# PATTERN OF SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE BY SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR SOCIAL INTERACTION IN DELTA STATE

### Otubue Victor OVIE,

Department of Mass Communication, Delta State University, Abraka otubueovie84@gmail.com

&

#### Paul BEBENIMIBO,

Department of Mass Communication, Delta State University, Abraka paulbebenimibo@yahoo.com

#### **Abstract**

This study looks at how Delta State secondary school pupils use social media. The Uses and Gratification Theory of Mass Communication served as the study's foundation. To direct the investigation, three research objectives and research questions were developed. 250 respondents were systematically selected adopting Taro Yamane formula and were randomly sample through multi-stage sampling techniques that applied structured questionnaire. The mean and standard deviation were used to analyze the results. Based on the results, the study came to the conclusion that social media usage is substantial among the students. The study affirmed that students' users typically use it to make friends, upload content, and share tales, and that social media usage affects how students connect with one another. It recommends that students should use social media less for social interactions and more for academic purposes.

Keywords: Social Media, Students, Influence, Social Interactions, Academic, Delta State.

DOI: 10.58934/jgss.v4i16.226

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The invention of social media has changed the way people communicate with each other, especially among young people. On the other hand, social media are Internet and mobile applications that allow people to communicate, share, and provide feedback on social issues without having to physically interact. In recent years, social media has been recognized for helping bridge the communication gap by providing speed, accuracy, and efficiency in human social communication According to Boyd (2011), social media is an interactive social platform in which users use key communication-related features to establish contact, create personal

profiles, and update personal information. and share, like and comment on other users' social media profiles. Bergström and Backman (2013) explain the relationship between social media and mobile phones, arguing that the Internet and smartphones have become the main tools for people around the world to quickly communicate. According to Fitri (2016), social networks are mobile technologies widely used for communication and networking through speech, images and videos. Social media features are continuously updated to meet the social interests of the growing number of active users. Young people use social networks as a means of social connection. According to Flynn, Nyhan and Reifler (2010) social media refers to a set of digital platforms that allow interaction, two-way communication, and some type of computing, in contrast to older media which in its original version did not require computer science technology; now, with their current configuration, they use computer technology.

In short, according to Oji (2022) and Oji (2021) social networks include all platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Whatsapp. Linkedin, Snapchat, YouTube and Instagram are all social media platforms where users can communicate with each other. Sharing videos, sharing photos, sharing voice messages, checking in on friends, birthday reminders, event reminders, and remembering memories are all examples of these interactions. This means that social networks offer countless possibilities for exchanging content and entertainment. Obalanlege (2015) argues that social media has become popular because of its impact on the social structure. People become more cautious as the nature of social relationships changes. Using social networks to connect with others, such as friends, family, and acquaintances, is widely used to connect with people. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn are the most popular social media platforms. People use these sites to exchange photos, videos, and information as well as plan events, chat, and play online games.

Social Social media, according to Croteau and Hoynes (2003), significantly dissolves the link between physical location and social location, making physical location less important for relationships. human social system. According to Mitchelstein and Boczkowski (2013) (2010), social media is a set of web applications that are built on the conceptual and technological foundations of Web 2.0 and enable the creation and exchange of user-generated content. Social media is becoming increasingly viable as a media and communication service platform. Lai and Turban (2008) believe that social media can give users the opportunity to add value to the application when using it through an edit box interface, exercising data control,

Interact with more advanced software. level and create a network of friends and interactions by socializing and gradually moving members from the physical world to the online world.

Social media are online social networking sites that provide a platform for users to share photos and videos with others. Ting (2014) said user actions on social media include liking friends' posts, commenting on them, uploading videos and photos, tagging friends, creating hashtags, and making online purchases. Instagram is a mobile photo, video sharing, and social networking program that allows users to take photos and videos and share them on social networks (Frommer, 2010). According to Schlagwein and Hu (2017) social media is a photosharing mobile application that allows users to take photos, apply filters to them, and post them to this and other platforms. In other words, social media i is a social media network that allows users to post photos, videos, audio, and other media to the public. He said social media, a mobile service for taking and sharing photos and videos, has quickly become a new medium in recent years. According to Akram and Kumar (2017), social media as a social network, allows students to post content related to their social activities at school. It also allows students to share educational information with other students and connect with students in other countries. Students can communicate and share information easily with each other. Social interaction on social media is becoming a popular topic among young people. Video sharing, image uploading, social media TV, celebration tracking, and other interactive elements of social media provide exciting opportunities for these people. They all share social gatherings, birthday parties, graduations, going to parties, social outfits, new hair trends, comedy, drama and more.

