Impact of Technological Inventions in Socialization

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Abstract

Mobile phone is one of the most technological revolutions in the history of human beings. This research shows the impacts, the positive and negative impacts brought by the phone technology in human socialization. The use of technology and computer mediated communication is changing the lives of students in the classroom. Research is beginning to emerge examining the effects that technology is having on the social behavior and adjustment of students. Computers and technology are influencing the interactions between teachers and students, as well as other interactions in a student's life. Research is sparse at this time as to the effects of this new form of communicating; however, it appears that it can have many positive as well as negative impacts on students development and adjustment. The use of technology appears to down play the importance of social contact and may lead many students to not develop the necessary social skills to function in the world. This article exams the impact that technology may have on educators will be cognizant of the potential social and developmental pitfalls that can occur when blindly implementing technology into the educational process.

*Key words:*

Impact of Technological Inventions in Socialization

The mobile phone is stimulating one of the most important technological revolutions in human history. This statement is not hyperbole. Surveys have shown that people would rather eat less than give up their mobile phone. People who forget their phone at home will return to retrieve it but would elect to move on without their wallet. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that a mobile phone is an integral part of a person, an extension of her or his personality. Since the mobile phone has impact on socialization, we can go ahead and define socialization as the whole process of learning throughout the life course and is a central influence on the behavior, beliefs, and actions of adults as well as of children. (John, 2023)

**Impacts**

**Positive Impacts**

Firstly, communication is key in socialization. It is the exchange of ideas between individuals either verbally or nonverbal using a certain medium. The major reason for invention of phones was to achieve basic communication. The invention was done by Alexander Graham Bell and a successful speech was confirmed by Mr. Watson on March 10, 1876. From their first achievement mobile phones have been developing over years. Leading to developing of more complex applications used in communication like the WhatsApp, telegram which are more efficient in transmitting ideas. Currently meetings, meet ups, can be done by use of a phone in regardless to distance between people.

Secondly, through mobile phones there has been an increase in students’ engagement in class. In order to keep up with different passions and different students behaviors, teachers need to continuously change their teaching methods and embrace technology. This will ensure continuous innovations and 100% participation in academic activities. Students can easily exchange ideas among themselves and do constructive research with their peers. Beyond classroom teachers can provide guiding and counseling to their students. Clearly defining socialization.

In addition to that it has brought **Barrier-free interaction.** Similarly, people who would otherwise have limited social interaction now have the option to be part of online communities. People with disabilities can forget about their physical boundaries inside a video game universe, while socially anxious people can gain confidence by practicing interaction over the internet instead of face to face. Sending messages allows people the time to process information and formulate a response, whereas face to face is more immediate. On the other hand, this isn’t always a good thing.

**In line with** Technology, mainly the Internet, acts as a mediator between humans and the information environment and creates a sense of belonging to a group of people united by common interests. The members of this group can be scattered all over the world and communicate only through the Internet. More than half of the Net users say that communication on the Internet creates a sense of freedom, as there are fewer social prejudices and restrictions. When meeting and communicating with someone on social networks and in chat rooms, a person experiences less pressure and fear to say or do something wrong. Thus, communication becomes more relaxed and pleasant. (Shawn, 2020)

Increased social support Technology can provide access to social support and community. Through these online groups, forums, and social media, they can share, open up, and even help people who may be experiencing hardships in life. Sometimes, being there for someone and having someone to talk to can make a tremendous difference in one’s life.

All in all, the impact of the mobile phone on society has been predominantly positive. This impact has occurred mostly with the two simplest mobile phone technologies: talk and text. These simple activities have profoundly changed the lives of billions. One touching example is that of a poor woman in a village in India who obtains microfinancing to buy a cell phone and service. She then offers, at a nominal price, the use of her personal phone to farmers in her village to call the neighboring villages to find the best markets for their produce. Everybody wins! The woman, the farmers, and the customers who end up with fresher produce at better prices.

**Negative Impacts**

Of course, as with everything, there is another angle to consider. How does technology affect our social lives negatively? Some would argue that the more anonymous and less immediate interaction associated with digital communication is bad news. Behind the screens of smartphones and the keyboards of computers, there are also more chances for deception—particularly for vulnerable people. Here are some of the ways the technology has a negative impact on social interaction.

