

*A Study of the Effect of Using Social Networks on the Quality of Family
Interpersonal Communication
(with an Emphasis on the Relationship Between the Couple)*

Neda Soleimani, West Tehran Branch, Islamic Azad University, Iran
Mehrdad Salemi, Tehran University, Iran

The Asian Conference on Media & Mass Communication 2015
Official Conference Proceedings

Abstract:

Study the effect of using social networks on the quality of family interpersonal communication (with emphasis on the relationship between the couple) Social networks played an undeniable role in everyday life and human relationships and social networks .Iranian's interest to join, like the rest of the world is growing. Given the importance of family functioning, present study was to evaluate the relationship between the usage of social network connections rather than interpersonal communication & family functions. The results extracted from a survey. The study population included all individuals aged 20 to 50 were married and residents of 22 region of Tehran estimated population size is 284,602 people, of which 381 selected household respectively. Data obtained from research using Kendall's correlation test and Mann-Whitney were analyzed. The results showed that people using social networks and people who do not use the two categories of family functioning and marital intimacy after all there is a significant difference. As well as the age of familiarity with social networking and the use of their time with the family, solidarity, family and marital intimacy between users of social networking sites there is a significant relationship. This means that parents spend more time in cyberspace and social networks revelations of marital intimacy with 2 indicators of emotional intelligence and sex has dropped. As well as between family functioning and parenting with three indicators, the level of cooperation, ways of parenting and problem solving there is an inverse relationship.

Keywords: social networking, interpersonal communication, family functioning, marital intimacy.

iafor

The International Academic Forum
www.iafor.org

Introduction

Today, with the development of information technology applications - Communications in everyday life, the international community is faced with the birth and growth of a new generation of Web-based tools offer possibilities for interaction, discussion, dialogue and, in general, provide two-way interaction. Web 2 is the foundation of the Internet dialog to allow unidirectional communication among users of the World Wide Web has provided. While the possibility of using the web 1 of the vast resources of the World Wide Web and send and receive information by e-mail provided, based on an established network and interactive Web 2 was formed among Internet users. (Bashir and Afrasiabi, 1392: 3).

Because of the growing number of members and it's influence on our non-virtual space (Real life), these networks are important and have become a global phenomena over a decade. As the results of a survey in 24 countries in 2010 show that worldwide average from 10 Internet users, six of them have visit social networks (Iran, 1391; quoted from meteor and sacred, 1391: 62). Therefore, Iranian sites are attentive in this regard and the number of their users are growing. (Meteor and sacred, 1391: 62).

Researchers have always stressed that the presence of social networks on various aspects of life such as family relationships, identity, social trends, attitudes and values and influence people (Freedom, 1388: 7).

The family is the fundamental social basis. It is the building blocks of society, the main focus of maintaining traditions, social norms and values and the foundation of strong social bonds and relationships and focus for the expression of human emotions and social education. Family institution generally formed based on marriage arises and the beginning of their formation, such as the safety of human life and the new wave within the kinship network creates a greater number of relatives also bind. Man in the family, teaches socialization process is a set of do's and don'ts and finally learns roles in relationships with others. The family is important, particularly in regard to family values and social values. Social values, essential element of the social system through which the community can be controlled and led to the decline or excellence. The family of the factors that gave rise to the formation and strengthening of family and community values and communication are known (shoemaker, 1388: 56-57).

In line with the growing interest in membership and use of virtual spaces in relation to different effects on people's presence in cyberspace and interpersonal communication in recent years, research has been made. For example Pvrshhryary (1386: 49) study showed that the widespread use of the Internet and depression, social isolation and family connections are linked. Browse research shows that with respect to the novelty of the phenomenon, this research is in the beginning and on the other hand research in family relations and space is very limited. Considering the great importance of the family in society, the research on this important issue deals with whether the presence in cyberspace on the nature of interpersonal relationships in the family affects?

Line, Tango and Viber within 3 years, which can be found tremendous popularity over the lives of people take dominate and affect people's lifestyle. Statistics says 400 million people in the world of software Wechat to chat and send audio and video is free to use, the ministry said that one percent of the 4 million users are Iranian.

Based on the evidence, but more than one and a half million Iranians regular user programs, such as Wechat, Viber and Instagram are significant figures are increasing in number day by day (Alexa, 2013).

Because of the breadth of the scope of control of social networks in modern societies as well as having the characteristics of the phenomenon of fluid motion and dynamic, it is necessary to keep pace with technological and content development of social networks, in different dimensions, the function of especially their role in social transformation, in the era of globalization further study. The different effects and serious social uplift and reflect on the various aspects of the virtual world with dizzying speed in the social, cultural, economic and political influence in the real world and consistently backed the change in current, complete or destroy this dimension (Zyzk, 1996, 195; quoted in Sarookhani et al., 1387: 134). It is necessary therefore important that the effects of these new social networks that run on the mobile phone is simply examined the relationship between the individuals in family.

