Smartphones and Society

Katie Prescott

I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System.

Smartphones and Social Status

- Social accessibility and acceptance vs. social outcast
- Phones show:
 - Status (socio-economic and social)
 - Popularity
- The war:
 - o iPhone vs. Android







Are Smartphones Affecting Children's Social Development?

- There are no significant correlations (positive or negative) between weekend use of screen based media and social skill development.
- There is a significantly negative correlation between smartphone use of children on weekdays and their social skill development; as the duration during the week went up, the social skill scores went down.
- However, there are no *predictive* effects of technology usage on social skills.



Do Social Media and Smartphones Affect Academic Performance?

- Studies show that avoiding social media while studying or in class leads to higher academic performance.
- More smartphone/social media usage is negatively correlated with academic performance while longer time in between usage is positively correlated with academic performance.
- Social media usage affects students in science fields more than it affects students in the humanities fields.



Smartphone Addiction

Smartphone Generation

- Children are "media-savvy and sophisticated consumers"
- Smartphones are a "'natural' extension" of children.



Addicted Child

- Not a new idea -- "addicted to your phone" started with the introduction of the mobile phone.
- Even children are susceptible to believing smartphones are addictive.



Jane Vincent and Leslie Haddon, Smartphone Cultures

Do We Use Our Smartphones Too Much?

- "Habitual, increased use of [smartphones] can grow into PSU, causing impairment in such areas as school, work or social interaction."
- The study found that people who ruminate about social interaction, and have social anxiety avoid in-person social interaction, and excessively use their smartphones or other online media.
- It was also found that mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety, PTSD, low self-esteem, and fear of social evaluation are all associated with Problematic Smartphone Use.



How to Combat Smartphone Addiction

- Monitor usage
- Avoid usage in class and while studying
- Be aware of when it is inappropriate to use your smartphone







Questions?

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