**Nowadays more people are choosing to socialize online rather than face to face. Is this a positive or negative development?**

Socializing online via a plethora of social network available today has created a platform/ a massive virtual space for making connections globally/ on a global scale. An increasing number of people meet and talk to their friends online instead of in person. **This can be perceived as a more negative development due to the shady and shadowy lurking aspects of social networking that tend to eclipse the myriad of benefits which will be the focus of this essay.**

One of the major ramifications that can arise from people socializing online is that it can lead to social isolation. Prior to the digital era, people would frequently interact with friends and family, visit places socialize at cafes restaurants and spend quality time. On the contrary/ In contrast people today, prefer chatting online and being more secluded. *They may have thousands of friends in cyber space but none in reality. Hence, this kind of isolation is unhealthy both physically and psychologically as it can also lead to depression and other ailments.*

Secondly, meeting people online can be highly risky and can even pose a threat to be more prone/ susceptible to being deceived and mislead leading to many **repercussions**. People can *assume* ***fake identities****, create fake profiles and even commit fraud online via hacking and stealing vital personal information* such as bank account details or even more work related data. This especially concerns youth and children who are more impressionable and even adults. For example, forming online relationships with strangers have also led to forbidden relationships and even suicide.

Thirdly, cyberspace of recent times have resulted in critical privacy violations by interfering with the personal lives of people. Cases of **leaked footages or photographs** that capture **intimate moments of people** for purposes of either **besmirchin**g the image of even **blackmailin**g and **coercion** create too much of **mayhem** which have even led to cases like **suicide or even murder**. Similarly, once such personal conversations or visuals have been shared online, they can remain in there forever and may often resurface later leading onto severe embarrassment. ***Political scandals*** *and even celebrity scandals are some* ***infamous*** *examples of such situations.*

In conclusion, although online socializing has been popularized it has caused many problems/crises in the personal & social lives of people, leading to being **socially isolated** and depressed, **causing deception** and **privacy violations,** ultimately impacting communities which have **eclipsed** the positives.

Neutral Background Sentence

**Intro**

Paraphrasing the topic

Opinion/Thesis statement

Topic Sentence/Main Point

Examples

Sub/Supporting points

Examples

Topic Sentence/Main Point

Topic Sentence/ Main Point

**Body Para 1**

Sub points/cause & effects

**Body Para 2**

**Body Para 3**

**Conclusion**