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Article Review #2

Cyber-Victimization's Impact on Emotional Health

Introduction

With the rapid growth of the internet and social media, the way in which communication impacts society has many different effects. Since communication is so wide-spread and complex in today's digital age, cyberbullying is a problem which spreads like a wildfire as time goes on. The article in which I have chosen to review: *Impact of Cyber-Victimization on Anger and Frustration: Role of AI, E-Governance and Cyberbullying Coping* by Nadir Aliane and Sanjar Mirzaliev, details the struggles of cyberbullying and cyber-victimization and the impact that they have on the emotions of people.

Review

Relation to Social Science Principles

The article in which I have chosen deals mainly with social science and its principles, mainly cyber-victimization, and many others which have been gone over throughout this course. Optimism bias is a principle that is related to cyber-victimization, and it means that individuals don't think bad things can happen to them. This can lead them into becoming a cyber-victim through a false sense of security, which can affect their mental health immensely. "Scholars have connected cyber-victimization with negative results, such as emotional distress, social withdrawal, and mental health problems, indicating its multiple effects on individual well-being" (Ezeji, as cited in Aliane & Mirzaliev, 2024). On top of this, low observability, the principle which states that we don't know how our peers operate in cyberspace, also affects people, especially younger generations as they tread through the internet. Due to the large presence of social media, especially with younger kids, cyberbullying is more rampant than ever, leading these younger generations to have more prevalent mental health issues than generations before. The last principle is hyperbolic discounting, a principle which states that individuals make decisions based on short-term benefits over long-term. Again, this principle shares a great relation to their younger generation in terms of cyberbullying and cyber-victimization. Since kids are more focused on social media and trying to become famous, they make short term decisions that end badly and lead to them becoming victims in one way or another. "This phenomenon transcends age, gender, and geographical boundaries, although certain demographics, such

as adolescents and young adults, are disproportionately targeted” (Mukred et al., as cited in Aliane & Mirzaliev, 2024).

Research Question, Methods, and Analysis

The research question of this scholarly article is an examination and analysis of the complex relation between cyber-victimization, emotional health, and the use of artificial intelligence in e-governance to moderate cyberbullying as well as the coping mechanisms that follow. Due to the very, very complex nature of cyberspace, which is even more complicated in relation to bullying and emotional health, this article dives head first into this maze, attempting to piece together the relation of cyber-victimization, anger, and frustration, as well as the use of artificial intelligence in e-governance roles. As for the research methods, all research for this article was conducted in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, through a quantitative research method. This method used 244 people, employed by different departments of Saudi Arabia, and data was gathered through validated scales and analyzed through Structural Equation Modeling, which yielded results that showed cyber-victimizations negative impact on the emotional health of these workers. Artificial intelligence was then introduced into cybersecurity and e-governance aspects, which effectively reduced the negative emotions experienced through cyber-victimization.

Relation to Class Concepts

Due to the nature of the article and its topic, it shares a heavy relation to concepts which have been covered in this course. The concept this article shares the largest relation to is the psychological consequences of victimization, with emotional consequences such as depression, fear and anger. “First and foremost, the majority of research works so far emphasizes short-term psychological outcomes of cyber-victimization, for instance, stress, anxiety, depression, etc.” (Balakrisnan & Kaity, as cited in Aliane & Mirzaliev, 2024). Perceptions and safety is another concept in which this article relates to. This is the concept in which the way we think and see things influence our perceptions, and if wrong, can increase our risk of cyber-victimization. With the anger and frustration that comes with cyber-victimization, a person may be liable to put themselves in even more risk through an act of rage in trying to “get back” at whoever victimized them, which can lead to even more negative psychological effects. Cyberbullying and peer networks is another concept which shares relation to this article. Cyberbullying and peer networks essentially covers bullying that happens through peer networks; individuals that we spend time with online. Since we spend so much time with these people, the effects of the cyberbullying can be much more severe than a random person cyberbullying you. Lastly, while broad, social factors and social media is a concept that is mentioned a lot throughout the article. With many kids and young adults using social media, they are much more negatively affected by

cyberbullying and cyber-victimization, leading to the younger generations dealing with severe mental health problems because of social media.

Relations to Challenges of Marginalized Groups and Contributions to Society

Cyber-victimization and cyberbullying affects marginalized groups disproportionately. More so than any other group, minorities and other marginalized groups are more of a target for cyber bullying and cyber-victimization. Racism, homophobia, and misogyny are rampant on the internet and social media, and is just the surface level as far as cyberbullying. With the targets on these groups, they face more emotional distraught than any other group due to the focused attacks that they constantly receive. As for cyber-victimization, these groups can be more at risk due to a lack of resources to defend themselves and understand victim precipitation in the cyber world. However, with the use of artificial intelligence in cybersecurity and e-governance as the article proposes, the emotional turmoil that not only marginalized groups face, but all victims, could be greatly reduced. If done right, the use of artificial intelligence in these roles could contribute a lot to society. Especially the younger generations, who are subjected to much more mental health issues due to cyberbullying. If there was a way to dampen the blow and correctly track and report these incidents, the use of AI could greatly benefit society as a whole by helping reduce the emotional damage which follows cyberbullying and cyber-victimization events.

Conclusion

This article puts forward a comprehensive solution to helping reduce the emotional impact that follows cyberbullying and cyber-victimization. Through the use of artificial intelligence in cybersecurity and e-governance, this article highlights the positive impact it could play on helping victims. Aliane and Mirzaliev navigate through the complex interaction between cyber-victimization and emotional distraught through evidence and research to attempt to make a difference in the world of cyber-victimization.

References

Aliane, N., & Mirzaliev, S. (2024). Impact of Cyber-Victimization on anger and frustration: Role of AI, E-Governance and Cyberbullying coping. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 18(1).
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