EMBRACING THE POSITIVE EFFECTS OF ICT

by:
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Browsing in my social media account is one of my ways in relieving stress. Every time, I viewed my friend’s posts on their social media account, I feel that we are still attached to each other even though the distance matters a lot. One day while, I am doing my scrolling routine in my social media account, I saw my friend’s post about gender bullying, to describe the picture, he was in total girl’s outfit with make up on her face and he was holding a banner that stated “I am a Gay; and I am proud to be one. Acceptance gives happiness”, in that instance, I am about to comment in his post, however the urge subsided when I read some of his followers’ comments. Some said that they were happy to him because at last he moved out in his closet while the others were disgraced in his action, in that point of time, it brought teased to the other people on the comment box.

In that certain scenario, social media made a big part of circulating awareness to the people positively or negatively. According to Haddon and Silverstone (2016), they said in their book, Information and Communication technologies and everyday life; individual and social dimensions, they saw that over use and misinterpretation of appropriate function of ICT in social media can cause dehumanization. They also added that it can cause a threat to the face to face interaction and relationship to the world and other people who use the same way; it might cause misinterpretation. Isolation, it is when the child is more focus on his/her own space and do not want to have an interaction to the society that he/she belongs in. Second, Addiction, it is said that early adopters and users of such technology has the high risk of addiction because of the new experience. Lastly,
Influence, which the primary concern over ICT. For instance, how violence on television/computer/movie might influence child’s behavior towards reality.

However, there are also positive input that ICT in social media could offer to us (Bosamia, 2016). First, ICT could offer Social Relationship, where social media has been designed to facilitate the interaction of the users. It also helps and applies in the communication of the people who are not physically together. Through ICT integration in communication with the social media, you can have not only a voice call to your relative/friend from afar but also you could also see him/her from time to time through video call. Second, Information sharing, the post of my friend was an example of information sharing, he shared the awareness of acceptance of one’s self. The importance of accepting and embracing your real identity. You could also use ICT in social media in disseminating important information or announcements that people need to know and to learn. Also, ICT is evidently proven that has a positive effect of the enhancement of teaching and learning process. Thus, ICT could offer a lot of positive outputs.

Therefore, it is important to point out that there are more fundamental and powerful reasons that could affect the behavior, values, moralities and life of the youth. ICT is not the sole responsible in that matter. Acceptance, and balance considerations of ICT must reckon with in building a wider context. Restriction through filtering violations in the scenes, reminding the students about the differences of real scenarios and fictional representation, and giving them the positive approach in using ICT in their daily activities could result a positive outcome to both ends.

“Technology has produced the information age. Now it is up to all of us to build an Information Society” – Koffi Annan, Secretary General of United States,
References:

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