

Online Social Networking is Boon or Curse

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Abstract— Social Networking is a term which is popular from beginning of this life and we follow and believe that it is one of the most important aspects of our day to day life and it is true. Human is known as social animal and they are only one who follows protocols. Social Networking means keeping good relationships with the people you know. They can be your family members, relatives, friends, teachers, school mates, batch mates etc. It was known as positive social connection. People use to meet in get together and remember the moments which they spent together in the past. It is boon for our society if people have good social networking skills. In this paper, I will be discussing that Online Social Networking is Boon or Curse for Our Society? How it has affected our day to day life? This article is not supporting any biased Conclusions; it is an analysis of usage of social networking by the present generation.

Key words: Social Networking

I. INTRODUCTION

Online social networking is updated version of Social networking. It consists of all the features which are mandatory for above discussed skills but only difference is that it works through Internet. All the gathering, talks, discussion communicates through internet. No travelling required for get together, now you need to just share it through different apps and it can be seen anywhere in the world. Very fast and even you can get the feedback of your shares by different methods like emoticons. It helps to gather the information from various outputs and analysis of data can be done easily by collecting data.

To know others in this world, communication is must and if you communicate with others which means you are socializing and that comes to a conclusion that you have shared views with others. When views are shared there are chances of people accepting your views or denying it. So be always ready for the pros and cons of your views. Peoples can show their emotions through face to face like smiling, crying, Happy, Sad etc. There is always a bonding between people and if they understand and respect each other than definitely the outcome is always positive facial expression whereas if they don't like then expression will be different. Sign language is an example of this type of communication.

II. WAYS OF SOCIALIZING

From few decades online social networking became popular. People socialize themselves through emails, chat, instant messaging, social networking sites, dating sites, apps and many more.

A. Email

The first step of socializing online was email, earlier people use to communicate through letters, internet made this mode easy. Email was the concept exactly similar to post. The name was given E-mail is self-explanatory E-Electronic m-mail,

mail sent electronically. People use to communicate and get and receive messages in fraction of second at any part of the world. People use to create their email account on different website and communicate. Earlier it was complicated due to incompatibility of different email protocols, later all the service providers agreed and followed the same protocols which made communication handy. It has some advantages like you can send similar invitation to infinite number of persons with / without their knowledge. It is secured with user id and password. But it has certain limitations. The first limitation was it was text based, secondly limited data was sent through it. Thirdly sender and receiver should have valid email address.

Email is also known as official way of communication with others. Person needs to remember his identity and password. Please note email address is unique; no two persons can have similar email address. e.g. abc@def.com it means user id abc was created on def.com site and now no one can create similar id on this website. It was first come first serve (FCFS) basis. Two or more domains can have similar user ids. e.g. abc@efg.com, abc@fgh.org are possible.

Email was appreciated by the world, very soon people were expecting enhancement in this mail. A new concept was included in email. It was termed as Chat.

B. Chat

The concept of chat was introduced in mail, where people can talk online with the contacts which are added in their email account. Even people can send request for Chat. Once request is approved they can chat. In the early stage it was only text chat, and then it was enhanced to audio chat and now video chat. These concepts were very popular and millions of accounts were created. It changed the concepts of mail and chat. Then a separate application was developed which was termed as instant messaging. Google Talk, Hangout, Yahoo Chat, Rediff Chat messengers are common example.

C. Instant Messaging

The term instant messaging has all the features exactly similar to chatting only difference was it does not relate to any email concept. You can share photos, videos, audio clips etc. You can do audio/video chat with single / multiple peoples of different region of the world simultaneously. This application is very popular now days, companies, industries and many more firms even conduct / schedule interviews through these applications. It reduces cost in terms of travelling, time and connectivity. As we know when there are advantages, there are a lot of limitations too, people misuse these applications for various purpose. All these applications are developed for us, only we can decide how should we use these applications? Whatsapp, Telegram, Skype, IMO are popular example of Instant Messenger.

