

Justice and the Cyberworld

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Abstract

In its widest sense, justice creates conditions that enable each member of the society to flourish. Justice directs individual to respect and promote rights of the individual in the world we live in.

Today, at one's fingertips, social interaction takes on a new dimension as time and space condense creating a reachable world. Yet, it is unclear whether all members of society communicate fairly in this Cyberworld. People who have learned to use the vast scopes on the Internet create an amazing variety of conversations and also build new online friendships. The question is, does this Cyberworld respect and promote the rights of the individual or it create injustice?

This paper explores the impact of the so-called Cyberworld. Significant questions are delved into this article namely: (1) What are the causes of so much interest on the internet? (2) What is Cyberspace? (3) How do men and women participate and interact within this Cyberworld significantly on Social Network Sites? (4) Why people use Social Networking sites? (5) Are there any security risks in Social Network sites? (6) What are the uses and gratification of Social Network sites? (7) How the Cyberworld can be an effective avenue in promoting justice in our society?

To promote justice this paper recommends uplift the dignity of the persons, media education and ethics in the Internet.

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Introduction

In its widest sense, justice creates conditions that enable each member of the society to flourish. Justice directs individual to respect and promote rights of the individual in the world we live in. Right now in our society, there is new emerging world, a new way of life, transforming our minds, institutions, companies that is the growing role of the Internet. In this new world of the internet, it flourish our society, anyone now could get an instant news from other countries, building new friendship which bridging the gap of distances and creating new accord among men. Furthermore, there is an extent of information of other cultures in the Internet and an increase of online education.

According to John Paul II “The Internet is certainly a new forum understood in the ancient Roman sense of that public space where politics and business were transacted, where religious duties were fulfilled where much of the social life of the city took place, and where the best and the worst of human nature was on display.” (John Paul II, 2002) The Internet is an avenue of communication that may bring to one’s fulfillment and build a just society. “This technology can be a means for solving human problems, promoting the integral development of the human persons, creating a world governed by justice and peace and love.” (John Paul II, 2002)

Cyberspace and Cyberworld

Zaliski reports that we really do not know how many more of those people are out there in cyberspace, the web is too big, too fluid (as cited in Babin, Zukowski, 2002, p.4). Beniger, (2003) indicates in his study, cyberspace continues to emerge, bottom up, its control also largely emergent from the social interactions of millions of independent individuals. (as cited p.60) Barlow explained in the Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace that it has no government, no moral right, no police; it has its own culture and disclosing ethics. (as cited Lipschultz, 2015)

In the cyberspace it creates a new space of ideas, a new world that separate to the real world. In this research, I will be using the term Cyberworld in relation to cyberspace. A cyberspace is a space of experience where people are connected. In this Cyberworld it creates a new world where night and day collides, joined together as it creates its own time in one continuum in cyberspace. Likewise, in the Cyberworld an individual could connect and express his freedom in a virtual world and a possibility of an intense interaction with other people. Moreover, a person can enters to the Cyberworld where anyone can be a part of this world, whatever your gender, race, status and nationality are accepted. It is universal Cyberworld that creates countless communities, build new online friendships, and promotes peace and justice. The Cyberworld creates private and public communication. Likewise, the Cyberworld is a place where people are part and generates a common world. Hence, the Cyberworld breaks boundaries among people and establish good connection among people and it is developing and unfolding world.

Impact of the Internet

The impact of the Internet is so immense in our society today. It has become a part of the lives of men; it enables men to participate in a global of exchange in solidarity and cooperation. The Internet has a massive information continues to overflow in all the ends of the earth. It is an overflowing of information, ideas and mutual exchange which leads to individual and group progress. The Internet is very helpful to eliminate literacy, it provides basic lesson and advance education. At present, there are many online education and Open University that offer distant learning courses.

