Internet Effects on Students Education

Kim Alvarado

Northern Marianas College

Author’s Note

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ABSTRACT

The internet is a great tool in providing people with entertainment, knowledge, news, and anything we can think of. With the growth of technology and the internet it can be a helpful resource in our day to day school lives. It can also be over relied on and over shadow original book and journal articles. Students need to know how to manage themselves from distractions and work.

Internet Effects on Student’s Education

The Internet is a big factor when it comes to student’s education. It can provide students with useful information and resources to better their work for their classes. High school students to College students have huge opportunities to better their work, but some parents and teachers see internet as a distraction. The internet is filled with many things like games, social networking, entertainment, etc. While the overall general public tends to feel that the internet is the cause of failure, it is but one, if not the biggest, impact on students’ success for their education.

Success in education is a big factor in life. Not in all cases do people succeed in life because they succeeded in education. Bill Gates is a role model when it comes to computers and success without education. Little do people know, Bill Gates dropped out of Harvard because he had an opportunity that could change his life for the better. “…It was a hard decision and I know my parents had their concerns. And while I would never encourage anyone to drop out of school, for me, it turned out to be the right choice." (Bill Gates, p. 1). The internet came along when computers were created. It has been evolving since then and now, it has allowed some free college level courses. Stanford, MIT, and Yale are some of the elite colleges that offer free courses. With the internet also comes growing social networking and games.

Social Networking and Gaming can be very addictive. With the growth rate of technology, people are more likely to be involved with social networking and gaming. Students see social networking and games as a stress reliever, time consumer, or maybe even a homework avoider. There are always distractions that may cause a students’ performance to slip away from their education. It’s all about trends with the internet. There can be many causes of internet trends that can cause students to slack off school work. Not all use of social networking and gaming bad, it can be beneficial if used right. Students are able to form groups and share ideas, information, and anything possible to help each other out. (The Shallows p. 60)

Students who use the internet have many options on what to do in the World Wide Web. The internet is a vast variety of entertainment for the user. Some say the internet is the cause of failure in a students’ education with all the distractions it may cause, but it may be that the students don’t understand the assignment or they don’t know how to use the library, or they struggle with the technique of writing research papers or they don’t understand the material they are supposed to read. Relying too much on the internet will not be of help in future assignment, so students should know how to balance books and online articles.

The web will continuously grow with resources, articles, news, and knowledge that are provided for students. It may overshadow original resources, like books. The accessibility of online resources beats books and libraries, but may not be academic compared. This also can mislead students to procrastinate because of easier access to articles online Some students take advantage of their time and end up procrastinating, thus not fulfilling their assignment, while other students diligently take their time to do their assignments.

Methodology

Participants

High School students (50 female, 50 male, age range: 16 – 20 years old) from Saipan Southern High School filled up my survey. College Students (30 female, 30 male, age range 18 – 22 years old) from Northern Marianas College filled up my survey. Some college students were involved through a pilot survey.

Materials and Procedure

Giving a pilot survey to my English class for starters was a fast and easy way to get feedback to better help and fix questions before passing out surveys to other college and high school students. After the pilot survey, I distributed the surveys to Saipan Southern High School students randomly by going to different classrooms, by kindly asking teachers for their cooperation. For college students, I randomly passed out surveys to students in other classes I am attending, this helped with immediate responses.

Results

High school students tend to use internet mainly as a tool for entertainment, distractions, etc. The reason behind this is because some don’t need access to internet information. As for College students, majority of the analyzed data showed that they use the internet as a great source for their assigned work. The reason behind it is because of the availability it provides them with easy access to information.

Discussion

Future Suggestions

* Encourage parent’s kids and teacher’s students to use internet resources for assigned work.
* Use of Social Network (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) as tool for helping out each other out. Whether it is sharing information, pictures, ideas, to asking help when it is needed.
* The Public School System in the CNMI is implementing further use of technology involving computer and internet use. This being said, teachers should teach their students how to gather information online.

Conclusion

The internet has great access to better help student’s education. This being said, some parent’s and teacher’s see the World Wide Web as a wall that prevents students from learning. As it is filled with social networking, games, entertainment sites, distractions, and almost anything random that would possibly affect their work ethic. Access to free online college courses is a big step to higher education. The internet is not the basis of student’s downfall on their education, yet it could possibly be the climb to higher education. The internet is a privilege given to everyone; it only takes diligence and determination.

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