

The Role of Social Networks in Reducing Violence among the Youth (Case Study: Students of Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch and Allameh Tabataba'i University)

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this study was to investigate the role of social networks in reducing violence among the students of Islamic Azad University (Central Tehran Branch) and Allameh Tabataba'i University. The research method was analytical-descriptive with a mixed (qualitative-quantitative) approach. The statistical population of the study in the qualitative part was the experts of Velayat Campus and in the quantitative part was the students of the Islamic Azad University Central Tehran and Allameh Tabataba'i University. 384 people were selected as a statistical sample by Cochran's formula in the available random sampling method. The data collection tool was a semi-structured interview and a researcher-made questionnaire; the validity of which was assessed as content validity with the opinion of five experts and professors of technology. The reliability of questionnaire was assessed using Cronbach's alpha test. The results indicated that the alpha coefficient is greater than the criterion value of 0.7, therefore the questionnaire had a good reliability. Data analysis was performed using LISREL and SPSS20 software. The results indicated that the components of social networks including the cultural, social values, communication and ideological factors with managing the cyberspace policy-making and increasing media literacy through integration, identity, civic character development and the students' adaptation, could keep them away from the violence.

Keywords: Social Networks, Violence, Social Values, Communication

Introduction

One of the complex and disturbing issues of today's societies, which has attracted the attention of many sociologists (such as William Reddy and Alderfro Webster), is the issue of the youth violence, which is becoming more widespread. Since the violence is one of the social harms that has many harmful physical, psychological and social effects, violent acts not only affect the victim but also indirectly harm the other people in society. The rate of violence and the victimization of violent crimes has been trending in the last years, so that it has a major impact on the youth and adolescent mortality in any country (Pelling, E. and K. White, 2012). Today, a large number of young people carry firearms and cold weapon to save their lives, which indicates the relative insecurity of society. According to statistics recorded by legal centers, conflict and social violence have been on the rise in the country in last years, and even this violence has peaked in men during the warmer seasons. Violence is a behavior that is observed in all countries and its victims are added every day and cause people anxiety and insecurity, especially weaker and more vulnerable groups. The prevalence and increase of various types of violence in society endanger social security and mental health of the people (Samadi and Amir Davar, 2018).

Violence manifests itself in different forms in societies, but the problem begins when violence goes out of its normal form and becomes a profound social anomaly that systematically puts pressure on groups and sections of society. As violence and other anti-social behaviors of young people increase in the last two decades, the risk of violence reaches its maximum in mid-youth.

Adult violence is generally associated with youth violence because adults have been young before; if the violence of adolescence reduces, the violence of adulthood will also decrease (Joinson, 2007). The phenomenon of violence is pervasive and does not belong to a particular community, although its extent varies from country to country or from city to city; nevertheless, it can be said that the most societies suffer from it. Violence is a new and common harm in society. Youth violence as a mentally, physically and abusive behavior is one of the cases that has always existed in the most societies and is increasing day by day. According to the World Report on Violence and Health in 2000, there were about 199,000 homicides of young people worldwide (2.9 per 100,000); In other words, an average of 565 adolescents and young people are killed daily by interpersonal violence. According to studies, the rate of youth homicide has been higher in developing countries and economically transition countries than the other countries (Marshall et al., 2015).

Youth violence is one of the major problems of society that is increasing today. Youth violence as a social issue, like the other social issues, is influenced by various factors. Violence is an acute social problem that occurs in all geographical areas and among all religious and racial groups and at all levels of education, occupation, economy and society. Media reports and the results of various studies in the most countries of world, including the ones done by Smith and Sharp (1995), Oleus (1999) indicate that the violence has increased and become more serious in last years and includes a range of intentional acts of physical, psychological, emotional and verbal violence. It has a negative effect on the physical and mental health of individual and self-perception. In today society, some reasons such as the spread of poverty, lack of attention to spiritual and human issues, the tendency to have fun, the collapse of family, educational values, and finally the expansion of mechanism have caused pessimism and fear of the future and ultimately violence and aggression.

Social media has been so influential in the online and offline lives of Internet users in last years that forms of social communication have also been influenced by these new media. The topic of social networks has been the main concern of Internet users in the world and in Iran since 2005 and for this reason it is called the most powerful online media in the world. The multiplicity, variety of content and numerous software and Internet capabilities are some of the features that have made users of these networks very popular. The ability to establish a network system between friends and users on a regular basis is a feature of these networks. Today, it is mainly used to name websites where people can access the other members' information, get to know their interests, share text, audio and video products, and form interest-based groups. They find common ground with some other members of the base. The growing number of social media visitors, reflects many attractions of virtual communities to attract Internet users. One of the factors affecting violence among young people is the use of social networks (Yazdanpanah, 2012).