The development of the Internet is accelerating and Tim O'Reilly of Reilly media coined the term Web 2.0 is a trend of creating websites that are more open, participatory, users interact through feedback. (as cited Goddard, Geesin, 2011, p. 64). Zimmer suggests Web 2.0 that anyone can use the new Internet technologies to create and share information, to interact within the communities and express oneself. (as cited, Eisenlauer, 2013, p.4).

The Internet is an avenue to build new relationships and also new mode of communication, which allows men to commune with others easily. It is also a venue of public forum. Ferdinand stated, it provide alternative explanations or narratives of public decision-making which differ from those found in the more traditional media can have an impact upon the political preferences of individuals, let alone groups to post information to catch public attention that previously would have been impossible. (As cited in Borgman et al., 2005, p. 32) At present, the Internet is a venue of public space to express public opinion and anyone is welcome to express his or her views.

There are many advantages and disadvantages when we use the Internet, it is use as an effective communication whether is for good ends or evil ends. An individual can ascend to heights of human genius and virtue, or plunge the depths of human degradation, while sitting alone at a keyboard and screen. (Ethics in communication par. 27, 2000). According to Ottmar, "the internet opens up new, hitherto nonexistent, ethical questions, insofar as we have to show anew the inevitability of the question of good and evil in a space which is entirely created and shaped by human beings." (As cited in Borgman et al., 2005, p.16).

The Internet plays also major contribution in the global economy it benefits different business companies, it boost employment, and it promotes healthy competition that serves their online customer with customer service satisfaction. John Paul II stated, "we must be grateful for the new technology which enables us to share information in vast man-made artificial memories, thus providing wide and instant access to the knowledge which is our human being heritage." (1990). Ferdinand mentioned, "the ability of the internet to provide more direct horizontal communication channels between individuals and groups, and in something much closer to real time." (As cited in Borgman et al., 2005, p. 32).

In some societies the Internet play a major role, they use the Internet system for the government offices, hospitals, energy supply in which the society improve. In this view, without the Internet system it might contribute the downfall of the societies growth.

All societies that has an access to the internet suffer for the moment form a kind of digital divide. (As cited in Borgman et al., 2005,p. 31) Some people could not enjoy complete access to the Internet due to the unavailability. According to the findings of the study of Lee, “economically rich persons have more chance to access the Internet, socially rich persons with strong ties more frequently use online communication, and as a result, they can build or maintain more cohesive friendships and connectedness to school than persons with lower sociability.” (2009) Another impact of prevalent is the offerings of commercial online services. It poses another problem if an individual needs to buy goods online, one must have credit card in order to transact business, to buy goods and services. This is another kind of injustice, an individual could not buy online without credit card and they are left behind in the Cyberworld.

Another kind of injustice is too much information and it comes without a guarantee. Some of the information is accurate, educational, trivial and worthless due to lack of gatekeepers. (Dominick, 2002). Online user is always at risk in getting information on the Internet. Another impact is on the injustice issue of sexual health among the adolescents, that the Internet provides information to them. The Internet may provide sexual health advices, it may be negative or positive information and there is a possibility it is inaccurate information. (Springate, & Omar, 2013).

As the virtual community grows on the Cyberworld, verbal attacks online through the different Social Networking Sites and even online discussion forum could hurt an individual. This kind of injustice is endemic in Cyberworld.

The Internet also increases of attraction of online user to use frequently of their time engaging in instant messaging, sending e-mail, online shopping, online chatting, online gaming and even cybersex which leads to Internet addiction. (Dominick, 2002).

Another kind of injustice, Berniger mentioned, “A growing problem in the cyberspace battles over the control of cyberspace have centered on the protection of free expression something that cannot be overvalued.” (2003).

