

A study to assess the effectiveness of online course on knowledge regarding cyber safety among adolescents in a selected school of Bareilly district

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Abstract

Introduction: internet is one of the best resources available to all of us. However it also harm to us if we don't aware of safe internet use. Mostly young people are the victim of cybercrimes like cyber bullying, cyber grooming, online gaming fraud, email fraud and so on .so they need to protect themselves when they are in cyberspace. Hence the study was conducted with the aim to assess and enhance the knowledge level on cyber safety among adolescents. **Material and methods:** pre experimental, one group pre test, post test design was chosen to conduct a study at selected school with 50 samples based on convenient sampling technique. The researcher formulated questionnaire in Google form and done pre test. Online course was administered and tool post test after 7 days with the same questionnaire through online. **Results:** The collected data were analysed the result revealed that the mean post test knowledge score [19.96] was higher than the mean pre-test knowledge score (14.8). Knowledge enhancement was 10.32%. There was significant difference between pre test and post test score and t value was 11.46. **Conclusion:** the finding of the study reveals that after the implementation of online course, the knowledge score level was improved regarding cyber safety. Hence the online course was effective.

Keywords: adolescents, cybercrime, cyber safety, effectiveness, online course, and online safety.

Introduction

The internet helps us in imparting information in addition to storing our data. It has become so essential that it has become a vital part in people's lives. However, due to the rapid increase in our modern technology, it has become very hard in keeping our private details safe. Classified data are becoming easily available to people. This has lead to the increase in crimes as nearly everyone can access one's personal data without the victim's knowledge. Internet has become a relief for the modern age, yet it also causes a burden on the people. ¹

The Internet has additionally bred a new kind of crime is called cybercrime. Common internet users are unaware of cybercrimes. It has united individuals by empowering different types of relational correspondence, outstandingly email, texting, video conferencing, and person to person

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communication. In an extremely brief period, it has turned out to be troublesome for the greater part of us to envision a world without moment and persistent access to the web.²

Need of the study

Social media use also continues to grow, with global users reaching 4.20 billion by January 2012.its equal to more than 53 percent of all the people on Earth. The number of social media users has heightened beyond 13 percent above the past 12 months. More than 490 million new users have joined social media since January 2020, equating to broad more than 1.3 million new users every day.³

Adolescents are vulnerable to various types of cybercrimes. Adolescents are most commonly exposed cybercrimes are cyber threats, cyber bullying, cyber grooming, email fraud, online transaction fraud, through online gaming on social networking profiles.⁴

Cyber bullying involves using the internet or mobile technology to deliberately threaten or intimidate others by sending comments and photos, videos, rude, mean or hurtful messages. As per broad band survey in 2021,73% of students feel they have been bullied in their lifetime and 44% say it's happened in the last 30days.main reasons people get bullied are 61% appearance, 25% academic achievements, 17% race, 15% sexuality, 15% financial status,11% religion and 20% other.⁵

Online Gaming is another area which has been changed with the coming of data innovation. An ever expand number of children are joining the internet gaming network. Children can play web deploy recreations on mobiles, PCs, compact gaming gadgets and social networks. The gaming industry has become an attractive target for cybercriminals with 12 billion credential stuffing attacks reported in the past 17 months (November 2017-March 2019).⁶

Cyber safety or online safety or internet safety is to give knowledge and information about user's personal safety on internet and self-protection from computer crimes. Achieving the goal of creating a cyber-safe culture, requires ongoing initiatives to educate and remind users about online risks

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

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OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To evaluate the effectiveness of online course on knowledge regarding cyber safety among adolescents.
2. To find out the association of pre-test knowledge score of adolescents with their demographic variables

HYPOTHESIS

H₁- There will be a significant difference between the mean pre-test post-test knowledge scores regarding cyber safety.

H₂- There will be a significance association between pre-test knowledge scores with their selected demographic variables.

METHODOLOGY

Research design: pre experimental, one group pre test,post test design

Research setting: school at Bareilly

Population: adolescents

Sample : students of 10th standard

Sample size : 50

Sampling technique: convenient sampling technique

Data collection tool: structured questionnaire (knowledge regarding cyber bullying, cyber grooming, email fraud, online gaming , cybercrime prevention and reporting)

Method data collection: online self-reported questionnaire

Data collection procedure

Before going to the data collection, permission was obtained from the concerned authority of school. Consent and assent taken from adolescents and their parents. The researcher formulated questionnaire in Google form and done pre-test. Online course was administered and tool post-test after 7 days with the same questionnaire through online.

Collected data was analysed by using differential and **inferential statistics**.

RESULTS

Table-1. Findings related to demographic data N=50

Demographic variable		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)
Age (in years)	15-16 years	45	90
	17-18 years	5	10
Sex	Male	22	44
	female	28	56
Religion	Hindu	44	88
	Christian	03	06
	Muslim	02	04
	Others	01	02
Number of siblings	0-1	32	64
	2-3	16	32
	Above 3	02	04
Mode of social media device	Desktop	-	-
	Laptop	14	28
	Mobile Devices	36	72
Duration of using internet every day	Less than 1 hour	17	34
	1-2 hours	9	18
	2-3 hours	2	4
	More than 3 hours	22	44
Mode of social network services using	Facebook	2	4
	Whatsapp	25	50
	Messenger	-	-
	-Instagram	11	22
	Youtube	12	24

Table -2. Pre and post test knowledge score on cyber safety

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Level of knowledge	knowledge score	Pre test		Post test	
		frequency	%	frequency	%
Inadequate	0-10	1	2%	0	0
Moderate	11-20	49	98%	31	62
adequate	21-30	0	0	19	38

Table 3: Mean, standard deviation and 't' test value of adolescents regarding cyber safety N=50

Knowledge aspect	Mean	Mean %	SD	Enhancement	t value
Pre test	14.8	29.6%	2.97	10.32%	11.46
Post test	19.96	39.92%	4.37		

Df (49), $p < 0.05$ level of significance

Table 3 explained that the mean post test knowledge score [19.96] was higher than the mean pre-test knowledge score (14.8). Knowledge enhancement was 10.32%. there was significant difference between pre test and post test score and t value was 11.46. . It was inferred that there was an increase knowledge level of adolescents regarding cyber safety.so online course was effective

Finding related to association between pre test knowledge score of adolescents with their selected demographic variables

Chi- square value reveals that among the entire demographic variable there was a significant associated illustrated between duration of using internet every day and pre-test knowledge scores.

Discussion

A, K.J. Abinath et.al. (2018) to assess the awareness of cyber crime among college students. The findings of the study revealed that majority 47.8% respondents spend less than 2 hours on the internet, 23.2% respondents spend between 2-5 hours on the internet, 13.5% respondents spend between 5-7 hours on the internet while 15.5% spend more than 7 hours on the internet. 86% of the total respondents spend their time on the internet in social media websites, 55.1% of the total respondents spend their time watching videos, 42.5% of the total respondents spend their time surfing the web while only 24.6 of the total respondents use the internet for leisure.⁷

Kayastha Babita, Gurung Ashmita et.al (2018) to assess the level of internet addiction among adolescents. The findings of the study showed that 68% of the participants were male and 73% of the participants were female. Majority of the participants i.e. 52% were belongs to 14 years of

age group. 76% of the participants were having one no. of siblings. Majority 115% of the participants were using mobile/tablets/ipad.⁸

Conclusion

The finding of the study suggests that online course is effective in enhancing the knowledge of the adolescents regarding cyber safety. Cybercrimes also become one of the social issues so need to educate all regarding the safe cyber use in order to avoid cyber crimes

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