All these applications does not provide 100% environment which is required for Social Network connection. A new concept of social networking was introduced in late 1990's. Google introduced ORKUT the first popular social networking site. It was very popular, people who had Google / Gmail account they were getting account directly after creating their account on it. It made Google popular and millions of accounts were created in a span of 5-6 years. It was popular in Brazil, India, mostly and in many more countries.

III. REAL SOCIAL NETWORKING

It's hard to say when these developments might actually become main stream. Orkut was very popular and lot of people created multiple accounts to interact with people from other countries, which forced people to create fake accounts. Many people were affected from such accounts and they got severe traumas which were diagnosed in later stage. In early 2000, a new Social networking site was introduced and this site was completely failure because it was not that attractive as Orkut was. Entire world rejected it and within a span of two years this site was closed. Then the entire team of this site worked and re-launched it in 2007 with much more advanced features. It was boom in the world, and within a span of 6 months they were popular and they had 1.5 times more accounts than their competitors. It was record breaking success for them and in the next two year the competitor gave up and ended up their social networking site. The new social networking site was popular because of many reasons as it had chat feature, sharing photos and videos. Then more social networking sites were designed some of them were designed for professional network, some for dating, some for friendship and some for sharing their views. Facebook, Instagram, Linkedin, Friendster, Tinder, Twitter, Hi5, myAdda, GooglePlus are few social networking sites.

IV. FEATURES OF SOCIAL NETWORKING

Online social networking is popular from last few years. People enjoy connecting others through several of social networking accounts. They feel comfortable to connect with their friends, relatives, colleagues on these sites rather than face to face. Main reason behind it was that they can share anything at any instant of time without verbal communication. Silent language is use in this term and people can express their views with emoticons which are more preferred rather than words. People love to socialize through these sites by sharing their current location and work and expecting their connections, followers to react on it. This expectation after posting an update is positive or negative that you can decide. It depends on your thinking, logical analysis, views etc. Before that close your eyes for a minute and think do you really need to share this information to everyone who is in your friend list. Do you think that people are really interested to know your personal life? Do they really need to know your daily schedule? Is it safe to disclose your minute to minute information online? People share their information on social networking sites by status update like "at Big Market with @xyz and @rty", "watching movie at BigFun with @123, @456 and @444" or "travelling to". All these updates are inviting unwanted problems. If someone

who is in your friend list, who is looking to hurt you or anything negative then this update will make him / her to plan. Even other peoples can also create small or big trouble for you because they knew exactly what are you doing and where you are? Of course, online information is boon for us but this boon becomes curse if we don't know how to utilize boon. To understand the utilization of boon we need to alert and be very careful while sharing the information. Technology is designed for our comfort and safety not for show off or luxury. It's need not compulsory object of life. It is not necessary to share each and every activity to our friends. We don't know who our true friend is because digital relations can't have emotions and when there are no emotions it's not at all safe. Sharing information and updates is not all wrong but it should be shared systematically. E.g. when we are going for vacations, we share information with our near and dear ones not with each and every member of society / office. But as soon as you share this information on social networking site, it is shared with each and every wanted / unwanted member of your network. These updates can create lot of problems in life. Many cases had been registered and after investigation 95% cases came to the conclusion that the basic step of crime was initiated from update sharing on Social Networking site from victims and the criminals were stalking them there and when they got opportunity provided by the victims they grabbed it. In most of the cases, crimes were severe and in 30% cases, peoples were killed / murdered. In 40-45% cases, children were kidnapped and ransom money was given to the kidnappers. In 15-20% cases of kidnapping children were found dead even after paying the ransom and after investigation kidnappers were their close relatives / friends who got all the updates on Social sites.

