

SOCIAL NETWORKING IN CLASS ROOM EDUCATION – MERITS AND DEMERITS

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ABSTRACT

In modern times, people are interacting in many different ways, some by telephone, some by E-mail and some by chatting networks. Every day, people are using the computer to talk with one another and social networking sites are a big reason for this. Social media offers plenty of opportunities for learning. This paper will review some of the pros and cons of social media in the class room education.

Keywords: E- learning, Social networks, Social Media, Education etc .

1. INTRODUCTION

Social networking sites are very attractive environments for education. Nowadays, social networking plays an important role in the field of education. This paper tries to highlight the importance of social networking in education and explain the merits and demerits of using social networking in class room education. A social network is a website that brings people together to talk, share ideas and interests, or make new friends. This type of collaboration and sharing of data is often referred to as social media.

2. SOCIAL NETWORKING

A social network is a website that brings people together to talk, share ideas and interests, or make new friends. This type of collaboration and sharing of data is often referred to as social media. The most famous social networks are:

Face book: One of the largest social networks in the world has been very important in letting people communicate with one another easier.

YouTube: A great network of users posting video blogs or Vlog's and other fun and interesting videos.

Twitter: Another fantastic service that allows users to post 140 character long posts from their phones and on the Internet.

These networks are playing a big in making decision at events of the global world economically, socially, politically and educationally.

3. SOCIAL NETWORKING IN CLASS ROOM EDUCATION

Today's younger generation is hooked on social media. Social media is nothing new to those who live in the 21st century. The use of social media in the class room is a growing trend in education.

Social media can be a powerful educational tool that provides unique and dynamic learning experiences to students and teachers alike. Social media are internet sites where people interact with one another. They provide a place for people across the world to share information and engage in discussions. Social media provides the means to share graphics, videos, and audio files. With a history dating back nearly 20 years, social media has become second nature to today's students.

Social learning theory says that students learn best when they learn from each other. Several studies have found that when students study together, they earn higher grades, are more engaged, and are more motivated. For that reason, teachers have incorporated group/team learning into their classrooms for decades. Today's learners view social media as 'cool', making it useful in providing social learning activities that are both educational and engaging.

Social media platforms can help to increase communication skills and provide a 'back door' for shy learners. While many students struggle with speaking in front of their class mates they may feel more comfortable 'speaking' on social media' this provides an outlet for students who are too intimidated to raise their hands in class.

4. MERITS AND DEMERITS OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASS ROOM

4.1 MERITS OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASS ROOM

Educational Tool: Today's students arrive on campus, fluent in web and social networking technologies. Educators can leverage this knowledge to enrich the learning experience [3]. With social media ,instructors can foster collaboration and discussion , create meaningful dialogue , exchange ideas ,and boost student interaction.

Improve Communication Among Students and Teachers : Face book and twitter can enhance communication among students and teachers. Educators can answer student's question via a face book page or twitter feed , post home work assignments and lesson plans ,and share interesting web sites and multimedia content .Students can use twitter to get help from instructors or other students[3].

Web Rendezvous: Students share personal information ,links to other sites or comment on someone's post. By doing this, they get engaged with each other instantly .The use of social media has made it easier and faster to interact with peers or teachers about class-related topics. Students are also experts in interacting with others on the internet.

Sharing Information: People share views, opinions, tips, projects, study material and other such useful stuff with each other .They exchange helpful information for classes and examinations. Their ability to access, evaluate ,maintain and share information is fantastic without even being aware that they are actually developing such skills day by day.

Social Media Marketing: We are all aware of social media marketing .the 'new media' has led professionals to build a social media strategy to publicize their product and service. Social media marketing is seen upon as a skill which is an emerging career option.

Social media prepares young workers to become successful marketers. It has become essential for all types of businesses to incorporate social media marketing in their organizations.

4.2 DEMERITS OF SOCIAL MEDIA IN THE CLASS ROOM

Social Media Can be a Distraction: A common complaint among educators is that social media is distracting in the class room. These instructors maintain that tools like Face book and Twitter divert student's attention away from what's happening in class and are ultimately disruptive to the learning process.

Cyber bullying: While social networking sites provide a way for students and teachers to connect , they can be a weapon of malicious behavior, even on college campuses. Some students have experienced cyber bullying through social media websites.

Miscommunication: E-Learning does not afford the student with the same opportunities of explanation and clarification that occur in face -to - face interaction [4]. Face to face allows individuals to perceive physical clues like tone ,inflection,, body language ,in an online environment ,these are lacking.

5. CONCLUSION

There are some pros and cons in using the social networking as educational tool. Social networking sites present opportunities for self-expression and friendship building.

In the other hand some of the serious risks to using social media in the classroom are also discussed in this article . As conclusion both educators and students have to use social network in a proper way.

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