

Volume 1, No.2, November – December 2012 International Journal of Information Technology Infrastructure Available Online at http://warse.org/pdfs/ijiti02122012.pdf

Social Networking & Its Impact on Education-System in Contemporary Era

Preeti Srivastava

Research Scholar, Department of Pedagogical Sciences, Faculty of Education, Dayalbagh Educational Institute, Agra, UP, India deipreetisrivastava@rediffmail.com

Abstract: Just a few years ago, social networking meant little more to educators than the headache of determining whether to penalize students for inappropriate activities captured on Facebook or My Space. Now, teachers and students have a vast array of social-networking sites and tools—from Ning to Voice Thread and Second Life—to draw on for such serious uses as professional development and project collaboration. Educators who support using social networking for education say it has become so ubiquitous for students—who start using sites like Webkinz and Club Penguin when they are in elementary school—that it just makes sense to engage them this way.

Though teachers and students are now pushing learning beyond the borders of the classroom through social networking, which move also comes with hurdles, including the fact that many schools still block access to such sites within their walls. School officials must also confront the uncertainties and questions surrounding privacy issues, proper management, and cyber security when they open their doors to social-networking sites. On the other hand, educators can help students realize even more benefits from their social network site use by working to deepen students' still emerging ideas about what it means to be a good digital citizen and leader online.

However it's a world that some educators are realizing students feel at home in and is unlikely to disappear. A study by the Washington-based Pew Research Centre's Internet & American Life Project released early this year found that 73 percent of Americans ages 12 to 17 now use social-networking websites, up from 55 percent in 2006.

Key words: Affective Domain, Antisocial Network, Cognitive Domain, Conative Domain, Educational Social Networking, Social Networking Sites [SNSs].

INTRODUCTION

A class 10 student of St Aloysius High School, Mangalore has created a social networking website of his own. With this step, he has shaved off a good five years from the age at which Mark Zuckerberg started Facebook, which is the biggest social media website in the world presently.

-The Times of India, July 3, 2012 [1]

Social Networking Sites have recently showed a value of social and political movement. In the Egyptian Revolution, both Twitter and Facebook played a pivotal role in keeping people connected to the revolt. Egyptian Activists have credited Social Networking Sites with providing platform for the planning and sharing news from Tahrir Square in real time. By presenting a platform for thousands of people to instantaneously share videos of mainly events featuring brutality, Social Networking Sites proves to be a vital tool in revolutions. [2].

The internet is more than just a means of seeking information. People discovered that the internet could be used to connect with other people, whether for business or commercial purpose, make new friends, reawaken old friends and long lost relatives. The emergence of social networking sites(SNSs) simply the whole process as majority of them are free to use, they are easier to use and navigate, because it does not require advanced knowledge and experience of the internet and are made up of a wide array of different formats and topics, this means that just about anyone can connect.

Currently, there are hundreds of SNSs that can draw millions of people, with diverse technological, affordance. Nearly all sites enable persons to avail pre-exciting connections and initiate friendships between strangers. With a rush in the number of people who use or have access to the internet, SNSs are a must for the internet community to stay in touch with each other. [3].

The majority of users the SNSs are youngster in higher education. They often use SNSs to stay in touch with their offline friends or bolster existing connections rather than developing new affairs. That exposed a significant message that the SNSs could be a possible medium to gain more recognition of online learning than conventional e-learning platform if the elaborately designed activities can be closely integrated into the features of SNSs.

SNSs allow students to express themselves, communicate and collect profiles that highlight their talents and experiences. Researchers have fast realized the need to incorporate this into the educational faculties as a resource to support the educational communications between students and faculties, even though institutions of higher learning have tried preventing students from accessing technologies which is of less importance to their academic benefit. Therefore educational institutions should think to evolve methodologies that imbibe SNSs for educational purposes. Because it will enhance an atmosphere to motivate students communications as it relates to their studies. Depending on the category of SNSs been thought of, the idea has a lot of positive attributes and will encourage higher acceptance rates among students. An email is a familiar technology that lecturers already adopt in exchanging educational messages between them and students. However, the proposed use is a familiar communication tool. [4].