Statement of The Problem

Today, the development of information and communication technologies has had a tremendous impact on the various political, social, cultural, security and human dimensions. The social networks are a new generation of social networking space that have been able to open their place in people's lives. Accordingly, they are a kind of social media that have made possible a new way of communicating and sharing information on the Internet. The majority of social science thinkers believe that social networks are among the social phenomena that are closely related to the public arena. In other words, social networks have the capacity to form a virtual public domain. The public arena is the hotbed of civic and institutions in which the community experiences its ups and downs. Social networks provide users with a good space for expressing their opinions due to many capabilities such as permanent access, transcendence, globality and fluidity. Accordingly, users' opinions can lead to the formation of a virtual public domain by creating a space for dialogue between people and ultimately shaping public opinion. In the light of activity and experience of the members of a society in social networks, the boundaries of the public arena as a real field of action and experience can be changed. The importance of this issue becomes clear when we consider that social networks are very popular among Iranian users and have opened their place among individuals and families, especially young people. The interactions in this space create a new mentality and tendency that can change even behavior and interactions in the real world. This new form of communication causes a change in the culture of identity of societies (Abdollahinejad and Majlisi, 2018).

Today, the younger generation is optimistic and interested in group activities and also very talented in technology. Most young people use the Internet as a tool to build and maintain relationships with their peers. Social networks have become an integral part of the lives of many students and have directly or indirectly affected all aspects of their lives (Faraskhah, 2011). Students are among the most users of social networks due to literacy. However, the negative effects of the use of communication technologies and social networks in the form of violence are undeniable. It seems that reducing the role of cyberspace in the occurrence of violence is a kind of simplification of the problem. Anger, violence and aggression are in fact a kind of emotion and behavior in conflict with civilization. Civilization is a quality of social behavior in which there is a kind of consensus on the boundaries of privacy. Undoubtedly, young people, especially students, are more prone to civilization than violence. Since the society and the higher education system in each country are interested in the successful growth and development of the student generation and their position, academic progress and reduction of violence will benefit from the realization of this important issue (Ahmadi et al., 2016).

Despite the risks involved, social media can bring benefits if used properly. These networks are able to empower citizens, especially the younger generation of students, and can have positive social effects, including reducing violence. Therefore, it is necessary to think of measures to use the potential of this media as a useful and positive source in order to create a spirit of cooperation and a way for establishing friendly and peaceful communication between students. In this regard, the issue of digital literacy is an important issue that can be strengthened in society by informing (Rahmanzadeh, 2010).

In the current situation of Iran, facing many social, intellectual and cultural problems, the students are an important part of the human capital. Given the two-way and reciprocal approach between student users and social networks, the role of these networks in reducing violence of society can be explored.

Theoretical Foundations

1.Social Networks

Social networks and social media phrases play a very important role in today's life. Although many of us use the two terms interchangeably, there are differences between two: Social network includes all human interactions, both in cyberspace and in real space. In the family environment, among friends, at work, and on the street, we build a variety of social networks. On the other hand, social media is mainly in the field of cyberspace of human life. Thus, social media includes radio and television, newspapers, and virtual environments on the Internet.

The social networks, such as Twitter and Facebook, play a very important role in today's life. But the important question that has occupied the minds of many thinkers today is how effective these virtual networks are! Should we be optimistic about them? Can such networks make a difference in human life? Can Virtual Social Networks Be Effective in Promoting Democracy? Questions like these require extensive and multifaceted studies. In last years, the various social movements have been reflected in cyberspace; movements such as the Arab Spring, or the Wall Street movement, have once again turned our attention to the social networks and their important role in social developments. Some thinkers and theorists have considered such cyberspace as a very good platform for people; according to this group of theorists, the middle classes, who do not have a voice in the context of society, can use these social networks to make their voices heard, coordinate their social activities, and so-called, a tribune to talk (Makri and Yousefi, 2017). Ideally, it is the users who will determine what should be important, what should be talked about, and what should be seen most. However, a deeper and more realistic look shows that, in fact, it is the owners of these social networks that play a decisive role. For example, Facebook and Twitter's advertising policies are designed to initially introduce people to the other users who have paid to advertise on these networks. In other words, a user who has just become a member of one of these networks, is faced with suggestions from these networks: Who should be followed? These offers are only there because their advertising has been paid for on that social network. The second issue is the work history of these virtual networks. In various cases, it has been indicated that some topics have been very popular with users, but the interference of political and legal organizations has caused these topics to be censored by these social networks, and not transmitted to the other users (Fathi Et al., 2014). Therefore, at least for the time being, social networks are still controlled by those in power and capital. In the meantime, the role of users is reduced to "free workers"; workers who create content for capital owners for free, and with complete satisfaction, expose themselves to advertising. In addition, the information of users of these virtual networks is itself a valuable commodity at the disposal of owners of these networks. Networks such as Facebook and Twitter will provide users' information to marketing, advertising, and enthusiast companies for large sums of money. When subscribing to any of these networks, the user must confirm their agreement to this issue. For example, at present, access to the information of all Twitter users is possible for a monthly fee of about thirty thousand dollars. Of course, such access is only given to Twitter business partners, who in turn are able to sell this information to the others (Azari and Omidvar, 2015).

