

ANTI

social network



How social networking sites are the cause of people becoming ANTI SOCIAL

Photography By Antonio Carr
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and <http://people.hamilton.edu/bhouse/DoWeEncourage/DoWeEncourage5.html>

Social networks like Facebook, Twitter, and the new Google+, share key traits: users have profile pictures, can post status updates, and can essentially access the sites from anywhere, whether on a cell phone or an I Pad. Now, says International Business Times, too much time spent on these sites can cause teens to develop narcissistic tendencies and anti-social behavior, according to a study group's research at California State University.

Description

Anti-social personality disorder is characterized as a gross disparity between behavior and the prevailing social norms. The character symptoms are a lack of safety for one's self, incapacity to feel guilt or shame, irresponsibility of social norms, disregard for rules, and a lack of concern for the feelings of others (www.mentalhealth.com). The reason why anti-social behavior is important in my discussion stems from the same reasons people become addicted to the Internet. Internet addiction and anti-social personality disorders are both psychological disorders, negative behaviors, and both can be caused by the reasons discussed above. (See Positive Reinforcement of Negative Behavior on this Web page)

Connection to the Internet

Anti-social behavior, like Internet addiction, is a disorder influenced today by the ever-growing World Wide Web. The Internet has made it possible for people to run errands and go to work while staying in the comfort of their own home. People can shop for clothes, groceries, and just about every item possible on-line. Moreover, relationships can develop online, making it unnecessary for people to leave home to meet a new mate. However, all of the time remaining at home on the Internet has led people to develop disorders such as Internet addiction and the disorder being discussed now, anti-social behavior.

Internet Addiction

Internet addiction plays a key role in developing Internet-related anti-social behavior. It takes an addiction of spending monstrous amounts of time alone on one's computer to develop the psychological parameters of an Internet-related, anti-social behavior disorder. To know more about the psychological aspect of Internet addiction and other disorders see Dark Side of the Internet home page or Are You Addicted to the Internet? Anti-social behavior can be caused through isolation and other variables that can cause a person to exert the symptoms of an anti-social personality disorder. It is now known that the Internet can be a cause for anti-social behavior. Here are a few of the many variables for the Internet cause of anti-social behavior.

Cell phones

According to PC Mag, teens and young adults should perhaps stop checking Facebook and Twitter on their phones, or at least do it less often. A new study warned that constantly looking at social media updates on smart phones, for instance, could create a worrisome 'checking habit.' However, found the study, "smart phone-related habits are not yet perceived as problematic. Some consider it an annoyance, but many positive experiences are mentioned as well." The study added that beneficial aspects of social networking via cell phones included, "entertainment, time-killing, and diversion." Rosen, according to PC World, furthermore noted that there are also a number of positive aspects to the social media experience overall. One was his surprising observation that young people can gain "virtual empathy," which can then be carried over into real life. He added Facebook and similar networks could also be beneficial tools for those who are introverted or nervous, allowing them to connect with people and achieve a sense of community. Furthermore, if utilized properly, social networks can be used as teaching tools. As for younger children, Rosen added, parental website monitoring wasn't

necessarily the answer. "If you feel that you have to use some sort of computer program to surreptitiously monitor your child's social networking, you are wasting your time. Your child will find a workaround in a matter of minutes." Ultimately, Rosen believes parents should "do more listening than lecturing" when handling this type of situation. "The ratio of parent listen to parent talk should be at least five-to-one," Rosen said. "Talk one minute," he advised, "and listen for five."

Downloading

Because downloading has become a huge use of the Internet, through the availability of "free" software, MP3 files, applications, programs, and other related downloads, the process and time spent can result in developing anti-social behavior. Remember Hitman, the addicted Internet user from New Zealand who downloaded in every spare moment he had? (see Positive Reinforcement of Negative Behavior/Downloading) Well, people such as Hitman will spend hours upon hours searching for and then downloading programs off the Internet. In downloading, the same standards apply as they did for anti-social behavior deriving from video games. A person who spends excessive amounts of time on the Internet downloading might eventually become anti-social.

The Internet has provided a means for people to communicate, while also providing a means for isolation and anti-social behavior. New technology has introduced both positives and negatives for our society. We must learn how to cope and solve the negative aspects of this new technology, the Internet, and develop new ways to control psychological disorders. I urge anyone reading this site to take the time to visit our Are You Addicted to the Internet? Web page. There is help for this disorder, and the better we deal with problems and disorders, or even confront a loved one about a problem, the sooner we can start building our lives back and creating a much better world.