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

In this study the following objectives are taken into the consideration:

- 1. To understand the social networking and their roles.
- 2. To understand the impact of social networking sites on education-system.
- 3. To find out the pros and cons of social networking sites regarding student's academic achievement.
- 4. To explore the consequences of the social networking sites in education system.
- 5. To provide safety measure for helping progeny socialize safely online.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The nature of this research is qualitative. Therefore, present study is based on observation and documentary analysis.

SOCIAL NETWORKING

A social networking service is an online service, platform, or site that focuses on facilitating the building of social networks or social relations among people who, for example, share interests, activities, backgrounds, or real-life connections. A social network service consists of a representation of each user (often a profile), his/her social links, and a variety of additional services. Most social network services are web-based and provide means for users to interact over the Internet, such as e-mail and instant messaging. Online community services are sometimes considered as a social network service, though in a broader sense, social network service usually means an individual-centered service whereas online community services are group-centered. Social networking sites allow users to share ideas, activities, events, and interests within their individual networks.

A. Web-based social networking services make it possible to connect people who share interests and activities across political, economic, and geographic borders. Through e-mail and instant messaging, online communities are created where a gift economy and reciprocal altruism are encouraged through cooperation. Information is particularly suited to gift economy, as information is a nonrival good and can be gifted at practically no cost .[5].

Facebook and other social networking tools is increasingly the object of scholarly research. Scholars in many fields have begun to investigate the impact of social-networking sites, investigating how such sites may play into issues of identity, privacy, social capital, youth culture, and education.

The friends that you can make are just one of the many benefits to social networking online. Another one of those benefits includes diversity because the internet gives individuals from all around the world access to social networking sites. This means that although you are in the United States, you could develop an online friendship with someone in Denmark or India. Not only will you make new friends, but you just might learn a thing or two about new cultures or new languages and learning is always a good thing.

Role of social networking sites in different spheres of life

Years ago when we referred to social networking, images of a happy hour cocktail or high tea with a group of friends would come to mind. Today, the term has gone electronic and sociologically provides some of the same concepts but in a different manner-face to face has become computer to computer.

Some social networks developed for some special community groups of the society as children, people at schools or companies in specific regions, high schools, colleges etc. Currently social networking plays a momentous role in the world of digital information system. Now our family patter has been changed. We consume most of our time in virtual world instead of real in different aspects of life, no imagination without computer along with network.

Educational Social Networking

"Educational Networking" is the use of social networking technologies for educational purposes. Because the phrase "social networking" can carry some negative connotations for educators, the phrase "educational networking" may be a way of more objectively discussing the pedagogical value of these tools. [6]. Indian technology economy has a long history of leadership in e-learning, and so building an official social network to augment other educational efforts sounds like a smart next step to explore. Many have tried before; let's see what the government can do. Given the massive adoption of mobile devices in India (second most data consumption in the world), it will be interesting to see what kind of mobile component the effort will have.

The government of Rajasthan, one of the largest states in India, is building out extensive infrastructure for Information and Communication Technology resources and training, with the collaboration of multiple international agencies including the World Economic Forum. And next month, the state's information technology department plans on launching its own education social network: like Facebook, for learning. According to coverage in The Economic Times of India and elsewhere, the site will include all the standard features of social networking (photos, games) but will be focused primarily on educational collaboration and will include topic experts jumping in to answer questions raised by users. [7]. Can a state-built social network prove compelling to young users? That will probably be easier said than done, but it sounds like there are enough resources behind the project to expect meaningful investment in research and design. The responsible departments own website doesn't inspire a lot of confidence, though.Pluggd.in, a leading blog about technology startups in India, calls both the country's school management software and its education system in general "archaic."

