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SOCIAL NETWORK AND ITS IMPACT ON PSYCHOLOGY AND LEARNING ATTITUDE OF STUDENTS: THE STUDY CASE FRESHMAN STUDENTS AT UNIVERSITIES OF HO CHI MINH CITY

Dao, N. V¹; Van, V. H²

¹Van Lang University, 45 Nguyen KhacNhu street, Co Giang ward, District 1, Ho Chi Minh city, Vietnam

² University of Transport and Communications, No.3 CauGiay Street, Lang Thuong Ward, Dong Da District, Hanoi, Vietnam

ABSTRACT

In this paper, the authors examine the impact of social media on the psychology and learning attitudes of first-year students at universities in Ho Chi Minh City. The purpose of this study is to investigate the influence of social media on freshman students by a number of variables such as age, grade, and type of school, gender, and average daily internet usage time. The survey method used in research is "Social network influence scale" and "Personal information form" prepared by the research team is used as data collection tools. Based on relevant literature, the authors focused on the relationship between the influence of social network and first-year student psychology and academic performance; explore and measure the impact (positive and negative) of social network factors on student psychology and learning, and then propose educational policies of administrators universities management to take advantage of social networks to improve learning outcomes. This study collects survey data from a utility sample of 3,066 first-year students at 10 universities in Ho Chi Minh City. The analysis shows that information search, entertainment, fashion, and learning tools have a positive impact on first-year student psychology and academic performance. However, due to spending too much time using social media, inaccurate information, "dirty websites" (websites with bad content), etc., have a negative impact on the learning results and psychology of freshman students. Additionally, research results was found that there was a significant relationship between the average daily internet time and the freshman student's social media addiction.

Keywords: Social Network, Psychology of Students, Learning Attitude of Students, Freshman Students, Universities of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.

Introduction

In the current social context, with the continuous development of information technology, the Internet is gradually asserting its importance, in which a growing number of social networking sites create conditions for individuals and organizations. The organization has many opportunities to share its information but it is also a challenge for the specialized management agencies to ensure the content and scope of activities (Andreassen, et al., 2012; Wu, et al., 2013; Huang, 2014)

In most of us, social networks like Facebook, ZaLo, Youtube, etc., have quickly become an important part of many people, especially for the younger generation, social networks have an important role and a great influence on people. In particular, social networks have been and will be a part of social life in a public section. Nowadays, when information technology develops, no one can deny the benefits that social networks bring, especially young people.

The appearance of social networks with features, with a rich source of information, has really entered the life of netizens, with diverse functions that led to the increasing number of members. Internet in a certain aspect has changed the habits, thinking, lifestyle, the culture of a part of students today because this is a human resource capable of receiving scientific advances most quickly, it is also the force most influenced by the media in both positive and negative aspects.