

The Adolescents and the Internet- the Preliminary Results

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Introduction: Even though the Internet is accessible to everybody, the studies show that it is mostly used by people younger than 35 and especially by those younger than 18. Over 60% of the adolescents spend about 1-3 hours a day while 77% of them say that they spend more time on the Internet than they used to.

Objectives: The analyses of the behavior of the adolescents on the Internet.

Aims: To determine how the adolescents connect to the Internet, how much time they spend on-line and how they spend their time on Facebook.

Methods: The cross-sectional study included 145 subjects (43.4% of whom were female and 56.6% male) whose average age was 16.7 ± 0.46 . The examinees attended the Electro-technical school, Agro-chemical school and the Grammar school in Nis.

Results: All of the examinees access the Internet from their PCs while 41.4% of them also use their mobile phones in order to access the Internet. Less than a half (44.1%) spend more than 5 hours on the Internet. They spend about 3.81+4.32 hours on Facebook and only 2.1% of them do not have Facebook accounts. 76.6% of the examinees use mostly this social network for chatting while a considerable percentage of them (14.6%) of them would spend more time on-line if they could.

Conclusion: Our results show that the adolescents spend most of their spare time on the Internet. The fact is that they belong to the group of vulnerable population, therefore the studies that deal with their behavior on the Internet are not only needed but also necessary.