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Article Review #2: Cyberbullying and Cyberbullicide Ideation Among Jordanian College Students

Introduction

Written by Diab Al-Badayneh, Maher Khelifa, and Anis Ben Brik, the article, '*Cyberbullying and Cyberbullicide Ideation Among Jordanian College Students*' details an experiment on the unfortunate side of internet use of cyberbullying and cyberbullicide among Jordanian college students. Cyberbullying has been given more attention as the internet has evolved and more research has gone into it now more than ever. Unfortunately, many students around the world and in this case, Jordan, have experienced some form of cyberbullying and for some it has even led to cyberbullicide or cyberbullicide ideation. The purpose of this study is to bring attention to the commonness of cyberbullying and cyberbullicide ideation among Jordanian college students which can be applied to the world at large.

Research Hypothesis, Research, and Findings

The hypothesis of this experiment was that cyberbullying victimization among students could lead to cyberbullicide. In order to research this hypothesis, the authors of the article gathered a sample of 1,000 college students that would be studied. It was reported that the 1,000

student sample was composed of 454 males and 546 females making the split 45.4% to 54.6%. According to the article, research was conducted by "...using a variety of scales, including a general bullying scale, a cyberbullying victimization scale, a cyberbullying perpetration scale, a self-report cyberbullying scale, and a vicarious cyberbullying scale" (Al-Bedayneh, Khelifa, Ben Brik, p. 1, 2024). The use of these scales allowed for the reported data to be better sorted in order to be properly analyzed. In order to submit data for research, students would fill out an online questionnaire for the researchers. In the end, it was found that 26% of the students experienced cyberbullying firsthand. Significantly, 73% reported that they knew cyberbullying victims personally and another 64% knew people who have cyberbullied other students. To answer the hypothesis, the results found that cyberbullying had a definite impact on cyberbullicide ideation in students.

Relations to Core Concepts

There are many core concepts from the course found in the article with the first being that anonymity causes individuals to disassociate from their online actions. This is related to the cyberbullying detailed in the article because many wouldn't behave that way towards their fellow students face-to-face in real life. Another is that cyberbullying can lead to long-term consequences for victims and this is present in the article as it explains that effects of cyberbullying include "...depression, difficulty forming relationships, and physiological symptoms like headaches, abdominal pain, and sleep issues, along with anxiety and suicidal ideation" (Al-Bedayneh, Khelifa, Ben Brik, p. 17, 2024). Similar to anonymity, disinhibition explains that cyberbullies may feel as if they cannot control their reactions or behavior online.

Lastly, a core concept explained in the course's modules that is found true in the article is that girls are more likely to be victims of cyberbullying than boys.

Social Science Principles and Marginalized Groups

There are multiple social science principles present and the article explains how cyberbullying affects marginalized groups. The first social science principle present is Ethical Neutrality because the anonymity of the students that were surveyed was protected. Determinism is also present because the article explains that suicidal ideation is caused by the precipitating event of cyberbullying. Relativism describes that all things are related and this is shown in the article because as the internet and technology evolved, the accessibility of others increased which has led to cyberbullying and cyberbullicide becoming more prevalent. The study also shows that female Jordanian college students are disproportionately affected by cyberbullying than men. Likewise, Jordanian youth are affected at an extremely high rate as 64% reported having experienced cyberbullying.

Conclusion

The article, '*Cyberbullying and Cyberbullicide Ideation Among Jordanian College Students*' goes into detail of the realities of cyberbullying among Jordanian college students and the effects they experience from it. The data the researchers collected gives great insight into just how specific groups of Jordanian college students are affected and how prevalent cyberbullying has become amongst youth. Through applying core concepts from the course and identifying social science principles in the article, it's clear that cyberbullying is linked to cyberbullicide as well as cyberbullicide ideation.

Works Cited

Al-Badayneh, D., Khelifa, M., & Ben Brik, A. (2024). Cyberbullying and cyberbullicide ideation among Jordanian college students. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*, 18(1), 1–25.
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