#### **Statement of Problem**

The Internet is now the most essential source of information and the growing importance of social media use by students should not be overlooked. It has been observed that students spend more time and attention on social media than on studying. However, it is obvious that students will not be able to pass examination without studying (Osterman, 2015). According to a research report by Kefe and Oji (2023) navigating social media networks is very popular among high school students/youths in Nigeria and it allows the youths to communicate information through text and images with people in near and far areas. This claim by Kefe and Oji is supported by Mamsor and Rahim, 2013).

According to Oji (2022), social networks have bad content in the form of misinformation, fake news and other forms of hateful videos and deceptive messages. Because social media is a video platform, some believe it has contributed to offensive behavior through the posting of posting of nudity. These texts or videos considered to be offensive materials help to push social interactions that follows shared contents on social networks. Many people view the frequency of these posts as concerning. Surveys indicate that many youths are active on Instagram (Yuen and Tang, 2023). This gives the illusion that these category of younger generation are the producers of the much talked about offensive contents.

In addition to being a source of social vices, social networks have also become a source of learning and progress as noted in Oji and Bebenimibo (2021) and Jude (2016). Many educational sites target formal education, especially high school students. Social media have a lot of educational resources. The main fact is that unverified claims state that views shared in different posts indicate nudity, social entertainment and other non-educational posts receive more views from users. Many scholars have not made much effort to understand recent trends in social media use among Nigerian secondary school students. It is on this point that the research seek to investigate the patterns of social media usage for social interaction by undergraduate students using Delta State as study case.

## **Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of the study is to assess the pattern of Instagram usage by secondary school students of Delta State while that followings are the specific objectives,

The followings are the objectives of the study:

- 1. To determine the level of social media use by secondary school in Delta State.
- 2. To ascertain the pattern of social media usage by secondary school students in Delta State.
- 3. To find out the influence of social media use on social interaction among secondary school students in Delta State

## **Research Questions**

The followings research questions guided the study

1. What is the level of social media usage by secondary school students in Delta State.

- 2. What is the pattern of social media usage by secondary school students for social interaction of Delta State?
- 3. What is the influence of social media usage on social interaction by secondary school students in Delta State.

#### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW AND THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

## **Concept of Social Media**

One of the recent developments in the world is the advent of social media. Social media has definitely changed the way things are done and the way they are done. With the increase in the number of users, many people have logically decided that social networks are here to stay. This is a recent technological development that has attracted the attention of people, organizations, governments and civil society. Social media plays an increasingly important role in social interactions and activities. Making history of social media, Abdulahi, Samadi and Gharlehi (2014) argue that social media received significant attention in the early 2000s, the web became much more personal as social networking sites.

The association was introduced and accepted by the public. What makes social networks unique are the exciting features that make it easy to navigate to connect with friends and long-distance relationships, such as real-time social interactions. Nowadays, people depend on social media to manage their lives. According to Shabir, et al (2014) social networks are the latest form of communication technology that contains many different interesting features, attracting users for a long time without causing boredom. Social media promotes communication such as text, audio messages, and visual/audio information. This offers the ability to connect new friends and retain old friends from faraway places. Connect to the whole world, connect directly. It's also cheaper and access to the world is faster, so it's important for all ages.

Social media are social networking sites or microblog chips hosted on the Internet. Therefore, it is understood that the Internet plays a vital role in navigating social media for social interactions worldwide. Internet is known as a new media platform that contains a group of tools or technologies available on the Internet. Explained from the perspective of new media, social media and the Internet, Flynn, Nyhan and Reifler (2017) argue that new media is a term that broadly refers to digital media that interactive, two-way communication and involves some form of computing as opposed to older media. Their original incarnation did not require

computer technology. Mitchelstein and Boczkowski (2013), social media is a group of Internet applications built on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0, allowing the creation and exchange of user-generated content. Social media is becoming an increasingly viable media and communications service platform. Olusesam, et al. (2014) argue that social networks give users the opportunity to add value and regain value by connecting and building relationships with close friends far away. Social media such as Facebook, Skype, Twitter, YouTube and MySpace have recently been touted as a great way to equalize gatherings divided by race, class and ethnicity.

