



IMPACT OF GADGETS USE AMONG NURSING STUDENTS AT SELECTED COLLEGE OF NURSING, CHENNAI

Saranya L¹, Nelson T^{2*}

¹Assistant Professor, GRT College of Nursing, Tiruttani, Tamil Nadu, India.

²Nurse Educator, SRMC, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

ABSTRACT

Introduction: The use of technological gadgets is growing at an unprecedented pace all over the world. Although technology has its contribution in breaking geographical barriers and making information accessible, however, technology has its own negative records as well. The present study aimed to explore the patterns of technology use among nursing students at selected nursing college, Chennai. The objectives of the study was to determine the impact of gadgets use among nursing students and to associate between the impacts of gadgets use among nursing students with the selected background variables. **Methodology:** A descriptive survey design was used to accomplish the study objectives. 100 nursing students who met the inclusion criteria were chosen as study subjects using non probability convenient sampling technique. Demographic variables Performa and structured questionnaire was used to collect the data. **Results:** The study results revealed that the mean score of negative impact on gadget use among nursing students was 44.94 with the SD of 9.27, mean score of positive impact was 74.65 with the SD of 12.86, mean score of neutral impact was 25.03 with SD of 4.69. It is also found that the demographic variables such as age, gender, Parent education status ,Annual income, Accommodation and Number of mobile phone in use was found to have statistically significant association with the impact of gadget use at $p = 0.005$ level. **Conclusions:** The present study makes evident that majority of the students were having positive impact on gadgets uses.

Key words: Impact of Gadgets Use, Nursing Students, College of Nursing

Corresponding Author:

Nelson T

Email:- nelsontsam@gmail.com

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INTRODUCTION

Mobile phone is popular since the late 1990s and today, with 7 billion mobile connections worldwide and unique mobile subscriptions of over 3.5 billion, they are very popular with young people and are common in our educational institutions. Mobile phone technologies are now in the hands of almost 31% or 2 billion people of the 6.47 billion people on this planet ("Population Reference Bureau Statistics", 2016).

The penetration of technologies is increasing very rapidly with around 779 million ("Gartner Press Release", 2005) mobile phones sold every year and expected to reach over 1 billion units per year sold (2009). These staggering numbers are indicator of the growth and reach of mobile phones. The mobile is the only item which qualifies to

become first personal, and private item. Ease to early adoption is another significant merit of the phone.

College students likely use technology to accomplish several important developmental goals, such as identity development and establishment (and maintenance) of intimate relationships. The gadgets transition from high school to college, college students are exposed to new people, activities, and information, which may contribute to changing how they view themselves or how they want to view themselves and groups of peers with whom they identify.

Surveys and Studies from a number of countries indicate that the use of mobile phones in young people is increasing rapidly and starting at younger age. Almost half of mobile internet users are between 18 and 25 years. In addition to using technology to achieve important



developmental goals, today's college students expect that technology will be central in their higher education. Today's college students have used technology for a variety of reasons (i.e., entertainment, academics, communication with friends and family) starting from a very early age and believe that technology enhances their learning.

In response to the changing student demographic, colleges continue to offer more and more online applications and software to their students to advance the integration of technology with the college experience. At the same time, research on technology use and academic performance largely has yielded mixed results, with some studies finding that excessive technology use can compromise learning. Studies also have proven that rampant use of social networking, texting and chatting on mobile phones result in lower grades and poor academic performance of students.

The mobile phone is "at cross purpose with the mission of the college". While in college students are supposed to take on their prescribed roles as students with full concentration on their studies and free from contact with the outside world. However, the mobile phone gives room to blending students' roles with other roles thus distracting and disrupting the students' academic work

In the past when fixed telephones were the norm in schools, there were minimum distractions and disruptions but presently with the invasion of mobile phone and the eagerness of parents to maintain contact with their wards. The use of technology is a global imperative due to its contributions to human existence and has enhanced the socio economic relations globally. Wireless communication has emerged as one of the fastest diffusing media on the planet, fuelling an emergent "mobile youth culture"[5]. Thus, increased popularity of cell and smart phones in recent years has attracted research attention. Cell phones are seen as a mixed blessing. Teens say phones make their lives safer and

more convenient. Yet they also cite new tensions connected to cell phone use. Thus the current study seeks to contribute to the literature by exploring the patterns of technology use among nursing students.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

A study to assess the impact of gadgets use among nursing students at selected nursing college, Chennai.

