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Texting and Personal Relationships

Modes of texting have developed significantly over the recent past, owing to milestones of technological advancements. Forms of communication have been impacted by the presence of technology, especially in personal relationships. With technological developments, people have adapted to different forms of device-based communication applications like Messaging, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Whereas proponents of these new forms of communication have argued in terms of distant but faster and efficient communication, opponents of the same have raised major concerns, mainly on personal relationships. This paper will look into texting as an alternative form of communication, especially in modern society. In doing so, it will clarify the statement of the problem, and past solutions that were ineffective. Thereafter, it will propose a new solution, explaining the same using rhetorical strategies of logos, ethos, or pathos as supporting evidence. Lastly, this will provide a summary through conclusion, and a reflection paragraph.

Statement of The Problem

Texting has formed a key part of communication in modern society, more especially among the younger generation. Similarly, businesses have employed texting as a means of conveying information from one member to another, or department to another. Regardless of the

ease and efficiency, and convenience through which texting has impacted our routine activities and lives, texting may not be the best solution for various areas such as solving relationship issues, or conflicts within workplaces. As such, there is a need to curb the overuse of text messaging in such areas. In essence, texting cannot provide a human perspective and contact originates from the true dialogue. Instead, texting can encourage passive-aggressive behavior and laziness. Moreover, the use of text messaging fails to generate an emotional aspect of communication, thereby reducing its effectiveness. On another note, there are delay-triggered misunderstandings, missing context, and body language.

Past Solutions

Indeed, various solutions have been applied to justify the use of text messages over face-to-face communication. Part of the past solutions to address the ineffective use of text messaging has been limiting the use of phones within the workplace. Various institutions ask people to leave their mobile devices when in the workplace to enhance personal communication. However, Kim Schniderman stated that this may be a communication barrier, as one may be needed by family members, perhaps in case of an emergency. The other solution was based on removing messaging applications on the phone to promote phone calls when addressing an issue. However, this may not be the best approach to addressing text messaging since people may find themselves in places that they are not in a good position to make phone calls.

These solutions may not be the best, because text messaging has been adopted by many people. Moreover, people always prefer text messaging for its ease and convenience in most situations. However, it is important to recognize most risks associated with the suggested solutions. For instance, limited access to a phone in workplaces may bar necessary

communication at crucial times such as emergencies. Schneiderman thinks getting rid of text messaging applications can have unintended consequences, especially because of its role in keeping communication alive when far from one another. Text messaging can be essential when people are far from one another and it is also logical not to disregard text messaging over habits and practices that we can control and/ or address.

Proposal

For the above reasons and considering the significant areas and situations where text messaging is the ideal form of communication, there is a need for a better approach. My solution is based on our perception, understanding, and use of text messaging. Eisenhower said that we should keep in mind the fact that the medium is a message. Mainly, the reason for using text messages is urgency. Therefore, when things are not urgent, it may be advisable to avoid using text messaging. Still, as part of the solution, there is a need to learn some of the risks of using text messaging, as well as the how and when to use it. The reason for this is people tend to use text messaging and may not mean exactly what they say. Schneiderman states that in the case of relationship issues, for instance, text messaging is likely to generate an unintended purpose of that message.

As such, people are likely to generate even more misunderstandings in the course of text messaging. On the other hand, text messaging does not reveal the emotions behind messaging. An Indeed article stated that most communication is best understood through body language and nonverbal channels. In such a case, informing the person that it is best to handle the conflict when physically present, would be a more practical solution and effective compared to text messaging. Therefore, people have to understand and differentiate the roles and potential impacts

of communication when used in different areas. Another instance may be where an individual might be late for a meeting or work. In such a case, they are likely to send a text message informing the other person that they will be late.

Whereas this might be an appropriate way of handling communication, it would be ethical to follow up with an explanation of the event through face-to-face communication, which would offer more logic and generate a level of satisfaction. As such, it would be essential to understand the purpose of text messaging and use it accordingly. In essence, my solution would be our understanding of, and approach to, the forms of communication.

Conclusion

Communication has evolved, especially because of technological advancements in that field that has seen people adopt new modes of communication through mobile devices and most of its messaging applications. However, there is a need to consider the possible challenges facing increased use and possible misuse of communication channels. As stated earlier, a significant part of communication is conveyed through nonverbal means and body language. Considering the possible issues on personal relationships that result from text messaging, there is a need to improve our handling of communication, especially text messaging. Effective handling of communication channels will continue to play a significant role in promoting reasonable and intended messages.

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Reflection Paragraph

Communication plays a key role in our lives, from maintaining contact when far from one another to provide crucial information at your convenience, and more particularly, without being physically present. However, I think there is a risk of possible issues arising from communication, especially when misused. People are likely to misuse communication by escaping crucial conversations, giving a false reason for not being at an agreed place, or address a particular issue, among others. I feel like everyone has a responsibility to how we handle our communication. I think it would be crucial to always keep in mind that the medium is the message and that certain situations do not require text messaging as a practical solution. Only then can we manage text messaging effectively.