

Name

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P Number

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Reading of the week New Media & Society - Teens' social media use and collective action.

Briefly note down your responses to the answers, which can be in paragraphs or bullet points. But be prepared to elaborate and share them with the class.

What are the key ideas of the paper? Or what key messages are presented by the author(s)?

- Research in the paper was used to predict teens use of social media based on the psychological aspects of social self-efficacy, collective self-esteem and need to belong.
- Digital media has changed and influenced the way that teens build and maintain social groups additionally how they share and consume information. This is backed throughout the paper through utilisation of various statistical data and analysis.
- On line behaviour is a term coined after the invention and innovations of such various social media and information sharing platforms.
- A flash mob is consistently used throughout the paper to describe and relate to an example of online behaviour and how they utilise social media in order to facilitate the rapid organisation of assembling in a public place then perform a pointless and / or usual act then after they quickly disappear. The paper explores the positives and negatives of flash mobs and how they relate to online behaviour, it also describes the various types of flash mobs and how they are organised, structured and such.
- Research was used to find how the psychological aspects of social self-efficacy, collective self-esteem, need to belong all related to teens use of social media.

What evidence or method, if any, is used to support the main argument of the paper?

- Referencing utilised well throughout.
- Statistical data referenced within the text through various parts.
- Statistical analysis method described in great detail.
- Diagrams and examples of flash mobs and how they relate to each psychological aspect.
- The overall method was a background of descriptions of different psychological aspects and as to what teens use social media for, this was then backed up with various references to information and statistical data, then a statistical analysis and data representation concluded the paper overall.

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Do you agree or disagree with what is being said? Why? Or what are your comments on the argument presented by the author(s).

- Need to belong seems to be the most relevant aspect of the paper that backs up what the author implies, where the social structure of teens and such based on their need to belong motivates them to create an identity in a fast and easy way to fill this need through online relationships, social networking and such. I agree with this observation of teens in this respect because it is an obvious one, it is the main aspect of what seems to drive humans on a day to day basis generally speaking.
- I did not agree so much with examples of collective self-esteem used throughout the paper, where I found it much harder to generalise it in the respect of how an individual interacts with another can manipulate their self image, whilst this may be true for some people I believe everyone is different in this respect.
- I did not agree with aspects of social self-efficacy mentioned throughout the paper where although social media has implicated how culture reacts and interacts with everything in the world in terms of being social, I do not believe that it has greatly affected how one approaches goals and challenges, not to an immense degree, it may have made information flow more efficiently between people and such, but still we utilise the same study, interpretation of such information that we did before social media.
- Where I wanted to agree on certain aspects of the paper I found the references and data to back this up not very up to date, hence it could be manipulated in a way that makes the paper make sense but can remain bias towards the author's own view points, however some of their own statistical analysis made me think otherwise.

How can you relate points made by the author(s) to reality? Any examples?

- I can relate to the point of needing to belong and how social media has actually made an impact of such things, it has made it faster and more efficient with culture changing along with it in terms of things like flash mobs and such. Coming from a teen generation of no social media whatsoever during the 90's, I found the same need to belong ever present throughout more outdated communication methods, such as a landline telephone, getting someone's telephone number in the period of the 90's was as relevant as it is to add someone as a friend on a social network such as Facebook today, the same type of social structures were in place still they were just done at a much slower, less efficient pace than they are today, things such as information overload would not of been as relevant as it is today with socialising. I can relate to the author in the respect of having the need to belong within social media as much as I did in the 90's when social media did not exist.

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