These days, social networks play an important role in the life and culture of different nations, and the influence of social networks among people has become so great that life without social networks is practically impossible. A social network is a social structure made up of nodes (usually individual or organizational) that are connected by one or more specific types of dependencies. In other words, a social network is a site or collection of sites that users want to share their interests, thoughts and activities with the others. Internet social networks, especially those that have common and non-commercial applications, are places in the virtual world where people introduce themselves briefly and provide the opportunity to communicate between themselves and their like-minded people in various fields of interest (Jalalifar and Asakhani, 2015).

Social networks, as their name implies, are good tools for connecting with friends. The exchange of ideas, feelings, sharing photos, sound, image and text is no longer a concern for those for whom the long distance between them acts as an iron curtain and separator. Now, social networks such as Google, Twitter, Facebook, Skype, Gmail, Yahoo, etc. are developing. Facebook is one of the most popular social networks, which has become an integral part of the work and life of many people today, with many advances. Internet social networks such as Facebook have made it possible for young people to post messages on this web page at the same time, to organize specific programs and to share their ideas with each other. In many cases, social networks have surpassed the visual and print media. Undoubtedly, it can be said that the rapid growth of social networks and its role in Afghanistan has been very effective in the social life of people (Mir Mohammad Sadeghi, 2013).

Misuse of social networks has in many cases led to political, ethnic, regional and linguistic differences. Social networks such as Facebook have provided a good platform for awareness and communication

between men and women. Since the beginning of Internet revolution in Afghanistan, and especially in last years, these networks have grown at an unprecedented rate, and the most women use them to increase intimacy, access to news and information, and to share their views and ideas on social, political and cultural issues. However, it should be noted that this significant progress, in addition to positive and map-making developments, has had negative or unpleasant consequences. In addition to street harassment and sexual abuse in society, women today are not safe in cyberspace and are exposed to the conspiracies and aggression of some of ignorant people. This condition can cause serious psychological and emotional damage. This is a sad fact, but unfortunately, we always see these issues.

To improve this situation, it is necessary serious service to prevail; to make the most of even the smallest opportunity, at whatever level we are, we must realistically take constructive measures to develop the country and save the country from the current crisis. We must make better use of these networks in a systematic and rational framework with a citizen-centered approach and thinking, and avoid doing useless things and engaging in programs that do not benefit us and our society at all. For progress, dynamism, study of constructive perspectives, we must use of desirable publications that contain the message of prosperity and happiness, manage social networks in such a way that we are always noticed by the others and maintain our social and personal status by providing useful and valuable content.

Social media is a type of media that has occurred as a result of new communication and information technologies in cyberspace. Social media can be divided into seven groups. Social networks, blogs, wikis, podcasts, forums, content communities and microblogs are seven types of social media. Their main features are:

1. Possibility to participate: Social media facilitates and encourages the sending of feedback from the audience and cooperation and synchronization with the media. These media have blurred the line between the media and the audience.
2. Openness: Most social media are open for members to participate and receive feedback. They encourage voting, commenting and sharing information. There is rarely a barrier for producing and accessing content in these media.
3. Two-way communication: Traditional media used to publish and send content to the audience, but in social media there is a space for two-way conversation and dialogue, and the flow of communication has changed from one-way to two-way.
4. Forming online communities: Social media allows communities and groups to form quickly and communicate effectively. These online communities can be formed around common interests such as photography, a sports team, or a television program.
5. Ability to communicate: Most social networks are always expanding their connections with the other sites, resources and people, (Molaei, 2009).

2.The Role of Social Networks in Society

Every social relationship between human beings forms a social node that forms a social network. A social network can be considered as a social structure that consists of individual or organizational nodes and are interconnected by one or more specific types of dependencies. Types of this particular relationship include friendships, financial relationships, kinship relationships, and so on. In fact, in social networks, we encounter individuals or organizations, relationships and the type of communication between them. Social networking has existed since the beginning of human creation, but we have seen its virtual form since the beginning of the 21st century with the spread of Internet. The social network, like real social networks, is composed of human society and the relations between them, as well as the various such as private, public, recreational, specialized categories, etc. (Mir Mohammad Sadeghi, 2013).

People who shape social networks have individual attitudes, opinions and beliefs. Public opinion is formed from the set of attitudes, opinions and beliefs of people who are in social interaction. In other words, as long as the members of a society do not have a social relationship with each other, even if their views and attitudes are the same, an existence for public opinion cannot be imagined. Therefore, public opinion can be considered as the result of social interaction and communication between the community and the transmission of opinions, beliefs, etc. through writing, meeting or face to face.

