

Impact of Social Media upon Juvenile Delinquency in Basra Central Prison and AL- Maqal Police Station

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Abstract

Objective: This study aimed to determine the impact of social media domains. And find out the know which among social media sites were mostly used by the juveniles.

Methodology: Quantitative design (a descriptive study) of one hundred juveniles were selected. All the juveniles for both sexes as delinquent who were temporarily detained in police station convicted of felony, crime or misdemeanor who is awaiting trial; and delinquent convicted of crime or felonies for rehabilitation or punishment convicted of misdemeanors and major offenses in central prison; juveniles who were at 14-17 years, for the period from 3rd February 2019 until 4th April 2019 in AL-Maqal Police Station and 14th April 2019 until 14th May 2019 in Basra Central Prison. The collection of data is performed out of the utilization of developed questionnaire and by means of structured interview technique with the subjects who were individually interviewed by the using of Arabic version of the questionnaire in Basra Central Prison and AL- Maqal Police Station.

Results: The results of the study indicate more than half 59% of age 16-17 year; more than three-quarters 82% were male; also more than three-quarters 77% living in urban and in slum area 51%. The results revealed that the samples of social media were (100%) watch movies; (96.5%) used chat; (86%) play game; while (100%) use the you tube; (97.7%) use face book; while (98.8%) browse the violence program. The more types of offenses and misdemeanor committed by the Juveniles were (18%) theft; and (16%) drug abuse.

Keyword: Impact; Social Media; Juvenile Delinquency; Prison; Police Station.

Introduction

Mass media is a channel, device, utility, or instrument used as a means of mass communication process and as variety channel of information for knowledge and entertainment. Mass media are an inseparable part of lives ¹⁷. In the recent times, with reach technology to every segment of population across the world in a very short amount of time, this advancement in the accessibility more information that associated with various social alterations which have profound influences the individuals and community through influences on the social links intimate or personal interaction and system of communication between individuals and families ⁴. The media, whether visual or audio, it has

become a family member. Juvenile can learn, imitate behavior and behave in the same way as media content is seen in daily life. So, the quantitative content received by juveniles with the increase in the number of hours spent in watching media materials that contain on news of killings, bombings, wars, and assassinations, as well as the detective, pornographic, crime, fictional, and violence films and exposing to scenes of violence, hatred aggression, and extremism and takes the feelings of compassion and mercy from their hearts lead to increased probability of a juvenile falling in delinquency ³. Social media is a group of web based applications and foundations of technological which includes Twitter, Facebook and Instagram has positive or negative effect

that acts to create new opportunities of connect with transfer and amplify the messages or information among people, it has a massive impact on the behavior and minds the juveniles through encourage and instigate to participate into criminal activities⁸. Social media plays a role in shaping individual perceptions and spread, instill, influence and stimulate on the thoughts, value, actions, attitudes and behaviors of individuals and community that embrace all aspects of human life, media become the more profound to attraction the juveniles through tempting content. Media content create temptations of juveniles that are outcome of the interaction a juvenile's desires of needs and wants with juvenile's commitments and opportunities in pursuing an ambition or a goal with devote and convert much of time, resources, energy and motivated in engaging in delinquent behavior¹⁸. Therefore, the power effect of media content on juvenile lead to acquiring, altering, triggering, and reinforcing the juvenile's behavior according approaches the media and exposure to media overdoses due to media influence on an individual's mental processes or the product of those processes that involves the acquisition of information, absorb this information then process of memorization and storage of information in human mind, transform information into knowledge to create new meanings with generalize to generate principles about real life¹⁵. The ability of media to attract individual's attention and influence them, it uses information manipulation through omits some facts and provides deliberately incomplete information and persuasion of the distorted information, with displays things that are not in line with local culture and values, this effect either occurs in the short term and occurs immediately and fade more quickly or in the long term and occurs slowly based on the content that contains. The effect whether positive or negative involved many aspects of affective, cognitive and psychomotor through read, listen, conversation and see of social media¹⁴. Exposure to media content might lead juveniles to copy what they see, hear and read

according the situations in which they might be able to copy it as knowledge, attitudes, skills and behaviors with make this copy is basic in deal with others. Media plays huge rolls an important role in juvenile's cognition and comprehension as a motivating factor in effect on aspects of behavior through advocating freedom of expression and thought, and rejecting many of the conservative standards and values of society, promoting promiscuity, violence, alcohol and drug use, rape, vandalism, prostitution, with give the impression that aggression and violence is permissible in many deviant activities and disrespect of values and norms⁵.