In April, the Indian national government passed a law recognizing the United Nations declaration that education is a universal human right. Only Belgium and Holland have joined India in doing so. Unfortunately, the Indian government is also apt to pass laws permitting censorship of online communications.

"65 percent of today's grade-school kids may end up doing work that hasn't been invented yet," says Cathy N. Davidson, co-director of the HASTAC & Foundation Digital Media and Learning Competition. [8].

IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES ON EDUCATION-SYSTEM

Educators and advocates of new digital literacy are confident that social networking encourages the development of transferable, technical, and social skills of value in formal and informal learning. In a formal learning environment, goals or objectives are determined by an outside department or agency. Tweeting, instant messaging, or blogging enhances student involvement. Students who would not normally participate in class are more apt to partake through social network services. Networking allows participants the opportunity for just-in-time learning and higher levels of engagement.

The use of SNSs allows educators to enhance the prescribed curriculum. When learning experiences are infused into a website, students utilize everyday for fun; students realize that learning can and should be a part of everyday life. It does not have to be separate and unattached. Informal learning consists of the learner setting the goals and objectives.

It has been claimed that media no longer just influence our culture. They are our culture. With such a high number of users between the ages of 13-18, a number of skills are developed. Participants hone technical skills in choosing to navigate through social networking services. This includes elementary items such as sending an instant message or updating a status. The developments of new media skills are paramount in helping youth navigate the digital world with confidence.

Social networking services foster learning through what Jenkins (2006) describes as a "Participatory Culture." A participatory culture consists of a space that allows engagement, sharing, mentoring, and an opportunity for social interaction. Participants of social network services avail of this opportunity. Informal learning, in the forms of participatory and social learning online, is an excellent tool for teachers to sneak in material and ideas that students will identify with and therefore, in a secondary manner, students will learn skills that would normally be taught in a formal setting in the more interesting and engaging environment of social learning. Sites like Twitter provide students with the opportunity to converse and collaborate with others in real time. [9].

Social networking services provide a virtual "space" for learners. James Gee (2004) suggests, "Affinity spaces instantiate participation, collaboration, distribution, and dispersion of expertise and relatedness. Registered users share and search for knowledge which contributes to informal learning." [10].

The students of Whittemore School of Business and Economics completed a survey on 'social networking usage and grades among college students' in which they surveyed all the colleges of University of New Hampshire. Social 89%, Entertainment 79%, Educational 26%, Professional 16% and others 5%, in which they found that "the majority (89 percent) of students use these networks for social reasons and entertainment. About quarter (26 percent) of students uses social media for educational reasons and 16 percent for professional reasons." [11].

THE PROS & CONS OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES REGARDING STUDENTS' ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Academic performance is how students deal with their studies and how they cope with or accomplish different tasks given to them by their teachers. It was indicated that friendship networks often necessitates access to information and knowledge directly and indirectly and the friendship network effect on students' academic performance has been confirmed. Involvement of a student in these forms of activities such as making friends on social networks should be seen as a way of having access to up to date information that is relevant and can be channeled towards improving his academic performance. It depends on the ability and willingness of the concerned individual to be able to harness that opportunity to cope with academic related stress.

Friendship network often necessitate access to information and knowledge directly and indirectly and the friendship network effect on students' academic performance has been has been confirmed. Harnessing properly the opportunities that are bound through this networks tend to help the students lots in a positive manner and can be channeled into helping others. A student who records a high ingenuity on social networks has the tendency to make lots of friends online and also may translate same to his normal daily academic life.