Social networks have given a new shape to the field of social interactions and actions between people and have become a suitable platform for the formation of public opinion. Today, in Iran, we are witnessing a significant increase in educated men and women. With the increase in level of knowledge and easy access to news and information, the society has faced changes and its attitude towards many issues is changing. In this way, social networks (real, virtual) play an important role in this change and have caused organization, social influence and the emergence and expansion of public opinion. The rapid flow of information on social networks has posed a serious challenge to the control of governments over the flow of news and information, as well as social relations. In social networks, news, images and videos are published without censorship and rapidly, and this role of social media has led to their superiority over traditional and state media (Molaei, 2009).

Where governments place restrictions on society or a class and stratum of society, social networks quickly become a space for the development of social relations outside the sovereignty and control of governments; this has caused the absolute control and sovereignty of governments over citizens change and, in some cases, weaken. Social networks in any society and public opinion can have positive or negative patterns and effects. On the positive side, social networks can lead to the organization, expansion and development of social participation, the rapid dissemination of news and information, the strengthening of collective wisdom, the free expression of ideas and the familiarity with the thoughts and tastes of others. But the downside of social networks is that these networks can be the basis for false rumors and news, and messages and news are injected and highlighted by individuals and groups in society and cyberspace in such a way that public opinion is oriented in the interests of those individuals and groups. This orientation will not be in the public interest and is in fact aimed at deceiving public opinion. What is certain is that social networks play an important role in today's societies and have a significant impact on the formation of public opinion.

Literature Review

Samadi and Amir Davar (2015) did a study entitled "The Relationship Between Level and Type of Activity in Social Networks with The Level of Aggression of Female Undergraduate Students Living in Dormitory of the Islamic Azad University of Tabriz in 2015-2016". Findings showed that the level of aggression for the majority of respondents (42.9%) was moderate. The results also showed that there was a significant relationship between the level and type of membership in social networks and the level of aggression of undergraduate female students.

Rahimkhani and Haji Dehabadi (2016), in a study entitled "The Impact of Cyberspace on Domestic Violence" stated that today the internet is the crystallization of a wonderful and unique revolution in the field of information and communication technology. With advent of the Internet among families, there have been changes in the speech and behavior of young people and it has changed social norms, identity and personality, and provided grounds for immoral communication and behaviors in the social dimension. In the political dimension, the major powers have been using the Internet to disrupt the proper communication of information in order to achieve their motivation for the formation of chaos and distance between popular groups. In the cultural dimension, it seeks to reduce the influence of the domestic media and increase the dominance of Western culture by some anomalies. This paper uses the library research method to investigate the impact of cyberspace on domestic violence. In fact, regardless of other useful dimensions of cyberspace, we turn to the dimension that has disrupted the foundations of the concept of family and has involved many inhuman concepts and ideas, including the emergence of violence.

Abdollahinejad and Majlisi (2015), did a study entitled "Verbal Violence in Cyberspace (Case Study: The Comments of Followers on The Instagram Pages of Iranian Artists)". This paper has studied the phenomenon of verbal violence in the most visited virtual pages on Instagram. For this purpose, in the first step, the popular pages that had more than one million followers until the beginning of this research were identified. These pages belong to 19 celebrities in Iran. Afterwards, the comments of followers of these pages were studied from the perspective of verbal violence. In this study, the theories of literature by Brown and Levinson (1987) and verbal rudeness by Calper (2011) have been used, which focus on

face, under Goffman's theatrical theory. Finally, with the analysis of about 1,500 comments that contained verbal violence, theoretical saturation was achieved and 9 comprehensive themes such as personal life, professional status of the artist, comfort and well-being, gender, politics, religion, ethnicity and genealogy and social, cultural, and civic concerns were extracted. After this stage, the network of comprehensive themes was drawn as the main and frequent patterns of textual data; also, in the nine tables, two other levels of themes, namely the number of basic and organizing themes, were brought, described and analyzed.

Alikhani (2017) did a study entitled "The Impact of Social Networks on Quality of Life, Marital Violence and Its Relationship with Divorce". The results show that the higher the presence of people in social networks, the greater the tendency to modern quality of life. The more people are present in social networks, the less the tendency towards traditional quality of life decreases, and conversely, if they are not members of social networks, their tendency towards traditional quality of life is higher. There is also a direct and significant relationship between couples' membership in social networks, marital violence and requesting divorce.

Vadiyeh and Bashtani (2014), in a study entitled "Social and Cultural Factors Affecting the Incidence of Violence in Boys (A Case Study: 20-25 Years Old Boys in the 15th District of Tehran in 2012)" stated that human being is social being and lives in society. In addition to the benefits and advantages it has brought to him, it has also brought problems and issues. The findings showed that there was a direct, positive and high relationship between educational status and the incidence of violence among young people. There is a significant inverse relationship between the socio-economic status of the family and the incidence of violence among young people. There was no significant relationship between drug use and violence and this hypothesis was not proven. In the fourth question, a significant relationship was found between family breakdown and violence, and in the last question, there is a significant relationship between violent media programs and the occurrence of violence.