# Level of Social Media Usage

Understanding social media and how it works will be a good basis for knowing the extent of its use and how it contributes to social relationships between students. According to Fitri (2016), based on the many functions associated with social networks, usage by high school students around the world has increased. High school students post content photos or one-minute videos. Apply filters and annotations to users, add and follow other accounts, check feeds created by followed accounts, and explore (search) hashtags/users. There are cases where students are fully engaged in using all the features of Instagram to socialize with close and distant friends. Jason (2013) observed that social media is an online social networking and photo sharing service that is frequently used by students. It allows users to like images and apply filters to them, then share them on social networking sites, which has recently increased interest and activity among college students. Social media is often used as a new photo sharing networking platform because students are very interested in something very new and technological (Salomon, 2013). Hochman and Schwartz (2012) note that the presence of smartphones and high school students' imagined attachment to them encourages high levels of use.

These apps are still used by young people around the world. This allows users to take photos or apply various manipulation tools to transform the appearance of images and share them instantly with friends on various social networking sites. According to them, Akram and Kumar (2017) explain that social media is an online platform that young people use, especially students, to build social networks or social relationships with others have the same activities, situations, or similar relationships in real life. Many researchers have established the fact that the extent and frequency of Instagram use by students is much greater than that of older demographic groups.

Among those who regularly use social networks are teenagers and young adults. Mansor and Rahim (2017) revealed in a survey that social networks are very popular among teenagers and young people. Akram and Kumar (2017) argue that the impact of social media on youth is significant due to its level of usage and satisfactory features. Many young people use laptops, tablets and smartphones to view information on social networks, in which social networks are a virtual stage for online networks. This website has more than 400 million active customers and is owned by Facebook. A significant number of its customers use it to publish data on travel, livelihoods, jobs, and similar topics. The scene is also identified by its notable channels as well as video and photo edits of its highlights.

## **Pattern of Social Media by Students**

There have been changes in communication patterns among secondary school students in Nigeria. These changes are the result of recently developed technologies. According to Baisa and Thoyib (2012), with the continuous development of communication processes, people gradually change the way they interact with each other and work. Young students spend a lot of time using it. The way college students communicate has changed. These changes are the result of recently developed technologies. According to Baisa and Thoyib (2012), with the continuous development of communication processes, people gradually change the way they interact with each other and work. Young students spend a lot of time using Instagram to interact. Fitri (2016) observed that the social media craze is also felt by young people, especially students. Students can spend time almost around the clock using social media through their laptops or mobile devices. They can have their own accounts to interact with friends and have social interaction between people to interact with. Fitri (2016) observed that young people, including students, also feel the popularity of social networks. Students can spend time almost around the clock using social media through their laptops or mobile devices.

They can have their own accounts to interact with friends and social interactions between people. According to Herring and Kepidzics (2015), never before in history have young people had such an opportunity to be seen and heard by diverse audiences. High school students' social media usage patterns are influenced by the type of use. Sometimes social media is used in a negative way because some students think that way. Huang and Su (2018) described five main reasons why students use social media. This is fashion; displays, creative projects, virtual exploration, entertainment and organization. The majority of social media posts are

selfies. Fatri (2016) argues that students mainly use social media to take photos of themselves, called selfies. They love taking photos and filtering them in the Instagram app.

Therefore, Instagram becomes a great place to share emotions and situations through images. Akram and Kumar (2017) identify another motive that influences students' social media usage patterns. Social media technology aims to highlight trends that are trending around the world. Students can plan for what might happen in the future by observing changes on social media sites. A very good example from Nigeria recently is the 10-year challenge. Images from ten years ago are compared accordingly and the different images show the evolution of growth, whether good or bad. According to Fitri (2016), most students like to take photos and post them on their social media accounts. Teachers can develop an activity by applying this method. Teachers can ask students to post pictures of their vacations. It could be their weekend, their souvenir photos from last semester's vacation, etc. Students are encouraged to use hashtags that others have not used before. They were then asked to choose five photos from their own content to prepare a two-minute presentation about their vacation memories. Teachers can expand on these activities based on program expectations. For example, teachers can use this activity to teach students to retell a text orally. Students can be tasked with creating story text based on their photos posted on Instagram. Hastag will give a general idea of what they want to say in their presentation. By giving series of picture, it will be helpful in guiding them to present and develop recount text structurally.

