

Evidence-Based Argumentative Writing

In a modern society like our's today, the use of technology and social media has made an enormous impact on the youth of the world. People have become so connected with social media that they use it on an everyday schedule. They use social media to communicate and for entertainment purposes. However, there are ways that social media affects teenagers in a negative manner. In resource B, written by Hilary Stout, titled "Antisocial Networking" published on April 30th, 2010, also, in resource D written by Righ Knight published on September 20th, 2013 titled "Is Social Media Driving People Away from Real Interaction?", and lastly, in resource F, written by Clive Anderson Jr., Eknoor Johar, and Jocelyn C. Kay titled "Teenagers on social media: Socialization and self-esteem," all write about how social media affects kids negatively. Social Media makes a negative impact on today's society by making them shy and introverted lacking communication skills, as well as, driving them away from real life interactions, and it affects their self-esteem and mental health.

To begin with, social media affects kids negatively by making them shy and introverted, and by making them lack communication skills. In some cases, some people are so attached to social media that they would rather interact there than meeting with someone face to face. According to Resource B, Laura Shumaker says she "A mother of three boys noticed that her 17 year old son John, would rather post on his friend's Facebook wall that say happy birthday to him in real life," (p.22). This means that, she noticed that John became skittish when talking about face-to-face interactions. This happened to him because he felt so connected with social media, that he couldn't even talk to his friends in real life. I can relate to this because my brother is

usually watching YouTube rather than going outside and playing. Another example of this is said by Mr Wilson “Reports that his son Evan is shy and introverted and only talks to his friends on Facebook,” (p.26). It became ordinary for his son to not converse in real life so he became just like John. His dad states that he didn't just want to tell him to go and find someone. Parents in this type of situation need to realize that the world is not the same as it was when they were kids. But of course, this is only one reason how social media affects people in a negative manner.

In addition, resource D, explains how social media drives people away from real life interactions. With the spread of mobile technology, it's become much easier for more people to maintain constant contact with their social networks online. And a lot of people are taking advantage of that opportunity. The author explains that “At a social gathering, 80% or more people have their heads down all on their tablets, cell phones, or other mobile devices,” (p.2). This also means that, less than the majority of people are actually talking face-to-face. They find it hard to not only socialize, but also they are generally more depressed and anxious in actual situations. These kids need some serious attention, because if this keeps on happening they will go nowhere in the future. Another example of this is said by Ethan Kross and Philippe Verduyn says, “The more someone uses Facebook, the less satisfied they are with themselves,” (p.10). While using Facebook people feel emotions like envy and anger. I can see why because they might get jealous of what someone else is currently doing. Social media's such as Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter etc. influence people to think bad about themselves and most of the time, their appearance. I relate to this self-doubt because there are times when I feel like I am not good enough to be “cool.” In fact, lots of people suffer from self-doubt and are very conscious about

themselves. To conclude, the cynical ways of social media drives human relationships away from each other.

Lastly, in resource F, the author shows how social media affects individuals self-esteem and mental health. In recent studies, scientists have indicated that the prolonged use of social networking sites, such as Facebook, may be related to signs and symptoms of depression. In addition, some authors have indicated that certain activities might be associated with low self-esteem, especially in children and adolescents. To add on to that, the author says “19% of Youth between 10 and 17 have experienced cyber bullying either as a victim or as an offender.” This means that a large percentage of boys and girls around the world get bullied online even though they are usually innocent and have done nothing wrong. As many people say, bullying can happen anywhere and to anyone. The act of cyberbullying is known for people tormenting, threatening, harassing, or embarrassing another person using the internet or other technologies, such as posting embarrassing pictures on social media or sending hurtful or threatening text messages. Another example of how social media affects people's self-esteem and mental health is shown by Eknor Johar. He wrote “Social media leads to thoughts of suicide and sadness...suicide is the third cause of death among young people ages 15-24.” This means that, cyberbullying is an enormous concern, especially for adolescents. For example, an organization that is about internet safety, called Enough is Enough, conducted a survey that found 95% of teenagers who use social media have witnessed cyberbullying, and 33% have been victims themselves. All the social media can be overwhelming in some cases, it also helps give us an efficient way to communicate and we are not always fully available. Social media was made to

revive and preserve relationships with other people. However, the whole world of social media has come to a point where not everyone uses it wisely. This is why social media can affect our lives negatively with situations such as individuals self-esteem and mental health.

In conclusion, there are many examples of ways social media affects kids negatively in their lives. It makes them shy and introverted, drives them away from face-to-face communication, and lastly, it affects their self-esteem and mental health. There are many ways that social media impacts negatively on our world today. It is very important to know about situations like cyberbullying because you can prevent it from happening to you or someone you know. Although there are many ways that social media is a great source for many ideas, the negative impacts that social media has on teens is a more severe situation that needs to be resolved.