Goals of the Research

1. Identifying and explaining the functions of social networks in society
2. Identifying and explaining the components and indices affecting violence among young people with the approach of social networks
3. Explaining the appropriate model to explain the role of social networks in reducing violence among young people

Research Hypotheses

1. Managing cyberspace policy, along with increasing media literacy will help students to avoid violence through cohesion, identity, civic character development and adaptation.
2. Will social networks contribute to the spirit and sense of conformity, the need to progress and satisfy the scientific and moral needs of students, and lead them to avoid verbal and behavioral violence?

Method

This is a mixed research (qualitative-quantitative), and an applied one based on the purpose. Also, the present research is in the category of descriptive-survey researches, based on its nature and method (how to obtain the required data). In terms of type of supervision and degree of control, this is a field research because the researcher examines variables in their natural state.

The statistical population of the research can be defined in two sections: qualitative and quantitative.

- The statistical community in the qualitative section includes the experts of the Islamic Azad University Central Tehran Branch (Velayat Campus). These people include professors and experts working in this place. In the qualitative section, the statistical population includes 10 experts (university professors) whose opinions are used during the Delphi method stages.
- The statistical population in the quantitative section includes all students of Central Tehran Branch and Allameh Tabataba'i University. In the quantitative method, the Cochran sample size determination formula is used to determine the sample size.

The data collection method is done in two ways:

1. Library method: The library method is used to collect the necessary data and information about the theoretical foundations of research and to understand and explain the variables, as well as the research literature review. In this research, the theoretical foundations and literature review are collected through libraries, articles and the Internet and are used as deductive reasoning in refuting or proving research hypotheses by using appropriate statistical methods.
2. Field method: Field method is used to collect data and necessary information about examining research variables and testing hypotheses.

The data collection tool is based on bibliography using note-taking and also the information obtained from the questionnaire distributed among the students as a statistical population using cluster sampling. Therefore, the data collection tools in this research are taking notes and questionnaires.

Information analysis as a part of the research methodology process is one of the main foundations of any research by which all research activities are controlled and directed until a result is reached. In the present study, the author will use a qualitative method as well as various statistical methods (descriptive-inferential) in order to answer the main question and also to reject or confirm the hypothesis of simultaneous research. Different statistical methods have been used to analyze the data obtained from the questionnaire. For this purpose and in accordance with the needs of analytical statistics, Statistical Packages for Social Science (SPSS), Excel spreadsheet software and PLS in two sections of descriptive and inferential statistics have been used. We will examine them in the following. The necessary information for the present study was collected from a questionnaire whose validity is tested, and this information is analyzed in the SPSS software environment by applying appropriate statistical tests according to the research hypotheses.

Findings

A. The Results of Delphi Technique Section: The Delphi technique was performed in three stages and in each stage a number of indices were removed based on the average Kendall coefficient and the opinion of experts in the model and the next step was repeated by removing the weak indices. Finally, three stages of Delphi technique were performed, and in the third stage, the results show that we have reached a collective agreement and indices are final. The results of the Delphi technique steps can be observed in the following tables.

Based on the results of table (1), since the value obtained for the Kendall test statistic in the third stage (0.825) is significant at the error level of $\alpha = 0.01$ (sig <0.01), it is inferred that there is a significant relationship between the respondents in association with the questions, and the value obtained for Kendall statistics (0.825) indicates a very high consensus of the respondents.

Table 1: Kendall Test Statistics

Indices	First stage	Second stage	Third stage
N	10	10	10
Kendall's W(a)	.438	.486	.825
Chi-Square	1054.245	986.572	1174.633
Df	89	89	89
Asymp. Sig.	.000	.000	.000

At this stage, since Kendall statistics (0.825) indicates a very high consensus of respondents, the Delphi process was stopped after consulting with supervisor, adviser and analyst.

B. The Results of The Structural Equations Section: After reviewing and validating all the components and indices of the studied models, including cultural components and dimensions, social values, communication and ideology, as well as analyzing and evaluating the collected data from the opinions of research experts and the statistical population, the proposed research model is presented in this section.

The research model includes components that assess the role of social networks in reducing violence among the student in four dimensions: cultural, social values, communication and ideology. Validation results of the proposed model are presented below.

The results in figure 4-13 show that the model of the role of social networks in reducing violence among student at the four identified levels has good validity. Considering that the impact factors of all four determined levels are more than 0.5, it is concluded that the identified levels have good validity. On the other hand, the questions related to all four levels also have conditions, and considering that the impact factors of all questions are greater than 0.5, it is concluded that the evaluation questions of each level also have good validity.

