

A STUDY OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USAGE AND EMOTIONAL MATURITY AT HIGHER SECONDARY LEVEL

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Abstract

Internet trend is growing day by day and the education system is going to be online sooner or later. In developing countries, like India, technological changes are rapidly taking place irrespective of age and gender. We have witnessed COVID 19, which brought technological adaptations in the education system. There was a clear shift of teaching-learning process from traditional to online. Technology is spreading out in 360 degree angle without which one cannot survive even. When it comes to the higher secondary education, how internet and other technologies can be utilized in an effective way? It is often observed adolescents are getting emotional when they watch online brutal advertisements. It is very difficult to balance their emotions once they are trolled or embarrassed in social networking sites. Such adolescents often isolate themselves from online or stop using social networking sites for some time. If we see the availability of internet, there are huge demographic differences. The students who have availability of internet are likely to access and visit online frequently compare to others. This study will help teachers to identify students with internet addiction and their emotional stability in class. The present study has gone in this direction in order to explore the relationship between availability of internet usage and emotional maturity in the students of higher secondary. A survey was conducted on 200 participants randomly and correlation was established. The findings were interesting and results were discussed.

Keywords: Relationship, Internet usage, Emotional Maturity, Higher secondary, Rural, Urban.

INTRODUCTION

Emotional maturity may be regarded as identifying and expressing right emotions in the given context. While internet usage is considered as amount of time spending on online activities or engaging in internet resources. Plan international, a NGO working for children reported interesting findings in their survey regarding internet usage, online activities and other social networking sites. They reported 50% of us face more online harassment than street harassment and leading to 42% of low self-esteem. Internet has a good as well as bad influence on kids. Internet is very popular in today's young generation. It is an innovative form to transact text or information from one place on globe to another fairly, cheaply and easily. Undoubtedly, one of the emerging tool to attract young children. Due to excessive use of internet children are getting affected badly. As a result children are getting much more frustrated and emotionally imbalanced. Durlabhji .S.(2010) An exploration of students internet usage in India. Study would have also included internet usage effect over stress level and mental health or intelligence so that study could reveal effect of excessive internet usage on students' life. Both technology acceptance model (TAM) and the theory of planned behavior (TPB) were supported in their predictions of internet use intentions and usage. There was complex influence of internet user intention due to its effective interaction between both theoretical models, but main effect for user experience was not seen. Dutta.J. and Soni.J.C.(2015) studied on Academic achievement, emotional maturity and intelligence of secondary students in Assam and emotional maturity differences were noted between male/female and government/ private secondary school students. Whereas, no differences in emotional maturity were found between rural or urban students in both districts and no gender differences were found in terms of emotional maturity. However, significance difference found between government and private school students with regard to intelligence. Dutta.J. and Rajkonwar.S. (2015) studied on emotional maturity and intelligence of secondary school students. The findings of the