Uses, Gratification of Social Networking Sites

Social Network Sites or SNSs is defined according to Boyd and Ellison, (2008) (1) construct a public or semi-public profile within a bounded system, (2) articulate a list of other users with whom they share a connection, and (3) view and traverse their list of connections and those made by others within the system. (p. 211). The Social Networking Sites (SNSs) allow people to create a network of friends and creates relational community that linked with common interest. Social networking sites is a media convergence that anybody could connect to all media services in to one single solution. The attractiveness of social network sites has increased tremendously in the past years. Social network sites like Twitter, MySpace, Instagram, Facebook, specifically aim at building and maintaining social network. Everyone is welcome to join and new members have to register. The SNSs typically allow members to create an online profile containing self-descriptions, react to the profiles of other members, and connect with other members. Participants may use the sites to keep in touch with existing friends or to meet new people. Communications in the Cyberworld through

Social Network Sites have become a significant part of the people's lives. Social networking sites are the latest online communication tool and well liked by young people as well as adults. It allows the members to create a public personal profile and interact with people online.

Many questions are still left unanswered regarding what are its uses and gratification do they get on these SNSs. It is also important to study the nature of these social network sites in order to get an understanding of how these sites influence the young people.

According to Bazarova and Choi (2014) the result of their study “confirm that people pursue a different set of strategic goals and motivations in different communication forms on SNSs, with both visibility and target directedness affecting prevalent self-disclosure goals. As such, our findings reveal that self-disclosures in Facebook status updates, wall posts, and private messaging are motivated by different reward values.” (p.64). Boyd (2008) found, Facebook was designed to support distinct college networks.(p. 218). According to Suwannathachote and Tantrarungroj, there are many SNSs such as Delicious, Facebook and Twitter are popular platforms for academic purposes. (2012). According to Maqableh et al, research, “there was a significant impact of SNSs on students academic performance.” (2015). According to Suwannathachote and Tantrarungroj, research on using Facebook students group work collaboration findings showed a high percentage of use of Facebook use for collaborative work in the group project by using real time chat and sending personal instant messages to contact their group members. (2012). According to the latest research of Ch'ng, Twitter is another social network site with a short messaging service, the follower-followee network. (Ch'ng, 2015, p.33) The user has the freedom on whom he chooses to follow and who chooses to follow him and because of this style of communication this is considered as an effective social networking. The results of the research of Ch'ng, reveals the mapping of online social movement within the limited Twitter interface and service shows the instantaneous of events between individuals and communities that result a small world of network. This small world of network will be strengthened by real world interaction. (Ch'ng, 2015). Weller et al, mentioned twitter use “hashtags are unmoderated, user can introduce and use them and this results in possible doubts in meaning, spelling and on the other hand it promotes shared events, cultural expression and ongoing conversation.” (2014, p.6). Twitter promotes social connections and expanding social network ties. Another popular Social Networking sites is Instagram and was acquired by Facebook in late 2012. (Lipschultz, 2015). Instagram highlights the sharing of photos with your social network friends or users could share it publicly. Social Networking Sites are free, collaborative in connecting with online friends. It strengthens online friendships and it is an opportunity for learning, sharing knowledge and expertise in different colleges.

Security Risk of Social Networking Sites

Facebook online users have many risk, Eisenlauer mentioned “among of them the easy access to highly personal data, the dispersion of one's identity across fragmented online spaces, the threat of online surveillance as well as the possible exploitation on online social spaces by media corporations.” (2013, p.4). SNSs online members are also at risk when they socialize new friends online, which are strangers to them.

These strangers' online members may infer real life identity from their personal profile. YouTube allows users to upload their creative videos, connects to the world and builds many followers on a global scale. In recent study, there are some risk-taking in adolescents experience online, with the virtual audience may pressure the online user to imitate a variety of dangerous dares and behaviors for them to post online via YouTube. (Ahern, Sauer, Thacker, 2015).