This estimate is called the model in standard estimation mode. Standard estimation modes are homogeneous coefficients. That is, their scale is the same and it is possible to compare them. In the case where this value is considered between the latent and explicit variables related to it, they are equal to the same correlation coefficients or impact factors (in performing confirmatory factor analysis), and if considered between two latent variables, the same path coefficients or standardized betas are regression (in performing structural equations). The results of the present research model in the standard estimation mode show that there is a positive correlation between latent and observable variables in the model. There is also a positive and significant relationship between latent variables.

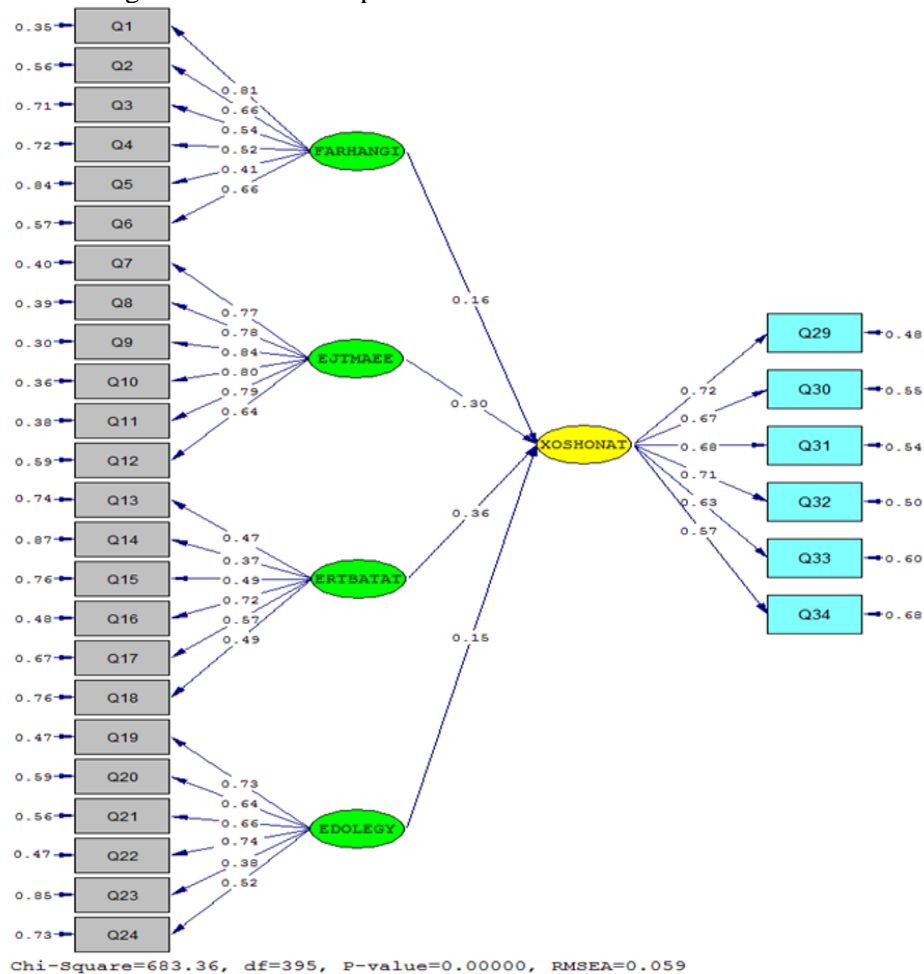


Fig. 1: Proposed and final model, in standard mode

Research Model in Significant Mode

Figure (4-14) shows the output of the model analysis in significant mode or T-Values. This output is based on rejecting or confirming the hypotheses and shows the significance of the obtained coefficients

and parameters of the RAR structural equation model. According to it, all the obtained coefficients are greater than 1.96 or less than -1.96; all of which are significant. The basis for confirming or rejecting hypotheses (significance of relationships) is to examine the model in the significant mode. At 0.05 error level and the two-way test (normal default), the critical values of numbers are 1.96 and -1.96. If the significance coefficients are greater than 1.96 or less than -1.96, the null hypothesis is rejected and the hypothesis one, i.e. the existence of a significant relationship, is confirmed.