The pros of social networking sites regarding students' academic achievement

- Collaboration for educands: SNSs have increased the rate and quality of collaboration for student. They are better able to communicate meeting times or share information quickly, which can increase productivity and help them learn how to work well in groups. On the other hand by spending so much time working with new technologies, students develop more familiarity with computers and other electronic devices. With the increased focus on technology in education and business, this will help them build skills that will aid them through their lives.
- Development of creativity: The ease and speed with which users can upload pictures, videos or stories has resulted in a greater amount of sharing creative works. Being able to get instant feedback from friends and family on their creative outlets helps students refine and develop their artistic abilities and can provide much needed confidence and help them decide what career path they may pursue.
- Finding good people: social networking sites like LinkedIn are a great resource for business owners to find new talent or even partners for a new venture.
- Free Business Promotion: This is probably the biggest advantage for business owners using social networking sites. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+ and many others are great forums for us to talk about our business, our services and even exhibit our industry. Thus, SNSs teach students skills they will need to survive in the4 business world. Being able to create and maintain connections to many people in many industries is an integral part of developing a career or building a business. And, by consistently interacting and posting a person can build trust and credibility amongst their audience which in turn can lead to more business
- Expertise: Low Cost Advertising: Some social networking sites provide a business owner with the opportunity to advertise to a very specific demographic for very little money. So we can advertise to exactly the customer that we want to attract and save money versus other forms of advertising.
- Ease of Communication: Social networking sites allow us a fast and free resource for communicating with our customers and potential customers. Announce sales, promotions, special events and more by simply typing our message and posting it to our page or profile.
- Development of Domains: Cognitive, Affective and Conative Domains are also developed by the regress practice of SNSs in the appropriate way. It enhances the vocabulary, grammar, expression herself/himself in proper manner with the condition of "No Short Cut Way" or no "self made – Abbreviations". By practice, gradually, educands come to the state of the development of these three domains.

The ease with which a student can customize their profile makes them more aware of basic aspect of design and layout that are not often taught in schools. Building resumes and personal websites, which are increasingly used as online portfolios, benefit greatly from the skills obtained customizing the layout and the designs of social networking profiles.

Educational Benefits of SNSs: Science Daily, June 21, 2008 -in a first-of-its-kind study, researchers at the University of Minnesota have discovered the educational benefits of social networking sites such as MySpace and Facebook. This study found that low-income students are in many ways just as technologically proficient as their counterparts, going against what results from previous studies have suggested. Greenhow said that the study's results, while proving that social networking sites offer more than just social fulfillment or professional networking, also have implications for educators, who now have a vast opportunity to support what students are learning on the Web sites.

"Now that we know what skills students are learning and what experiences they're being exposed to, we can help foster and extend those skills," said Greenhow. Again he emphasis, "As educators, we always want to know where our students are coming from and what they're interested in so we can build on that in our teaching. By understanding how students may be positively using these networking technologies in their daily lives and where the as yet unrecognized educational opportunities are, we can help make schools even more relevant, connected and meaningful to kids." [13].

The cons of social networking sites regarding student's academic achievement

- * Accessibility of Information: Many students rely on the accessibility of information on social media specifically and the web in general to provide answers. That means a reduced focus on learning and retaining information.
- * Everything is Public: The nature of social networking sites is that they are 'well' social, so things get shared. And one small mistake can morph into a public relations nightmare.

The degree to which private information is available online and the anonymity the internet seems to provide has made students forget the need to filter the information they post. Many colleges and potential employers investigate an applicant's social profiles before granting acceptance or interviews. Most students don't constantly evaluate the content they are publishing online, which can bring about the negative consequences months or years down the road.

Multitasking or Lack of Concentration: Students who attempt to multi-task, checking social media sites while studying and show reduce academic performance. Their ability to concentrate on the task at hand is significantly

@ 2012, IJITI All Rights Reserved

reduced by the distractions that are broad about by you tube, Facebook, twitter etc.

* Negative Publicity: People really like to use social networking sites as a place to express their frustration and disapproval of a business that they feel has wronged them in some way. Being on the receiving end of this negative publicity can have dire consequences, so it's important to keep your customers happy and respond quickly to any issues that someone does publicize.

