**McCrae , Gettings and Purssell research paper:**

**Key Findings**

* Overall Correlation: A small but statistically significant correlation (r = 0.13, p = 0.001) was found between social media use and depressive symptoms in children and adolescents.
* Gender Differences:
  + Girls were more likely to experience depressive symptoms related to social media use, particularly due to social comparison and feedback-seeking behaviors.
  + Boys showed less susceptibility to depressive symptoms from social media use.
* Specific Findings:
  + Ybarra et al. (2005): Chatroom users had a higher likelihood of depressive symptoms compared to other internet users.
  + Hwang et al. (2009): Adolescents with depressive mood were more likely to use the internet for expressing feelings and seeking friendships.
  + Nesi & Prinstein (2015): Social comparison and feedback-seeking on social media predicted depressive symptoms, especially in girls.
  + Tiggemann & Slater (2015): Social media use was linked to self-objectification, body shame, and depressive symptoms in adolescent girls.
* Bidirectional Relationship:

Depressive symptoms may lead to increased social media use as a coping mechanism, while excessive social media use may worsen depressive symptoms**.**

**This paper provides a strong foundation for understanding the relationship between social media use and depressive symptoms in adolescents. It highlights the importance of considering gender differences and the potential mechanisms (e.g., social comparison) that may explain this relationship.**

**Key Findings:**

1. Overall Correlation: A small but statistically significant positive correlation (*r* = 0.13, *p* = 0.001) between social media use and depressive symptoms.
2. Gender Differences: Stronger association in girls, linked to social comparison, feedback-seeking, and body image concerns.
3. Mechanisms: Social media exacerbated vulnerabilities (e.g., low self-esteem) and enabled maladaptive behaviors (e.g., compulsive use, cyberbullying).
4. Bidirectionality: Depressive symptoms may drive social media use as a coping mechanism, while excessive use may worsen symptoms.