

A Study on the Internet Addiction among College Students in Chennai

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Abstract— The present study viz., A study on the Internet Addiction among college students in Chennai District is an attempt to find out the level of internet addiction and if there is any significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to type of family and Annual income of the Family. Internet Addiction Test (IAT) standardized by Rajhewar (2009) was used for the study and it was administered to 300 college students studying in four arts and science colleges by applying simple random sampling technique. Mean Standard Deviation and t -tests were calculated to test the hypotheses. The findings of this study revealed that the level of internet addiction of college students is high and there is significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to type of family and annual income of the Family. The present paper highlights the major issues related to the Internet addiction among the youngsters. It is an alarm bell for the situation prevailing and gradually increasing trend in India.

Keywords— Internet Addiction, College students, Type of family, Annual income, Component

I. INTRODUCTION

Over the past one and half century, important technological innovations created a global environment which is drawing people of the world closer together. During the industrial revolution, we learned to but motor to work to magnify human and animal muscle power. In the new information Age, we are learning to magnify brainpower by putting the power of computation wherever we need it, and to provide information services on a global basis. Computer resources are very flexible: networked together they allow users to generate, exchange, share and manipulate knowledge in umpteen number of ways.

The Internet is a worldwide system of networked computer systems that use the TCP / IP standard Internet protocol to serve several billion users worldwide. It consists of millions of business, academic , public, private, and government networks, of local and global scope, linked by a broad array of wireless, electronic, and optical technologies. The Internet is an extensive range of information resources and services, such as the inter-linked hypertext documents of the World Wide Web (WWW) and the infrastructure to support email.

II. RELATED WORK

Life without Internet is like fish without water. The need of Internet is growing in even ten seconds. Every family member is involved in using for Internet for different

purposes. Father wants to check his job work and mails, mother wants to try out new recipes for cooking, brother is involved in searching latest music album, sister is worried about her new closest and nanny is waiting for his other grandchildren on webcam. A laptop or computer is always a need for each individual. The work levels are different for every age but the use of internet is same. Students' studies are also possible via online lectures and books which they can get at any time. There are some negative effects of using Internet but it does not change the importance and need of today's world. Nowadays students of this generation are addicted to Internet while spending lots of time searching on the Internet such indulgence damages their health, studies and family relationships. In order to make this young generation aware of this addiction the present study aims to find out the level addiction among the college students.

III. METHODOLOGY

Objectives of the study

1. To study the level of Internet addiction of college students.
2. To find out if there is any significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to type of Family.
3. To find out if there is any significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income of the family.

Hypotheses of the Study

1. The level of Internet addiction of college students is moderate in nature.
2. There is no significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to type of Family.
3. There is no significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income of the family.

Method of Study

The method adopted for study is normative survey method.

Population and Sample

The population for the study constitutes all the students studying in Arts and Science colleges located in Chennai District. Sample consists of 300 college students studying in Arts and Science Colleges in Chennai District.

Tool used for the Study

Internet Addiction Test (IAT) standardized by **Rajhewar (2009)** was used for the study. There are 20 items in the questionnaire. It includes the statements to be considered in the context of the Internet usage habits.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Hypothesis – 1

The level of Internet addiction among college students is moderate in nature.

Table 1. Level of Internet addiction among college students

S.No.	Distribution	Frequency
1	Low	NIL
2	Moderate	116
3	High	184

Form the above table; it is clear that the level of Internet Addiction among the college students is high. Hence the hypothesis, “the level of Internet addiction among college students is moderate in nature” is rejected. The above finding reveals that there is high level of internet addiction found among the College students. This may be due to that most of the students having a personal computer at home and Android mobile with internet connection. Many college students have latest mobiles with internet connection and they may use in educational aspects.