The motive for social media usage varies among the different gender. Gender difference is one factor that determines how university student use the Instagram. Basically, how they use the Instagram affect their educational development. According to Herring and Kapidzics (2015), gender differences as well as some similarities are apparently in Instagram preference and amount of use. Huong and Su (2018), in a survey of social network users in Taiwan, showed that female users make up the majority and are also more active, with people aged 24 and older accessing Instagram more than other age groups. Barak, A. (2005) argues that girls, on average, spend more time on social networking sites and actively consume materials than boys.

One of the problems students encounter when writing is difficulty finding ideas. Social fashion can be used as a source of fairy tale inspiration, which can serve as motivation for student writing. Teachers can post an interesting photo and ask students to write a descriptive caption in the comments section. The photo can help students come up with ideas about what

to write. It can be challenging to ask students to write captions using specific sentence types, different parts of speech, clauses, prepositional phrases, and their current vocabulary. Teachers can post videos of English speakers.

The video can be a song, a dialogue, a movie or a quote in English. Students are instructed to directly watch and listen to the video. Then, the children must answer the teacher's questions about the content of the video. Herring and Kapidrics (2015), women and men differ to some extent in the type of content they post on their profiles across various networking sites. One participant said she posts "cute" photos. While male participants may share photos and comments that they describe as self-promotional and contain sexual content or references to alcohol.

Each social media has its own characteristics. These features constitute the value users receive from using the platform. There are many different characteristics that make social mistrust unique to high school students. These features allow students to interact, learn, share ideas, and more. The first feature is Instagram, a file/document that stores user details. Profiles have the ability to be edited or deleted. According to Fitri (2016), this part of the social network displays the user, including the user's biography, circular profile picture, number of posts, and number of followers by number. Profile viewers can see all profile photos appear together. For clear work, the viewer has the opportunity to examine any photo.

Social suspicion, on the other hand, a user who follows any other user is called a friend; Users who follow Instagram users are called followers. Users can define their privacy preferences: only subscribers can view their publications. When other users want to follow, they need the user's approval to become their follower. Users can set their privacy preferences where only their followers can see their posts. When other users want to follow, they need the user's approval to become their follower. Users can see the latest photos and videos of all their friends listed in reverse chronological order. They can also favorite or comment on these posts.

In fact, social media are more than just selfies, likes/comments, and reposts. There are five unavailable ones at the bottom of each page of the Instagram screen. The icons are the home page, explore page, posts page, announcement page, and user profile page. These are the basic navigation tools for social media. When using social media to post photos, users can tag photos, including adding a location, tagging friends, and using keywords to tag photos. According to Fitri (2016), teachers can also use social media to ask students to look through

historical photos of famous people and create a bulletin board. Then, the class asked them some questions related to their bulletin board. For example, if students are talking about a historical figure in class, ask them who the photo is and describe 1-2 relevant things about that person. This activity can also be used to teach students how to describe a specific person. Students have the opportunity to share and post about their favorite celebrities. A succinct biography of the individual ought to be provided. This can involve one's personality and outward look. Following that, other students are free to share their own perspectives on the well-known individual. A recent study that poses this question concerns how much social media is used. Instagram is designed in such a way that users' feeds both photos and videos, ensuring that they never miss any content, even while they are temporarily away from home. According to Döring (2009), naked content on the Internet consists largely of images, meaning systems and interactive information familiar to users. It's important to note that from a text perspective, students often see nude content on Instagram. This explains that any text has the potential for sexual interaction as well as the potential to arouse sexual interest in students. Benson (2003) noted that just as the destructive power of fire requires careful use of this element of unpredictability, online interactions can expose students to insidious threats to their health. Students also view nude content on social media through images and videos. This was essential in this study because the visual impact of sexual activity cannot be the same as the textual content. According to Flood (2009), the emphasis on nudity (pornography) can influence the viewer's attitude towards a particular sexual behavior and the adoption of that behavior due to the connection between the mind and the body. consumer intelligence and newsworthiness.

