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How Social Media Affect College Students' Relationships

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HOW SOCIAL MEDIA AFFECT COLLEGE STUDENTS' RELATIONSHIPS



Sociology 3053 Research Methods



ABSTRACT

Technology continues to advance, and so does social networking. The more social networking advances the less face to face interactions are held and the more conversations through electronic screens and apps are held. There are several factors contributing to the changes of communication amongst college students who generally already spend a large amount of time using technology for academic purposes.

LITERATURE REVIEW

One of the many factors that contributes to the frequent use of social networking amongst college students is distance. Many students have family and/or friends who live in different, cities, parts of the country and/or world which promotes communication through social networking.

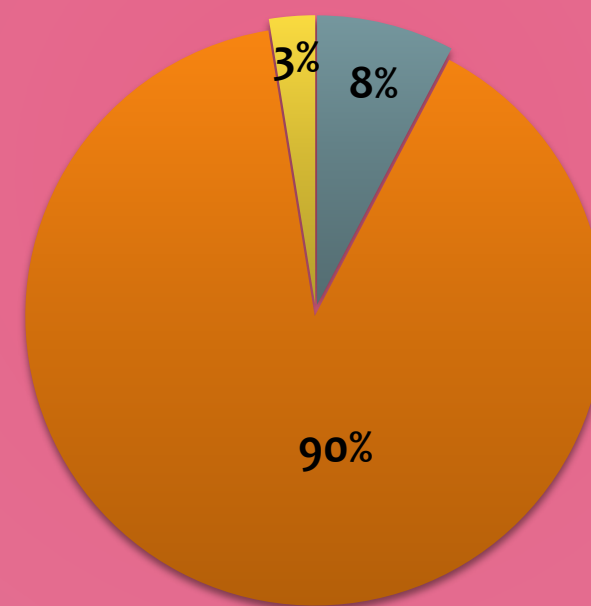
METHODS

I gathered data using an online survey, administered through Survey Monkey which was created to and successfully receive feedback and responses from 39 participants. SPSS was used to calculate cross tabs of the variables and develop statistical information with the data that was collected. Statistical information included T tests, bar charts, and pie charts with various variables and results that were selected from the data.

RESULTS

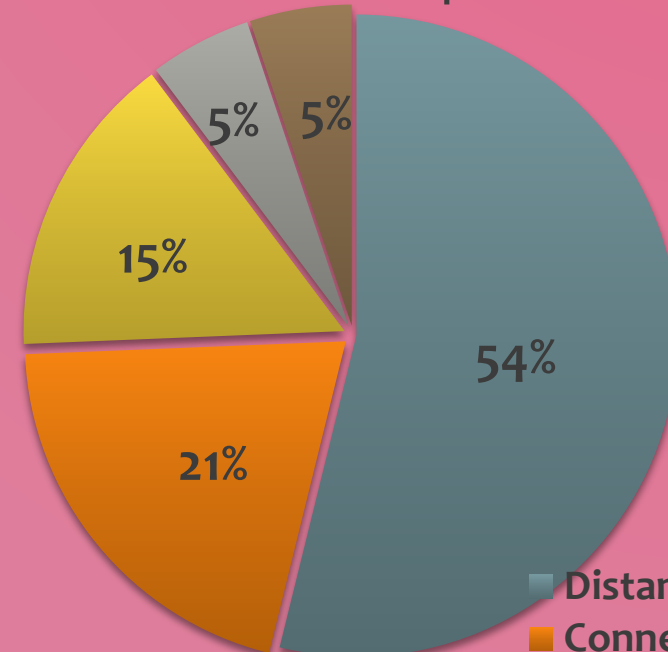
Though mostly all the participants answered that they use social networking to communicate with family, friends, and significant others, majority of participants prefer communicating face to face more so than via social networking. The results indicated that though technology and social networking helps people effectively communicate when they are not with family, friends, or partners due to distance, it does cause effects as most times it poses as a distraction for many and prevents and/or limits students from having face to face interactions.

Do you prefer communication via social networking or face-to-face?



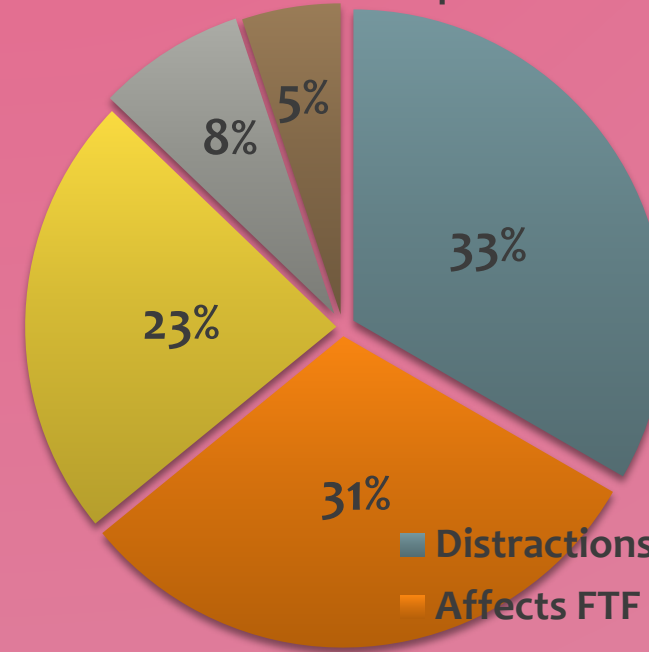
■ Social Media ■ Face to Face ■ No Answer

How has technology improved your relationships?



■ Distance
■ Connections
■ Easier to Communicate
■ No Improvement
■ No Answer

How has technology hindered your relationships?



■ Distractions
■ Affects FTF Interactions
■ Other
■ No Hindrance
■ No Answer

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