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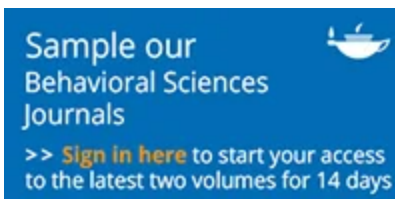
Review Article

Social Networking Site Use and Loneliness: A Meta-Analysis

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Abstract

The popularity of social networking sites (SNSs) has drawn researchers' attention in recent years, and a large amount of efforts have been made to explore the association between SNS use and loneliness, however, they provided mixed results. This meta-analysis was conducted to confirm the relationship, based on 82 articles consisting of 90 independent samples with a total of 48,383 participants. A random-

SNS use moderated the relationship. Specifically, abnormal and passive SNS use was significantly and positively correlated with loneliness; however, no significant differences were observed in the relationships between general and active use of SNSs and loneliness. In addition, the moderating effects of gender, age, and culture were not significant.

Q Keywords: Social networking site use loneliness meta-analysis displacement hypothesis social compensation hypothesis

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Disclosure statement

* Local tax will be added as applicable

The authors report no conflict of interest.

Ethical Approval

All procedures performed in this study were approved by the Ethics in Human Research Committee of Central China Normal University.

Informed Consent: There were no individual participants in the study.

Data Availability

All data generated or analyzed during this study is available online at <https://osf.io/432su/?Vi>

Additional information

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