

## **Virtualization In Terms of Community from the View of Students' Feedback**

### **Abstract**

*Education is accepted by the people of today as indispensable for the modern life with the increasing educational level of societies. The status and roles in the society are affected by one's behaviors and skills acquired with the education. One of the most important of these is to learn how to use computer technologies. With the computer technology internet is started to get more important in individuals' life and some of them have addiction to it. It is an indication that internet technology to show itself as a prominent part of life and has slowly begun to spread throughout society. Individuals in the community have begun to increase noticeably longer periods of time spent in the virtual world at a time and it is arouses curiosity how the relations and interactions in society will be shaped. Whatever takes people more in virtual world rather than the real world and for which purposes they prefer to deal with virtual ones rather than real ones provide individuals' priorities to spend time machines instead of people. Thus, how the relations between individuals in society are when compared in the past and what has been changed or whether the mentioned behavior has changed in terms of communication or in terms of survival and existing values which are owned have emerged as the subject of this research. The analyses which are made on being affected of reality of the world by the virtual world or the virtual ones, or to what extent reality and virtual affect each other will show in a more obvious way. The purpose of this research is to determine the students' perspectives on the subject that how much the reality of society has started to show itself gradually in a socio-virtualization (paying more attention to persons or time existing in virtual environment) environment and how this trend affects the relationships. Research that is carried out in the descriptive model is a qualitative study. As we know, in terms of the dependent variable descriptive research aims to explore the current state of the working group. The study group of 100 students who are studying at the Faculty of Education University of Mevlana. The research data were collected with 4 open-ended questions which had been asked the students. The collected data will be examined by the method of document analysis. When the research is completed, the results will be presented and recommendations will be based on these results.*

**Keywords:** Community; Virtualization; Internet; Relations

## 1-Introduction

To be introduced as information and technology of today (boekhorst ve Britz, 2003; Çakır, 2005; Gomez ve Gomez 2007) led societies to live modern life. Being accepted by today's people education is the one that is indispensable of modern life has shown the education of people raised. Treatment and skills of a unit gained with the education influxes his or her statue, roles and treatment in the society. One of the scientifically thing is to learn to use computer. With the computer, internet has been place and increased its addiction (copou, Condron ve Belland, 2005). It's possible to say that increasing to use the internet in the great number of the society; moreover, its reflection to unit and society. Reflection become more apparent in the societies in which information age lives; beside that it has been considered as a communication instrument that link people in the virtual world. As his internet become more general inside the life, it is the clear point of the development of the technology gradually. The time that the people has been having through the

When the times that people have been having in the cyber World increase visible, relation and the interaction in the society is an enigma. Therefore, the concept of the internet addiction points out the dimensions of usage of the uncontrolled of the internet and harmful use (Sahin ve Korkmaz 2011). People are able to shopping in the virtual shops with internet, meet to new friends and get the information and resource easily which is in need or connect with the one who is anywhere in the World and have the news (Çalık ve Çınar, 2009). From this point of view, As the positive effect of the computer and especially internet abovementioned, there are also negative effect of the them possibly (Çalık ve Çınar, 2009; Khasawneh ve Al-Awidi, 2008; Kelleci, 2008; Weiner, 1996). What are the things that draw people attention in the cyber World, from which reason they deal with or prefer the virtual things instead of the real? In this way, the relationship between individuals as compared with the past how it becomes and what things changing. The social life is influenced by socio virtualization (Kurt ve Yildirim, 2012) (paying more attention to persons or time existing in virtual environment) will show itself more scientifically. It's possible to say how the society's trueness show itself and that ongoing will influence the relations.

### a-The purpose of the study

The purpose of this study is to specify the view of the students to getting virtual in the respect of the socialization concept. In this way, researching problem was stated "how is the view of the students to getting virtual in the respect of the socialization concept".

### b-Method

This is the study of designed and described with the qualitative study method that has been in accordance with the scanning model. The studying group of researching consists of the students that have been studying in Education Faculty of Mevlana University. 131 of those students are girls, 16 are boys. This unequal distribution in the study group is normal since the number of the girls is much more than the boys in which the study conducted. The ages of the students involving

to study shifts among 18-22. Study data has been gathered using a view form including four open ended problems beside the demographic information.

1. Do you think the relations in the society have been differed with the internet using? If yes, could you explain in what way did it differ?

2. Do you think your communication and interaction with people has changed when you started using internet? If yes, could you explain in what way did it differ?

3. Do you think the values that the society posses have been changed or not?

4. Is the society influenced by the art world or virtual ones?

The gathered qualitative data was analyzed by the document examining way, the acquired data that has taken place in categories naturally in the analyzing time was grouped, the frequencies and the rates tabled being calculated. In the case of clarifying more than one point by the same student, all points have been evaluated.