A. Dating Sites

Most of the Dating sites are responsible for crimes because 90% profiles on these sites are invalid / fake and which promotes people to do criminal activities. They even not realize the pros and cons of their activities. This is how benefits become obstacles in normal life because we take unnecessary advantages of privileges. Dating sites are designed and developed for people who are looking for partners for friendship, family, love etc. These sites are useful for people who are shy and want to socialize through it. Unfortunately this concept was communicated in such a way that people are seeing it as Market where they can sell and purchase relations. In most of the countries, the 80% registered members on dating sites are of age group of 18-25 years. Now you can easily understand that what our youths think? According to them that is place where they can do fun, but they are not aware that it can affect their and others life. The main reason behind it is, rumours and wrong information about these sites. People hesitate to share information with youths about these sites. If these information are shared with youths then definitely they know for what purpose actually that platform is designed and the crime rate will definitely falling. Again it's a boon for society but lack of interaction and information sharing about it making it curse. Technology is designed for development and it's only us who can make ourselves and others aware of these applications about their pros and cons. We should address them about the use of these resources. Share with them that these are available but not

compulsory to use in their life. These are the tools which can be utilize for interaction and fun not to ruin or disturb others by creating fake profiles or providing wrong information about self or others.

V. PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL NETWORKING SITES

There are lot of professional Social networking sites which are designed for professionals to create their accounts and share information about their work profile, designation and experience. These sites are designed for career growth, professional links, professional interaction, business purpose, sharing of thoughts and many more activities. LinkedIn is one of the famous professional site, where billions of users have their accounts. People can connect other professionals of their field or any other interested field from any part of world. It is recognized as one of the best professional site. Unfortunately in this area too many people have fake accounts and they contact other professionals by sharing false information and then start asking about their personal information. They try to use this platform as dating site platform. This unethical measure was found 4-5 years back when one of the professional member complained about it to the site developers. Since it was designed for professionals, usually everyone respect and interact with other connections and share information also. As soon as they came to know about such incidence then members are not accepting / sending request to other connections unless and until they don't get any professional reference. These sites allow users to get and receive professional recommendation from their colleagues, members and friends. Since its purely professional website, so the members are known as connections. It is one of the best platforms where people know each other professionally and recognize each other through interaction and social skills. If require, they share their email address and contact information. As we know when we are on digital platform we are not at all safe and we should access security measures and maintain decorum, rules and regulations of sites. Now a day users are more diligent about numbers of connections they have instead of professionals they know. They sent request to each and every member whether they belong to their professional group or not. Even people send request to connections on the basis of their name, sex, location (City, State, Country), Job profile and sometimes random. If you consider the above, you know what does it mean, people just want random connections nothing professionally. They are misusing the platform and trying to make this platform as Dating site or friendship site. Again we are changing boon to curse in our professional life. Since it is professional platform, we can share information about our professional growth, our views on present level of our areas of interests, but most of the connections shares political views, non-reliable videos, unprofessional posts and many more which makes the environment of these platform unhealthy. It can be improved only by us; no one else can do anything. The proverb 'Charity begins at home' should be followed by us to enhance the use of these platforms. If we follow the protocols then we can ask others to follow it. We should dedicate ourselves to improve the use of these resources by spreading exact information rather than rumours. We should not

entertain any type of information which we don't know and always avoid sharing such information on any platform.

VI. OTHER RESOURCES

Whatsapp, Hike, IMO, Telegram, GoogleDuo, WeChat and many more applications are used for audio, video and text messages. People enjoy these applications. These applications are very helpful to share information instantly and throughout the world. At present, we can estimate 60% of population of our world using cell phones and almost everyone is using smart phones. All users have minimum one of these applications in their smart phone. These applications are interactive and user friendly, users can easily learn, how to use them and socialize with others through these applications. In others words, after learning the use, they are addicted to it. While walking on road, travelling by bus / rail / plane, you can see people are busy with their mobile phones. Whole family sitting together is busy in their cell phones instead of talking to each other. They even don't bother what's happening next to them. Parents give cell phones. Tablets to their kids because they don't have time or they don't want spend time with them. Children are addicted to these gadgets and they are much better users of these applications. They are even better in handling all sorts of problems and even provide solutions for it. These children are gadget addicted and have very less social skills, they are less human more digital and their thinking and social skills are limited. Parents recognizes these symptoms very late and never accepts their mistakes, they either blame each other or schools or their friends for it. They send their kids to counsellor rather than giving their own time. Parents are supposed to cultivate social and ethical skills in their children. Instead of providing comfort they should teach them how to use these resources ethically? They should sit and interact with their kids and discuss about all the latest trends of present era. Kids should aware of usage of digital resources and they should know about the comfort zone and consequences of it.