Hypotheses

1. It seems family functioning in families whose parents use virtual spaces compare with families whose parents do not use virtual spaces there is a significant difference.
3. It seems that marital intimacy among couples using virtual spaces and compared with those who do not use virtual spaces there is a significant difference.
4. It seems there is a relation between history of familiarity with virtual spaces and family functioning.
6. It seems there is a relation between history of familiarity with virtual spaces and marital intimacy there.
- 7 It seems there is a relation between duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and family functioning.
6. It seems there is a relation between duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and marital intimacy there.

Methodology

In this study, a questionnaire survey was used. The study population consisted of all individuals aged 20 to 50 were married in 2014 who are resident in region 22 of Tehran. According to the Iran statistic center's 2011 national population senses results this region have 284,602 people. The sampling method used in this research cluster that of region 22 of Tehran of both genders (male and female) of 381 individuals of both genders were selected.

To assess the effect of the use of cyberspace on the interpersonal communication in the family room and study hypothesis, according to literature and theory, a questionnaire was developed which has 45 questions 30 of them evaluate by Likert score: very high (5), high (4), average (3), low (2), very low (1). To determine the content and face validity, according to the basic concepts of research and consider the variables, using books and resources, searching numerous websites a primary questionnaire prepared early Then, the questionnaire was implemented as a pilot and bugs were fixed content validity of the questionnaire. Cornbrash's alpha coefficient was used to measure the reliability of the results is presented in Table 3.1 Cronbach's alpha coefficient.

Component		Item QTY	Cronbach's alpha	
Marital intimacy	Sex	6	0.681	0.839
	Emotional intelligence	5	0.767	
Family functioning	level of cooperation	6	0.692	0.792
	Problem solving	7	0.707	
	Ways of parenting	9	0.86	

Table 1: Cronbach's alpha coefficient

The results using SPSS software is both descriptive and inferential extraction. To describe the results one-dimensional tables have been used. To analyze first, second hypothesis tests of the non-parametric Mann-Whitney, and to analyze fourth, fifth & sixth hypothesis, Kendall correlation tests were used.

Findings:

Hypothesis 1

Component	MWU	Z	Significance level
Family functioning	1.18	-5.17	000/0
level of cooperation	12580	4.44	000/0
Problem solving	1.03	-6.65	000/0
Ways of parenting	1.23	4.7	000/0

Component	MWU	Z	Significance level
Family functioning	1.18	-5.17	000/0
level of cooperation	12580	4.44	000/0
Problem solving	1.03	-6.65	000/0
Ways of parenting	1.23	4.7	000/0

Table 2: Results Mann-Whitney test to compare the Family functioning and its components among users and nonusers of virtual spaces

Whitney U-test analysis results in the above table to compare the family Function and its components among users and nonusers of virtual spaces shows that the mean scores of the family functioning, the level of cooperation, problem solving and ways of parenting between the two groups of patients using virtual spaces and non have a significant difference.

Hypothesis 2

Table 3: Results Mann-Whitney test to compare the Marital intimacy and its components among users and nonusers of virtual spaces

Whitney U-test analysis results in the above table to compare the Marital intimacy and its components among users and nonusers of virtual spaces shows that the mean scores of the Marital intimacy, Sex and emotional intelligence between the two groups of patients using virtual spaces and non have a significant difference.

Hypothesis 3

Component	MWU	Z	Significance level
Marital intimacy	1.16	5.32	000/0
Sex	1.20	4.99	000/0
Emotional intelligence	1.47	2.36	000/0

Variables	Kendall Value	Significance level	Hypothesis
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Family functioning	0.241	000/0	Approved
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and level of cooperation	0.295	000/0	Approved
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Problem solving	0.340	000/0	Approved
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Ways of parenting	0.124	0.015	Approved

Table 4: Kendall correlation coefficient between History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Family functioning

As the above table shows that according to the Kendall value and significance level of less than 05/0 is obtained; it means there is a significant negative relationship between two variables History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Family functioning and its components.

Hypothesis 4

Variables	Kendall Value	significance level	Hypothesis
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Marital intimacy	0.142	0.005	Approved
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Sex	0.147	0.004	Approved
History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Emotional intelligence	0.008	0.887	Approved

Table 5: Kendall correlation coefficient between History of familiarity with virtual spaces and Marital intimacy

As the above table shows that according to the Kendall value and significance level of less than 05/0 is obtained; it means there is a significant relationship between two variables History of familiarity with virtual spaces Marital intimacy and its components.

Hypothesis 5

Variables	Kendall Value	significance level	Hypothesis
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Family functioning	0.208	000/0	Approved
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and level of cooperation	0.23	000/0	Approved
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Problem solving	0.236	000/0	Approved
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Ways of parenting	0.128	0.012	Approved

Table 6: Kendall correlation coefficient between Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Family functioning

As the above table shows that according to the Kendall value and significance level of less than 05/0 is obtained; it means there is a significant relationship between two variables Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Family functioning and its components.

Hypothesis 6

Variables	Kendall Value	significance level	Hypothesis
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Marital intimacy	0.208	0	Approved
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Sex	0.155	0.002	Approved
Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Emotional intelligence	0.107	0.037	Approved

Table 7: Kendall correlation coefficient between Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Marital intimacy

As the above table shows that according to the Kendall value and significance level of less than 05/0 is obtained; it means there is a significant relationship between two variables Duration of using virtual spaces (per day) and Family functioning and its components.