Juveniles are committing crime when disagree with rule of conduct stated in law or breaks a rule from rules of conduct through lack of ability to exercise self-control¹⁸. A delinquency as a harmful act against the public and community, upon conviction, is punishable with a fine, imprisonment, and death⁵, Juvenile delinquency takes various forms according frequency, degree, duration and seriousness like obscenity, pilfering, murder, burglary, fraud, loitering, gambling, drug abuse, begging, and disrespect of values and norms in society⁹.

Wrongdoing, misdemeanor, felony, crime is a product of learning the values, norms and behaviors due to response to personal propensities or a specific motivation or environmental inducements that law is prohibited, associated with unwanted activity¹¹. Any violation in Iraq is punishable under the Criminal Code or known as the Code of Criminal Procedure, which regulates all Iraqis under the umbrella of the law¹⁶.

Results

The results revealed that the majority of the samples (59%) at age 16-17 year; were male (82%); were living in urban area (77%) have interrupted at school (64%); and education level (37.98%) at 5-6 class, while lowest percentage (1.26%) at 11-12.

Table (1) Distribution of the Study Sample by Ways Used the Internet

No.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage	
1	Do you use internet	Yes	86	86%
		No	14	14%
		Total	100	100%
2	Ways used	Computer	0	0%
		Laptop	3	3.5%
		Mobile	83	96.5%
		Total		100%
3	Purpose use the internet	Find a Friendship	81	94.2%
		Find a Relationship	31	36%
		Learning Science	6	7%
		Find Solutions to Problems	0	0%
		Identify Culture	2	2.3%
		Entertainment	86	100%
		Other	31	36%

F= Frequency, %= Percentage

Table (1) The results revealed that the majority of the samples (86%) to used internet; (96.5%) by used mobile; (100%), (94.2%) used internet to entertainment and to find a friendship, while absent percentage (0%) of find solution to problems.

Table (2) Distribution of the Study Sample by Places Used the Internet

No.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage	
1	Home connected with Internet	Yes	84	97.7%
		No	2	2.3%
2	Place use the internet	Home	24	27.9%
		Coffee Shop	1	1.2%
		Anywhere	61	70.9%
3	Internet use	Alone	86	100%
		With Friends	0	0%
		With Family	0	0%
4	How many hours used internet	1-2	0	0%
		2-3	0	0%
		3-4	6	7%
		More	80	93%

F= Frequency, %= Percentage

Table (2) The results revealed that the majority of the samples (97.7%) the connect juvenile’s home with website; (70.9%) the internet used in anywhere as alone (100%) for more than four hours a day (93%).

Table (3) Distribution of the Study Sample by Social Media Sites

No.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage	
1	Field use of the Internet	Scientific Research	1	1.2%
		Chat	83	96.5%
		Messages	45	52.3%
		Game	74	86%
		Music	37	43%
		Movies	86	100%
2	Commonly used sites	Google	5	5.8%
		You Tube	86	100%
		Face Book	84	97.7%
		Netflix	27	31.4%
		Instagram	28	32.5%
		Twitch	49	57%
		Pornhub	26	30.2%
		X videos	27	31.4%
		Wikipedia	4	4.6%
3	Browse the violence program	Yes	85	98.8%
		No	1	1.2%
		Total	100	100%

F= Frequency, %= Percentage

Table (3) The results revealed that the samples of social media were (100%) watch movies; (96.5%) used chat; (86%) play game; while (100%) use the you tube; (97.7%) use face book; (4.6%) use the Wikipedia; while (98.8%) browse the violence program.

Table (4) Distribution of the Study Sample the Offenses and Misdemeanor Committed by the Juveniles

No.	Variables	Frequency	Percentage	
1	Types of Offenses and Misdemeanor Committed by the Juveniles	Theft	18	18%
		Drug Abuse	61	16%
		Murder	15	15%
		Threat	10	10%
		Rape	10	10%
		Sabotage	7	7%
		Motorcycle/ Car Accidents	5	5%
		Cheating	4	4%
		Beatings	3	3%
		Vagrancy	1	1%
		Betrayal	1	1%
		Forgery	1	1%
		Others	9	9%
		Total	100	100%
2	Who helped you commit this misdemeanor	Friend	45	45%
		Brother	19	19%
		Parent	16	16%
		Relatives	8	8%
		No One	12	12%
		Total	100	100%

F= Frequency, %= Percentage

Table (4) The results revealed that the samples of types of offenses and misdemeanor committed by the Juveniles that indicate to (18%) theft; (16%) drug abuse; (15%) murder; (10%) rape and threat; while were (9%) others offenses and misdemeanor committed. While (45%), (19%) friend and brother as high percentage which helped juvenile to commit the misdemeanor.

