# THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING USE TOWARDS THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Prabha Kiran, Westminster International University, Tashkent, Uzbekistan

Rumki Bandyopadhyay, KK University, Nalanda, Bihar Puja Chhabra Sharma, Gurugram University M.R. Vanithamani, Karpagam College of Engineering Monika Gadre, Dr Vishwanath Karad MIT World Peace University Gautam Bapat, Dr Vishwanath Karad MIT World Peace University

#### **ABSTRACT**

**Purpose-**Fears regarding the effects of social media marketing on users' mental health have emerged in tandem with the phenomenon's meteoric surge in popularity. "This paper's main objective is to shed light on the effect of social media marketing use on psychological well-being." Incorporating insights from other areas of research, it offers a more in-depth examination of the phenomena by focusing on a variety of moderators, such as different forms of social capital (such as bonding and bridging social capital), social isolation, and smartphone dependence.

**Methodology-** The report comprises a quantitative analysis utilising structural equation modelling (SEM) on a sample of 433 social media users who are students from the Delhi/National Capital Region.

**Findings-** The results suggest that social media marketing use has a favourable indirect effect on mental health, most likely as a result of the benefits gained from increased social capital through connecting and bridging.

Social implications-Practitioners interested in mitigating the harmful effects of social media marketing use on mental health would do well to take note of these results. Negative effects on mental health have been linked to social media marketing use, such as smartphone addiction and social isolation. However, these effects may be mitigated if social media marketing promotes and facilitates relationships with both strong and weak ties.

Originality-This work helps to resolve the contradictions identified thus far in the literature by providing actual evidence and robust statistical analysis showing that both positive and negative impacts coexist.

**Keywords:** Marketing, Psychological, Students, Social, Media, Users.

#### INTRODUCTION

"The use of social media marketing has grown substantially in recent years. Social media marketing refers to "the websites and online tools that facilitate interactions between users by providing them opportunities to share information, opinions, and interest." In addition to these more obvious uses, people often use social media marketing for other purposes, such as networking and gathering information (Fashmitha, 2021). The time that teenagers and young people spend using social networking sites, electronic gaming, texting, and other forms of online and mobile communication is growing steadily. Some authors have even claimed that social media marketing has changed the ways in which people engage with

one another in groups and the ways in which they act as individuals and as a community all over the world (Pütter, 2017).

And thus, there's been a rise in concern about the mental health consequences of too much time spent on social media. It has been noted by a number of authors that an individual's excessive use of social media marketing, driven mostly by FOMO (fear of missing out), can lead to smartphone addiction (Varghese & Agrawal, 2022). Anxiety, loneliness, and sadness, as well as "phubbing," the practise of using or being distracted by a smartphone during in-person conversations, have all been linked to heavy social media use (Goyal, 2018).

Use of social media marketing, on the other hand, helps users feel more connected to people in their lives, which may help mitigate the effects of social isolation. Indeed, social media offers a number of channels for communicating with both strong (i.e., blood) and weak (i.e., work) relationships (e.g., acquaintances, acquaintances at work, and complete strangers) (Murtaza, et al. 2021). Thus, there are growing numbers of studies emphasizing the positive aspects of social media marketing as a new form of communication despite concerns about the potential detrimental effects of social media marketing use on well-being, highlighting how it can help one establish themselves in the world, build relationships, and exchange ideas with others, all of which may have a positive effect on one's social support system. Intriguingly, new research suggests that the effect of smartphone use on users' mental health varies with the time spent using different kinds of apps and the kinds of things they do when using them (Voramontri & Klieb, 2019).

## **Social Media Marketing**

Social media marketing (SMM) (also known as digital marketing and e-marketing) is the use of social media—the platforms on which users build social networks and share information—to build a company's brand, increase sales, and drive website traffic. In addition to providing companies with a way to engage with existing customers and reach new ones, social media marketing (SMM) has purpose-built data analytics that allow marketers to track the success of their efforts and identify even more ways to engage."

### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

In terms of how social media marketing affects its users, the literature gives conflicting signals, stressing both potential harmful effects and positive social enhancement (Hajek & König, 2021). "This study argues, in accordance with views on the necessity to further investigate social media marketing usage, particularly regarding its societal ramifications, that it is vital to further understand the influence of the time spent on social media marketing on users' psychological well-being (Jordan & Troth, 2020)."

This paper takes on social capital theory as a lens to examine the topic from a variety of angles. Previous research has utilized social capital theory to examine how frequently using social media influences one's mental health (Abbas & Mesch, 2018). While statistically acceptable, the models of connections offered in the existing literature so far are incomplete and whereas they do help shed light on the breadth of social networks, the framework presented in this research offers a more complete picture of the phenomena(Pang, 2018). Furthermore, the divergent opinions, indicating both beneficial and harmful effects of social media on mental health, have not been well investigated (Li & Chen, 2014).

In the first place, it expands on previous research on the impact of social media on mental health and investigates the conflicting signals produced by various methods(Holliman et al., 2021). Second, it suggests a theoretical framework for studying the direct and indirect results of social media participation (Madaan & Singh, 2019). Third, it helps clarify

discrepancies in the literature by providing empirical evidence and strong statistical analysis to support the idea that positive and negative impacts coexist (Ostic et al., 2021). Finally, this research offers suggestions for mitigating any negative consequences of social media use by showing how this type of usage enhances social capital and, by extension, one's sense of psychological well-being (Jeong, et al. 2016; Jiao, et al. 2017; Kircaburun, et al. 2020; Mou, et al. 2017).

## Research Gap

The primary goal of this work is to fill this knowledge vacuum by providing evidence that social media marketing use negatively impacts mental health. In the following section, we'll discuss how the article investigates "the mediating role of bonding and bridging social capital. To give a whole picture, it also takes into account factors like smartphone addiction, social isolation, and phubbing, which have been shown to have an impact on the correlation between social media use and mental health in other studies. In this paper, we use structural equation modelling (SEM) to assess a set of research hypotheses based on the results of a quantitative study of 433 social media marketing users who are also students in the Delhi/NCR area."

## **Objectives of the Study**

- To identify factors that impacts the use of social media marketing and thereby influences the psychological well-being of students.
- To quantitatively assess the impact of social media marketing use towards the psychological well-being of students.

## **Hypothesis of the Study**

- H1: Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from isolation at social domain.
- H2: Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from social capital at bonding level.
- *H3:* Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from addiction of smart phone.
- H4: Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from social capital at bridging level.
- H5: Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from psychological well-being.
- H6: Use of social media marketing is strongly influenced from phubbing.
- H7: Psychological well-being is strongly influenced from phubbing.

#### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Students from several Delhi/National Capital Region (NCR) universities were chosen at random for this study. Because of these factors, we decided to recruit individuals from colleges and universities. Before everything else, it is generally agreed that students provide the best sample for research into e-commerce and social media marketing. Second, it's widely assumed that college students have a serious smartphone addiction. Third, this research made sure that the people who participated were knowledgeable about the risks associated with social media and smartphone addiction. Due to time and money restrictions, a convenience random sampling strategy was used to narrow the pool of potential participants from 500 to 433 university students in the Delhi/National Capital Region. In addition, a quantitative

3

empirical study was done to test the model; data was gathered using an online survey. The conceptual model also framed:

