



INFLUENCE OF SOCIAL NETWORKING ON THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL BIOLOGY STUDENTS IN ORUMBA NORTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA, ANAMBRA STATE

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ABSTRACT

The paper examined the influence of social networking on the academic achievement of senior secondary school biology students in Orumba North L.G.A in Anambra State. four research questions were raised on and one null hypothesis tested at 0.05 level of significance was formulated. Simple random sampling was used to select 7 schools from the 13 public schools in Orumba North that have SS2 students. The population was made up of 560 Biology SS2 students in Orumba North L.G.A in Anambra State. The questionnaire was used for data collection. The data was analyzed using mean, standard deviation and z-test. The findings of the study revealed among others that students use facebook and Whatsapp in a high extent. The various reasons students use social networking sites are for online learning, watching movies, assignment, leisure, private messaging, uploading pictures and profile, and finding friends. The negative influences include: distraction while studying in class, addiction to social networks. It makes them reluctant and late to classes. Recommendations were made based on the research findings.

Keywords: *Social Networking, Academic Achievements, Influence, Biology Students.*

INTRODUCTION

Technology exposes mankind to a better way of doing things. Social networking implies the use of dedicated or to find people with similar interest to one's own. (Will Kenton, 2017. It is also the use of internet based social media sites to stay connected with friends, families,

colleagues, customer and client. Anyariuba, (2014), defined social media as the environment where social networking takes place, examples of some social media or platforms include facebook, twitter, instagram, Operamini, Whatsapp, telegram, chrome, messenger 2go, etc.

Academic performance or achievement is the outcome of education, the extent to which a student, teacher or institution has achieved their short term and long term shown that seventy-three percent (73%) of Americans teens now use social media websites, Plartins (2008). Oberst (2010) and Lusk (2010). Stollak, Vanderberg, Burklund and Weiss (2011) notes that social networking among secondary students has become more and more popular over the year. Though Biology is the study of living things of both plants and animals and how they relate to their people, it remains to be seen if use of social networking in secondary schools significantly translate to good academic performance or not. From the report of some researchers it was recorded that gender has influence of the usage of social media, as female students are more prone to social networking than male counterpart Dorup (2004). Collergy and Comber (2003) do not differ in their opinion, they said there is gender difference in the frequency in social networking by both male and female.

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of this paper was to “ascertain the extent of the use of social networking sites by SS2 Biology students in Orumba North L.G.A in Anambra State. to determine the students’ reasons of using social networking sites and determine the negative and positive influence of social networking sites on SS 2 Biology students.

Statement of the Problem

Research Questions

These research questions guided the study

1. What is the influence of using social networking sites by SS2 Biology students?
2. What are the students’ reasons for using social networking sites?
3. What are the negative influence of social networking sites?

Hypothesis

The following hypothesis was formulated to guide the study and was tested at 0.05 level of significance.

Ho: There is no significance difference between the mean rating responses of male and female students on the influence of social networking on the academic achievement of senior secondary school Biology students in Orumba North Local Government Area in Anambra State.

Method

The design of the study was descriptive survey. The research was carried out in Orumba North Local Government Area in Anambra State. The population of the study was 560 SS2 Biology students drawn from 2019-2020 public senior secondary schools in Orumba North L.G.A in Anambra State. The sample for the study was simple random sampling. Thus, the sample size comprises of 7 schools which were randomly selected out of the 13 public schools, the whole population was 15 Biology students were used for the study. The instrument used for the data collection was questionnaire. The instrument was validated by two experts in the school of sciences and one expert in education who vetted the original draft by making constructive criticism. The researcher undertook school-to-school visit to administer the test. Data for the study were obtained from the students responses. Mean and standard deviation were used to answer the research questions while the Z-test was used to test the hypothesis formulated at 0.05 level of significance. The cut-off point was determined using the mean of 2.5. The decision rule was reached by any responses with a mean score below 2.5 is regarded as not accepted or rejected while anyone with mean score of 2.5 and above is regarded as accepted.

Results

Research Question I

What is the extent of the use of social networking sites by SS 2 Biology students in Senior secondary school in Orumba North L.G.A

Table 1:

Mean responses of the extent of the use of social networking sites by SS 2 Biology students in Senior secondary schools in Orumba North LGA.

S/N	Items	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	N	X	SD	Remarks
1.	Facebook	77	25	32	25	159	3.01	1.15	Accepted
2.	Whatsapp	54	26	19	60	159	2.51	1.3	Accepted
3.	2go	0	10	23	126	159	1.5	0.8	Rejected
4.	Googlet	41	28	13	77	159	2.21	1.5	Rejected
5.	Youtube	35	19	22	83	159	1.76	1.04	Rejected
6.	Twitter	4	7	16	132	159	1.3	0.7	Rejected
7.	Telegram	4	4	13	138	159	1.2	0.6	Rejected

The result in table 1 shows that the respondent uses the items 1 and 2 with the mean response 3.01 and 2.51 respectively in a very high extent. While items 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 with mean responses 1.3, 2.21, 1.76, 1.3 and 1.2 respectively was rejected.

