

Children And Internet

Heena Prolta

The nature of children's internet use generates public anxieties which both guide and undermine research, complicating the already challenging study of children within the privacy of the home. The body of empirical work reviewed is still small, but already key questions of academic and policy significance are being addressed regarding the opportunities and dangers of internet use. Such opportunities include communication, identity and participation, and education, learning and literacy; dangers arising from exclusion and the digital divide, and from certain kinds of use relating to inappropriate or undesirable contact, content and commercialism. In each of these domains, research strengths and gaps for future research are identified. The article concludes by noting areas of theoretical consensus and uncertainty framing the research agenda in this field. In this research I have focused on the uses of internet for children, dangers of internet for children and preventive measures to control online crimes. Research also focuses on a set of recommendations for specific areas of research that can further the policy dialog regarding online safety. The study employed a mixed method approach where quantitative and qualitative data were collected. The study provides practical and scientific implications related to raise parents' and students' awareness on internet safety, explaining the role of the various stakeholders involved. Additionally, it explores the parental interest to raise their awareness on internet use and threats, as well as investigating their interest in establishing household environment safety measures in their household and a secure internet system in order to protect their children. As children's experiences worldwide are increasingly informed by their use of digital technologies, the realisation of their rights will depend on both their physical and virtual environments. Their access to, and use of, information, knowledge and resources will depend not just on their level of digital literacy, but also on the availability, safety and quality of the online content.