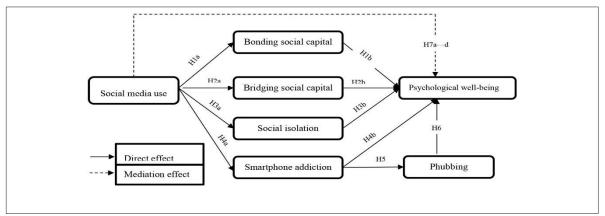


FIGURE 1 SOCIAL MEDIA USE

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 MODEL SUMMARY							
Constructs	Statements under study	Factor Loading	Cronbach Alpha	Composite Reliability	Average Variance Explained		
Isolation at social domain	Nobody is available to play with me. Being around other people makes me feel uncomfortable. I can't rely on anyone"	0.788 0.845 0.722	0.799	0.928	0.601		
Social Capital at bonding level	My interactions with others have led me to; I am able to keep up with current events and fashions with relative ease.  The more people I talk to, the more I want to know about the world beyond my own.  I'm happy to volunteer my time for community events and causes.  Sometimes I meet	0.965 0.764 0.877	0.812	0.817	0.627		
Smartphone addiction	folks who are completely different from me.  The constant buzz of my phone is never far from my ears.	0.912	0.903	0.933	0.733		

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	My phone is my				
	stress reliever.				
	When I make an	0.745			
	effort to limit my				
	cell phone usage, I				
	get antsy or				
	impatient.				
	No matter how hard	0.765			
	I try, I just can't put	31, 32			
	down my phone for	0.711			
	more than a second.	0.711			
	As a result, I find it				
	difficult to limit my				
	usage of mobile				
	devices.				
Social Capital at	The happenings in	0.854	0.813	0.877	0.799
bridging level	my online network				
	fascinate me.				
	The people in my				
	online social	0.888			
	network make me	0.000			
	happy.	0.720			
	Interacting with	0.720			
	people on social				
	media makes me				
	want to try new				
	things				
	Being socially	0.713			
	active on the				
	internet has given				
	me a sense of				
	belonging to a				
	worldwide group."				
Phubbing	"Disagreements	0.978	0.770	0.911	0.667
1 naoonig	arise while I am on	0.776	0.770	0.711	0.007
		0.818			
	the phone with	0.818			
	other people.				
	I'd rather pay				
	attention to my				
	phone and engage				
	in conversation with				
	them."				
Psychological	"Thanks to social	0.765	0.823	0.923	0.699
well-being	media, I have a				
	fulfilling and				
	meaningful	0.755			
	existence.				
	My online				
	friendships are				
	encouraging and				
	fruitful.	0.876			
	My day-to-day	0.070			
	social media				
	activities keep me	0.705			
	interested and	0.705			
	involved.				
	I try to make other				
	people's lives better	0.773			
	and brighter through				
1		ı	1	1	1

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	my posts on social				
	media.				
	With the help of				
	social media, I have				
	hope for the future.				
Use of social	In my daily life, I	0.769	0.899	0.856	0.714
media marketing	use social media.				
	I can no longer	0.723			
	imagine my life				
	without my social				
	media.	0.743			
	When I don't check				
	my social media				
	accounts for a few	0.818			
	days, I start to feel				
	disconnected from				
	the world.				
	That's why the end	0.729			
	of social media				
	would make me				
	sad."				

Table 1 documented the measurement summary of factor loadings, Cronbach Alpha, Composite Reliability and Average Variance Explained. The entire values of the constructs in case of Cronbach Alpha are greater than .60. Which is greater than the acceptable threshold limit of CA? Therefore, internal consistency among the constructs is present. In case of Composite Reliability entire constructs estimated value is greater than .70. Therefore, again internal consistency is found. In case of factor loadings, entire statements' value is greater than .60. Which is acceptable? In case of Average Variance explained, the entire constructs value is greater than .50. Therefore, further SEM (figure 2) can be performed.

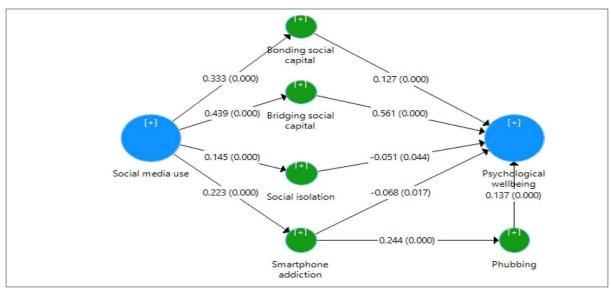


FIGURE 2 STRUCTURED EQUATION MODELLING (SEM)

