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.

Thank you for being identified as a referee for the article "Youth Attitudes Towards the Effects of Social Media Addiction: A Study of University Students in the United Arab Emirates". I apologise for the delay in sending my comments, which I hope will be useful to the writer.

The article seeks to answer a particularly interesting and timely, but also complex, question. This complexity is evident from the introduction, which refers to a variety of previous studies that have been used to construct the theoretical framework within which the research question is situated. While acknowledging this complexity, greater integration between the various contributions would be desirable. Indeed, such integration would make it clearer how the various studies cited are interrelated and how they contribute to the construction of the theoretical framework and related hypotheses. In its current form, it is in fact a list of studies whose main findings are listed with weak links between them.

The methodology section should also be better organised. An initial section describing the characteristics of the respondents would be useful. In fact, this description would also be very useful to make sense of the results that follow, especially where there are significant differences (e.g., in gender). It would also be useful to clarify what is meant by "Arabic," given the diversity that this category encompasses. In this respect, more information on the universities participating in the survey would be useful. With regard to the survey, it would be helpful to know how it was conducted, through which networks and channels.

In addition, it would be useful for the reader to (1) include the different measures selected in one or more tables, making the different items explicit; (2) include the research questions in a discourse in which each is contextualised, including by resorting to the formulation of hypotheses; and (3) make more explicit the process used for data analysis, as well as the software used.

The research findings section has a more report-like structure, with each question linked to an explanatory finding. Given the richness and quality of the findings, the work would be enhanced if these findings and the hypotheses from which they derive were included in a more structured discourse. Again, an argumentative structure would help the reader to understand better.

The use of an argumentative structure capable of linking the theoretical references with the hypotheses formulated and

the findings would also benefit the formulation of conclusions and recommendations for future research.

While much attention has been paid to the multidimensionality of the problem in the formulation of the research question, this is lost in the empirical phase of presenting and discussing the results.

A revision effort aimed at greater organicity in form and content would improve the writer's research work.