

Review of: "The Impact of TikTok on Students: A Literature Review"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The review provides interesting insight into a relevant and engaging area of digital media research. The target audience focused here is students, which makes the study even more important. It is essential that people get a clear idea of the influence of such a popular social media platform as TikTok on students, who constitute the majority of consumers of the service. The authors' attempt to provide a comprehensive analysis of the existing studies on the topic is highly appreciated. Hope my comments and suggestions on the study make it more highlighting.

1. **Please proofread the whole paper again, focusing on grammar, syntax** (sentence structure), **and diction** (word choice).
2. **Kindly stick to the documentation style (preferably APA)** while styling and structuring each and every part of the paper.
3. **Please include parenthetical citations and recheck the citations at the end** according to the documentation style adopted.

ABSTRACT

The abstract provided gives insight into the purpose, scope, and conclusion of the study.

1. It is also preferable to include the background and relevance of the study and the methodology (in brief) used to review the literature so as to get a clearer idea about your research.

KEYWORDS

1. Try to include at least five keywords indicating the areas on which you intend to focus in the review. This will increase the possibility of finding your study online.

INTRODUCTION

The introduction is well-written as far as the topic of the study is considered. It gives a detailed account on how social media platforms as a whole and TikTok in particular have gained popularity in recent years all over the world. It also elaborates on the distinguishable features of the app and variety of uses for both entertainment and educational purposes. The two studies cited in the last part align with the direction of the introduction.

1. It is highly recommended that you add introductory sentences (explaining the aim, scope, and background of the

study) prior to further explanations. Forming a proper thesis statement and briefly elaborating on it would do.

2. I would also recommend that you restructure the introduction by first explaining the use of social media as a whole (preferably moving the 3rd and 4th paragraphs to the beginning) and then elaborating on the origin and development of TikTok in particular. This, I suppose, will enable a smoother flow of the contents provided.
3. While explaining the relevance of the study (last paragraph), it is also better to mention the life aspects of the students that are probable to be influenced by the use of TikTok and then specify which aspects are going to be evaluated (social interactions, overall well-being, and learning) during this literature review.
4. In the last part of the section, it is better to **list out the objectives of the study or research questions** (you can also consider addressing this in a separate section), indicating the beginning of a focused approach to reviewing the existing studies.

METHODOLOGY

I would say that the **most important part that is lacking in the paper is the METHODOLOGY section**. Clearly stating the process adapted during the study will make it more authentic and professional.

1. Mention the age group of the students who are selected as the target audience and the reason behind the selection.
2. **You can divide (ideally) the whole section into three.**
 - a. **In the first part**, you may provide a statistical narrative of the existing studies on the topic. Since the study is focused on a relatively new field, you may mention the years in which studies began to appear and the publication types selected for your study. You can also specify the databases from which the studies to be reviewed are selected. Mention why you chose those databases and also the keywords used in the search. Write about how you narrowed down the number of articles that resulted from the search and list out the inclusion and exclusion criteria followed (examples being the methodology, context or focus of the study, educational level or setting of the target audience in the study, publication year, and country).
 - b. **In the second part** of the section, you may elaborate on the analysis process. Mention the statistical analysis method or data coding method used in the classification and comparison of the selected studies and how the results of the tests are employed in the DISCUSSION section (you can search for the methods used in recent systematic reviews and modify the study). Also write about the criteria based on which the qualitative analysis and summarization of the studies are carried out (example being the identified aspects of life that are being influenced by the use of TikTok).
 - c. The third part is optional, where you can mention the limitations of the study or the data collected and the analysis method, if any.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1. I would recommend that the authors **differentiate the 1st** (Results and Discussion) **and 2nd** (TikTok and Social Interactions, TikTok and Overall Well-being, TikTok and Learning) **level headings**. Please follow the suggested documentation style.

2. It is highly suggested that you modify this section after adopting the appropriate analysis method so as to provide the results of the data coding scheme and statistical analysis method carried out on the selected articles.
3. I find that the selection of life aspects that are to be studied is done judiciously. However, I would suggest **merging sections 3 and 5** (on 'Mental Health' and on 'Well-being') and restructuring them accordingly while adding more details on different aspects of well-being (emotional, physical, social, societal, etc.). Kindly ensure a smoother flow of the description.
4. The contents of each division appear to be scanty. Think about examining a wider range of perspectives on each topic discussed and find more studies to ensure your contribution to each area is accurate and comprehensive.
5. Also consider **bringing together Section 2** ('TikTok and Academic Performance') **and the very last section** ('The Effects of TikTok Use on College Student Learning') since they address the same aspects of student life. **This makes the DISCUSSION under 3 subheadings.** While changing the subheading to 'TikTok and Learning', the authors can consider dividing it further by looking into how the existing studies have explored the topic in different directions (examples being 'TikTok as a Learning Medium' and 'Effects of TikTok Use on Learning').
6. Avoid repetition of points in each section, and try to address focused and relevant directions for each issue in order to avoid ambiguity in the description. The authors can try to modify the content in each section so as to find the gap in a study selected for review and then fill it up with another study.
7. In Section 5 (Paragraph 4), enclose the quotes in quotations, giving proper parenthetical citation. ("TikTok strives to provide fostering an inclusive environment for our community.")
8. (Optional) Consider adding diagrams or graphs provided in the articles reviewed (with proper citations) in each section.

CONCLUSION

As the authors themselves mentioned in the section, the conclusion part is to 'summarize key findings' and to 'suggest potential areas' for further research.

1. Instead of casually mentioning the areas that are influenced by the use of TikTok, try to note down the focused points found while reviewing the studies.
2. Write about how your literature review contributes to social media studies (media studies) and digital media research.
3. Also, write about what is lacking in the existing studies and how these gaps can be filled, while suggesting areas that must be further explored.

The recommendations for mitigating the negative impacts of the use of TikTok are extensively documented.

1. I would suggest that the authors **place this section as a subheading** (2nd level heading) **under the main heading** (1st level heading) **of CONCLUSION.**