From Likes to Lows

Understanding the Psychological Effects of Social Media Use

Giorgia Faedda Hoda Nseif Andrea Herrera Raghad Al Shalati Umida Rahmanova

Introduction to Data Analytics





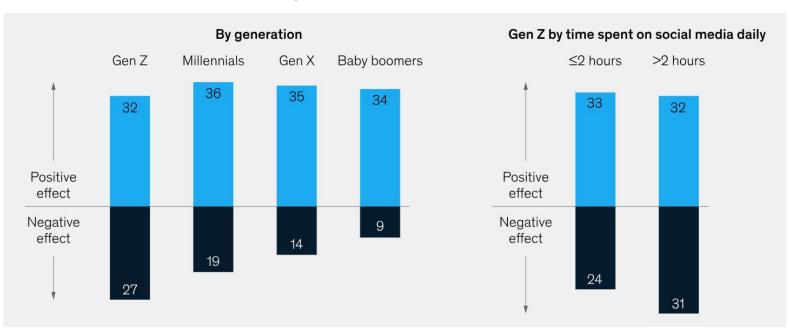
Why this topic?







Why this topic?





Research Link: https://bit.ly/46MddSi

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Why this topic?

- Is there any real correlation between Social Media and Mental Health?
- And what are the consequences of Social Media use?





The challenge

Are we going to find the same results as other studies have found?





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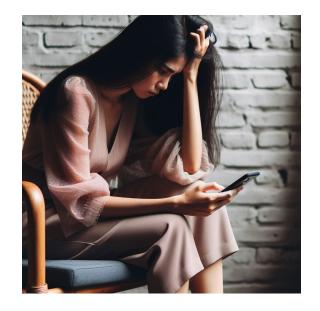
Research question

How does social media impact mental health, including self-esteem, anxiety, and depression?

Research

How does social media impact mental health, including self-esteem, anxiety, and depression?

- Survey and analysis plan
- Demographic data
- Mental health questions

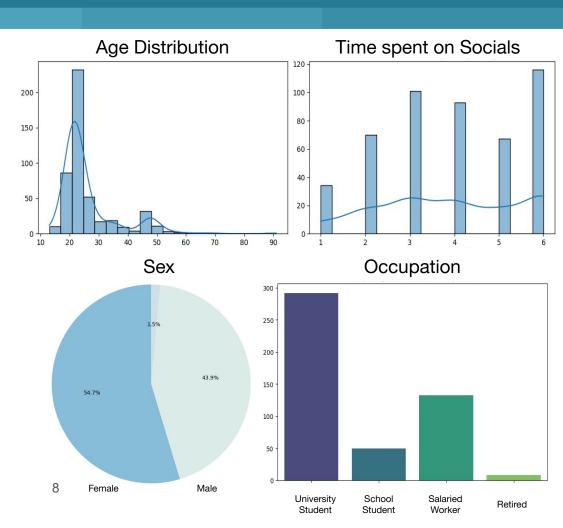




Our Sample

- Sample size: 481
- Mostly young people
- Most more than 5 hours daily on platforms
- Mostly university students





Data cleaning

- Handle missing values
- Remove duplicates
- Encoding



Distribution of missing data

```
retired students null affiliated = df[(df['occupation'].str.contains('Retired|Student', case=False))
                             & df['affiliated_organization'].isna()]
   print(f"When occupation contains 'retired' or 'student' and affiliated organization is null: "
       f"{retired_students_null_affiliated.shape[0]}/{df['affiliated_organization'].isna().sum()}")
   retired students notnull affiliated = df[df['occupation'].str.contains('Retired|Student', case=False)
                                & df['affiliated_organization'].notna()]
   print(f"When occupation contains 'retired' or 'student' and affiliated organization is not null: "
       f"{retired_students_notnull_affiliated.shape[0]}")
 ✓ 0.0s
When occupation contains 'retired' or 'student' and affiliated organization is null: 22/30
When occupation contains 'retired' or 'student' and affiliated_organization is not null: 327
   # Identify and remove entire duplicate rows
   df.drop duplicates()
```

