Article Review #2 – The Effects of Cyberbullying on College Students

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Introduction:

In the scholarly journal article, "Cyberbullying During COVID-19 Pandemic: Relation to Perceived Social Isolation Among College and University Students," Nadya Neuhaesuler (University of Michigan) discusses whether the Covid-19 Pandemic led to more cyberbullying (Neuhaeusler, 2024). The author starts off by giving some background information about the pandemic that started in 2020. They mention that many during that time started using the internet more for school and work. The author then brings cyberbullying into the discussion. The next sections detail how their study was conducted and what they ultimately found.

Analysis Done by the Author:

As cited in (Kowalski et al., 2019), the author finds that cyberbullying occurs mainly on social media platforms. The author reviewed many other pieces of literature to determine how cyberbullying occurs and who is most likely to be targeted.

Research Methods:

The first hypothesis the author had before the study was that cyberbullying increased during the shutdown. The second hypothesis was that cyberbullying could increase because of the social media usage increase. Hypothesis #3 is that cyberbullying may increase when people feel isolated on the internet. The study asked college students about social media and how they use it, the pandemic, and how isolated they felt.

Data and Results from the Study:

The data from the study did not allow for the author's first hypothesis about the pandemic increasing cyberbullying to be true. According to the data, the second hypothesis is not true. The

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study finds that social media usage did not increase the cases of cyberbullying. The third hypothesis was found to be true. The study finds that people who were more isolated did get bullied more online.

How does it Relate to the Social Sciences?

There are many ways this study relates to the social sciences. It discusses cyberbullying and victimization, which can help social scientists study why people cyberbully. It also helps individuals to understand if the pandemic had something to do with people getting harassed online.

Contributions of the Study to Society:

This article is beneficial to society mainly because it allows individuals to understand more about cyberbullying and why it happens. This may help individuals to protect themselves while online. It may also help them to report cyberbullying when they see it occurring.

Possible Concerns of Marginalized Groups:

Some may be concerned about how cyberbullying affects marginalized groups. This study does not expand a lot on this topic. There are some concerns that some groups may be targeted more for various reasons. That is a very important discussion and should be studied now and in the future.

Conclusion:

Overall, this is a good study about cyberbullying before and during the Covid-19 Pandemic. It mainly focuses on college students because they were mostly doing virtual learning during that time. It combines aspects of social sciences and cybersecurity by learning about the types of bullying on electronic devices. With electronic devices becoming more prevalent, it will be important to find ways to combat cyberbullying today and in the future.

References

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