Impact of Social Media in the Socialization among Grade 11 Students of Taal Senior High School

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Abstract: **Despite of emerging different social media platforms as form of socialization among students and others during the new normal there is a need to have a set of guidelines that every student should follow. This study aimed in proposing a set of guidelines in utilizing social media as form of socialization among grade 11 students. In order to attain the objectives, it utilized descriptive method of research using questionnaire as the main data gathering instrument and was supported by interviews and focus group discussions. Findings showed that students established wide connection and relationship in an immense platform with the help of social media and conveying messages to one another. In addition, they showed awareness in different circumstances in using social media as form of socialization. Findings also stressed that social media contributes in making every individual literate and skillful in manipulating media, making every student productive and an active collaborator and making every individual literate and skillful in manipulating media. In this scenario, often participation using social media is recommended following the set of guidelines or norms. An assessment of the output is encouraged for possible approval and implementation.**

Keywords: **Information dissemination, Socialization, Social media.**

1. Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the health, safety, and daily lives of all individuals. Adolescents may be uniquely sensitive to this abrupt disruption in their lives due to the biological and psychological changes that occur during this developmental period. Social media has rapidly transformed the ways in which adolescents socialize and interact with one another, which has contributed to an ongoing debate about whether social media is helping or harming teens today. The COVID-19 pandemic has only magnified this societal dilemma as teens are spending more time than ever before on social media. Thus, it is important for parents, educators, and teens to better understand social media use in the context of COVID-19.

In today's generation, social media have become millennial's best friend that anyone of us can't live without. Anything that is capable of helping us in different edges of their lives is all because of the assistance of technology. By this, teenagers can procure their guilty pleasures and satisfaction. Now, in the digital era, everything is limitless but contrariwise, a restricted one also. But the good part of this is, this new media plays an important role in their life and also in society. Being aware in many things like news, history, entertainment to which it helps us a lot in being an upgraded personality. Media is so vast. Portraying something on internet would have a great impact to them; by influencing a particular thing such as trends, anything that virals on internet and even promoting a product to be bought by public users in the cyberspace. It's hard to escape in the virtual world where only the new media will answer all your decisions; your norms, values and attitudes toward our interest. It captivates their mind that makes them foolish and just always trust all over and over again on everything inside the world wide web. People in the internet are used to be with this case in socialization. They became a part of the drastic change in the new media. Though, some people think that this could be a major factor to the extreme change of the norms of millennials but still, they cannot hide the fact that new media helps them a lot in their everyday life.

Social media platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Youtube are some types of new media that people are relying on. By these, they can show their own standpoints in different manners that are sprouted in the widespread proliferation of new media technologies. Millennials are not only a consumer of the media but also, they adapt some of what media portrayed to the cyberspace. Throughout the core of new media, this is really a tool of entertainment, portrayal, learning system and also the new experience. New media technologies increase an overall awareness of the masses.

Media empowers anybody. Media users can express their feelings, thoughts and opinions on a larger scale. Media has brought a major transformation to anybody and really a good platform to start freely. This serves as our resource in acquiring all of our observation, experience and knowledge. New media changes the way people live in. Everything is technological. In just a simple click by the help of innovative media, people can interact to media itself as the disseminator of the information and expertise. Undoubtedly, new media has proved being bliss to everyone especially to millennials.

Socialization is a lifelong process in which individuals learn and interact with social standards, rules, and values. Media are

a key socializing influence among other major agents of socialization. Media effects on socialization have been identified in research in developmental psychology, sociology, media and communication studies, and pedagogy.

It is for this reason that the researcher wanted to focus his study on the impact of social media as form of socialization among grade 11 students. Seeing most of the students are utilizing the said social media platforms for socialization, with this scenario, the researcher proposed set of guidelines for the students in using social media as form of socialization. Through this study, the researcher believe that it will be beneficial not only to students but also to parents and others who are using social media as way for them to be more safe and accepted in new trend of socialization in the new normal situation.

2. Methodology

In order to attain the objectives, the researcher utilized the descriptive method of research. The respondents involved in this study were Grade 11 senior high school students of Taal. Data for the study were collected through online questionnaire. The distribution of respondent is shown in table 1.

Table 1
Respondents of the study

Strand	Frequency	Percentage
STEM	8	3.6
ABM	44	19.8
HUMSS	80	36
TVL	90	40.5
Total	222	100

3. Statement of the Problem

The study was conducted to determine the Impact of New Media Technologies in the Socialization among Grade 11 Students of Taal Senior High School in the year 2020-2021 as assessed by the students themselves.

