

## Review of: "Youth Attitudes Towards the Effects of Social Media Addiction: A Study on College Students in the United Arab Emirates"

Santiago Giraldo-Luque<sup>1</sup>

1 Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The article is interesting, current, and necessary. It helps provide more academic justification for the need to act as a society to limit the harm that SNS causes in young people. Here are some reflections and comments that I believe can improve the text presented.

The use of SNS is greater than what is referenced in the article. The data must come from surveys, but texts that use other methodologies can be consulted to better specify the time of use of SNS. It is very relevant because the surveys do not reflect the true magnitude of the problem.

Assuming that social networks have multiple benefits, per se, is making a mistake that can reinforce the central thesis of the text. Why can't we say that the benefits of social networks are beginning to prove scarce? Studies on its problems do not come from a few years ago. At least a decade ago, articles and books began to be published that denounced its dangers (of all kinds).

In general, more studies can be cited (because there are hundreds) that give greater strength to the arguments that SNS cause health and sleep problems in children and young people.

The theoretical analysis model that includes the Strength Model of Self-Control (SMSC) to justify the addictive use of SNS is interesting.

In the introduction, when the study on Vietnam is discussed, it is not at all clear if it is the objective of the current article or if it refers to another approach to the state of the art on the topics analyzed. If so, there is no coherence with the title, and likewise, in the introduction, it would be worth raising the research questions or the hypothesis of the study, while its objective has not been specified. This last paragraph clearly needs revision.

The methodology is well constructed, but it can be explained better, especially in the composition of the sample, as well as in the data collection and analysis procedures.

I also believe that the methodology is well supported in each of the questionnaires tested in different studies. The analysis of the results, based on the statistical universe described, is also consistent with the objectives, hypotheses, and questions. I would only say (also to be included in future studies) that the survey technique needs to be complemented



with other methodologies with a more qualitative approach to better understand the results of young people's addictions to SNS.

The third research question is very general and does not allow, through it, to demonstrate each of the components of the methodological apparatus (of the survey). At the same time, question 4 departs somewhat from the methodological standards described previously.

In the results, in part 2, we talk about population groups that have not been previously described.

The conclusions are poor; although they reflect the main results of the study, they do not resume a dialogue with the previous studies cited, nor do they propose new ideas about the treatment that should be carried out to stop the incidence of SNS on young people. The simple inclusion of media literacy as a method of response to challenges should also be questioned, given that its methods have proven ineffective in reducing the main problems outlined in the article.

It is suggested to include a protection perspective both at the level of rights and identification of the problem as a public health issue, guided by public policies aimed at the protection of minors, digital rights, and also neurorights.