A Study on Online Chatting and Blogging among Teens Age in Southwest Part of Nigeria and Its Impact: A Digital Dividend

(A Case Study of Gateway (ICT) Polytechnic, Saapade)

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Abstract:-The study surveyed the use of the Internet and social networking media as digital dividend among undergraduate students in Nigerian Polytechnic. A total of 700 questionnaires were distributed using a frequency count and percentage to select the respondents. A total of 527 questionnaires was retrieved were used for the survey. The findings revealed a high percentage use Internet and social networking media. The access point for them is mobile phones. The institution, though linked to the Internet is yet to provide access to students. Respondents subscribed for the access time through their pocket money. The use of the Internet among the students has affected the use of the school library because they claimed they got everything they needed to get in the library from the internet. Some problems they face in their use of the Internet include slowness of the server, electricity for charging their mobile phones and payment for the access time. The study recommends that the polytechnic should provide good access points for students and make it available in the library too.

Keywords: Access, Internet, Networking;, Social, Student, Telecommunication.

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1. Introduction

Communication is a basic human need and for that reason a man has always found a means of meeting this need either through communicating with people or mass communication. Communication is to transmit an information bearing signal, from a source, located at a point to a user or destination located at another point some distance away. It also refers to the sending, receiving and processing of information by electronic means. The growth of technology toward the end of the 20th century,propelled by the emergency of the internet, and satellite led to what is called social media [1]. While social media on the other hand is termed, in this present world, encompasses the emergency of digital computerized or networked interactive information channel. Social media is a form of electronic communication which facilitates interaction based on certain interests and characteristics. A social networking service is an online service, platform, or a site that focuses on facilitating the building of social networks or social relations among people who, for example, share interests, activities, backgrounds, or real-life connections [2]. A social network service consists of a representative of each user (often a profile), his/her social links, and a variety of additional services.

A. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

a. Does the blog provide the learner with a creative interaction?

b. What is the frequency of online blogging usage among students of Gateway Polytechnic, Saapade in Ogun State, Nigeria?

c. What reasons does the student have for using online blogging?

d. What are the reasons for the usage of online chatting among student of Gateway Polytechnic Saapade in Ogun State, Nigeria?

e. What is the perception of students of Gateway Polytechnic, Saapade on online chatting?

f. Level at which the students are addicted to the online chatting and blogging?

g. Does online chatting and blogging have an effect on the academic performance of the student?

h. What access point does the students used for the online chatting and blogging?

2. An overview of social media

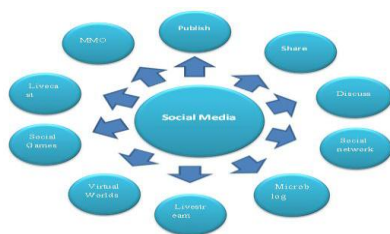An overview, Figure 1, of social media has been shown.

Figure 1. An Overview of Social Media

Ojedekun, 2001 reveal that the Internet has many benefits in the academic cycle as it provides around the clock access to global sources of information [3]. It also gives researchers the ability to discuss and share experiences with colleagues in the area in which internet could be used to include education, agriculture, office automation, security, entertainment, politics, construction, banking, commerce and health [4].

Different Between Social Media and Blogging

Blog and social media, both allow people to share their opinions and thoughts with the people who listen. Promote the link you wanted to promote, shared that news status, and more. Social media involve a larger community, but larger doesn't mean stronger. Blogging allows you to develop a strong community and social media allow you to build a large community.

3. Data collection, findings and results

The instrument used for data collection in this study was the descriptive statistics survey method with a structured questionnaire. This was because of the nature of information required and the form of analysis to be carried out.

Research Question 1: Does blog provides the learner with a creative interaction?

Table 1: Does the Blog Provide the Learner with a Creative Interaction?

	Frequency	percentage
Yes	451	85.6
No	76	14.42
Total	527	

Table 1 show that 85.6% of the student under study makes use of blog for interaction, while 14.42% do not make use of it. Findings therefore show that students of the polytechnic do make use of blog has a mean of learner interaction

Research question 2: Frequency Of Online Blogging usage among gateway students Saapade

The items on the table below is provides the answers to research question 3. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 2:   Frequency of Online Blogging

	FREQUEN	PERCENTAGE
Daily	289	54.8
Once a week	80	15.18
Twice a week	65	12.33
Monthly	53	10.05
Irregular	40	7.5
Total	527	100

Table 2 shows that 54.8% of the respondents use the blogging on a daily basis and 15.18% once a week, 12.33% use the internet twice a week, 10.05% use the internet monthly and 7.5% use it on irregular intervals.The   Findings clearly show that the students use blogging when the need for it arises.

Research Question 3

What reasons does the student have for using blogging? The items on the table below is provides the answers to research question 3. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 3: Reason for Using Blogging

REASONS FOR USING BLOGGING	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
To obtain educational and	240	45.54
To improves writing a digital	120	22.77
To gives students a global and authentic	90	1.71
To show cases student	47	8.92
To establishes home school connection	30	5.69
Total	527	

Table 3: shows that 45.54% of the students that makes use of blogging use it for educational and research information; 22.77% use it to improves writing an digital literacy 1.71% use it to has global and authentic audience, 8.92% use it to showcase student accomplishment while 5.69% use it to establishes home school connection. Findings therefore show that the students use blogging mainly for obtaining educational and research information.