Young students are often tagged in social media posts, and this is an easy way for students to view nude content without their permission. Additionally, the frequent use of women to portray gender and sexual attraction was seen as a subtle way for students to view nude content on Instagram. Euphenma and Ojil (2013), in a study on social networking sites as a tool of sexual persuasion in college students, clearly revealed that the use of social networking sites like social mediaqq contributes to sexual persuasion in students. It is noticed that through these websites they are exposed to pornography, nudity, semi-nudity and use of vulgar words which they often tend to practice in real life in the form of convince. This shows that students watch a lot of nude content on Instagram.

## **Theoretical Framework (Uses and Gratifications)**

Essentially, the theory pertains to comprehending how the media affects people's daily lives in a setting where audiences actively consume media and are driven to utilize various media content to satisfy their diverse demands. (Gurevich et al, 1973). This viewpoint developed in opposition to a mechanical understanding of media effects as portray in Oji (2011) discussion of agenda setting theory. Consequently, it raised the question of how the media affects people (Rubin, 1983). Nevertheless, other queries are also being raised, such as how and why people use the media. These questions emerged from the claims made by cultivation theory scholars like Bryant and Miron that storytellers have the ability to influence any society. Since television is a special storyteller, the audience is never seen as actively creating their viewing experience; rather, it is passive (Bryant and Miron, 2004).

The fundamental tenet of the Uses and Gratification theory is that a person cannot be influenced by a media outlet unless they find value in the medium or in the message it conveys (Rubin 1983). Perhaps pick up some dating terminology, see what the participants are wearing, or familiarize oneself with the dating traps that continue to hound their friends when they go out on dates. Therefore, it is presumed that young people may actively watch television, sort through the material, rejecting what doesn't apply to them, and embrace what they are looking for. As a result, one can disregard a participant's dress code as it is not necessary to achieve their goals. Instead, they can learn word choice and language proficiency from the person whose dress code they disregarded. These applications can all be summed up as motives. AS Reiss and Wiltz (2005) assert that all motivation boils down to basic motivation, which shapes people's actions and attention spans, it should not be forgotten the interpersonal connectivity that propels social networks. Hence Akpabio (2003) in Oji (2006) noted that when traditional media are paired with contemporary mass media, things that neither one could accomplish alone—such as a shift in mind-set and knowledge—become possible.

With its unique perspective on fundamental motivation, the sensitivity theory of motivation is based on the most important goals and causes that thousands of people rated. Now, the framework of uses and gratifications is composed of five primary principles of use and pleasure that are relevant to our research. When someone believes they have entered the dating stage of life, for instance, their behavior is seen as purposeful, goal-directed, and motivated, such as the need to find a spouse. In this era of social media use by young adults, people choose and use media to satisfy biological, psychological, and social needs. Through reality actors and the expert opinions provided through the programme, an individual can learn

the tips of partner acquisition and retention strategies. Third, people choose their communication options based on a variety of social and psychological reasons. Fourth, people who use media are conscious of their wants and if a given medium is meeting them.

#### 3. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted using a survey design. When a researcher is interested in people's attitudes, perceptions, and behaviors regarding variables or occurrences, they typically employ the survey method. Additionally, the researcher administered a questionnaire to the respondents in order to apply the survey design. Because this design is most suited for the investigation, the researcher used it. Delta State secondary school pupils made up the study's population. 4, 698, 391 people were counted in Delta State overall in the 2006 census (NPC, 2006). The population was estimated to be 7,105,860 in 2021 (Whiskey, 2023). A sample size of 250 people was chosen for the investigation using the Taro Yamane formula. Secondary school students from all three senatorial districts in the Delta State were chosen at random using a multistage selection technique, and their opinions were then gathered via the distribution of questionnaires.

## 4. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

## **Demographic Analysis of Respondents**

**Table1: Sex Distribution of Respondents** 

Sex of Respondents	Frequency	Percentage
Male	141	56.4
Female	109	43.6
Total	250	100%

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 1 showed that out of the total number of 250 respondents, 141 (56.4%) were male while female respondents accounted for 109 (43.6%).

**Table 2: Age Distribution of respondents** 

Age Range	Frequency of Responses	Percentage
10-14	124	49.6%
15-18	126	50.4%
Total	250	100

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 2 showed that out of the total number of respondents, 124 (49.6%) were between the ages of 10 to 14 while 126 (50.4%) of the respondents were between the ages of 15 to 18 years.

