



## **ATTITUDE TOWARDS SOCIAL NETWORKING AMONG HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS**

**A.PETRICIA**, PhD Education Full-time) Scholar,  
**Dr. JOSEPH CATHERINE**, Principal,  
Stella Matutina College of Education, Chennai – 600083

### **Abstract**

Higher education is progressing forward from Teacher Centred to Student centred. Students are encouraged to update their knowledge using a variety of sources including Social Networking. This paper is an attempt to study the level of Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai District. The objective of the study is to find out the difference in Attitudes towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Gender, Stream of study and Locality. The research methodology used for the study is Descriptive method. The sample for the study was 150 students taken from the Government, Government – Aided and Private schools of various districts in Tamilnadu. The tool was developed by the research scholar with the help of the research Supervisor for the study. The data was subjected to Descriptive analysis and Differential analysis. The major findings showed that there is a significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students owing to Gender. Social Networking connects the students and teachers' community and facilitates learning. It is easier to exchange information and share learning resources conveniently. Teachers and parents should guide the students to understand the positive and negative impacts of social networking. Students should be oriented to make use of technology wisely and excel in their life.

**Key Words:** Attitude, Social Networking, Teacher Centred, Student-centred educational resources

### **Introduction:**

Social networks are a series of internet-based applications that build on the theoretical and technology foundations of the web, allowing sharing of user-generated content. Social networks are a type of information system that was developed using the internet, communication technology, and some ideological viewpoints towards the production, analysis, and distribution of material. Social networks became people's everyday reality. The role of social networking in people's life is significant, and differences in attitudes are caused by the role that social networks can play in individuals' everyday lives.

### **Need and Significance of the study:**

Today, technology provides a lot of opportunities for education that can be accessed by everyone around the globe. Education has completely transformed ever since the Internet and technology gained momentum. Due to the growth in social networking websites, educators are looking for their potential for use in education, having the conscious that social networking sites may have the ability to endorse both collaboration and active learning. Hence the need to study the Attitude towards Social Networking, especially among Higher Secondary Students is important.

## **Statement of the problem**

Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students

## **Objectives of the study**

- ❖ To examine the difference in Attitude towards Social Networking between gender among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Gender
- ❖ To find out the significant difference in social networking between streams of study among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Stream of study
- ❖ To find out the significant difference in social networking between Locality among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Locality

## **Hypotheses:**

- ❖ There is no significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Gender
- ❖ There is no significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Stream of study
- ❖ There is no significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students with respect to Locality

## **Methodology:**

In order to carry out the study the researcher adopted the descriptive survey method. The Research variable is Attitude towards Social Networking among Higher Secondary Students. The personal variables included in the study are gender, Stream study and Locality. The population of the study included all the higher secondary students and the sample included 150 students who were selected randomly. The tool was developed by the research scholar with the help of the research supervisor. The validity and reliability of the tools were established by the researcher and were found to be reliable.

## **Operational Definition of the Terms:**

### **Attitude towards Social Networking:**

Attitude towards Social Networking means the online profile created by people with similar interests to keep in touch and share their experiences. Social networks have the power to produce fresh settings and chances that boost students' interest in studying. This study refers to the score obtained by the Higher Secondary Students in the Attitude towards Social Networking scale developed by Research Scholar.

### **Higher Secondary Students**

Here it refers to the students studying at a Higher Secondary level in schools of Tamilnadu.

## **Delimitations of the study**

- The study was limited to schools in 3 districts.
- The sample was limited to 150 students

## **Design of the study:**

The present study has been designed as a descriptive study

## **Tools used for the study:**

- ❖ Attitude towards Social Networking scale prepared by the Investigator with the help of the Research Supervisor
- ❖ Personal data sheet prepared by the investigator with the help of the Research Supervisor

## **Selection of the sample:**

The sample for the study was selected using random sampling technique. The sample consisted of 150 students drawn from the Government, Government – Aided and Private schools of various districts.

## **Statistical treatment of Data:**

Critical ratio was computed to test the difference in Attitude towards social networking with respect to Gender, Locality and Stream of study.

**Differential analysis of data:**

Further, the data was subjected to appropriate statistical tests for testing the hypothesis.

H1. There is no significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to difference a gender.

**Analysis and Interpretation of data:**

**Hypothesis 1:**

**There is no significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to Gender.**

**Table 1 showing t-test for significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to Gender.**

Gender								
Variables	Category	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	't' value	df	'P' value and Level of Significance
Social Networking	Male	75	160.31	18.276	2.110	2.074	148	0.040**S
	Female	75	154.64	15.034	1.736			

Since P value is less than 0.01, the null hypothesis is rejected at 5% level. Hence there is a significant difference between male and Females students with respect to the social networking of Higher Secondary Students. Male students are better than Female students because Male students are mostly happy and easy going and they interact more with their friends.