Descriptive findings:

The results showed that among the 382 patients, 195 women (51%) and 187 females (49%) who have shown that there is little difference between the number of men and women. The results showed that the mean age of the study subjects is 89/33. The results showed that the highest percentage of undergraduate education at 69/48 percent respectively. The lowest frequency of PhD and above the 40/3 percent. The results showed that the majority of participants with 27/89 percent, are employed. The results showed that most participants have two children (02/45) that, although the number of persons with a child (76/33) is also relatively high. The results showed that the average duration of marriage participant is equal to 87/12. The results indicate that the majority of participants have a smartphone (99/71 per cent) respectively. As the results show that a high percentage of people via mobile phone (30/62 percent) are connected to the Internet. Results showed that 45/54% of people are connected to the Internet via ADSL over the phone, less. The findings suggest that a relatively high percentage of people in virtual spaces (8/61) membership. The results show that the majority of people within six months to a year (35/31) past, been a member of virtual networks. The results showed that most of the virtual network from 1 to 3 hours (74/34 percent) virgin, although the percentage of people that 3 to 5 hours (93/30 percent) of virtual networks are also There is the. The findings suggest that virtual network lines (50/20 percent), Facebook (25.4 percent) and Viber (95/25 percent) is the most popular social networks. The results show that most people use the Internet between 1 to 3 hours (42/32%), and 3 to 5 hours (32/28 percent) are used. The results show that a high volume of people through mobile phone (95/44%) and at home wifi (71/39 percent) have an Internet connection. The results showed that the use of the Internet, social networking (71/30) and then the educational and academic work (18/18) and emails (4.18) is. Results indicate an average dependency (54/41 percent), family atmosphere to the Internet.

References

- Ebrahimpour Komala, S; Khazayi, trucks. (1391). Injury emerging social networks virtual ambush Iranian family. Congress first virtual space and someone to emerging social. Tehran: Ministry of Cooperatives, Labor and Social Welfare
- Slevin, c. (1380). Internet and Society. Translation Abbas Glygvry, Tehran: librarian Bagheri Banjar, AR; heshmati, MR; Kerman, B.. (1389). The effects of Internet addiction on academic performance among students of Shahed University, Tehran. The first National Conference on Student social factors on health.
- Bashir, Hassan; Afrasyabi, MS. (1392). Online social networking and lifestyle of young people. Light outcome, 12 (43), 15-2.
- Pvrshhryary, Mh-Syma. (1386). Compare depression, social isolation and family connections online high school female students in Tehran users and non-users. Psychological Journal, Issue 2.
- Piroozi, d. 1379). Jürgen Habermas. Translated by Ahmad TADAYON: Hermes Khoshtinat , Hajar. (1393). The role of digital media and social change. Master thesis political science, University research, Ayatollah Amoli Branch.
- Zolfaghari, affection, Hejaz, SR, Razi, S. (1392). Compare the function of social networks in Islamic-Iranian civilization and Western lifestyle. RAHAVARD light, Issue 44, 21-14.
- Rabii, Ali, Mohammad Yazd, Angel. (1392). Pathology virtual space, the effect of Internet use on student social isolation. Socio-cultural strategy, 2 (6), 60-43.
- Rahman, Seyed Ali. (1389). Social networks function in the Srjhany. Globalization Strategic Studies, 1 (1), 25-1.
- Ritzer, George (1374). Sociolinguistic research in contemporary theory, translation M. Salas, Tehran: scientific publishing.
- Sarookhani, B; Tavassoly, GA; Sydrby Zadeh, Aziza. (1387). The effect on social interaction in virtual space young female students with an emphasis on the Internet. Research Social Science, 2 (1), 152-131.
- Meteor, Mahmoud, sacred, stale, (1391). Join intentions of users in social networks (A Study on youth in Tehran). Communication culture studies, the thirteenth year of the twentieth numbers, 86-61.
- Freedom Arani, M., (1388). Lifestyle theory based on Islam and Islamic lifestyle and build test its psychometric characteristics, MD thesis in General Psychology, Isfahan, Isfahan University.
- Keshtiaray, N; Akbari, A., (1390). Age of the virtual and the challenges ahead, the first International Conference on responsible citizen.
- elements, Majid. (1388). The effect of the Internet on family values. Fslnamh-Y Social Research, Issue III, 76-55.

Cohen, a. (1378). Change of attitude and social impact. Translated by Alireza Chaldeans, Tehran University of Social Welfare and Rehabilitation Sciences.

Vyndal, SA. Et al. (1376). Application of theories of communication, translated by Alireza Dehghan, Tehran: Centre for Research and Media Studies

Alexa. (2013). Retrieved May. 2, 2013, from: www.alex.com/topsites

Mc Carty,C.A.(2008). Online chat sites and teen risk taking. MA Thesis, Northern Illinois University, 2008

Windham, R. C.(2008). The changing landscape of adolescent internet communication and its relationship to psychological adjustment and academic performance. Thesis (PHD) The George Washington University, Columbian College of Arts and Sciences and Graduate School of Education and Human Development,2008.