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English 211

4/16/2017

The Switch Up: Real Friends and Social Media

In today’s life, social media impacts most of peoples’ life. Many people use social media to stay in contact with family, see what is going on in peoples’ life, and make friends. Often social media friends and friends in real life are two different friendships.

A friend is someone a person meets through an ongoing process until it is established between the two people. In order to make a friend a person has to know what he or she likes and know what experiences they have been through in life. After doing all that, the bond between the two has to be strong because it took so long to build the friendship nobody wants it to end right away. Relationships are acquired through a connection whether it be a person liking vanilla ice cream and playing basketball and another person liking it also. That is how those two people have a connection. The more a person connects with a person the stronger the bond will get.

During today’s times, people often use a social media account to find friends with common interests or connections. Social media is a platform for communication that expands and accelerates the way we connect and engage people, but the old rules of thumb for building relationships are still there. I have a twitter account that has one thousand six hundred and fifty-four followers. I may not know a lot of them but they are just some friends on social media. They often like a picture I post or like a tweet I either tweeted or quoted. That is the common action to do on twitter. I could tweet and ask if anyone wants to help me do work and no one would help me because it is just social media and just because they are my friend up there does not mean they are obligated to help me.

That is the difference with having a real friend that you can see in person rather than a friend on social media. A friend in real life will not leave their friend hanging to struggle with something they do not know. They will actually help a friend do their work and even help better understand it. A physical friend can hang out with a person and just chill. I have friends that I can count on for anything. I may be a couple dollars short on paying for my food and a friend might see that and give me the rest of the money to help pay for it.

Finally, friends are hard to come by. A social media friend is online temporary because you can only communicate online with them. The friends people actually need are the ones in real life. They tend to help a person out more than a social media friend. Social media friends are only temporary because if a person deletes their social media page then the friendship is over because the person does not have another way to contact that person.