Research Question 2:

What are the students' reasons for using social networking sites?

Table 2: Mean responses of the students' reasons for using social networking sites.

S/N	Items	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	N	X	SD	Remarks
8.	Online	82	54	10	13	159	3.32	1.0	Accepted
9.	Watching movies	48	51	22	38	159	2.65	1.2	Accepted
10.	Assignment	91	54	7	7	159	4.41	0.8	Accepted
11.	Leisure	35	57	29	38	159	2.62	1.3	Accepted
12.	Private messaging	51	54	16	38	159	2.53	1.2	Accepted
13.	Uploading pictures profiles	44	57	29	29	159	3.23	1.1	Accepted
14.	Finding friends	57	51	22	29	159	2.56	1.1	Accepted

From this table, the items articulated were all accepted as the reason why Biology students use social networking site. All the items 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 14 have the mean response of 3.32, 2.65, 3.41, 2.62, 2.53, 2.23 and 2.56 respectively.

Research Question 3:

What are the negative influences of social networking sites on SS 2 Biology students academic achievement in Orumba North LGA.

Table 3: Mean responses of the negative of social networking sites on SS 2 Biology Students.

S/N	Items	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	N	X	SD	Remarks
15.	Social networking distracts me while studying in class	57	69	10	23	159	2.74	1	Accepted
16.	I enjoyed chatting with my phone more than any other	38	54	32	159	159	2.83	1.1	Accepted
17.	Chatting on phone take more of my time for academics	50	70	4	35	159	3.32	1.1	Accepted
18.	Social networking easily makes students go late to class.	76	51	22	10	159	3.32	1	Accepted
19.	Commitment to different social networks listed makes me reluctant to attend class.	26	69	35	29	159	2.6	1.05	Accepted
Grand mean								2.95	Accepted

From the above table III above all the items were accepted the negative influence of social networking sites to Ss 2 biology academic achievement. The grand mean is 2.95 which is above 2.5

Research Question 4:

What are the positive influences of social networking sites on SS 2 Biology students in Orumba North, Anambra State?

Table IV: Mean responses on the positive influences of social networking on SS 2 Biology students

S/N	Items	VHE	HE	LE	VLE	N	X	SD	Remarks
20.	Social media aids in preventing academics boredom	74	44	25	16	159	2.83	1.0	Accepted
21.	Social networking increase my creativity and skills for biology lessons	89	66	34	0	159	3.65	0.7	Accepted
22.	Social media helps students to carry out their assignments and project.	109	50	0	0	159	3.81	0.6	Accepted
23.	Social networking helps in updating and their teachers	89	70	0	0	159	3.85	0.7	Accepted

From table IV above all the items were accepted as the positive influence of social networking to SS2 biology students. The grand mean 3.56 and is above 2.5 so it is accepted.

Test Hypothesis

Ho: There is no significant different between the mean rating response of male and female students on the influence of social networking on the academic achievement of senior secondary school biology students in Orumba North L.G.A in Anambra State.

From Table 3; Mean responses and standard deviating respondent on the negative influence of social networking on the academic achievement of SS 2 Biology students

N	Male		N	Female	
	\bar{X}	SD		\bar{X}	SD
57	2.51	0.81	102	3.31	0.90
57	2.96	0.52	102	3.02	1.04
57	3.12	0.83	102	2.68	1.43
57	3.31	0.88	102	3.33	0.88
57	2.72	0.75	102	2.81	0.88
Mean	2.92	0.76		3.03	1.02

Table VI: Summary table for z-test of difference between two mean

Respondents	N	X	STD	DF	Z-CAL	Z-CRIT	DECISION
FEMALE	102	3.03	1.02				Null
MALE	57	2.92	0.76	157	0.79	1.96	hypothesis is accepted

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Table I review that students use different social networking site. It was found out that the students use facebook and whatsapp in a very high extent this was in agreement with AR-Rahma and Othma, (2013) who said that facebook has gained wider acceptability and usability. Table 1 review student's reason for using social networking sites is watching moves. From the study many respondents accepted the statements as reasons for using social networks "private messaging, finding friends, and uploading pictures and profiles. It was found that social networking distracts students while studying in class, chatting on phone, takes more of their time for academic, it easily makes students go late in school, also reluctant to class. All these are in line with Penkraft (2015). Who in his study found out that many Nigeria students lost interest in reading because they are addicted to social networking sites especially the ones they use for chatting and what Shehu and Shehu (2014) found out on their study that social media has resulted in distraction in classroom and reading habit of students because of reduction in time spent reading.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the study, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The students are influenced to a great extent by the social networking sites negatively because their attention are focused on chatting and music while their academic activities are neglected and left to suffer.
2. The study should be replicated in other subjected areas like chemistry, physics, mathematics etc.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Students should create balance between online activities and academic activities, more attention should be directed to research.

2. Secondary school authorities should ban the use of mobile phones by students at school especially during study hours.
3. Guardian and parents should also monitor the involvement of these students to social media at homes.
4. Both federal and state government should encourage social networking program in its effect to motivate and educate the students on the social media they are not used to e.g., Goggle, operamini, chrome etc through seminars and workshop.

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