study reported that there is a negative relationship between emotional maturity and intelligence among the secondary school students. Joy.M. and Mathew.A. (2018) attempted to relate emotional maturity and general well-being and result revealed that the significant relationship between emotional maturity and general well-being was found in adolescents. Napa.A. Janani.R. and Kumari.S.(2018) studied on Social media usage and emotional maturity among adolescents. On data analysis, the results indicate that the sample was interpreted as extremely emotionally immature in EMS. In the sample, adolescent girls as well as boys were emotionally stable in the dimensions of Emotional stability, Emotional progression, Personality integration and Independence and emotionally unstable in Social adjustment dimension. No significant gender difference among adolescents was found. Kumar.S. and Kumar. G.T.(2012) studied on Perception of e-resources and the internet usage by Indian academics and reported students and faculty were aware of e-sources and internet. Most of them expressed their preference to print rather than electronic information sources. Kumar.N.(2018) studied on Prevalence of excessive internet use and its correlation with associated psychopathology in 11th and 12th grade students. The participants reported positive and negative impacts of internet use, whereas excessive use of internet had a negative impact on students' lives as compared with positive impact. Mahmoudi.A. (2012)in his study on Emotional maturity and adjustment level of college students and concluded high Positive correlation between emotional maturity and overall adjustment. Rajeshwari.R. and Mano.J. (2017) studied relationship between Emotional Maturity, Stress and Self-Confidence among management students and they concluded that the emotional maturity has a significant and positive relation on the self-confidence whereas stress led to negative relation with the emotional maturity. Thanuskodi.S.(2013) studied Gender Differences in Internet Usage among College Students and reported gender differences with reference to internet usage pattern though they have equal access to internet. Ugwulebo.J.,Emeka and Okoro. N.(2016) studied the Impact of Internet Usage on the Academic Performance of Undergraduates Students: A case study of the University of Abuja, Nigeria. They concluded that internet is beneficial for academics, not only business, as it enhances skill and capability that assists students in their studies as well as professional life. They also reported some problems while using internet such as lack of computer skills, slow internet server and online paid services. Vasilis.G. and George.K.(2013) studied on Student teachers' perceptions about the impact of internet usage on their learning and jobs. They reported relation between more years of digital experience and higher internet usage, in turn students' positive perceptions regarding internet's impact on their learning and future jobs. More years of digital experience resulted in less perceived. Zapata.A. (2015) studied the Emotional Stability and Emotional Maturity of fourth year teacher education students of the Bulacan State University. Twenty-five of the respondents expressed a good sign of emotional maturity and perceived level of emotional stability and their perceived level of emotional maturity were differ significantly.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The present study carried out to find answers of the following research questions,

Are there any demographic differences in internet availability between rural and urban areas?

Are there any differences in emotional maturity of rural and urban students?

Is there any relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity?

HYPOTHESES

There is no significant difference regarding internet usage between rural and urban students

There is no significant relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity of students

There is no significant difference in emotional maturity between rural and urban students

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

To find out internet availability of urban and rural students at higher secondary level.

To compare emotional maturity between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.

To find out the relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity.

METHODS AND MATERIALS

Descriptive survey method was employed in the present study. The sample of 200 students taken as a sample by simpler and omized method where 100 students (50 boys +50 girls) from urban schools and 100 students(50 boys + 50 girls) were participated fromrural schools. These samples were taken from higher secondary level irrespective of their streams to obtain and to calculate the data for evaluating the effects of internet usage on emotional maturity.

Instruments used

With regards to the objectives of the study, these scales were usedfor collecting the data:

1. Emotional Maturity Scale by Y. Singh and Bhargava (2012).
2. Internet Usage Scale by ShalooSaini and ParminderKaur (2017).

Administration of instruments

The scale is self-administrable. Participants were given clear explanation and instructions to fill the tools. There is no time limit and there is no right or wrong responses. Hence the respondents were quiet free to express their responses as they perceive.In the present study descriptive statistics such as Mean, Standard deviation and Product Moment Correlation have been used. T-test was employed as an inferential statistics for testing hypotheses

