

Social media Argumentative Essay Outline

Social Media: Good or Bad?

Intro:

A. Hook: Thirty years ago, if you were trying to reach a person you had two options: mail them a letter or talk to them face-to-face. Nowadays, with the invention of social media you can chat someone on any social networking site and have a response within seconds.

B. Background Info: With social media being the main medium of communication, you can't go anywhere without seeing people scrolling through their Instagram feed, or sneaking a quick selfie for Snapchat. The number of social media users is growing at a rapid pace. According to Pewinternet.org, the use of social media sites among young adults aging from 19-28 has jumped from 9% to 90% from February 2005 to September 2014.

C. Thesis Statement: The lives of teenagers in today's society revolve so heavily around social media that it is beginning to negatively impact their lives. The negative complications are seen through the decrease in human interaction, encouragement of cyberbullying, decreased productivity and the sense of false relationships.

Body Paragraph #1:

Topic: Decrease in human interaction

Supporting Detail: Forbes Magazine claims that only 7% of communication is based on the written or verbal word. A whopping 93% is based on nonverbal body language. This leads internet conversations to be more prone to misunderstandings and false illusions

Supporting Detail: Instead of using social media as a tool, people have started to replace their social life with the social media

Supporting Detail: Jan. 2012 Center for the Digital Future at the USC Annenberg School study found that the percentage of people reporting less face-to-face time with family in their homes rose from 8% in 2000 to 34% in 2011.

Body Paragraph #2

Topic: Increase in cyberbullying

Supporting Detail: According to Cyber bullying statistics from the i-SAFE foundation, Over half of adolescents and teens have been bullied online, and about the same number have engaged in cyber bullying

Supporting Detail: Computer screens can act as a shield and can feed teens the confidence to say things that they would never say in face-to-face confrontation.

Supporting Detail: It is easy to create fake profiles and false identities due to the lack of security on these sites, which just makes bullying that much easier.

Body Paragraph #3:

Topic: decrease in productivity

Supporting Detail: Instead of doing their homework or studying for exams, teens spend their time “liking” their friends pictures and “favoriting” funny tweets.

Supporting Detail: With social media as a distraction, reading a two page article becomes a two hour task because teens take frequent breaks to answer texts or check Facebook

Supporting Detail: These sites entice teens to waste their time, according to ProCon.com When alerted to a new social networking site activity, like a new tweet or Facebook message, users take 20 to 25 minutes on average to return to the original task.

Body Paragraph #4:

Topic: False sense of relationships

Supporting Detail: On Facebook you can be “friends” with someone that you’ve never met before in your life

Supporting Detail: It is easy to create a relationship over the internet when you don’t have the pressure of impressing the other person

Supporting Detail: Since they don’t know who you actually are, you can say whatever you want, be whoever you want.

Supporting Detail: According to Cornell University’s Steven Strogatz, social media sites can make it more difficult for us to distinguish between the meaningful relationships we foster in the real world, and the numerous casual relationships formed through social media.

Conclusion:

Summary of Points: Overall, I believe that social media is hurting our society more than helping it. It decreases human interaction, promotes online bullying, creates an unnecessary distraction and causes a false sense of connection