* Time Consuming: Social networking sites can suck us in and before we know it, we've spent hours looking at pictures, videos, and reading clever posts. It's important to remember when using social networking sites for business purposes that we stay on task and only spend time on the things that help our business.

★ Living in the Virtual World: Often SNSs becomes an addict and the person use to live in virtual world rather real world. Therefore they cut themselves from real life conflicts, issues and facts. When the consciousnesses arise, precious time has been passed out. Ultimately only regret remains. Moreover, the more students spend on social sites, the less time they spend socializing in person. Because of body signals and non verbal cues, like tone and inflection, social are not an adequate replacement for face-to –face communication. They spend a great deal of time on SNSs are less able to effectively communicate in person.

* Negligence of Grammar and Spelling: The popularity of social media and the speed, at which information is published, has created a lax attitude towards proper spelling and grammar. The reduction of a student's ability to effectively write without relying on a computer's spell check feature.

Social Networking Sites Advantages and Disadvantages There are many more arguments that could be made for social networking sites advantages and disadvantages, but we believe that the advantages of using social networking sites far outweigh the disadvantages. [12].

CONSEQUENCES OF THE SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES ON EDUCATION

What needs to happen in education?

The debate between whether social networking is a distraction towards education is always going to be around, the only way to fix this problem is to weigh the benefits and costs the students in your school are taking by using social networking. Most teachers and administrators won't enjoy the fact that their students are using MySpace, Facebook or Live Journal but they also need to understand there are other forms of social networking such as Pure volume, YouTube Flickr and Piczo. This can be helpful to a students learning enviroment, as long as it is used correctly and responsibly.

Here, I would like to quote an example i.e. At New Milford High School in New Jersey, the school's official Facebook page keeps its 1,100 fans updated on sports events and academic achievements. Students who travelled to Europe this spring for a tour of Holocaust sites blogged daily about their experiences, and received comments from all over the world. Other students have used the video voice service Skype to talk to their peers in states like Iowa for school projects. For Principal Eric C. Sheninger, the micro-blogging tool Twitter has become his mainstay for professional development as well as school promotion. Through Twitter contacts, he formed a partnership with a company that donated technology equipment and training to the school, and he linked up with CBS News, which brought national exposure to the high school's programs. He said, "I used to be the administrator that blocked every social-media site, and now I'm the biggest champion," Sheninger says. "I'm just someone who is passionate about engaging students and growing professionally, and I'm using these free tools to do it." [14].

Just a few years ago, social networking meant little more to educators than the headache of determining whether to penalize students for inappropriate activities captured on Facebook or MySpace. Now, teachers and students have a vast array of social-networking sites and tools—from Ning to Voice Thread and Second Life—to draw on for such serious uses as professional development and project collaboration. Educators who support using social networking for education say it has become so ubiquitous for students—who start using sites like Webkinz and Club Penguin when they are in elementary school—that it just makes sense to engage them this way.

Moreover, it's a world that some educators are realizing students feel at home in and is unlikely to disappear. A study by the Washington-based Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project released early this year found that 73 percent of Americans ages 12 to 17 now use social-networking websites, up from 55 percent in 2006. "Social networking is not going to go away," says Steve Hargadon, the creator of the 42,000-member Classroom 2.0 network on Ning, a popular site among educators. He's also a social-learning consultant for the ed-tech company Elluminate, based in Pleasanton, Calif. "These are so powerful in terms of learning," Hargadon says of such tools. [15].