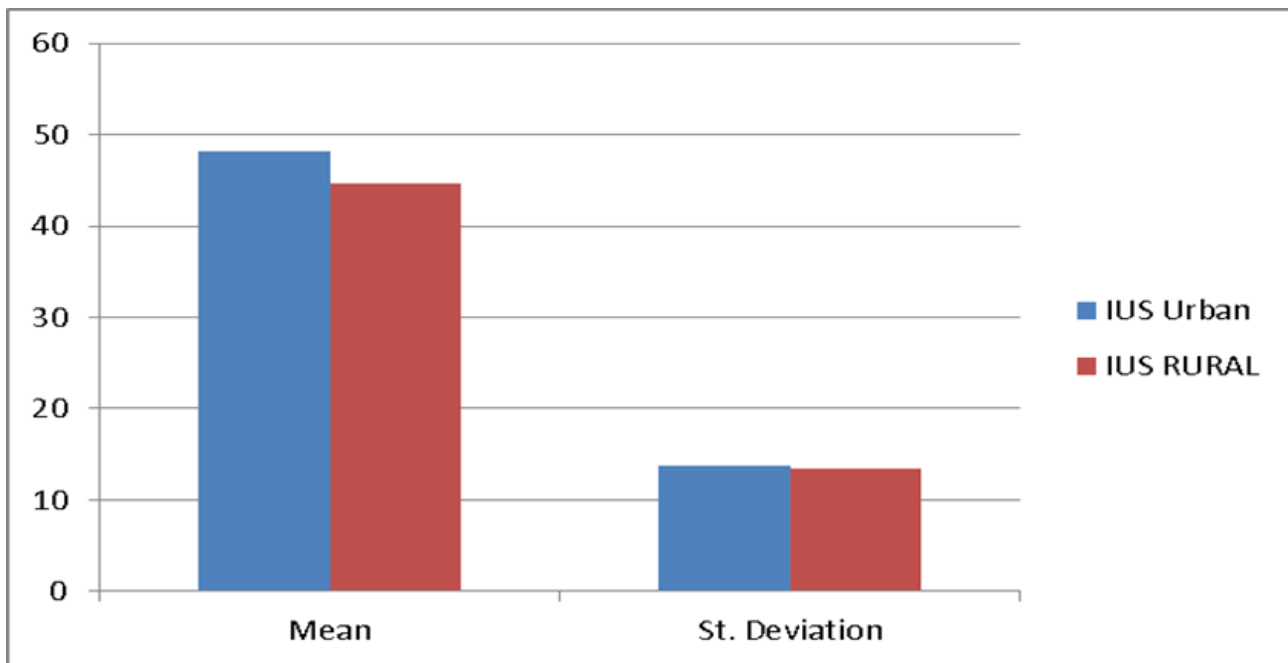
Analysis and Interpretation

Objetive1 To find out internet availability of urban and rural students at higher secondary level

Table no.1 Comparison of Internet availability between rural and urban areas

Internet	n	Mean	SD.	t-value	Levelof significance
Rural	100	44.70	13.38	35.38	0.05
Urban	100	48.10	13.66		

From the table no.1, it was found that the students belong to urban area use slightly more internet than students of rural areas. From the analysis, Mean score of urban area in terms of internet availability was 48.10, SD was 13.66 and the mean score of rural area was 44.70, SD was 13.38 (moderate level of usage) and the calculated t value was 35.38 which is more than the level of significance i.e. 0.05 (1.96), therefore the null hypothesis was rejected. The same comparison has been shown in graph no. i



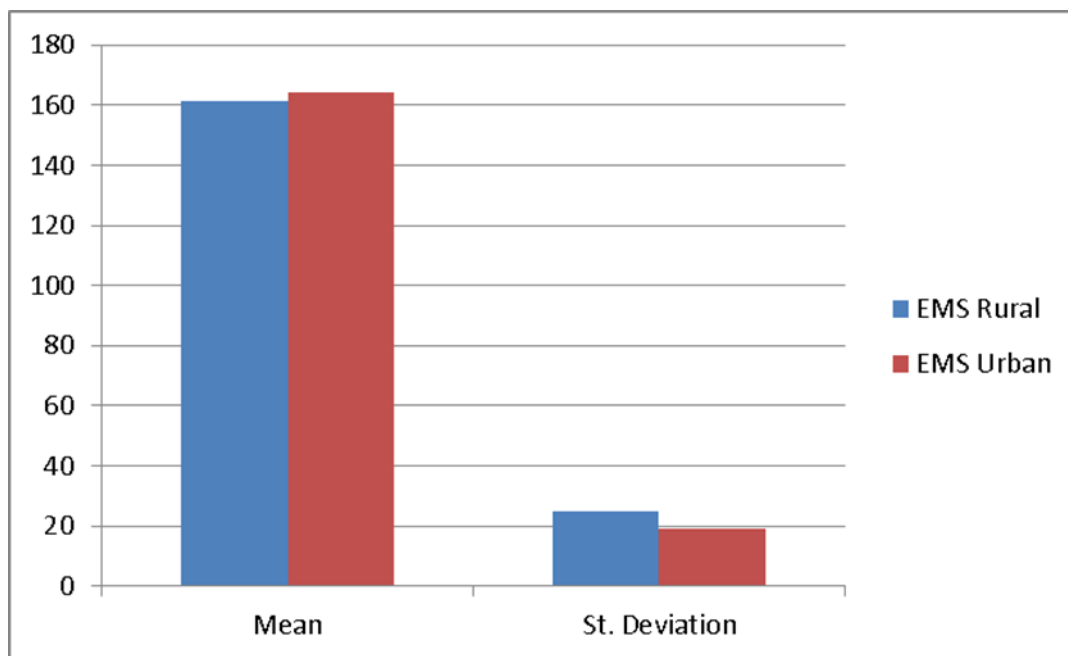
Graph no.i Availability of internet in rural and urban areas for students

Objective2 To compare emotional maturity between rural and urban students at higher secondary level.