**Hypothesis 2:**

**There is no significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to the stream of study.**

**Table 2 showing t-test for significant differences in Attitude towards social networking owing to the Stream of Study.**

Stream of study								
Variables	Category	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	't' value	df	'P' value
Attitude towards social networking	Arts	58	159.34	16.475	2.163	2.484	97	0.015 * S
	Science	41	151.56	13.605	2.125			

Since the P value is less than 0.01, null hypothesis is rejected at 5% level. Hence there is a significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking owing to differences in the stream of study. Students studying in Arts Stream are found to have a better Attitude towards Social Networking when compared to Science Stream Students.

**Hypothesis 3:**

**There is no significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to locality.**

**Table 3 showing t-test for the significant difference in Attitude towards social networking owing to Locality**

Locality								
Variables	Category	N	Mean	S.D	S.E	't' value	df	'P' value
Attitude towards social networking	Urban	100	155.96	15.772	1.577	1.557	148	0.122 NS
	Rural	50	160.50	18.808	2.660			

Since P value is greater than 0.05, the null hypothesis is accepted at 5% level. Hence there is no significant difference in Attitude towards Social Networking with respect to Locality.

**Findings:**

There is a significant difference in attitude towards social networking between male and female higher secondary students.

There is a significant difference in attitude towards social networking between Arts and Science of higher secondary students.

There is no significant difference in attitude towards social networking between the Urban and Rural of higher secondary students.

### **Discussion:**

The present study reveals that there is a significant difference between male and female students with respect to attitude towards social networking. The comparison of the mean score shows that male students have better awareness towards social networking compared to their counterparts. This finding is in agreement with the findings of Biswas et al. (2020) and Christian et al. (2017) who reported that boys were more aware and exposed to social networking and its usage compared to girls who have less exposure. This finding is in contradiction with the findings of Rajesh and Santhi (2020) and Kour (2018) who reported that girls utilize social networking more wisely to learn when compared to boys.

The present study reveals there is a significant difference in attitude towards social networking between Arts and Science of higher secondary students. This finding is in agreement with the finding of Biswas et al. (2020) who reported the finding also throw light on the fact that students from the urban area had significant awareness of social networking and its uses in education compared to students from the rural area.

The present study reveals there is no significant difference in attitude towards social networking between Urban and Rural of higher secondary students. This finding is in agreement with the finding of Raza et al. (2020) who reported the finding also throw light on the fact that students from the urban area had significant awareness of social networking and its uses in education compared to students from the rural area. This finding is in contradiction with the findings of Rajesh and Santhi (2020) who reported that the study shows that students from the rural area had better utilization and awareness on social networking in improving their academic performance compared to students from a rural area who utilize social networking through mobile phones for pleasure-seeking activities.

### **Educational Implications:**

The findings indicate that students should be properly oriented to use social networks for improving knowledge and learning. They must be guided by their teachers for proper usage. Programmes on the effective use of social networking to be organised in schools and colleges to improve technology-based education.

### **Conclusion:**

Education has undergone a change and gained a new dimension of digital technology, in all spheres. So, it is important to assess the views, attitudes and perceptions of students towards social networking. The study concludes by giving suggestions and recommendations to educators and the government to frame social networking guidelines for educational purposes to enhance students' academic performance.

### **References:**

- Biswas, B., Roy, F. & Roy, S.K. (2020). Students' Perception of Mobile Learning During Covid-19 In Bangladesh: University Students' Perspective. *Journal of Academia*, 4(2), 9.
- Christian, U.U., Jairus, E.U., Ogwuch, O.J., b Thomas, A.I., Taiyol, T.T., Ode, E.J., Steve, O.E. & Agama, A.I. (2017). Impact of Mobile Phone Usage on Students' Academic Performance Among Public Secondary Schools. *International Journal of Science and Research Methodology*, 6(3),104-118.
- Helen B. Boholano, (2017). Smart Social Networking: 21st Century Teaching and Learning Skills: Cebu Normal University: Research Pedagogy, 7, 21-29.  
<https://doi.org/10.17810/2015-45>
- [https://www.academia.edu/40686013/SMART\\_SOCIAL\\_NETWORKING\\_21\\_st\\_CENTURY\\_TEACHING\\_AND\\_LEARNING\\_SKILLS](https://www.academia.edu/40686013/SMART_SOCIAL_NETWORKING_21_st_CENTURY_TEACHING_AND_LEARNING_SKILLS)
- Santhi, V., Rajesh, B. (2020). Impact of Smartphone Usage on the Academic Performance among Medical Students. *Journal of Evaluation of Medical Science*, 9(2), 2278-4746.
- Kour, K. (2018). Impact of mobile phone usage on academic performance of students. *Pramana Research Journal*, 8(12),241-255.

*Catherine*

Principal  
Stella Malutina College  
of Education  
Ashok Nagar  
Chennai - 600 083.