seen that gender determines the level of social media network usage. It was concluded that males are more effective at using social networking sites for nonacademic purposes.

It was also revealed that male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies, it was discovered that WhatsApp, My Space, Facebook are the most visited social networking sites by students'

it was concluded that BB Chat is a purpose of social media by students, it was seen that the usage of Wikipedia for research has helped improve my grades, it was concluded that engaging in academic forums on yahoo increases my rate of understanding, it was discovered that I use materials gotten from blogging sites to complement what I have been taught in class.

Conclusion

It was concluded that Computer, Smart Phones, Tablet, Others are the Information Communication Technologies students' mostly use to explore their social media.

Recommendations

The following under listed are recommended based on the findings and conclusion of the study:

Students should be educated on the influence of Social media on their academic performance.

Students should be monitored by teachers and parents on how they use these sites.

Social Networking Sites should be expanded and new pages should be created to enhance academic activities and avoid setbacks in the students' academic performance.

The students should create a balance between chit-chatting and academic activities.

More attention should be directed to research.

Suggestions for Further Findings

1. A study should be carried out on the effects of social media on students' academic performance in University of Benin using students in faculty of management science as a case study.
2. A study should be carried out on the usefulness of social media on student academic performance

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APPENDIX
DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT
FACULTY OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY

**USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA AMONG PUBLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL
STUDENTS(USMPSSSQ)**

Dear Respondent,

The purpose of this questionnaire is to examine use of social media among public secondary school students in Egor Local Government Area of Edo State. I humbly appeal for your maximum co-operation in responding honestly to the items.

All information given will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

.....
Researcher,

SECTION A

Socio -demographic Data of the Respondents

Instruction: Please tick (√) the appropriate option.

Gender: Male (), Female ()

SECTION B

Instruction: To each statement, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following by (√) in the given column.

Key: SA –Strongly Agree, A- Agree, D- Disagree, SD –Strongly Disagree

S/NO	ITEMS	SA	A	D	SD
	To what extent does the use of social media influence the performance of students?				
1.	Male and female students use social media networks differently in different frequencies.				
2.	Female students use social networking sites more to explicitly foster social connections.				
3.	Gender determines the level of social media network usage				
4.	Males are more effective at using social networking sites for nonacademic purposes				
	Which social networking sites do students' visit most?				
5.	WhatsApp				
6.	My Space				
7.	Facebook				
8.	BB Chat				
	What purposes do students' use their chosen social media for?				
9.	The usage of Wikipedia for research has helped improve my grades.				
10.	Engaging in academic forums on yahoo increases my rate of understanding.				
11.	I use materials gotten from blogging sites to complement what I have been taught in class				
12.	I will not perform well in my academics if I stop using social media.				

Indicate the Amount of Time You Use on Social Media

Instruction: To each statement, please indicate the extent to which you agree with the following by (√) in the given column.

Key: SA –Strongly Agree, A- Agree, D- Disagree, SD –Strongly Disagree

	What amount of time do students invest into the use of social media?	SA	A	D	SD
13.	6 hours and above				
14.	4-5 hours				
15.	3-4 hours				
16.	2-3 hours				
	Indicate Which of the Social Media You Use Most				
17.	Computer				
18.	Smart Phones				
19	Tablet				
20.	Others				