

Research Article

The youth's interpersonal communication with friends and family: The impacts of social media

Maharsi Widya Astuti^a, Riny Jefri^b, Lely Novia^{b*}^a Undergraduate Student of Business English Communication, Faculty of Languages and Literature, Universitas Negeri Makassar, Makassar, 90224, Indonesia^b Business English Communication Department, Faculty of Languages and Literature, Universitas Negeri Makassar, Makassar, 90224, Indonesia**Article Information****Keywords:**Social media impact
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doi: [10.33750/ijhi.v6i1.171](https://doi.org/10.33750/ijhi.v6i1.171)**Abstract**

This study aims to determine whether or not the use of social media by youth reduces their interaction with family. For the sample in this study, a simple random sampling method was used as part of a quantitative method. Students from the Business English Communication classes in the 2019–2020 and 2021 batches served as the study's subjects. In this study, there are two variables: social media (X) and interaction with family (Y). Two different types of questionnaires, open-ended and closed-ended, were used as the instruments and data collection techniques. The normality test, linearity test, and t-test for hypothesis testing were used in this study for data analysis. Data analysis was done based on the questionnaire results, and the outcomes for the two variables fell into the high category. The results of the study show that social media reduces adolescents' social interaction with family. The t-test results demonstrated that H₀ is rejected when the value of t-count exceeds t-table (11.385 > 2.002). Therefore, it can be concluded that the results support the Alternative hypothesis, which states that youth use of social media reduces the social interaction with family.

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**1. Introduction**

The verbal and nonverbal exchange of information between two or more interdependent individuals is referred to as interpersonal communication (DeVito, 2019). With non-verbal cues like tone of voice, facial expressions, gestures, and body language, interpersonal communication is more than just what is said or the language used (Dragojevic & Giles, 2014; Jacobs et al., 2002; McGlone & Giles, 2011; Wello & Novia, 2021). Modern media technology is evolving at a breakneck pace. The media is expanding and becoming more varied. A new form of communication entered society due to the creation and growth of the Internet. Social media have altered modern society's communication paradigm. There are no physical boundaries preventing communication. From young children to teenagers to adults, anyone can use

social media. The use of social media is now widespread in society, particularly among young people. In general, they all use social media regularly for both communication and entertainment. The people who use social media a lot more than others are young. Social media is no longer just a tool for communication; it is now a venue for social interaction.

Social media has mushroomed in its use (Hermida, 2016). Among young people, social media is a must-have. When referring to the role in the current era, social media provides a fairly broad role for today's young generation. The things that become the role of social media in general, including being a source of communication, education, means of entertainment and can have a big influence on the lives of young people. However, if we look at the characteristics of social media, we can also see the role of social media in influencing young people's thinking. The easy communication that can appear through social media can

* Corresponding author.

Email: lelynovia@unm.ac.id

positively and negatively affect today's youth because young people tend to imitate the behavior styles of others they see on social media.

The previous study by Rantai et al. (2014) showed that students used social media for chatting, entertainment, and news seeking. Most students concur that Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube are the most effective social media platforms for fostering relationships. The students also concur that social media can enhance positive relationships among youth. Kumar et al. (2016) discovered that teenagers over-rely on social media, and their interpersonal relationships and communication had been significantly affected by it. Gapsiso and Wilson (2015) discovered that teenagers' use of the Internet appears to weaken their bonds with family and friends and has some effect on their ability to communicate with one another in person. The study concludes that because teenagers spend more time online than in person with their friends and family, they spend less time talking to their friends and family members.

The three studies examine social media use from distinctly different angles, so the research findings mentioned above are considered pertinent to the research studies conducted by researchers. Rantai et al. (2014) discussed the goal of using social media, the frequently used social media, and the usage of social media in enhancing positive relationships among youth. Adolescents' use of social media and its impact on how they interact with others personally are both topics covered by Kumar et al. (2016). Moreover, Gapsiso and Wilson (2015) examined the Impact of the Internet on face-to-face communication. Therefore, this study examines the relationship between internet use and teenagers' face-to-face communication and whether internet usage is weakening their desire for face-to-face communication.

