

THE COMPARATIVE USE OF SOCIAL NETWORKS IN OLDER AND YOUNG STUDENTS OF THE SUBJECT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.26739/2433-202x>

Issue DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.26739/2433-202x-209-2020-1-6>



Article DOI <http://dx.doi.org/10.26739/2433-202x-2020-1-6-19>

Method

The following study is of a quantitative type, and was carried out with students from Preparatory Academic Unit 14, it is worth mentioning that the institution works with a mixed (blended) system, located in the city of Tepic, Nayarit, Mexico. Likewise, the purpose of the study is to know and compare the use made by social networks of older and younger students who are studying the subject of computing, belonging to the second grade. Therefore, a sample of 60 students was determined, using convenience sampling, that is, with which the sample units are selected according to the convenience or accessibility of the researcher (Tamayo, 2001), to collect the information, a questionnaire structured by closed-type variables was applied; closed questions offer the user that all possible alternatives will be evaluated, or at least all those that best respond to the situation that they want to know (García, 2003). Subsequently, the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) version 19 program was used to process the information. Finally, the results obtained were presented.

Results and discussion

From a sample of 60 students, it is known that the ages are 15 to 20 years and 26 to 45 years respectively, of which 12 of them are young students (20%) and 11 older students (18.3%) of the male sex, while of the female sex, 18 are young students (30%) and 19 are older students (31.7%). In this way, the students were asked if they had internet access from their homes, the results obtained are 73.3% of young and older students if they have internet access in their homes, while the remaining 26.7% stated that they did not have access to network.

According to the type of connection they have in their homes to make use of this electronic resource by calling the computer network, it can be seen that young students have an ADSL connection (28.3%), and older students also have this type of connection (30%), noting that young students have

a telephone connection (8.3%) and older students (6.7%), so that the rest of young students (13.3%) and older do not have connection (13.3%), as shown in figure 1.

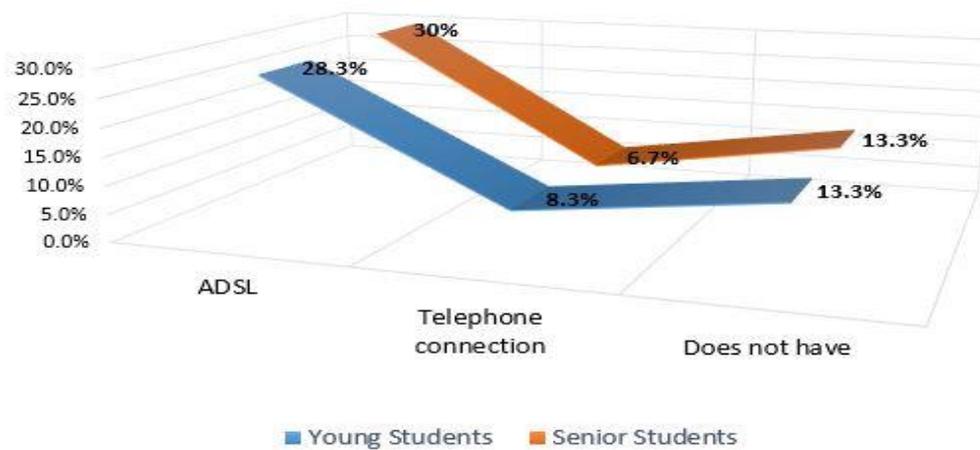


Fig. 1. Type of connection from homes
 Source: self made

Likewise, it is observed that 3.3% of young students connect to the social network Facebook, 11.7% Google, 10% Twitter, 13.3% YouTube, 5% Skype, 6.7% Instagram, while older students do not register to use Facebook, 11.7% use Google, 13.3% Twitter, 11.7% YouTube, 6.7% Skype, 6.7% refer to the social network Instagram, as shown in figure 2.