Discussion

The results revealed that the more than half of the samples were (59%) at age 16-17 year, while 14-15 year were less than half (41%); juvenile's male more than four fifths (82%) and the rest of the sample were females; living in urban area were more than three-

quarters (77%), while were little more than ten (15%) continuous at school and third (21%) the juveniles were did not enter at school; while were more than three fifths (64%) samples have interrupted at school; with more than one-third (37.98%) of juveniles have fifth and sixth class; while eleventh and twelfth grade were less percentage (1.26%) of sample.

Concerning the results of the ways used the internet of social media table (2) that indicates to use internet more than four fifths (86%) of sample by mobile more than nine tenths (96.5%) for entertainment (100%); find a friendship (94.2%), this finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by ¹³ a study (Impacts of Media on Society, India) reports indicate that more than nine tenths (93%); and used internet by mobile were (75%); also this finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by ¹⁰; a study (The Uses of Middle Teenage Students for Networks Social Communication in the Schools of Nablus in Palestine) mentions that the juveniles used the internet for find friendship (60%), and for entertainment were (17%).

Regarding places used the internet of the juvenile, the findings shown in table (3), indicate that more than nine tenths (97.7%) were juvenile's house connected with network internet; more than one-sixth (70.9%) were used internet in anywhere; (100%) used internet without anyone's help for more than four hours (93%) juvenile's spend time with internet of sample, these findings agree with results obtained from study done by ¹⁰; a study (The Uses of Middle Teenage Students for Networks Social Communication in the Schools of Nablus in Palestine) mentions that percentage (95) were juvenile's house connected with network internet, also these findings agree and support with results obtained from study done by ²; a study (The Impact of the Use of the Internet on Family Relations, Algeria) reports indicate that juveniles use the internet in anywhere (44%), while use internet in home (38%), the juveniles use the internet be alone more than half (58.33), and (37%) for more than four hour spend with internet.

Concerning the results of the social media sites the findings shown in table (4), that indicates to used internet were full percentage (100%) for watching movies and more than nine tenths (96.5%) for used chat with others;

(86%) play game and the commonly sites that juvenile's used were you tube (100%); face book (97.7%) and (98.8%) browse the violence program, these findings agree and support with results obtained from study done by ¹³; a study (Impacts of Media on Society, India) reports indicate that juveniles use internet in watching movies (84%), for used chat (89%) and for play game (81%), and also this finding agrees and supported with results obtained from study done by ¹⁰; a study (The Uses of Middle Teenage Students for Networks Social Communication in the Schools of Nablus in Palestine) mentions that the more sites that juvenile's used are face book (43.85%); while you tube is (9.65%), while this finding disagrees with results obtained from study done by ¹²; a study (The Features of the Internet Culture Among Adolescents in Algeria) reports indicate that juveniles use internet for browse the violence program were (40.6%).

Table (5) Show distribution of samples according to offenses committed by the juveniles; it indicates that high five percentages more than third were theft (18%), drug abuse (16%) and murder (15%), threat and rape were (10%); the friends (45%), Brotherhood (19%) and parents (16%) were more persons who help the juvenile commit the misdemeanor or crime, this finding agrees and support with results obtained from study done by (Hameed, 2011); a study (Personality of the Juvenile delinquency, Algeria) reports indicate that offenses committed by the juveniles are theft (38.13%), drug abuse (17.79%), also this finding agree with results obtained from study (Chowdhury et al, 2012); a study (Causes and Consequences of Juvenile Delinquency in Bangladesh) that indicates to theft (47.37%) and murder (36.84%), with help friends (54%).

Conclusions

The findings of the present study conclude that the mostly social media used by the juveniles are you tube and face book by mobile of entertainment for more than four hours that lead the juveniles to broken the law and then delinquency.

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Conflict of Interest: None to declare.

Ethical Clearance: All experimental protocols were approved under the Ministry of Health and all experiments were carried out in accordance with approved guidelines.

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