OBJECTIVES

1. To determine the impact of gadgets use among nursing students
2. To associate the impacts of gadgets use among nursing students with their selected background variables.

METHODOLOGY

A Descriptive survey design was adopted to accomplish the objectives. The study was conducted among B.sc.Nursing first year students at selected college of nursing, Chennai. The sample size consisted of 100 nursing students and was selected by using non - probability Convenient sampling technique. After obtaining the formal permission from the institution and participants the data was collected under two sections. The Section –I comprises of the Demographic variables Performa and section –II consisted of structured questionnaire constructed by the researchers based on the literature. It consisted of 20-item that includes 10 items from positive and 10 for negative impact which also has neutral impact in both .The scale is made up of 5 point likert scale. Higher scores and lower score were calculated for both positive and negative impact. The reliability of the tool was established by the cronbach alpha method and the "r" value obtained was 0.74. The data were analyzed using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Table 1: Distribution of students according to their Background Variables (N=100).

S.NO	VARIABLES	FREQUENCY(n=100)	PERCENTAGE%
1	AGE		
a.	17-19	98	98
b.	20-23	2	2
2	SEX		
a.	Male	31	31
b	Female	69	69
3	Parents education		
a.	Primary education	29	29
b.	Higher secondary school	48	48
c.	College	23	23
4	Annual income		
a.	<1 lakh/anum	28	28
b.	>1 lakh/anum	72	72
5	Accomodation		
a.	Day scholars	43	43



b.	Hostel	57	57
6	Number of mobile phones in use		
	a. Only One mobile in hand of use	89	89
	b. >1	11	11

Table-2: Mean and Standard Deviation of impact of gadgets use among nursing students (N=100)

VARIABLES	MEAN	SD
Negative impact	44.94	9.27
Positive impact	74.65	12.868
Neutral impact	25.03	4.69

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Section A: Distribution of nursing students According to their Background Variables.

The above table shows that 98(98%) of the students belong to the age group of 17-19 years and 2(2%) were in the age group of 20-23 years. With respect to gender, 69(69%) of the students were females and 39(39%) were males. The data on parent education depicts that 29(29%) had primary education, 48(48%) had high school, 23(23%) were collegiate. With regard to annual income per annum 28(28%) of the parents were earning less than one lakh and 72(72%) were earning more than one lakh per annum. The data on accommodation status depicts that 43(43%) were day scholars and 57(57%) were hostellers. In respect to number of mobile phones in use 89 (89%) of them using only one mobile phone and 11 (11%) of subjects were using more than one mobile phone.

Section B: Assessment of impact of gadgets use among nursing students

The above table shows that the mean score of negative impact on gadget use among nursing students was 44.94 with the SD of 9.27, mean score of positive impact was 74.65 with the SD of 12.86, mean score of neutral impact was 25.03 with SD of 4.69.

This study finding is supported by descriptive, cross sectional study done by Noratikah Othman, Muhammad, Khairuz Suhaidi Bin Kelana (2019) on Impact of Electronic Gadget Uses with Academic Performance among Secondary School Students. A convenient sampling was used to select the 233 school students at three selected secondary schools involving SMK Pelindung, SMK Bukit Goh and SMK Teluk Chempedak. The instrument used was structured

questionnaire to assess the total time spent on electronic gadget, students' academic performance and students' health status. The result revealed that majority of them (59.2%) was Malay. For gender, 53.2% were male and 46.8% were female. In total of 48.1% students were spending time more than 6 hours on electronic gadget and the remaining 51.9% students spending time less than 5.99 hours on electronic gadget. Based on the findings, the result showed that there were significant association between race, gender, parent income, level of dependency, academic performance and health status and the total time spent on electronic gadget but opposing, there were no significant association between years started using electronic gadget and total time spent on electronic gadget. Majority of students who spent more time on electronic gadget use has high level of dependency towards gadget, poor academic achievement and good health status.

Section C: Association of impact of gadgets use among nursing students with their selected variables.

It was evident that there is a significant association was found between the impact of gadgets use and the demographic variables age $\chi^2 = 14.75$, gender $\chi^2 = 39.57$, Parent education status $\chi^2 = 60.91$, Annual income $\chi^2 = 34.08$, Accommodation $\chi^2 = 18.25$ and Number of mobile phone in use $\chi^2 = 16.55$ at $p = 0.005$ level.

Conclusions

The present study makes evident that majority of the students were having positive impact on gadgets uses. The study findings may not be generalizable to all students due to its limitations such as non-probability sampling technique, single constituent setting and subjective nature of the obtained data.

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