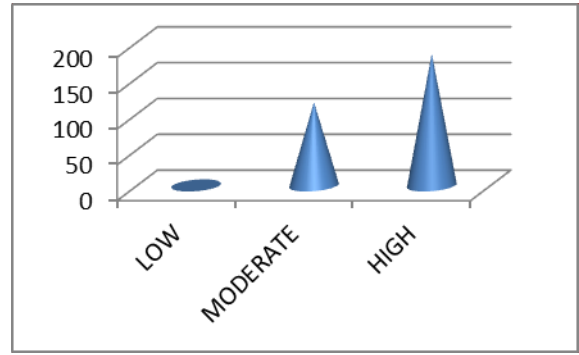


Figure 1. Level of Internet addiction among college students

Hypothesis – 2

There is no significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to type of Family.

Table 2. Internet Addiction of College Students With Respect To Type of Family

Type of Family	N	Mean	S.D	‘t’ value	L.S
Nuclear	247	44.91	8.93	2.50	S
Joint	53	41.60	8.97		

From the above table, it is found that the calculated ‘t’ value (2.50) is greater than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. The students from the nuclear family, lack of close relationship with their elders as in joint family. Hence there is significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to Type of Family.

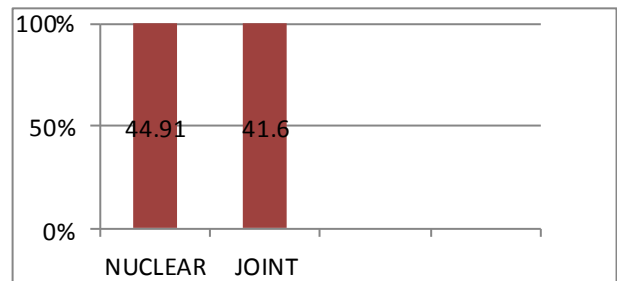


Figure 2. Internet Addiction of College Students With Respect to Type of Family

Hypothesis – 3

There is no significant difference in Internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income of the family.

Table 3. Internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income of the family

Annual Income	N	Mean	S.D	t- value	L.S
Below 50000	194	42.23	8.95	2.87	S
Above 50000	106	45.30	8.95		

From the above table, it is found that the calculated value (2.87) is greater than the table value 1.96 at 5% level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis is rejected. It is due to the financial support through which the students are Able to buy the latest devices. Hence there is significant difference in internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income.

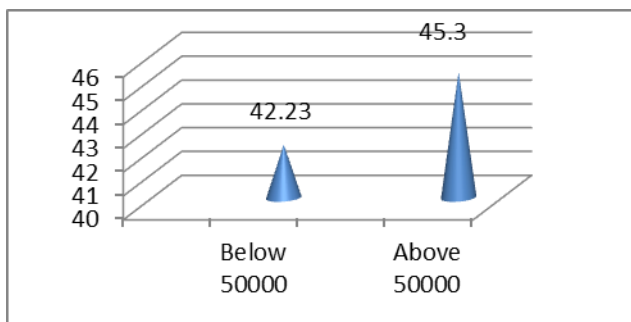


Figure 3. Internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income of the Family

V. FINDINGS

1. There is high level of Internet addiction found among the college students.
2. There is significant difference in internet addiction of college students with respect to type of Family.
3. There is a significant difference in internet addiction of college students with respect to Annual Income.

VI. RECOMMENDATION

Internet is a superior invention in the present times. It provides lots of benefits to human beings especially to the students. The students should get maximum benefits from the Internet. Their valuable time and money should not be wasted in watching useless sites. Instead, they shall watch educational sites which may be beneficial for their studies and career. They should use it for a reasonable time the excessive use of Internet may not affect their health.

VII. CONCLUSION

Parents and teachers should pay attention to their children's cyber behavior, set up a go / stop standard about how often / how long they can surf the Internet. By this way, adults may prevent the younger ones from abusing the Internet. This study may help the students to become aware of the

consequences of Internet addiction and in future they can safeguard themselves from cyber addiction.

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