Current impact

There are a few social networking sites which are educational such as blogger.com where we blog our academic work and share them other blog-users around the world. It is called blogging but it can fall under the category of 'social networking'. Social networking in middle and high school can become a detriment to education because students' usually go through the transition from becoming a kid to a teenager. In a teenagers life, attention and popularity is the most important for which most of them tend to misuse social networking sites and use them for socializing and meeting new people instead of using it for educational purposes popular social networking sites, including MySpace and Facebook, are changing the human fabric of the Internet and have the potential to pay off big for investors, but -- given their youthful user base -- they are unusually vulnerable to the next 'new new' thing. As quickly as users flock to one trendy Internet site, they can just as quickly move on to another, with no advance warning, according to Wharton faculty and Internet analysts

In some schools, social networking has changed the way educators teach and students learn, says Silvia Rosenthal Tolisano, the 21st-century-learning specialist at the private, K-8 Martin J. Gottlieb Day School in Jacksonville, Fla. In January 2009, Tolisano launched her "Around the World with 80 Schools" project. The goal was to introduce her school's students to peers in countries around the globe. She built a social-networking site using Ning for teachers from all countries who wanted to participate, eventually attracting 300 members. Tolisano says she sets up a meeting between classes using Skype. Students prepare a list of questions (What's the weather like there? How big is your town or city? What continent are you on?) And chat with students in Canada, Finland, New Zealand, and Spain, among a long list of others.

"With social networking allowing teachers to connect one-to-one and one-to-many, they have the professional development that they really desire." says Steven W. Anderson, Instructional Technologist, Clemmons Middle School. The Florida students also have different jobs to do during the call. One might be a photographer, documenting the meet-and-greet. Others place the location of the class they're talking with on a Google map. Still other students might serve as Twitter "backchannelers," who send out tweets—the short messages Twitter is designed to convey—as the live event is happening. Classes even added "fact checkers," which goes back to make sure the information provided is accurate.

One group of Gottlieb students had just read a book about Orca whales and wanted to know more, so they contacted a class in British Columbia, where whale watching is a common pastime. Within a week, the British Columbia students hopped on a boat and shot video of a pod of Orcas, which they sent to the students in Florida, Tolisano says, "It creates a global awareness that there is a wider world out there and that we are not alone......They find it's just as easy to collaborate with a class in England as with the class next door." [16].

While students haven't become enamored with Twitter yet, it has become a hot spot for educators to find professional development and resources. One of the most popular types of educator events on Twitter is "EdChats"—one-hour conversations that take place every Tuesday around a particular topic. The chats are the brainchild of several educators, including Thomas Whitby, a co-creator of a 3,700-member Ning site called The Educator's PLN, for "professional-learning network." Social networking is allowing teachers, who often feel isolated in their classrooms, to revolutionize the way they connect with others, says Whitby, a former English teacher who is now an adjunct professor of education for secondary English at St. Joseph's College in New York City. Teachers are "finding out about a whole wide range of options beyond what is done in their own building," he says. "People are trying more things based on recommendations from teachers around the world." [17].

But many educators who see the value in social networking face significant obstacles to incorporating it into their school days. Both Twitter and Facebook are blocked by many school computer networks .Facebook is too much of an intrusion into students' personal and social lives for educators to be using it as an educational method. I'm not against collaborative, online education with students, but I am against merging their personal home, private family world with something that is required for a class activity. Millions of things can go wrong.

Thus, Schools also need to pay close attention to federal laws like the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 [COPPA], which seeks to protect children's privacy and bars most children under 13 from participating in many websites. Education officials should also consider other federal laws like the Children's Internet Protection Act [CIPA], which requires schools to provide Internet filtering to prevent access by students to offensive content over the Internet, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA], which protects the privacy of student information. [18].

SAFTY MEASURES TO HELP PROGENY SOCIALIZE SAFELY ONLINE

On Guard Online urges parents to talk to their children about social networking sites, and offers these guidelines for using these sites safely:

- In some circumstances, the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act and Rule require social networking sites to get parental consent before they collect, maintain, or use personal information from children under age 13.
- Keep the computer in an open area, like family room, so we may keep an eye on where our kids are online and what they're doing.
- Should use the Internet with our family. Be open to learning about the technology so we can keep up with them.
- Should talk to our offspring about their online habits. If they use social networking sites, tell them why it's important to keep information like their name, Social Security number, address, phone number, and family financial information — like bank or credit card account numbers — to themselves. Remind them that they should not share that information about other people in the family or about their friends, either.