Based on the previous studies, the researchers indicated that the findings demonstrated social media's significance and various uses. The researchers feel that it is necessary to investigate more deeply the youth's interpersonal communication with friends and family and the impacts of social media on them. Since the advent of advanced technology, particularly social media, has social interaction changed? This topic was brought up because few studies in Indonesia still look at how social media affects young people's interpersonal interactions. The motivation for this research came from the author's personal experience interacting and communicating with family and friends. It has become challenging and occasionally even rare to have private conversations with family and friends without physically being present or participating in social interaction. In this study, the research question is, "Does the use of social media by youth reduce interaction with family?"

2. Method

2.1. Research Design

This study used a quantitative research methodology that used surveys. According to Bryman (2012), quantitative research is a subset of research that strongly emphasizes quantifying data collection and analysis, and it is based on a deductive approach in which the emphasis is on theory testing. This study has two variables: social media (X) and

interaction with family (Y). This study was conducted at Universitas Negeri Makassar from September 2022 to January 2023. Students from the Business English Communication classes in the 2019–2020 and 2021 batches served as the study's subjects.

2.2. Procedure of Collecting Data

The authors use the following research process to collect data: The primary data collection method for this study was surveying students at Universitas Negeri Makassar by responding to all the questions on the survey, which was created using a Likert scale. A questionnaire is a method of gathering data in which the respondent is asked a series of questions and is then asked to provide an answer. The questions on the list must be answered to address issues or conduct survey research (Kelley et al., 2003).

2.3. Data Analysis

The following steps were taken to analyze the data in this study:

2.3.1. Normality test

The Kolmogorov-Smirnov test method (Goodman, 1954) was employed in this study to evaluate the normality of the data. Under the following conditions, the researchers use the Kolmogorov-Smirnov test to determine whether or not the data is normally distributed:

- The sample represents a normally distributed population if the Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) significant value is greater than 0.05.
- The sample represents a normally distributed population if the Kolmogorov-Smirnov (KS) significant value is less than 0.05.

2.3.2. Linearity test

The linearity test determines whether or not a linear equation can be used with existing data (Hansen, 1999). The probability value is determined using linearity and deviation from linearity. The significance value reveals the calculated results, which include:

- The two variables' data are linear if the significance level is greater than 0.05.
- The two variables' data are linear if the significance level is less than 0.05.

2.3.3. T-test

The data analysis techniques used in this study are: The effects of the independent variables on the dependent variable were examined using the t-test (Kim, 2015). With degrees of freedom ($df = n - k$), where n is the number of samples and k is the number of variables, the confidence level used is 95% or a significant level (α) of 5%. The significance column in each t-count can be examined, or the t-count can be compared to the t-table.

To interpret the t-test, it must first be determined:

- Significance value α
- df (degree of freedom) = $n - k$
- If the t -count $>$ t -table, then H_0 is rejected, and H_a is accepted.

The formula for finding t-table values is:

$$t\text{-table: } t = [\alpha; (df = n - k)]$$

Description:

n = the number of samples

k = the number of variables

α = confidence level 5% (0.05).

3. Results

This study was conducted at the Universitas Negeri Makassar in South Sulawesi. There are sixty students in the sample for this. The respondents were given a link or URL using a Microsoft Form as part of the data collection process. For a closed-ended questionnaire, the statement consists of thirty statements; an open-ended questionnaire consists of two research questions. After all the data was collected using a statistical application, the researchers began to analyze the data. The outcomes of the normality test, the linearity test, and the t-test for testing the null hypothesis are shown below.

3.1. Normality Test Results

The results of the normality test for the study's social media variable data (X) and family interaction (Y) are calculated in Table 3.2. The significance value is 0.200, which is greater than 0.05 and indicates that the data is normally distributed, according to the calculations above.

Table 1. Normality test results for social media variable (X) and interaction with family (Y)

The Result of the One-Sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov Test		
		Unstandardized Residual
N		60
Normal Parameters ^{a,b}	Mean	.0000000
	Std. Deviation	2.45908946
Most Extreme Differences	Absolute	.092
	Positive	.082
	Negative	-.092
Test Statistic		.092
Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed)		.200 ^{c,d}

a. Test distribution is Normal.

b. Calculated from data.