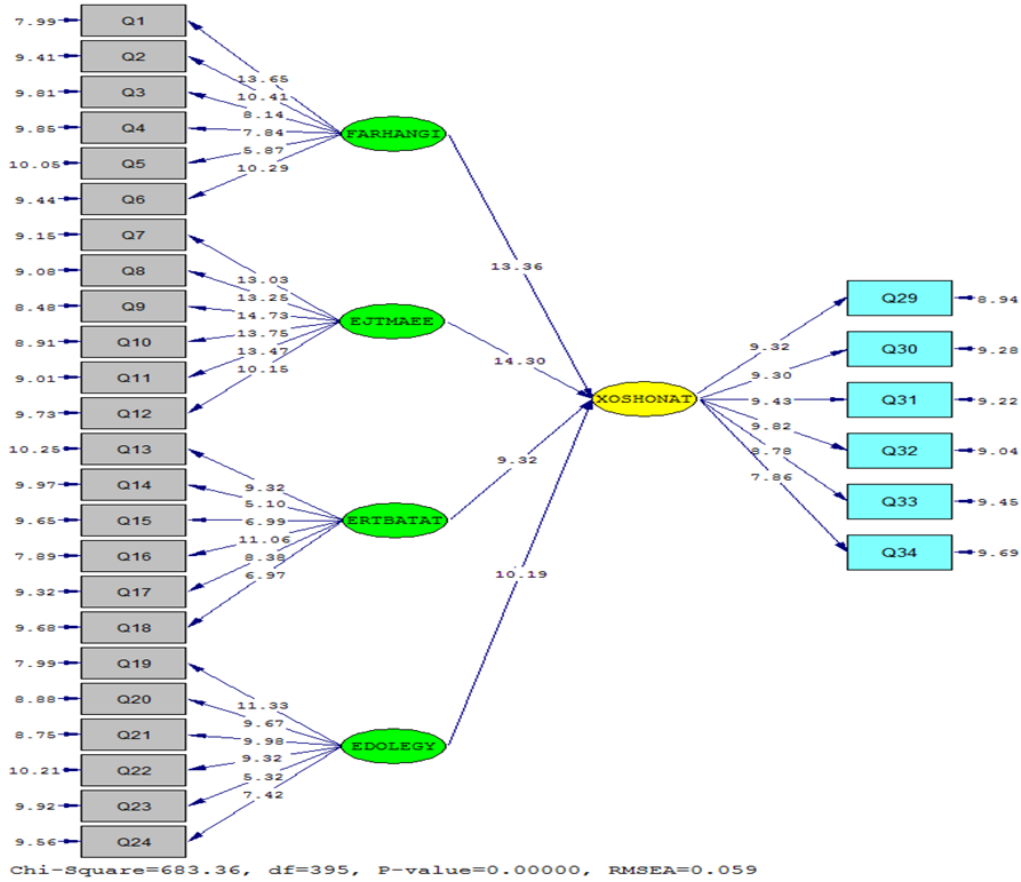


Fig. 2: Proposed and final model, in standard mode

Table 2: Results of Structural Equations

Dimensions	Path coefficient (beta)	Statistics t	Result of the test	Impact direction
Culturally dimension -> Reduce violence among students	0/16	13/36	confirmed	direct
In terms of social values dimension -> reducing violence among students	0/30	14/30	confirmed	direct
In terms of communication dimension -> reducing violence among students	0/36	9/32	confirmed	direct
In terms of ideological dimension -> reduction of violence among students	0/15	10/19	confirmed	direct

Table 3: Results of structural equations of model components

Dimensions	Components	Path coefficient (beta)	Statistics t	Result of the test	Impact direction
Culturally dimension	Identity	0/81	13/65	confirmed	direct
	development of civic personality	0/66	10/41	confirmed	direct
	Mood and sense of harmony	0/54	8/14	confirmed	direct
	Mutual respect and avoidance of insults	0/52	7/84	confirmed	direct
	Compromise and avoid anxiety	0/41	5/87	confirmed	direct
	Accompanying and cooperating in various dimensions	0/66	10/29	confirmed	direct
social values dimension	Cohesion	0/77	13/03	confirmed	direct
	Social adjustment	0/78	13/25	confirmed	direct
	Criticism	0/84	14/73	confirmed	direct
	Tolerating the opposite view	0/80	13/76	confirmed	direct
	Self-confidence	0/79	13/47	confirmed	direct
	Social flexibility	0/64	10/16	confirmed	direct
communication dimension	Cyberspace policy management	0/47	9/32	confirmed	direct
	Increase media literacy	0/37	5/10	confirmed	direct
	Multiple communications	0/49	6/99	confirmed	direct
	Need to progress	0/72	11/06	confirmed	direct
	Satisfying the scientific needs of students	0/57	8/38	confirmed	direct
	Raise awareness	0/49	6/97	confirmed	direct
ideological dimension	Satisfying the moral needs of students	0/73	11/33	confirmed	direct
	Expressing personal opinions and beliefs	0/64	9/67	confirmed	direct
	Consolidation of beliefs	0/66	9/98	confirmed	direct
	Conversation with experts	0/74	9/32	confirmed	direct
	Familiarity with different ideologies	0/38	5/32	confirmed	direct
	Respect the others' opinions	0/52	7/42	confirmed	direct