Just think for a minute and write on a piece of paper about what we learn from our parents? Do this with your kids and parent? Now compare the answers, you will clearly see the difference and also you will find answer that what steps should be introduced to fill those gaps?

Resources are developed to help us, our society. It is designed to reduce our stress, work load. It is comfort not need. We can live without these comforts, don't make it need of our lives. They are just applications which we can use, if required. It is not necessary to use these resources permanently but to some extent they are important as others are using it and to keep ourselves update, we should interact with these applications.

A. Boon or Curse

Now it's time to decide whether these resources are boon or curse for our society. Of course, we can't give any statement on it, the reason behind it, may be the reason which are boon for me, are curse of others and vice – versa. But we can discuss and find out more clarity on the concept of boon and curse. Let's talk about chatting through audio, video and text is one of the most popular application now a days. Almost

every person is using such application. There are lot of advantages like you can share your minute information to your contacts and you can get help in case of any emergency. People can provide help to you; also you can provide help to others, if required. These applications helped in many cases where lost kids / peoples were found and they met with their family members in short span of time. Important information shared on these platforms were spread throughout the world in span of few minutes. In same way, rumours shared on these platforms were also spread. So now, it comes to the concept of authenticity, before sharing any information we should check whether the shared information is correct or incorrect. We should use proper modes for it and after analysis decision should be taken. Never share information if you have lack of time / resources because may be you can be a part of any offensive activity, if the shared information is invalid / wrong. Never share or post any information related to person, politics or company, if you don't know the reason avoid it, otherwise you might face consequences from respective authority. Spread awareness about the use of these platforms effectively and efficiently. Read and understand the terms and conditions provided with the applications at the time of registration. Usually we simply click, "I Accept" and move ahead without bothering what is written in the terms and conditions and in later stage we break lots of protocols and face consequences once catch by the authority.

VII. CONCLUSION

The above information which is shared with you all is purely dedicated to analysis of pros and cons of available resources. It's us who can make these resources as boon or curse for our and people related to us. Boon and Curse are just the words, only we are responsible for all these activities.

All these platforms are developed as per our need and comfort. Most of us are lazy; we just want to make use of these platforms as habit rather than comfort. No one of us bother about to know about the application, we are interested to know the working of application instead of purpose of application. I guarantee that those who have accounts on any social networking sites they never read terms and conditions, and they might have broken protocols several times. I am mentioning here few examples, please go through it and if you have done anything like that it means you have broken the terms and condition of that application / site.

- Use of foul language like abusive words / signs / symbols. (Even in joke).
- Impersonate
- Fake accounts / multiple accounts on same platform (even personal / professional accounts), it's not allowed.
- Sharing other person information without their consent in writing through social networking, email or any other communicating mode.
- Spreading information about politics, religion, caste, countries or any other mode which harms the society. If you are not related to it but part of spreading information, you are equally responsible for it.
- If you are group admin, then all posts on your group should be shared with your consent, by default Group admin consent is on, so please check all posts and if you find it inappropriate, delete it immediately.

- Obscene or inappropriate contents sharing on social area are again breaking of terms and conditions.

There are many more examples, we do activities unintentionally and comes to know when actions are taken by the authorities. Always keep yourselves away from such activities. Be alert and spread information on it regularly. Keep update yourself and share it with your friends, relatives, colleagues and people who use these platforms. May be you make them digital citizens who can use these applications as boon for their life rather than considering it as curse for their life. So always think positive and spread positivity with smile.

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