Another risk that arises, that some online user are expressing inappropriate language when they make a comment on a video posted online. There were reports twenty-three incidents where Nottingham University Hospital staffs were found to have posted confidential medical information on SNSs. (2011, p.13). Additional risk behaviors in SNSs are the display references, like substance use and even sex. (Moreno, p. 566). This information is posted online, can be shared to the public. According to the study of Huang, et al (2014): related to adolescents' use of SNSs friendships were more likely to exist between students who had similar Facebook and MySpace use habits and between students similarly exposed to their friends' online displays of drinking and partying. If exposures indicate higher acceptance of risk behaviour norms, the results may suggest an affinity between students with similar normative perceptions of these risk behaviors. (2014, p.e57). Using Social Networking Sites are growing phenomena and many are addicted on using it. According to the study of Fujimori, et al (2015) reveals that an ambivalent attachment style predicts SNSs addiction. (p.1838). Instagram Privacy and Policy on storage processing "Instagram cannot ensure the security of any information you transmit to Instagram or guarantee that information on the Service may not be accessed, disclosed, altered, or destroyed." (2016). Instagram users are at risk in sharing their personal information data and uploaded photos.

Men and Women Interact in the Cyberworld through Social Networking Sites

Exactly at one click, social interaction takes on a new dimension as time and space condense creating a reachable world. Yet, it is unclear whether all members of society communicate similarly in this Cyberworld. In particular, how do men and women participate and interact within this communication mode? According to Babin and Zukowski, "there is the pleasure of surfing and playing, the internet is a great tracking game. Its ground is not forest but the computer screen, moving, glistening with bright colors and sounds. (Gospel and Cyberspace, 2002, p. 63) The World Wide Web is risking part out of the major adventure of our time. It is a space of knowing oneself at the same participating actively in an online group communication and it is free and universal. The Internet represents alternative future, "You have become a passenger on the space shuttle, my brother and may no police ever interfere with our travels." (Gospel and Cyberspace, 2002, p. 64).

The presence of the Cyberworld is a huge electronic landscape world containing so much information and multiple relationships. Benedict XVI stated: While the speed with which the new technologies have evolved in terms of their efficiency and reliability is rightly a source of wonder, their popularity with users should not surprise us, as they respond to a fundamental desire of people to communicate and to relate to each other. This desire for communication and friendship is rooted in our very nature as human beings and cannot be adequately understood as a response to technical innovations. (2009).

The Social Networking sites are popular where people want to share personal exchanges and creates a Cyberworld. At recent the interaction online is diverse, everyone can engage in any conversation with the help of fast wireless connections anywhere. "The social media has opened floodgates to self-disclosure of thoughts and feelings and experiences on the Internet" (Bazarova & Y. H. Choi, 2014, p. 653). According to Goddard and Geesin, the traditional term of user and producer, have become "prosumer". Prosumers are both producers and consumers in the Social Networking sites, an online user could produce his own content, upload photos, videos at the same time an individual is a consumer of the website using it for entertainment, consuming information from friends and receiving public advertisement. (2011, p. 64-65). According to Hardy et al, their study has significant effect of online interaction, people are getting better at filtering out personally relevant information and are becoming more comfortable with chatting online." (2005, p.84.) People do now intensifies their online interaction. According to Zeng and Wei, friendship develops through the online exchange of functional values as well as sharing of personal preferences and lifestyles (as cited, Zhou et al., 2016, p.70). There is a growing of formation of friendships in online settings, consumers become friends in online brand communities through frequent online interactions. (as cited, Zhou et al., 2016, p. 80). However, as the Social Network sites gains its popularity, there are some incidents that violated the dignity of the person, which is known Cyberbullying. According to Hinduja, Cyberbullying is willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers and cellphones and other electronic devices. (2014, p. 2). There are many methods of Cyberbullying: flaming, harassment, denigration, impersonation, cyberstalking, and sexting. (Cyberbullying: Bullying in the Digital Age, 2012, p.62-68).

