

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

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Summary

This study investigated social media addiction and its effects on Arab youth and college students in the UAE using a survey methodology. The critical aspects examined include the intensity of social media use, demographic differences, the correlation between usage and addiction, and attitudes towards social media addiction. The findings show high usage rates, gender differences, negative impacts on mental health and relationships, and acknowledgement of addiction despite minimising academic effects.

Major Comments

- The literature review provides helpful background but focuses heavily on prevalence studies. Expanding the theoretical grounding and inclusion of academic impacts would improve the rationale.
- Relying solely on self-report surveys raises validity issues around social desirability biases. Adding indirect behavioural measures could increase reliability.
- There is limited in-depth analysis of how cultural and demographic factors may influence social media use interpretations in the Arab context. Further study would enrich the findings.
- Conclusions emphasise adverse impacts but do not fully address discrepancies in attitudes that downplay academic effects. This contradiction needs further reconciliation.

Minor Comments

- Standardize the formatting of "social media" versus "Social Media" throughout the paper.
- Expand limitations to address validity concerns, biases, generalizability issues with self-reports, etc.
- Proofread thoroughly to fix minor grammar, spelling, and style errors.
- Consider more data visualisations to support the statistical reporting.

Recommendation

This paper makes a valuable contribution to the understudied issue of social media addiction among Arab youth. However, revisions are needed to address the comments above before publication. The findings will interest scholars researching technology impacts on adolescents across cultural contexts.