## 2-Result

### a-The case of using internet of student

Of the students involving to study 43 (%36) maximum 1 hour in a day, 59 (%49) 2-3 hours and 19 (%16) 4-5 hours are the ones who use internet. Other 26 students didn't specify the frequency of using internet. Students' goals of the using internet have been summarized in the table 1.

**Table 1:** *The aims of using internet of student.*

Number	Aims	Female		Male		Total	
		f	%	f	%	f	%
3	Have fun	42	25,9	10	47,6	52	28,4
5	News, information	41	25,3	5	23,8	46	25,1
2	Use social network sites	42	25,9	2	9,5	44	24,0
1	Academic studying	34	21,0	4	19,0	38	20,8
4	Shopping	3	1,9	0	0,0	3	1,6
<b>Total</b>		<b>162</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>100</b>

When table 1 is looked into the majority of students (%28,4) use the internet for having fun, next (%25,1) for the way to reach the news and get information, other of the students (%24) to use social networking sites, (%24) to connect people, for academic studying internet is used by %20,8. According to those data, times that is spent in the internet is no problem, however internet is used as a hobby such as having fun, following the Daily life and social networking sites. As the girls' and the boys' purpose of the using internet compared, it can be said it is same.

### b- Students view related with the effect of internet to society

Students were firstly adressed "Do you think the relations in the society differed with using internet? If yes, could you explain in what way does it differ? 8 of the students' state no differentiation, rest of them say internet differs the relations in the society. In accordance with that, it can be said a great number of the students believe that internet changes the social communication. 107 of the students wrote reason. Those reasons were summarized in table 2.

**Table 2:** *With the use of internet social relations that differentiate towards different views of students.*

Number	Category	Female		Male	
		f	%	f	%
1	Prefer communication in internet rather than face to face	19	22,4	6	27,3
	People get isolated and withdrawer	13	15,3	6	27,3
2	Instead having time together, they prefer interned which weaken the human relations	11	12,9		
3	The virtual relation in virtual world develops sincerity diminish	9	10,6		
4	Also socialized by the increasing communication opportunities	9	10,6		
5	A positive change the communication opportunity is risen the society get more socialized	6	7,1	4	18,2
6	Relations diminished and even more difficult	6	7,1	3	13,6
7	Even people who did not know the people in the social environment is a friend to marry each other, without seeing his face.	4	4,7		
8	Relations has been changed and becoming more and more virtual and easier.	3	3,5		
9	Now people are not sharing anything with each other.	2	2,4		
10	Become addicted to the internet	2	2,4		
11	People are more comfortable in expressing themselves on the internet.	1	1,2	3	13,6
<b>Total</b>		<b>85</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>

When table 2 is examined a wide number of the both girls and boys students' think that even though individuals live in the same environment, they prefer communication in internet rather than face to face, (girl %22,4, boy %27,3) and with internet, people get isolated and withdrawer (girl %15,3, boy %27,3). On the other hand, of the girls %12,9 express that instead having time together, they prefer interned which weaken the human relations, %10,6 as the virtual relation in virtual world develops sincerity diminish. However, %10,6 think there is a positive change is lived and as the communication opportunity is risen the society get more socialized. %7.1 of the girl student and %18,2 boy student believe that internet increase moral corruption and mistrustfulness and students also express human wrap different personality up. Similarly, 7,1 of the girl students and %13,6 of the boy students believe in the decreasing of the communication and get difficult because of the students. As the categories are evaluated from the quantities point, just the one category points out the positive change, other all are the negative changes. Hereunder, just the rate of the 10, 6 think there is a positive change with the internet, rest of the student's think of changes is negative.

c- Students were directed "Do you think your communication and interaction with people has changed when you started using internet? If yes, could you explain in what way did it differ? To the directed questions 139 of the students has written reason. The student's categorized answers were summarized in table 3.

**Table 3:** *Individual effects of the internet according the students' view.*

Number	Category	Female		Male	
		f	%	f	%
1	Their relations in the society didn't change much and they didn't allow to be influenced	54	43,9	8	50,0
2	Communication is weak	44	35,8	5	31,3
3	I can express myself more comfortable, there are people who think like me, Virtual-though there are people in an environment of social interaction has increased the pressure decreases. Communication has changed. I'm more comfortable and active	7	5,7		0,0
4	The difference in the family. Outside the communication continues. Only I cannot sit at home with my family for dinner I felt the need to enter the internet.	6	4,9		0,0
5	Of course, that has changed the people used to be more than enough to talk face to face interviewing is now online.	4	3,3	1	6,3
6	Previously only the people around me I could talk and get information	3	2,4		0,0
7	Yes, the Internet seems to be increasing communication between people away from the fact that the people from each other. People are unaware of each other began to live as a concern to the virtual environment.	3	2,4	1	6,3
8	Decreased the values of friendship	1	0,8		0,0
9	Sometimes I feel like a dependent. That's what scares me I'm wasting my time. I feel uncomfortable in all conscience.	1	0,8		0,0
10	People can get in unsafe relationships		0,0	1	6,3
<b>Total</b>		<b>123</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100</b>