3.2. Linearity Test Results

It can be inferred from the linearity test results that there is a linear relationship between social media use (X) and family interaction (Y) because of the value of the significant deviation from linearity is $0.150 > 0.05$.

Table 2. Linearity test results for social media variable (X) and interaction with family (Y)

ANOVA						
			Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F Sig.
Interaction with family * Social Media	Between Groups	(Combined)	159.303	20	7.965	1.496 .138
		Linearity	10.203	1	10.203	1.916 .174
	Deviation from Linearity		149.100	19	7.847	1.474 .150
		Within Groups		207.681	39	5.325
Total			366.983	59		

3.3. Hypothesis Test with a T-Test

Based on table 3.3. a t-count of 11.385 is obtained. The results obtained for a t-table are 2.002. After analysis, the result shows that the t-count value is higher than the t-table value ($11.385 > 2.002$). H_0 is rejected, and H_a is accepted because the t-count exceeds the t-table. This study's findings suggest that youth's use of social media decreases their social interaction with family.

Table 3. T-Test results for social media variable (X) and interaction with family (Y)

Model	Coefficients ^a			t	Sig.
	Unstandardized Coefficients	Standardized Coefficients			
	B	Error Std. Beta			
1 (Constant)	23.222	2.040		11.385	.000
Social Media	.091	.070	.167	1.288	.203

Dependent Variable: Interaction with Family

4. Discussion

When adolescents use social media, the intensity of their social interactions with friend's decreases. This needs to be considered because it can reduce social interaction or face-to-face contact directly. This result is supported by Afandi (2020), who found a relationship between Instagram and children's social interactions. In this global era, teenagers rarely play with their peers directly outside the home. They are having more fun playing with their social media, especially Instagram. This is supported by the findings from Kumar et al. (2016), who discovered that the continual use of social media indicates that it has become an integral part of daily life for these teens. Furthermore, many participants indicated they access social media in class and at home, either from a mobile phone or computer. This finding indicates that teens frequently use social media while communicating with others. Rantai et al. (2014) found that the respondents say that social media have helped them to make more friends.

Based on the results described in the findings about the barriers experienced by adolescents in connecting with family, the respondents said that they do not know how to share their feelings, have no idea how to express their emotions or tell their families about themselves. Respondents said they did not want to burden their parents when asked why they kept their problems to themselves. Lack of communication is another obstacle that teenagers encounter when dealing with family. A further response from the respondents was that they struggle to talk to their families. Time constraints and not wanting to share or tell their problems to their families are two factors contributing to this lack of communication. Boentoro and Murwani (2018) stated that the depth of self-disclosure varies depending on the circumstance and the person being invited to converse. Someone may open up more readily when in comfortable circumstances and feel secure.

Furthermore, the other person's ability to be trusted and reciprocated results in a propensity to respond in kind. One's cultural background also impacts self-disclosure. The degree to which people can express themselves appropriately or

inappropriately varies from country to country, depending on their cultural background. Prabowo (2016) stated that family lifestyles that were hectic with work were to blame for the factors that prevented children from interacting, the lack of communication, and the lack of social contact between parents and children. Technology, such as gadgets, was the main barrier to communication and interaction between kids and families.

From the tests conducted by the researchers, the result is that the t-count is greater than the t-table, with the written hypothesis, namely, H₀ is rejected, and H₁ is accepted. This means that the results are contained in the Alternative Hypothesis (The use of social media by youth reduces social interaction with family). Lestari et al. (2015) found that the intensity of using gadgets has a relationship that can affect patterns of social interaction within the family. The gadget is made to make one's activities easier, in the sense that the gadget's function here is good. However, if the use of the gadget is not accompanied by sufficient knowledge, it may experience a change in function. In this regard, there must be management and control over the use of the gadget, starting with the amount of user time and ending with the caliber of the user's content.

5. Conclusion

Based on the social media hypothesis test results on youth social interaction with family, the value of the t-count is greater than the t-table ($11.385 > 2.002$), and then H₀ is rejected. So, it can be concluded that the results are contained in the Alternative hypothesis, youth use of social media reduce social interaction with family.

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