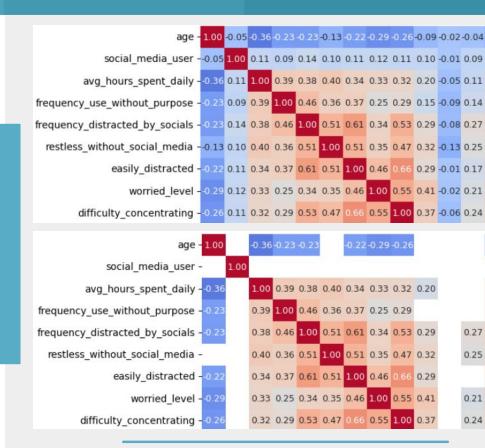
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Discord	Facebook	Instagram	Pinterest	Reddit	Snapchat	TikTok	Twitter	YouTube
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
1	1	1	0	1	0	0	1	1
0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
•••								

Analysis methodology

- Correlation Matrix
- Filtering entangled variables
- Analysing meaningful correlations



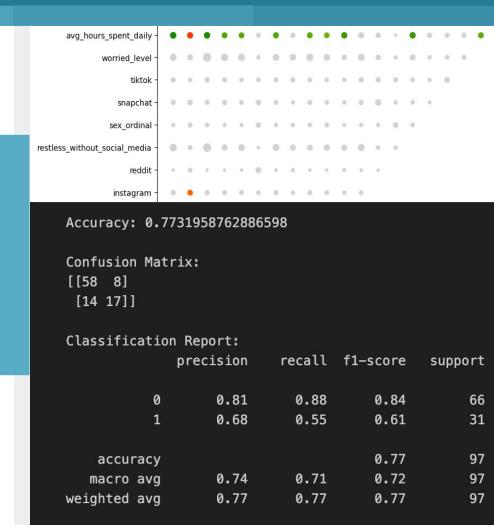


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Testing methodology

- Model selection and Test Validity
- Combination Matrix Logistic Regression
- Prediction evaluation with Confusion Matrix





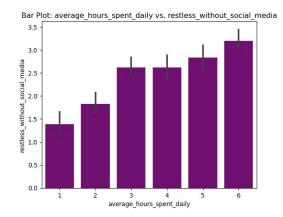
Results

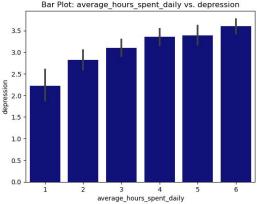
• Not significant:

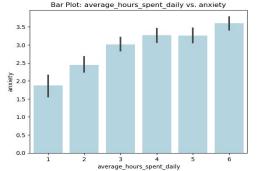
 social media platforms and mental health conditions

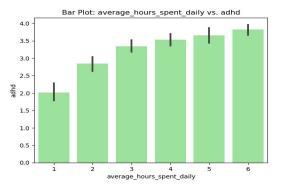
Significant result:

 time spent on social media and mental health conditions





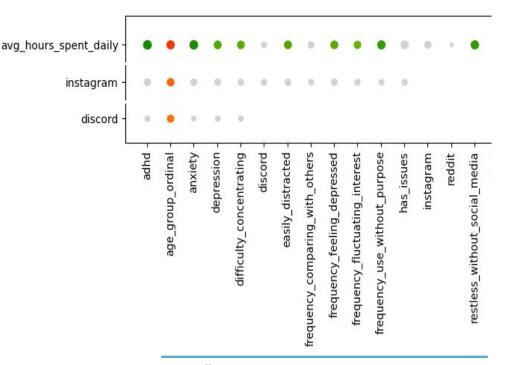






Discoveries

- How much matters more than what
- Time on socials correlates with:
 - Anxiety
 - ADHD
 - Restlessness





Summary

- Does Social Media usage affect Mental Health?
- Cleaned, Adapted and Analysed Data to discover patterns
- Tested interesting relationships for significance
- Spending long time on Social Media is associated with Anxiety, ADHD and restlessness

Conclusions

Research question:

How does social media impact mental health, including self-esteem, anxiety, and depression?

Conclusions

- Valuable insights into the dynamics of Social Media and Mental Health
- Time spent on Social Media has a significant relationship with Mental Health conditions
- Correlation is not causation: caution with the blame game
- Do people with Health Conditions use more Social Media?
 Do Social Media cause Health Conditions?
 Or is there any additional variable at play?





Future directions

- Wider and more varied sample:
 - many young individuals studying at university
 - o more that 99% being social media users.
- Longitudinal studies: analyse long-term effect of usage or withdrawal from socials
- Qualitative research: can provide a richer understanding and ideas for further research
- Cross-cultural studies: exploring cultural variations that can provide meaningful insights







Questions?

Data Analytics

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Thank you!

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