Cyberworld an Effective Avenue in Promoting Justice in Our Society

The Cyberworld is too big, fluid and complex ever to be controlled. The intricacy of the Cyberworld, requires us to know our roles and shared responsibility among online users, producers and consumers. It is not only protecting ourselves but also to ensure that the Cyberworld contributes to our society's justice, respect for human dignity, harmony and maintenance of moral standard. Otherwise, it can only be another avenue for the Cyberbullies, haters, fraud, violence and Internet addiction.

The fundamental ethical principle is "the human person and the human community are the end and measure of the use the media of social communication, communication should be by persons to integral human development of persons." (Ethics in communications, 2000). Principle of social ethics like justice is always appropriate in the Cyberworld. There is a need to develop the attitude of self-discipline, conformity and respect the dignity of the human person so that justice will prevail on the Cyberworld. Respecting for others would play a key role in governing the use of the Cyberworld. The Cyberworld is a gift, to be able to know how to use it ethically, right choose of words and images shared online. A wonderful gift for human being, a Cyberworld that build friendships and harmony. An abundant gift as we receive this brilliant technology, we also share it to others. By exchanging information with other countries are fruitful and reciprocal. It becomes ethos; the Cyberworld communicating its own images and lived experience aspiration and ideals. We need respectful compliance and building correct relationship between the

producer of the website and online users. Cyberworld citizens must be prudent in posting information and messages. They should know their responsibility by producing accurate, insightful, engaging, honest and truthful information in Social Network sites. At the same time allow people to connect in the real world that will promote harmonious relationship and justice in the society.

Through Media Education will lead a better knowledge in understanding the Cyberworld. What is needed is to take the long road of forming public ethics and of media education in being a part of the Cyberworld and we carry on this in our society. Digital media an avenue of people around the world, to communicate and form relationships across national borders. (Bronwyn & Zenger, 2012, p.206).

By developing a curriculum of Media Education and incorporating it with the useful contribution Social Networking Sites in the classroom. We need to promote media education to be critical online. If the online users have lack of collective identity of the Cyberworld, it threatens the online users. There is a need to learn, to educate online users. It would help adequately to improve the situation by knowing the different roles of online producers, users and consumers. An online user has the power to mediate, looking meaning for an event posted online and sharing with his own words. The challenge to all online citizen to utilize their freedom with moderation and creativity within the roles that are assigned to them and fulfilment of the responsibilities entrusted to them. This will provide specific opportunities for discussion on social injustices online and in-depth study of media education.

Conclusion and Recommendation

In conclusion, the Cyberworld has been a great impact on people's lives but unfortunately there are many injustices raising concerns on social connectivity. An online environment that tolerates total freedom that manifests many social injustices namely: digital divide, lack of gatekeepers, online addiction. There are many risks display online that offers the possibilities of invasion of privacy, expose to the demonstration of the use of prohibited drugs, pornography and cyberbullying. The rise of dependency of online users that continuously use the information and social networking sites are progressively defenseless to the misuse of the Cyberworld.

Security risk in the Cyberworld cannot be easily removed but it could be control. By having Media Education in the classrooms at the same time using different Social Networking Sites will lead to an understanding the rights of privacy, and copyright laws, Terms and services. Media education is an important key role in responding and preventing cyberbullying. Social Networking Sites are topic-based network which are valuable for educational purposes by connecting, sharing, communicating are effective for peer learning.

In applying social ethical principle of justice, there is a need for reflection, discussion and dialogue among the international policy makers, professional communicators, ethicists, moralists, representative of the Cyberworld citizen.

All online users are obliged to use it in an informed, respectful and ethical way. There is a need to develop of international justice among nations in guaranteeing the

rights of privacy, enforcing and keeping the law of peace and security in the Cyberworld over criminals and terrorists.

The complexity of the Cyberworld, however, does not require giving up on justice. It means that there is a need to develop shared responsibility not only to all online users but also to ensure that the Cyberworld contributes to society's harmony, and the maintenance of moral standards and justice.

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