The first and obvious challenge is that when more and more people are beginning to rely on technology to communicate with their loved ones, friends and associates. The coronavirus lockdown that forced millions of people to work from home also accelerated online communication tools meaning we get even less human contact than ever before. Encouraging animosity among people. As remote working becomes the norm, transactional processes are automated with self-service machines too. For many, this can theoretically be a good thing, but it also highlights how technology affects our communication negatively. The same ease of technological-driven interactions leaves some groups behind. The increase in the use of technology to communicate could also cause a rise in loneliness, especially among elderly people who may rely on these transactional encounters as their primary source of social contact. As indicated:

Technology Fails to Deliver Essential Personal Touch Sometimes you just need a hug, a handshake or a pat on the back. Once in a while, I get “stickers” and “emojis” on social media. The thumbs up symbol or smiley face is cute, but it doesn’t make me feel a personal connection with the poster. Do you use technology to pet your dog or cat? Not likely, because they couldn’t care less. Sometimes we fail to realize that, as humans, we’re also animals that need personal touch. (Social media today, 2015)

The second disadvantage brought about by technology is that cyberbullying possible, and children are now particularly vulnerable to harassment online. While cyberbullying is a worry for children, it is also becoming a common challenge among adults too. Results from a YouGov poll conducted last year showed that [a quarter of adults have experienced cyberbullying](https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/cyberbullying-adults-online-abuse-facebook-instagram-a8891701.html). Given the disheartening rise in suicide among victims of cyberbullying, it is clear to see that technology is not always a healthy source of social interaction.

Thirdly, Technology has also provided a platform for online predators to pursue their victims. And as UK schools closed during the coronavirus lockdown, children were on their devices a lot more often and faced with a sudden drop in social interaction. While there is not yet any overwhelming evidence to suggest the pandemic caused an increase in predatory activity online, The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) has said [reports to their Cyberviolence increased by 106%](https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2020/04/24/child-exploitation-complaints-rise-106-to-hit-2-million-in-just-one-month-is-covid-19-to-blame/#24f1f2c64c9c) during the first months of the pandemic.

According to a variety of studies, increased screen time and reliance on technology can lead to reduced attention spans, lower levels of privacy, which can lead to unrealistic expectations of closeness or friendship online, addictive behaviors that get in the way of schoolwork or other healthy pursuits, and general struggles to interact with people in person. As children get used to communicating in a virtually anonymous fashion with the screen as a buffer, they may become increasingly uncomfortable with direct conversation. It can also reduce their ability to understand non-verbal cues like body language and facial expressions.

**In addition, less privacy** social networks have significantly shifted the approach towards the concept of privacy in many people’s minds, who regularly reveal all the details about their personal life and even their whereabouts. This behavior can lead to many negative consequences, including even the person’s safety who likes being too open on social media. Again, anything that lands on your social account page, email inbox, or as a text message can potentially be read, including by your spouse (boyfriend or girlfriend). Many conflicts arise based on information obtained in this way, which significantly [harms the relationship](https://www.curranmoher.com/what-are-grounds-for-divorce-in-virginia/). (Shawn, 2020)

**Time-consuming** A significant number of couples note that spending too much time on the Internet or in the company of smartphones and tablets undermines their relationship and causes a lack of mutual understanding. Many would argue that it helps them relax, which is also true. Undoubtedly, an engaging computer game or a good movie helps to [avoid depression](https://www.nuggmd.com/blog/cannabis-and-ssri-interaction).

However, the basic rule in such cases is to set time limits. Otherwise, conflict situations may arise, for example, when a partner does not have enough time to communicate or to perform daily duties because of their dedication to modern world distractions provided by technological development. (Shawn, 2020)

Technology is here to stay, and it will continue to dominate the entertainment and socialization worlds of young people going forward. While the Internet and other tech options offer a lot of benefits, it is important to understand the social impact from a negative perspective, too. Understanding, balance, and offering other options are great ways to minimize any harmful effects that technology can bring.

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