

Review of: "Implementation of e-learning during COVID-19"

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In general terms, I consider that investigating in this kind of problems is a very interesting idea since we can shed light on the ways in which we can face these kinds of problems in the future. I have several comments about the article presented and I hope that they can be useful to improve it.

The abstract says that the texts “explores the challenges of e-learning during the COVID-19” pandemic in terms of learning outcomes and mental health, but the text (and mainly the results) do not approach neither the learning outcomes nor the mental health.

The introduction is very general and vague; it does not give a general panorama on how and when the restrictions of the pandemic affected the institutions in the country, nor it explains, from a general perspective, how the pandemic impacted education worldwide. It seems, as well, that the author assumes that e-learning started with the pandemic with these type of affirmations “leading to the adoption of e-learning as an alternative means of delivering education” when we all know that e-learning has existed long ago; the same happens in another paragraph “Another important initiative was the development of MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) by Chinese universities”...These courses have also existed long ago, they were not created due to the pandemic. The information contained in the paragraph “E-learning in China” could be included in the introduction to better guide the reader into the statement of the problem...

The whole article lacks scientific evidence; it does not rely on other studies, nor it mentions authorities in the field. For example, in the sentence “Students from low-income households and rural areas are more likely to lack access to the necessary technology and leading to a significant disparity in educational opportunities.” What sort of evidence can support this type of affirmations? Perhaps statistics? Perhaps some other studies have shown this reality? The same happens with all the affirmations in the entire document.

Some other examples taken from different paragraphs support my arguments: “The Chinese government and educational institutions have taken several measures to facilitate e-learning in higher education” Which type of policies were created? Which specific examples about universities in China can be mentioned to support the affirmation? “One of the primary measures taken by the government was to provide funding” what examples can be provided? How much to they invest?; “Many universities in China have also developed online learning platforms, which have been widely adopted by students and faculty” Which sort of platforms?

The method is not coherent, and it does not offer an explanation on the population, the techniques and instruments, the ethical considerations.

It is not clear where the results are taken... there is an explanation “To support the above statement an online survey with 21 questions was developed applying Google Forms. The survey was distributed among students of various HE institutions of the Republic of Srpska from May 27, until June 11, 2020. The questionnaire has 4 divisions. The first division consist of demographic questions, the second was about personal Internet infrastructure and devices used for online classes, the third was about e-learning and technology used by HE institutions and the fourth division held questions about student’s satisfaction with the e-learning process during lockdown” that should be in the “method” paragraph... However, there is not evidence on the validity of the survey; there is no evidence of a piloting process... how many people answered the survey?

The way in which the results are presented is not appropriate. I advise the author to look at different articles published in academic journals to better understand how to cite “inside” the text. The discussion lacks scientific evidence, and it does not approach the topics we were expecting in the abstract (mental health and academic achievement). The conclusions are very limited and does not show the impact of the study nor its future implications...