

## RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET ADDICTION AND PEER AND PARENT RELATIONSHIP

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### **Abstract**

*In the present study the investigators made an attempt to find out the significant relationship if any between Internet addiction and peer and parent relationship among the computer science students of Arts and Science colleges. The investigators have used CIPC measuring tool and The Inventory of Peer and Parent Relationship (IPPR) for data collection. The investigators have chosen 11 colleges in Erode District, Tamilnadu and the sample consists of 1308 computer science students. The proportionate stratified random sampling technique has been used for collecting data. The major finding of the study revealed that there is a significant negative relationship between Internet addiction and peer and parent relationship among college students.*

**Keywords:** *Internet, internet addiction, Peer and Family relationship*

### **Introduction**

In the past, learning and education simply meant face-to-face lectures, reading books or printed handouts, taking notes and completing assignments generally in the form of answering questions or writing essays. In short; education, learning and teaching were considered impossible without a teacher, books and chalkboards. Today, education and training have taken on a whole new meaning. Computers are an essential part of every classroom and teachers are using DVDs, CD-ROMs and videos to show students how things work and operate. Students can interact with the subject matters through the use of such web based tools and CD-ROMs. Moreover, each student can progress at his/her own pace. Although technology in the classroom does have many benefits, there are clear drawbacks as well. One of the drawbacks of Internet usage is the poor parents and peer relationship. Nowadays attachment of some category of students with peer and parent is negligible. Internet addiction may be one of the reasons for their negligible relationship with peers and parents.

### **Need and Significance of the Study**

Easy and uncontrolled access to information and anonymity endanger the moral development of children and youth. Moreover, Internet can create negative emotions, aggression, and susceptibility to unethical behavior and reduce direct contacts between people. Results of various foreign studies revealed that various psychological and social

problems are caused by Internet addiction. The impact of the Internet on youth is likely to be significant. The social consequences are suicides, addiction, depression, loneliness and failure in studies etc. Such social consequences extend beyond the youth themselves to their families, schools, society, and nation. In India, peer and parent relationship is one of the most important factor which determine the development of students. Nowadays peer and parents relationship affected by so many factors such as alcohol, drugs, internet etc. However, using an internet requires a lot of time and results in decreased involvement in the family, housework, professional and academic duties, and limits social and family contacts. It is also believed that aggression and destructive behaviour can be a result of fascination with violent games. It is the need of the hour to study the Internet addiction among youth and their relationship with peer and parents and hence, researchers had chosen the title as “Relationship between Internet Addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship”.

#### **Operational Definition of Terms Used in the Study**

**Internet:** Internet is the computer network which allows computer users to connect with computers all over the world, and which carries information.

**Internet Addiction:** Internet Addiction is defined as problematic, excessive, or maladaptive use of the internet to such a degree that cessation causes severe emotional, social, mental, or physiologic reactions.

**Peer:** Peers are someone who is equal in some respects such as age, grade, status, quality, ability, character and education.

**Parent:** Parents are mother and father who gives birth, nurtures and raises an offspring.

**Peer and Parent Relationship:** Peer and Parent Relationship as an enduring affectional bond of person with friend and parent shortly in terms of trust, communication, anger and alienation.

#### **Objectives**

The objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the level of Internet addiction among college students.
2. To find out the level of Peer and Parent Relationship among normal and internet addicted college students.
3. To find out whether there is any significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to internet addiction based on gender, type of college, use of computer and use of internet.
4. To find out whether there is any significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to Peer and Parent Relationship based on gender, type of college, use of computer and use of internet.

5. To find out whether there is any significant relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among internet addicted students.

### Delimitation of the Study

The present study has the following delimitations:

1. The study was confined to only Erode district, Tamilnadu.
2. The study was confined to only computer major students.
3. The study was conducted among II and III year computer science students.
- 4.

### Methodology

The investigators has used the survey method to collect the data and studied the relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among college students.

### Population and Sample

The population of the present study comprises of computer science students of Arts and Science College of Erode District in Tamilnadu.

The sample of the present investigation consist 1308 computer science students of 11 Arts and Science colleges selected by proportionate stratified random sampling.

### Tools

The investigators have used the following standardized tools for the study;

- “Centre for Internet Addiction Prevention & Counselling (CIPC) measuring tool” to find out the Internet addiction among college Students.
- “IPPR- The Inventory of Peer and Parent Relationship” to find out the Peer and Parent Relationship among college students.

### Statistical Analysis

The collected data were analyzed by using descriptive, differential and correlation analysis. The following statistical techniques were employed for the analysis and interpretation of data: percentage, t-test, ANOVA and Pearson Product Moment Correlation.

### Analysis of Data

**Table 1: Level of Internet Addiction among College Students**

Variable	N	%	Mean	In percentage
Normal students	1203	92	68.58	42.86
Internet addicted students	105	8	126	78.75

The researchers has administered CIPC measuring tool to 1308 students and collected the data from them. Out of which, the researchers has identified 105 students (8%) are internet addicted and 1203 students (92%) are normal. Further, it is inferred from the above table that their addiction level is higher (78.75%) than the normal students (42.86%).

**Table 2: Level of Peer and Parent Relationship (PPR) among Normal and Internet Addicted Students**

Variable	N	%	Mean	In percentage
Normal students	1203	92	156.90	62.76
Internet addicted students	105	8	85.55	34.22

The researchers has administered IPPR tool to 1203 normal students and 105 internet addicted students and it has been identified that the level of Peer and Parent Relationship (PPR) of normal students is higher (62.76%) than the internet addicted students (34.22 %).

#### Testing Hypotheses

$H_0-1$  : - There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to internet addiction based on (i) gender, (ii) the type of college, (iii)the use of computer and (iv) the use of internet.