Children should be cautious about sharing other information too, like the name of their school, sports teams, clubs, where they work or hang out, or any other information that could be used to identify them or locate them offline.

- Make sure our kids' screen names don't say too much about them. Explain why it's inappropriate and even dangerous although to use their full name, age, or hometown. Even if he/she thinks their screen name makes them anonymous, it doesn't take a genius to combine clues to figure out who our kids are and where they can be found.
- Always use privacy settings to restrict who can access and post on our child's website. We may approve of their friends from school, clubs, teams, community groups, or your family being able to view our children website, but not strangers from a neighboring town or school.
- Our kids should post only information that we and they are comfortable with others seeing and knowing. Many people can see their page, including their teachers, the police, a college admissions officer, or a potential employer.
- Constantly remind our children that once they post information online, they can't take it back. Even if they delete the information from a site, older versions exist on other people's computers.
- Must warn our kids about the dangers of flirting with strangers online. Because some people lie online about whom they really are no one ever really knows who they're dealing with.
- Should tell our children to trust their gut if they have suspicions. If they feel threatened by someone or uncomfortable because of something online, they need to tell us and then report it to the police and the social networking site. We could end up preventing someone else from becoming a victim.
- If we're concerned that our child is engaging in risky online behavior, we can search the blog sites they visit to see what information they're posting. Try searching by their name, nickname, school, hobbies, grade, or area where we live.
- Should check site privacy policies. Some sites may share information like our child's email address with other companies, which could generate spam and even spyware on the family computer. Sites' privacy policies or other posted links for parents also may contain contact information for us to ask about our child's personal information. [19].

How can parents mitigate the negative aspects of social media while improving upon the positive results? Moderating their access to social media is one excellent method. Most of the negative aspects can be overcome by reducing the amount of time spent on social network sites. Provide ample time for face-to-face social interaction, like having some family leisure time in which we discuss their studies in a relaxed atmosphere or inviting friends and family friends and over the cookouts.

Paying attention to their academic progress and addressing any issues will go a long way towards keeping the negative aspects of social media from influencing their studies. In fact, using sites, just to talk to people, whom we meet every day at school, is pointless and gets monotonous over a short period of time thus youngsters tend to meet people they don't know and soon become friends. Some take the better and safer step and that is instead of adding up strangers, they could search for their old friends.

CONCLUSION

Though teachers and students are now pushing learning beyond the borders of the classroom through social networking, which move also comes with hurdles, including the fact that many schools still block access to such sites within their walls. School officials must also confront the uncertainties and questions surrounding privacy issues, proper management, and cyber security when they open their doors to social-networking sites.

Anthanasopoulos et al... said, "We define antisocial networks as a social network, deviously manipulated for launching activities connected with fraud and cyber-crime. Secret life becomes dangerous only when combined with toxic elements such as severe psychological abnormalities or extreme antisocial behaviour. Technology can enhance the secrecy, especially when parents remain uninformed or fail to articulate clear values and enforceable rules. Proper modeling by parents is also important e.g. in the area of file sharing and copyright infringement. A parent who demonstrates restraint in the face of the gap that exists between the law and technology provides implicit advice that one should be cautious when using new technologies" [20].

Also, most of the information put on the social networking sites is fake, concocted or half truths. While going through this information, we feel annoyed on one hand and also develop the same habit of posting misleading information on the other. This way it adds negatively to socio-psychological behaviour of the human being. The people are getting addicted to those sites day-by-day.the numbers of users is on the rise. This proves that e-world is talking its toll over the real world. The people are getting secluded. For the sake of numbers, they have lots of friends, but in reality they are devoid of good friends. This again, affects human behaviour. People are becoming individualistic. Social values are vanishing.