When Table 3 is examined a great number of the both girl and boy students' think that in spite of being used internet by themselves their relations in the society didn't change much and they didn't allow to be influenced (girl %43,9, boy %50). On the other hand, there are also students who say that with using internet the communication declines (girl %35,8; boy %31,3). Students especially girls specify that in the internet environment she express herself better, she finds someone thinking like herself, in accordance with the environment as she is in a place where the social pressure decreases, she gets interaction up and be more comfortable and active (girl %5,7). Again 4.9% of female students who have differences in family relations, continue same communication with the outside, but on the same evening at home, they express that they do not have enough time to spend with their families because of being addicted to internet. On the other hand, 3.3% of female students and 6.3% of male students, state that their relationships have changed, in the past they used to speak to people face to face more often, but now they think communicating with people over internet is enough. 2.4% of female students said that they were able to gather information by just talking to the people around them, before, however, the rest of the students state there are also disadvantages of the change. If to evaluate those 10 categories, in terms of quality, only 4 categories indicate positive change, and latter can be noted as negative categories.

d-"Society, is it affected by the virtual world or virtual ones?" question were asked to the students, first of all. Among students only 147 wrote their reasons to the question posed. Students' categorized responses are summarized in Table 4.

**Table 4:** *The effect of virtualization to community according to students' view.*

Number	Category	Female		Male	
		f	%	f	%
1	Yes	128	98	16	100
2	No	3	2	0	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>131</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>100</b>

To examine Table 4, it's clearly seen that significant proportion of both girls and boys expressed their positive or negative ideas. It's seen that most of the students (98% of females, males 100%) think the society are affected by virtual world or virtual ones. Students who stated community is influenced, concentrated on; information is rapidly spreading with the internet, global world culture is formed with the internet, communication in society, sincerity and belief of the people to each other is decreasing, the cultural values began to disappear because of the internet, peoples' social values are degenerated, the old relationships lose caused by the weakness of communication issues. On the other hand, only the 2% of female students who reported negative views can be seen clearly. Those female students stating that communities are not affected by virtual world or virtual ones, on the contrary, if an internet is used consciously, people can be more friendly and there won't be any negative impact of virtual world on people.

### **3-Discussion and Conclusion**

The results of the research are discussed below. The situation does not look problematic in terms of the time students spend on internet. However, students use internet for fun, hobby or following daily events or social media rather than for academic purposes. In the literature, it is possible to see studies that show there is a growing tendency to use internet, and these results in some changes in attitudes and the language that people use. As a means of mass communication, Internet forms and improves its own language that has becoming present in more fields. (Çakır ve Topçu, 2005).

An important part of the male and female students prefer communicating via internet to face to face communication though they share the same physical environment, and they think that people have started becoming more lonely and in award since the advent of the internet. On the other hand, some of the female students believe that people prefer spending time on internet rather than with their friend and these cause human relations to weaken, and that sincerity among them decreases as they have stronger connections on internet world. However, very few of female student's believe that the advent of internet has caused positive changes and that socialization of the people has speeded up as there are more means of communication now. As the categories are assessed, in terms of the quality only one category points out a positive change where as the rest is totally negative. With reference to this, only very few of the female students that think there has been a positive change in society with interred, whereas the rest of them thinks the other way. So, many of the students that joined the research believes internet has adverse effects on socialization. In this case, the fact that students see a lot of negative news and comments about internet might cause them not to use internet

in a true way. This also can be seen by investigating both negative sides of internet and the literature about the perception of internet of the society. According to research conducted, the problem that causes negative effects on human behavior due to overusing internet is defined as internet addiction, and this problem has become more common in this contemporary information society (Kandell, 1998; Tsai ve Lin, 2001; Griffiths, 2000).

It is concluded from the views of the students that acquisition of awareness on internet use requires a good training. It is stated by students that it is no question that students are not able to allocate time for internet, on the contrary they lose their sense for time when they use internet. The students who claim that they are not affected by the overuse of internet states that the way of their relationships with society has changed. The students stating this are also members of this society. For the using of internet consciously and actively in this regard, society needs continuous user-centered training programs that must be organized by modeling present values among the society.

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