**Table 3 (i): Difference in the Mean Scores of Internet Addicted Students with Respect to Internet Addiction Based on Gender, the Use of Computer and the Use of Internet**

Variable	Category	N	Mean	SD	t- value	*S/NS
Gender	Male	73	133.99	8.66	11.18	S
	Female	32	109.72	13.16		
Use of Computer	Very Often	89	128.50	14.23	3.268	S
	Often	16	115.69	15.94		
Use of Internet	Very Often	81	129.17	13.72	3.363	S
	Often	24	117.88	16.739		

**Table 3(ii)**

Variable	Category	N	Mean	SSB	SSW	df	F	*S/NS
Type of college	Self-finance	74	123.59	2966.7	20914.6	2, 102	7.23	S
	Aided	9	126.22					
	Government	22	136.82					

\*significance at 0.05 level

Table- 3(i) and 3(ii) reveals that there is significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to gender, the type of college, the use of computer and the use of internet. The calculated value is greater than the table value. Hence the  $H_0 - 1(i)$ ,  $1(ii)$   $1(iii)$  and  $1(iv)$  are rejected

$H_0 - 2$ : - There is no significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to Peer and Parent Relationship based on (i) gender, (ii) the type of college, (iii)the use of computer and (iv) the use of internet.

**Table 4 (i) Difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to Peer and Parent Relationship based on gender, the use of computer and the use of internet**

Variable	Category	N	Mean	SD	t- value	*S/NS
Gender	Male	73	78.47	8.01	9.43	S
	Female	32	94.16	7.45		
Use of Computer	Very Often	89	81.90	9.69	3.19	S
	Often	16	90.75	10.60		
Use of Internet	Very Often	81	81.99	7.56	2.26	S
	Often	24	87.50	12.74		

**Table 4 (ii)**

Variable	Category	N	Mean	SSB	SSW	df	F	*S/NS
Type of college	Self-finance	74	77.68	1669.64	10145.92	2,	8.39	S
	Aided	9	83.64					
	Government	22	93.67					

\* Significance at 0.05 level

Table- 4(i) and 4(ii) reveals that there is significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to internet addiction based on gender, the type of college, the use of computer and the use of internet. The calculated value is greater than the table value. Hence the  $H_0 - 2(i)$ ,  $2(ii)$   $2(iii)$  and  $2(iv)$  are rejected.

$H_0 - 3$ : -There is no significant relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among internet addicted students.

**Table 5: Relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among internet addicted students**

Internet addiction x Peer and Parent Relationship	N	r-value	Nature of relation	*S/NS
	105	-0.654	Substantial	S

\*Significance at 0.05 level

Table 5 reveals that there is significant relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among internet addicted students. The calculated “r” value (-0.654) is greater than the table value. Hence the  $H_0-3$  is rejected at 0.05 level. It also reveals that obtained “r” value (-0.654) indicates that there is a negative substantial relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship.

### Findings

1. In the present study, 8% (N=105) of the college students are identified as internet addicted out of the total sample (N=1308) selected for the study.
2. The level of peer and parent relationship is very low (34.22%) among internet addicted students than the normal (62.76%).
3. There is significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to internet addiction based on gender, the type of college, the use of computer and the use of internet.
4. There is significant difference in the mean scores of Internet addicted students with respect to Peer and Parent Relationship based on gender, the type of college, the use of computer and the use of internet.
5. There is a negative substantial relationship between Internet addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship among internet addicted students.

### Discussion

The study reveals that Internet Addiction and Peer and Parent Relationship are negatively correlated. The finding shows that male students are more addicted than female students. This may be due to the fact that gender privilege of males, greater expenditure level, financial support of parents, higher self independent activities, lack of emotional maturity, freedom to explore the internet, curiosity to know innovative things, familiarity and availability of computer and internet. Further, it reveals that Male students have low level of peer and parent relationship than female students.

The present study also shows that Self finance college students are more addicted than government and aided college students. This may be due to the fact that availability of modern facilities, spending more time online, high rate of knowledge about computer and internet, frequent internet use, low frequency of parental communication, habitual,

demographic and socioeconomic backgrounds ,well equipped environment, and availability of internet, poor family atmosphere and lack of love from parents, technologically well sophisticated, lack of emotional and social skills, financial support of parents and their greater expenditure level. Self finance college students and aided college students have low level of peer and parent relationship than government college students. This may be due to the fact that lack of peer and parent trust, communication, lack of affection and care of peer and parents, family background and surroundings, lack of interest in participating environmental and social welfare activities, availability of technology.

Further, it reveals that the students who use computer and internet very often have low level of peer and parent relationship than the students who use computer and internet often. This may be due to the fact that greater time spending, lower an individual's level of attachment to close friends, loss of control over connection behavior, lack of emotional and social intelligence, being oriented toward having more online friends less social contact, lack of peer and parent trust and communication, virtual interpersonal relationship. Parents and teachers can do lot in this matter. Teachers should advice the students on the proper use of Internet and they should have an eye on students, when students use Internet because they may use Internet for some other purpose than academic.

### **Conclusion**

Internet is very useful for users to find information for their current work. However, presently internet is not only use for seeking information but being use to fills leisure. While there is consensus that the Internet is beneficial and educational, concerns about online risks and unintended consequences are rising. The distress suffered by the youth themselves together with the loss of productivity and entailing physical and monetary losses may result in financial and economic consequences. Such social and economic consequences extend beyond the youth themselves to their families, schools, society, and nation. If a substantial number of youth are adversely affected, the economic competitiveness, jobs prospects, foreign investments and fortune of our country could also be affected. Besides that this study is also important to let parents and teachers who are involving to take care of it. Through this study, they may start too aware of this problem so that they can try to control their children or student.

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