Specifically, this study sought to answer the following questions:
1. How do social media affect the socialization of SHS students in terms of,
   1.1. Communication;
   1.2. Information dissemination; and
   1.3. Social skills?
2. To what extent do social media affect the socialization among Taal Senior High School students?
3. Based from findings, what guidelines for safe and effective socialization using social media may be proposed?

4. Findings

A. Profile of the Respondents

1) Strand
Majority of the respondents were in TVL strand followed by HUMSS and ABM strand. While there few students under STEM strand.

2) Age
Most of the respondents were in the age bracket ranging 15-16. It was followed by the age bracket ranging 17-18 and only few were in the age bracket ranging 18 and above.

3) Gender
Majority of the respondents were female with 59.46 percent and male respondents were composed of only 90 students or 40.54 percent.

B. Functions of new media technologies that affect the socialization of senior high school students

1) Communication
Data showed the socialization of SHS students in terms of communication. Findings revealed that social media was a huge step and improvement to establish wide connection and relationship in an immense platform for students. Moreover, the respondents assumed that social media helped every individual to convey messages to one another. In addition, they found social media as way to develop relationship with others with an advanced communication and media technology which served as an instrument in transferring information by depending on mediated interaction. It also revealed that social media fastened the communication strategy of every media users which made every student's life thriftier and easier than in traditional way.

2) Information Dissemination
The data showed the socialization of SHS students in terms of information dissemination. The data revealed that social media helped every student to be well-oriented and fully-aware on different circumstances. They also found social media as way in improving their perceptions to serious talks and problems. It also revealed that it widened the perspective of students by being exposed to relevant and credible information.

On the other hand, they also found that social media helped students in garnering news and information by sharing the same information. The respondents assumed that, it also helped every teenager to be the voice of stating information as they gather also for the knowledge of users and just in a cyclical manner. Lastly, the data signified that social media helped every individual in gathering and sharing information for their own and social good.

3) Social Skills
The data showed the socialization of SHS students in terms of social skills. The data proved that social media made an individual literate and skillful in manipulating media. Respondents assumed that media technology helped students hone their social confidence in the cyberspace, media technology makes them a technologically - smart individual in controlling everything around it and helped students to be creative that shaped them to be a literate individual. The findings also revealed that social media helped students in being considerate of the feelings of others and must show good manners as an essential skill in socializing around the media world. This also signified that social media made every students productive and an active collaborator, especially in doing homework and projects.

C. The impact of new media technologies in the socialization

The findings revealed impact of social media in the socialization. The data showed that the students were socially aware on what's going on in our society with the help of media

which helped them doing in their homework and project. It was also improved their decision making in dealing with different situations.

The respondents assumed that, students have changed their norms and attitudes towards everything because of social media and became media-dependent in most of the things than in traditional one. Lastly, students preferred to interact within the net than face-to-face interaction.

D. Proposed guidelines on utilization of social media as form of socialization

The proposed guidelines on utilization of social media as form of socialization is intended to grade 11 senior high school students of Taal senior high school for effective and safe means of socialization. Anchored from the findings of this study and based on the umbrella of quantitative and qualitative data gathered, the program was conceptualized and was directed into set of guidelines consisting of 12 items that offers possible solutions to address least rated area on socialization among students using social media.

5. Conclusion

The findings concluded that in terms of communication, establishing wide connection and relationship in an immense platform with the help of media technology and conveying messages to one another with the use of media technology are the most functional on socialization in new media technology. In terms of information dissemination, awareness of students in different circumstances is the most functional on sharing information in new media. In addition, in terms of social skills, making every individual literate and skillful in manipulating media was the most applied skill in utilizing new media technology. Lastly, social awareness of society with the help of new media had a great impact to respondents on socialization in using new media technologies.

6. Recommendations

In the light of the findings and conclusions on which the implications and inferences were based, the following recommendations were suggested:

1. Keep good communication especially on interaction to develop relationship and one way to build community inside the new media.
2. Be well - oriented and fully – aware in disseminating information that covers with such credibility and relevance for the social good inside the new media.
3. Consider everything; students may be socially aware in our society and also in the cyberspace for their knowledge and benefit in utilizing new media as the tool.
4. Conduct other studies related to the topic focusing on the perception of the students in other schools, divisions and other regions.

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