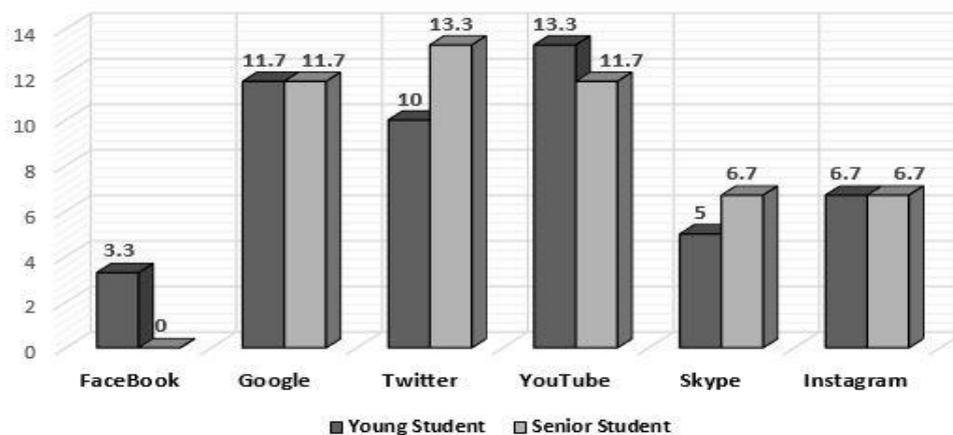


Fig. 2. Comparison use of social networks
 Source: self made

From the above, it is appreciated that young students are related to social networks such as Google and YouTube, these being the most important in terms of school activities, whether for teamwork, research tasks or video tutorials, granting great support for their educational development on campus. Similarly, we have the same case for older students who make similar use of these social networks for the best performance within the school. Thus, the results show the type of information they consult on social networks, the young student 41.7% consults information about education, 1.7% scientific, 1.7% business, 1.7% work, 3.3% social, while the older student 35% education, 5% scientific, 0% business, 6.7% work and finally 3.3% social, as shown in figure 3.

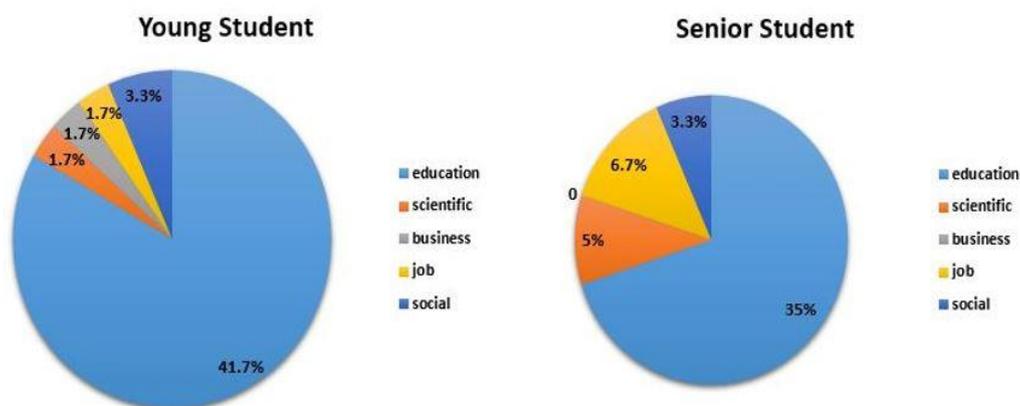


Fig. 3. Comparison query information
Source: self made

Conclusion

It is worth mentioning that, in this study, the importance and use that students give to social networks in general can be observed, and it is shown that networks are made for any age. However, it is appreciated by students to have knowledge in the use of these social networks, but we must highlight the dedication of older students who break the digital divide, learning to use this type of digital tools for their personal use and educational within the institution. Another aspect to refer, is the type of information that both students consult and it is defined that the consultations are directed to topics related to education.

Ultimately, it is known that these social networks are not only for the recreational use of people, they are support tools to achieve common goals, for collaborative work, for teaching itself, and above all for social and educational development. Although, we live in an era where interaction with the network has become very common, and therefore, this type of technology must be taken full advantage of.

References

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