Table 2 CORRELATION MATRIX							
Constructs understudy	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Social isolation	0.712						
Bonding social capital	0.565	0.899					
Bridging social capital	0.023	0.243	0.121				
Smartphone addiction	0.242	0.244	0.087	-0.097			
Phubbing	-0.097	0.121	0.440	-0.096	0.899		
Psychological well-being	-0.096	0.087	0.305	0.005	0.243	0.823	
Social media marketing use	0.223	0.440	0.174	0.343	0.244	0.256	0.675

Table 2 stated the correlation matrix and found the entire constructs understudy are positively correlated with each other. "Social media marketing use is positively correlated with social isolation, bonding social capital, bridging social capital, smartphone addiction, phubbing, psychological well-being." Likewise, entire constructs are positively correlated with each other.

Table 3 HYPOTHESIS TESTING							
S.No.	Association among constructs understudy			Estimated value of t	Decision		
H1a	Use of social media marketing → social capital at bonding level	-0.051	0.027	20.953*	Fit		
H1b	social capital at bonding level → Psychological well-being	0.223	0.029	4.985*	Fit		
H2a	Use of social media marketing → social capital at bridging level	-0.068	0.025	2.010*	Fit		
H2b	social capital at bridging level → Psychological well-being	0.244	0.027	6.241*	Fit		
НЗа	Use of social media marketing $\rightarrow$ isolation at social front	0.234	0.029	4.985*	Fit		
H3b	isolation at social front → Psychological well- being	-0.051	0.025	2.010*	Fit		
H4a	Use of social media marketing → addiction of smart phones	0.435	0.029	6.241*	Fit		
H4b	addiction of smart phones → Psychological well-being	-0.987	0.025	2.387*	Fit		
H5	addiction of smart phones → Phubbing	0.123	0.036	7.555*	Fit		
Н6	Phubbing → Psychological well-being"	0.235	0.028	4.938*	Fit		
H7a	Use of social media marketing → social capital at bonding level → Psychological well-being	0.332	0.032	20.953*	Fit		
H7b	Use of social media marketing → social capital at bridging level → Psychological well-being	0.127	0.031	4.985*	Fit		

Н7с	Use of social media marketing → Isolation at	0.439	0.028	2.010*	Fit
	social front → Psychological well-being				
H7d	Use of social media marketing → addiction of	0.561	0.027	6.241*	Fit
	smart phones → Psychological well-being				

Table 3 tests the hypothesis and stated that in all the cases of correlation the structured equation modeling is fit and accepted. Therefore, null hypothesis is rejected in all cases and alternative hypothesis are accepted.

#### **CONCLUSION**

While interesting, this study does have some restrictions. This study, for instance, employed a convenience sampling method to interview a sizable sample of participants. The results can only be extrapolated so far because the research was only done in the Delhi/National Capital Region; Therefore, it is important for future studies to take a crosscultural approach to examining the effects of social media use on mental health and the mediating function of hypothesized constructs (e.g., "bonding and bridging social capital, social isolation, and smartphone addiction"). Respondents tended to be educated and female, which might be seen as a flaw in the study's sample distribution. While online surveys might be a convenient way to reach people who use social media, the fact that this study used one does not prove that the participants are truly representative of the public at large. As a result, it is important to be cautious when extrapolating the results and to consider conducting the study again, preferably with social media marketing users from different countries and cultural backgrounds. Students at a university in Delhi/NCR were surveyed for this study. Most of the respondents were educated women; This means that the results are a snapshot in time. However, the impact of social media use is growing due to COVID-19 worldwide, and it is highly unpredictable over time.

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**Received:** 18-Jan-2023, Manuscript No. AMSJ-22-13159; **Editor assigned:** 19-Jan-2023, PreQC No. AMSJ-22-13159(PQ); **Reviewed:** 25-Feb-2023, QC No. AMSJ-22-13042; **Revised:** 10-Mar-2023, Manuscript No. AMSJ-22-13159(R); **Published:** 12-Mar-2023