**Table 3: Class Distribution of Respondents** 

Department	Frequency of Response	Percentage
JSS 3	47	18.8%
SS 1	53	21.2%
SS 2	72	28.8%
SS 3	78	31.2%
Total	250	100

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 3 showed that 47 (18.8%) of the respondents were in JSS 1 classes, 58 (21.2%) were in SS 1 classes, 72 (28.8%) were in SS 2 classes and 78 (31.2%) were in SS3 classes.

**Table 5: Religious Background of Respondents** 

Religious	Frequency of Responses	Percentage
Christianity	350	100%
Muslim	-	-
Total	250	100

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 5 showed that all the respondents, 250 (100%) are Muslim by religion.

# **Descriptive Data Analysis**

Table 5: Social media Usage level by Secondary School Students in Delta State

Description of Item	Number Respondents	Mean	Standard Deviation
A student have more than 300 friends on social media accounts	250	3.9120	.33572
Social media is use daily by students	250	3.8720	.34655

Students spend more than 5 hours daily accessing social media.	250	3.7960	.40378
Students have more than three social media accounts	250	3.7920	.40669
Students post contents daily on social media	250	3.7600	.42794
Student chat with friends daily on social media	250	3.7800	.41508
Valid N (listwise)	250		

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 6 shown mean and standard deviation for the level of social media usage by secondary school student in Delta Stat. Given the bench mark of 2.5 mean, all items in the table were accepted. In summary, the result indicated that secondary school students have minimum of 300 friends on social media and they use social media on daily basis. Majority of the students spend more that 5 hours daily on social media and they have more than three social media accounts. Secondary school students post contents and share contents daily.

Table 6: Pattern of Social media Usage level by Secondary School Students in Delta State

<b>Description of Item</b>	Number	Mean	Standard Deviation
	Respondents		
Social mef8a is use to make distance friends	250	3.7600	.42794
Social media is use to keep in touch with friends in the school	250	3.7760	.41776
Social media is use to establish relation with opposite sex	250	3.7760	.41776
Social media is use for communication of social activities.	250	3.7800	.42464
Social media is use to social stories	250	3.8120	.39150
Social media is use to understand different social classifications	250	3.7920	.40669
Valid N (listwise)	250		

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 7 shown mean and standard deviation pattern of social media usage by secondary school student in Delta State. Given the bench mark of 2.5 mean, all items in the table were accepted. In summary, the result indicated that secondary school students use social media to content to distance friends and keep in touch with friends in school. Social media is used to establish

relationship with opposite sex and communication of social activities. Social media is used to tell social stories and differentiate between social classes in the society.

Table 8: The Influence of Social media negative Usage on social interaction Secondary School Students in Delta State

<b>Description of Item</b>	Number	Mean	Standard Deviation
	Respondents		
Pornographic contents share on	250	3.7440	.44639
social that affect social interaction			
Gossip on social media affect social	250	3.7280	.44588
interactions			
Fraud contents on social media affect	250	3.7520	.44190
social interaction			
Indecent dressing on social media	250	3.7520	.43272
affect social interactions			
Social media blackmail and fake	250	3.7240	.44791
identity affect social interaction			
pornographic contents share on	250	3.7440	.44639
social that affect social interaction			
Valid N (listwise)	250		

Source; Field Survey (2023)

Table 8 shown mean and standard deviation influence of social media usage by secondary school student in Delta State on social interaction. Given the bench mark of 2.5 mean, all items in the table were accepted. In summary, the result indicated that pornographic, gossip, fraud, indecent dressing, and blackmail and fake identity contents on social media influence secondary school student's social interactions.

## 5. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The results from the findings Indicated that

- Secondary school students in Delta State, Nigeria frequently access social media. To
  evaluate the level of usage of social media by students in secondary schools, result
  further revealed that these students have minimum of 300 friends on each of the social
  media accounts and they consistently post contents.
- Secondary school students in Delta State frequently use social media to connect with both distance friend and friends within their school environment as they use the social media to tell social stories.

• Students in secondary schools in Delta State are exposed to negative contents on social media and these affects their social interactions with friends.

Based on these findings, the result have significant relationship with existing studies. Accordingly, the study established social interaction usefulness of social media and this is agreed with Boyd (2010), who stated that social media is an interactive social platform in which users use key communication-related features to establish contact, create personal profiles, and update personal information. and share, like and comment on other users' social media profiles.