Research Question 4

What are the reasons for usage of online chatting among students of Gateway Polytechnic, Saapade? The items on the table below provided the answers to research question 6. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 4: Reasons for Usage of Online Chatting

REASONS FOR USAGE OF ONLINE	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Online chatting has positively influenced the	52	11
Online chatting has negatively influenced	91	19.3
Help to achieve Students academic excellence	53	11.2
Students regard online chatting has means of	78	16.5
Online chatting reduces the time of reading their	80	16.9
It motivate students to engage in cybercrime	68	13

Table 4 shows that 11% of the students are positively influenced by online chatting; 19.3% are negatively influenced by the online chatting, 11.2% said it helps to achieve academic excellence, 16.5% said they used it has mean of communication with new people and catching funs, 16.9% stated that it reduces the time of reading their books while 13% said it motivate them to engage in cybercrime. Findings therefore show that online chatting has negatively influenced the students.

Research Question 5

What is the perception of students of Gateway Polytechnic, Saapade, on online chatting? The items on the table below provided the answers to research question 5. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 5: The Perception of Students on Online Chatting

	Frequency	percentage
Student of the polytechnic use Online chatting to share information,	88	18.6
Students of Polytechnic use to connect interact chat with friends	130	27.5
The Students use it to access News, Movies, Music and Photos	11	8.25
The students use it for Business Empowerment	41	8.7
Students use it to view Phonographic	13	2.8
Students use Social Media for	67	14.2

Job seeking (employment)		
Students Use Social Media for religious propagation	15	3.2

Table 5: shows that 18.6% of the student use social networking media to share information; 27.5% use social networking media to connect, interact and chat with friends, 25% use social networking media to access news, movies, music and photos, 8.7% use it for business empowerment, 2.8 % use it to view pornographic, 14.2% use it for job seeking while 3.2% use it for religious propagation. Findings therefore show that the Students of Polytechnic online chatting to connect interact and chat with friends.

Research Question 6

What is the level at which the students are addicted to online blogging and chatting? The items on the table below provided the answers to research question 6. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 6: The Level at Which Students Are Addicted to Online and Blogging Addiction

LEVEL	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Strong	259	49.1
Moderate	150	28.5
Never	118	22.40

As seen in the table 6 above 41.9% of the respondents are strongly addicted to online chatting and blogging, 28.5% of the respondents are moderately addicted while only 22.4% are not addicted to it. Findings therefore show that the students are strongly addicted to social networking usage

Research Question 7

What is the effect of online chatting on academic performance of the students?

The items on the table below provided the answers to research question 7. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 7: The Effects of Online Chatting On Academic Performance

	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
Positively	128	24.29
Negatively	213	40.4
Never	186	35.3

Table 7: shows that 24.29% of the respondents agreed that, the use online chatting positively affects their academics performances, 40.4% are negatively affected while 35.3% are not affected in any way by their use of online chatting. Findings therefore shows that majority of the students are of the view that, too much use of social network negatively affect their academic performances.

Research Question 8

Which access point does the students used for online blogging and chatting? The items on the table below provided the answers to research question 8. The table and analyses of the contents are presented below:

Table 8: Point of Accessing of Online Chatting and Blogging

POINT OF ACCESS	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE
School Computer	-	-
School Library	-	-
Café	50	9.49
Home (Broadband)	17	3.23
Mobile Internet (phone)	460	87.23
Total	527	

Table 8: above shows that 9.49% of the respondents access through cafe, 3.23% of the respondents access it through the broadband while 87.23% access it through their mobile phones. This study has accomplished the purpose, which it sets out to achieve, one of the very limitations is that the

validity of the result or findings is depending on the honestly of the respondents in providing the needed information. Findings therefore show that the student's access point is through their mobile phones.

4. Discussion

This study surveyed internet access and the social media as a digital dividend among students of Gateway (ICT) Polytechnic, Saapade. Findings of the study give fresh insight into how students of Gateway (ICT) Polytechnic, Saapade utilize the internet and social media sites more than blogging site. The study has demonstrated that there is high use of internet and the social media by the students, which they regard as an avenue for communication, information and sources of entertainment, while they perceived it as something interesting that they can use to improve their academic performances. Majority of the respondents declared that the internet and social media has impacted positively on their academic and social lives. Based on the above we can admit that the objectives of the study proposed at beginning of this study were achieved.

Findings

The Gateway Polytechnic students use their mobile devices to access the internet and social media. The Students use Social Media to connect, interact, share information and chat with friends. That online Media has affected their attitude of reading their books. The students use the social media as mean of interaction. The students use blogging essentially for to advances writing, digital literacy and obtaining educational and research information. The online chatting has negatively influenced Students. The students are strongly addicted to online chatting usage. The students are of the view that, too much use of chatting media negatively affects their academic Performances.

5. Conclusion and recommendation

The study concludes that the students believed that social media is an essential medium that help them to interact, communicate and gather information. The study concludes that the students should be warned on the frequency of use social media so that it does not turn to addictive use of them because anything addictive could turn negative and eat into the study and other related time schedules of the students. In other words, addictive internet and social media use could negatively affect students' performance in their educational pursuits. The study recommends that students should be encouraged to use Social Media in ways that could be beneficial to them and the school should also provide access point in the library and the computer rooms for students use so that they can be monitored against entering into sites that can have a negative effect on them.

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