Table no.2 Comparison of emotional maturity of rural and urban internet users

Emotional Maturity Scores	N	Mean	S.D.	T-Value	Level Of Significance
Rural	100	161.17	25.11	1.023	0.05
Urban	100	164.39	18.98		

From the table no.2, it is found that the students belong to urban areas having better emotional maturity with the Mean score of 164.39 and SD18.98 whereas Mean score of students belong to rural areas161.19 and SD 25.11 having slightly less maturity. However both the scores indicate above average level of emotional maturity. But the obtained t value is being 1.023 is lesser than the table value that shows no difference of emotional maturity of rural and urban internet users. It is also expressed in graph no. ii



Graph no.2 Emotional maturity of internet users between rural and urban students

Objective3 To find out relationship between internet usage and emotional maturity.

Table no. 3 Correlation between emotional maturity and internet usage

Variables	N	Mean	S.D.	Product Correlation	LevelOf Significance	Df
IUS	200	46.40	13.59	0.48	0.05	199
EMS	200	162.78	22.26			

From the table no.3, it has been observed that there is a relationship between emotional maturity and internet usage. The correlation between the two variables is 0.48 which is significant at 0.05 levels that shows positive relationship in emotional maturity and internet usage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

From the analysis and interpretation, it was clearly understood positive relation existed between internet usage and emotional maturity. These results are falling in line with the findings reported by Joy.M. and Mathew.A. in 2018 and Rajeshwari.R. and Mano.J. (2017). Kumar.S. and Kumar. G.T. (2012) conducted a research on Perception of e-resources and the internet usage by Indian academics. This research might have also supposed to reveal that at what extent internet usage helps students to score better marks in academics as compare to those who have not referred internet in their studies. Mahmoudi.A. (2012) conducted his research on Emotional maturity and adjustment level of college students. This study might have also included emotional maturity and its impact over self-confidence and anxiety level of college students. The present study moved in that direction. Rajeshwari.R. and Mano.J. (2017) studied relationship between Emotional Maturity, Stress and Self-Confidence among management students. They might have also studied the effect of emotional maturity and stress over professional development and over academic achievement. Thanuskodi.S. (2013) studied on spending their time on using the internet and social Medias. Ugwulebo.J., Emeka and Okoro. N. (2016) studied impact of internet usage on academic performance of Nigerian UG students.

This study is lacking behind encountering the excessive use of internet and its impact over their natural idea generation and over curiosity to explore environment without using internet. But present study highlighted these gaps. Vasilis.G. and George.K. (2013) reported positive students' perception regarding internet usage but doesn't reveal the impact over their life style and emotional health. Zehra.D .andPerihan.(2018) found internet addiction rate as 3.4% and the average internet usage was 5 hours daily. When students were asked to enumerate the internet sites they use, the result was: social media, news sites, movie and series sites, educational and informational content sites, play sites, e-mail and shopping sites in order of usage preference. Social media was preferred by 79.4% in the first place, educational content sites were preferred in the first place by 5.7%. The second most frequently used sites were movie and series sites (22.8%). Educational/informational content (20.2%) sites were the fifth preferred sites in the preference order.

CONCLUSION

The present study was conduct to study the level of emotional maturity and internet usage among students of higher secondary level and also to study the relationship between them. The study was conduct in rural and urban schools in Agra district in which the researcher found that students of urban schools and rural schools do possess no differences in terms of emotional maturity. It is also found that there is a positive correlation between internet usage and emotional maturity. The present study also found that the urban students have higher availability of internet than the rural students which make them easy to access it.

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