Test of Hypotheses

The first hypothesis of the research: Cyber policy-making management, along with increasing media literacy through cohesion, identity, civic character development and adaptation of student will help them to avoid the violence. In testing the hypothesis using the structural equation model, first, the software output indicates the suitability of the fitted structural model to test the first hypothesis. Figure 2, also shows the significance of the coefficients and parameters obtained from the structural model of the research. As mentioned before, the criterion for confirming or rejecting a hypothesis is to consider significant numbers, and since the significance number of the research hypothesis is greater than 1.96, therefore, H₀ is rejected and the research hypothesis “the management of cyberspace policy-making, along with increasing media literacy through cohesion, identity, civic character development and adaptation of student, will help them to avoid violence”, is confirmed. Thus, the structural model shows that the use of social networks, if it leads to increase the media literacy, can help students to avoid the violence through cohesion, identity, civic character development and adaptation. These components are evaluated in the research model and confirm the results of the researcher hypothesis. The second hypothesis of the research: Social networks will help the spirit and sense of conformity, the need to progress and satisfy the scientific and moral needs of students and will lead them to avoid the verbal and behavioral violence. In testing the hypothesis using the structural equation model, first, the software output indicates the suitability of the fitted structural model to test the first hypothesis. Figure 2, also

shows the significance of coefficients and parameters obtained from the structural model of the research. As mentioned before, the criterion for confirming or rejecting a hypothesis is to consider significant numbers, and since the significance number of the research hypothesis is greater than 1.96, H₀ is rejected, and the research hypothesis “the social networks will contribute to the spirit and sense of conformity, the need to progress and satisfy the scientific and moral needs of students and will lead them to avoid the verbal and behavioral violence”, is confirmed. The structural model shows that the use of social networks can lead students to avoid the verbal and behavioral violence if it helps the spirit and sense of conformity, the need to progress and satisfy the scientific and moral needs of students. These components are evaluated in the research model and confirm the results of the researcher hypothesis.

Conclusion

Violence is one of the social issues that is observed in all geographical areas and among all religious, racial groups and at all levels of education, occupation, economy and society; as it is thought, it is not limited to physical violence. Many people interpret beatings and injuries to each other and physical conflicts as manifestations of violence, while the scope and objective aspects of violence encompass a wider range of human behaviors, which are influenced by external and internal factors. Allport considers human personality and behavior as a system in which several elements interact with each other. In this system, violence can be studied as one of the human behaviors. The elements of this system include hereditary characteristics, biological and hormonal factors, psychological forces, and cultural and social characteristics that interact with each other. In today world, human life is interconnected with social networks, interconnected communication networks have affected all areas, meanings and concepts and everything in general. Network communication as the "basis of human communication activity" is transforming all human communication. It makes the world as a global village. The term “social networks” is a subset of social media. Social media is a big concept that has emerged with the advent of new communication networks such as the Internet and mobile phones. Social networks are based on the interests of individuals and groups due to the no-location of the Internet. In fact, social networks are built on public participation. These social networking sites are increasingly attracting people to the online world by providing motivation and purpose to work in media that was previously unattractive. The main focus of these new media technologies is the simultaneous use of online and digital facilities in relation to the audience. In this new relationship, the audience's behavior towards the media also changes from a passive audience to an active audience. This two-way relationship creates a new structure in the new generation of media. In the new generation of media, in addition to provide a linear presentation, programs also have the property of being selected by the audience. Social networking sites have become a global phenomenon, with communities like Facebook having hundreds of millions of users. By creating friendly environments, these websites have brought the possibility of communication and harmony in social life for their users, but in addition to the advantages that social networks have, they have also created negative consequences and many challenges in people lives. In other words, today, especially in our society, these networks are becoming a threat; These cases require an expert view to identify these threats and take steps to reduce or eliminate them. On the other hand, the prolongation of youth and adolescence, the prevalence of new ways of social behavior, individualization and narrowing of common social gaps, the importance of lifestyle policies for young people, the disintegration of traditional neighborhood networks and urban renewal are some main areas that have created new conditions for young people. Along with these trends, what is noteworthy about the growth of new media is the growing importance of preserving and diversifying leisure time for young people. In this study, the role of social networks on reducing violence among student has been investigated. The results show that the management of cyberspace policy, along with increasing media literacy through cohesion, identity, civic character development and adaptation of student help them to avoid the violence. Social networks will also contribute to the spirit and sense of conformity, the need for progress and satisfaction of students' scientific and moral needs, and will lead them to avoid the verbal and behavioral violence.

Recommendations of the Research

1. Increase media literacy of the youth and families.
2. Necessary training for young people and families in the field of proper use of social networks.
3. Evaluate the indigenous model of social networks.
4. Production and construction of programs and software for free acquaintance and training on how to use social networks.
5. Creating research in this field so that it can be generalized to the Iranian user community.
6. Increasing motivation among young people to participate in associations and group organizations and institutional relationships.
7. Reforming the educational system of the country based on religious ethics.
8. Execution of specialized roundtables with the presence of experts and specialists.
9. Design and implementation of intelligent systems for monitoring and scanning social networks.
10. Activities of officials in order to manage the sense of public trust in the social network space.
11. Employing technical teams to guide users and content.

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