At last I would like to conclude my paper by the appropriate, balanced and socially approved use of SNSs with wisdom along with rationale thinking. If we don't take that golden opportunity to teach students about the responsibility of using these things, we lose a teachable moment. If schools block them, they're preventing students from learning the skills they need to know. Excess of everything is bad. This is a universal truth. One should be cautious when using new technologies

REFERENCES

[1] The Times of India. (2012). 15-year-old creates new social networking site. [Online]. Available:

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-07-03/social-media /32522378_1_social-networking-new-website-interactive-site

- [2] From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia. (2011). Social networking service. [Online]. Available: http://en. wikipedia.org/ wiki/Social_networking_service
- [3] Srivastava, Preeti, "Educational Informatics: An Era in Education", paper presented at International Conference on the theme of "Technology Enhanced Education (ICTEE)" 2012, IEEE (International Conference) at Amrita Institute of Engineering, Kollam, Kerala, January 5-7, 2012.
- [4] Srivastava, Preeti, "Professional Development of Teacher Educator Integrating through ICT", Paper presented at the National Seminar," Current Issues in Teacher Education." [UGC-SAP], CASE, Faculty of Education and Psychology, the M.S. University. of Baroda, Vadodara, March 14-15, 2011.
- [5] Educational Networking. (2012). Educational Networking. [Online]. Available: http://www.educationalnetworking.com/
- [6] Educational Networking. (2012). Educational Networking. [Online]. Available: http://www.educationalnetworking.com/
- [7] Read Write Web. (2011) Indian Government to Launch Education Social Network. [Online]. Available: http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/indian_government_to_lau nch_education_social_network.php
- [8] Cathy, N. Davidson, Now You See It, Viking Press, August 18, 2011. [Online]. Available: http://www.cathydavidson.com/
- [9] Johnson, D., Connections for Learning: Schools and the Educational Use of Social Networking, www.Saywire.com January 2009 © Harver Group LLC. [Online]. Available: https://saywire.com/downloads/Saywire-White-Paper.pdf
- [10] J. R. Gee. (2004) Good Video Games and Good Morning. [Online]. Available:
- www.academiccolab.org/resources/documents/Good_Learning.pdf [11] "Social Networking Usage and Grades among College Students" A Major Project by Research Team, Whittemore School of Business
- and Economics, University of New Hampshire [12] Edudemic. (July, 2011) The 10 Best and Worst Ways Social Media Impacts Education. [Online] .Available: http://edudemic.com/2011/07/social-media-education/
- [13] University of Minnesota (2008, June21), Educational Benefits of Social Networking Sites Uncovered, Science Daily, Retrieved October 8, 2012, from http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2008/06/080620133907.htm.
- [14] Education Week, Digital Directions. (June 14, 2010). Social Networking Goes to School. [Online]. Available: http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2010/06/16/03networking.h03.h tml
- [15] How People Get Local News and Information in Different Communities, [online] available, http://www.slideshare.net/PewInternet
- [16] http://www.greatschools.org/florida/jacksonville/3303-Martin-J-Go ttlieb-Day-School/
- [17] Michelle R. Davis [2010], Social Networking for Schools, Social Net's Body of Knowledge-Social Network Sharing, [online] available, http://snbok.com/sample-page/
- [18] Indian Government v Social networking Sites: Expert Views, [December 08, 2011], Bar and Bench, [online] available, http://www.barandbench.com/brief/2/1891/indian-government-v-so cial-networking-sites-expert-views
- [19] Horizontal Project. (2012) Impact on Education Social Networking. [online] available.: http://horizonproject.wikispaces.com/Impact+on+Education+Social Networking
- [20] Elizabeth Power, Online Social networking sites and Students achievement, Dissertation, M. Ed., Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. john's, Newfoundland and Labrador, July22, 2012, [online] available, http://www.slideshare.net/liz99power/effect-of-online-social-netwo rking-sites-on-student-engagement-and-achievement