The level of usage of the social which this study highlighted agreed Obalanlege (2015) who argued that social media has become popular because of its impact on the social structure. People become more cautious as the nature of social relationships changes. Using social networks to connect with others, such as friends, family, and acquaintances, is widely used to connect with people. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn are the most popular social media platforms. People use these sites to exchange photos, videos, and information as well as plan events, chat, and play online games.

Relating to negative influence of social media usage on social interaction, the result agreed with Benson (2003) who noted that just as the destructive power of fire requires careful use of this element of unpredictability, online interactions can expose students to insidious threats to their health. Students also view nude content on Instagram through images and videos. This was essential in this study because the visual impact of sexual activity cannot be the same as the textual content. According to Flood (2009), the emphasis on nudity (pornography) can influence the viewer's attitude towards a particular sexual behavior and the adoption of that behavior due to the connection between the mind and the body. Furthermore, Mastrodicasa and Metellus (2013) claim that social networking sites have the potential to influence college students' sexual preferences and disclosed how these sites are used to influence students' sexual preferences. It has been observed that these websites expose them to vulgar language, nudity, semi-nudity, and pornography—all of which they frequently use to persuade others in real life. This demonstrates how much nude content students view on social media.

#### 6. CONCLUSION

Based on the result of the findings, the study concluded that significant pattern of social media usage by secondary school students in Delta State. Furthermore, majority of the students agreed that there is significant high level social media by students.. Also, the pattern of social media usage by secondary school students include, making of friends, keeping in touch with friends, establishing relationship with opposite sex and chatting and sharing of social contents. Finally, there is significant negative influence of social media on social interaction of students. These include pornographic, gossip, fake identity and fraud and indecent dressing.

#### Recommendations

- 1. Students should continue to use social media for academic activities always to as to help them increase their academic performance and achievement.
- 2. Students should pay more attention to academic performance than social interaction on social media to as not to allow social interactions on Instagram interfere with their studies and learning.
- 3. Finally, students should also discover through research other social media that have educational contents that will help them improve their academic performance.

#### REFERENCES

- Abdulahi, A., Samadi, B., & Gharleghi, B. (2014). A study on the negative effects of social networking sites such as Facebook among Asia Pacific University scholars in Malaysia. *International Journal of Business and Social Science*, 5(10).
- Akpabio, E. (2003). African communication systems: An introductory text. Lagos: BPrint Pub..
- Akram, W., & Kumar, R. (2017). A study on positive and negative effects of social media on society. *International journal of computer sciences and engineering*, 5(10), 351-354.
- Benson, N. (2003). The Implication of Internet for Human Communication. *Journal of Information Technology Impact*, Vol. 7 (6), 21-38.
- Boyd, D. (2010). Social network sites as networked publics: Affordances, dynamics, and implications. In *A networked self* (pp. 47-66). Routledge.

- Barak, A. (2005). Sexual harassment on the Internet. *Social science computer review*, 23(1), 77-92.
- Kefe, E., & Oji, M. (2023). PERCEPTION OF SOCIAL MEDIA REPORTAGE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AMONG YOUNG PERSONS IN DELTA STATE. *International Journal of Applied Research in Social Sciences*, *5*(6), 143-158.
- Croteau, D., & Hoynes, W. (2006). The business of media: Corporate media and the public interest. Pine forge press.
- Fitri, H. (2016). Instagram As a Teaching Tool? Really. In *Proceedings of the Fourth International Seminar on English Language and Teaching (ISELT-4: 2016)* (p. 323).
- Bergström, T. & Bäckman, L. (2013). Marketing and PR in Social Media: How the utilization of Instagram builds and maintains customer relationships.
- Bryant, J., & Miron, D. (2004). Theory and research in mass communication. *Journal of communication*, 54(4), 662-704.
- Gurevich, P., Lanir, J., Cohen, B., & Stone, R. (2012, May). TeleAdvisor: a versatile augmented reality tool for remote assistance. In *Proceedings of the SIGCHI conference on human factors in computing systems* (pp. 619-622).
- Herring, S. C., & Kapidzic, S. (2015). Teens, gender, and self-presentation in social media. *International encyclopedia of social and behavioral sciences*, 2(3), 1-16.
- Flynn, D. J., Nyhan, B., & Reifler, J. (2017). The nature and origins of misperceptions: Understanding false and unsupported beliefs about politics. *Political Psychology*, 38, 127-150.
- Frommer, D. (2010). Here's how to use Instagram. Business Insider, 11, 1-23.
- Lai, L. S., & Turban, E. (2008). Groups formation and operations in the Web 2.0 environment and social networks. *Group Decision and negotiation*, 17, 387-402.
- Jude, O. S. (2016). Social Media In Nigeria: A Vice Or Virtue. *International Journal Of Research In Arts And Social Sciences*, 1(1), 19-20.
- Mansor, N., & Rahim, N. A. (2017). Instagram in ESL classroom. Man in India, 97(20), 107-114.

- Mitchelstein, E., & Boczkowski, P. (2013). \*Tradition and transformation in online news production and consumption http://dx.doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199589074.013.0018]\*. In W. H. Dutton (Ed.), Oxford handbooks online.
- Rubin, A. M. (1983). Television uses and gratifications: The interactions of viewing patterns and motivations. *Journal of Broadcasting & Electronic Media*, 27(1), 37-51.
- Obalanlege, A. (2015). Journalism practice and new media in Nigeria: An exploratory analysis of journalism culture and practice in Nigeria. *New Media and Mass Communication*, 41
- Olusesan S. Asekun-Olarinmoye, Bernice O. S, Jide J, David B. (2014). Imperatives of Internet and Social Media on Broadcast Journalism in Nigeria. Available on https://iiste.org/Journals/index.php/NMMC/article/view/11666
- Oji, M. (2022). Conspiracy theories, misinformation, disinformation and the coronavirus: A burgeoning of post-truth in the social media. *Journal of African Media Studies*, 14(3), 439-453.
- Oji, M., & Bebenimibo, P. (2021). An examination of social media reportage and its impact towards promoting school development in Nigeria: A Study of Success Adegor's viral Video. *Journal of Educational and Social Research*, 11(2), 189-189.
- Oji, M. (2011). Awareness of interpersonal and mediated poverty alleviation communications in the Niger Delta. *Journal of Global Communication*, 4(2), 95-112.
- Oji, M. A. J. O. R. I. T. Y. (2006). Communication and conflict resolution: The peace media initiative. *International Journal of Communication*, *5*, 119-132.
- Osterman, M. D. (2015). Exploring relationships between thinking style and sex, age, academic major, occupation, and levels of arts engagement among professionals working in museums.
- Ting, T C. (2014) A Study of Motives, Uses, Self Presentation and Number of Followers on Instagram Student E-journal Vol. 3 2014 1-35.

- Schlagwein, D., & Hu, M. (2017). How and why organisations use social media: five use types and their relation to absorptive capacity. *Journal of Information Technology*, 32, 194-209. Schlagwein, D., & Hu, M. (2017). How and why organisations use social media: five use types and their relation to absorptive capacity. *Journal of Information Technology*, 32, 194-209.
- Shabir, G., Hameed, Y. M. Y., Safdar, G., & Gilani, S. M. F. S. (2014). The impact of social media on youth: A case study of bahawalpur city. *Asian Journal of Social Sciences & Humanities*, *3*(4), 132-151.
- Döring, N. M. (2009). The Internet's impact on sexuality: A critical review of 15 years of research. *Computers in Human Behavior*, 25(5), 1089-1101
- Mastrodicasa, J., & Metellus, P. (2013). The impact of social media on college students. *Journal of College and Character*, *14*(1), 21-30.
- National Population Commission (NPC) (2006) Nigeria National Census: Population Distribution by Sex, State, LGAs and Senatorial District: 2006 Census Priority Tables (Vol.

  3).

  http://www.population.gov.ng/index.php/publication/140-popn-distri-by-sex-state-jgas-and-senatorial-distr-2006
- Whiskey, M. O., & Oji, M. (2023). Evaluation of the Level of Variability of Niger Delta Community People' s Awareness and Knowledge of Chevron Regional Development Councils (RDCs) and Shell' s Cluster Development Boards (CDBs) Activities. *Studies in Media and Communication*, 11(1), 33-44.
- Yuen, S., & Tang, G. (2023). Instagram and social capital: youth activism in a networked movement. *Social Movement Studies*, 22(5-6), 706-727.