ONLINE SOCIALIZATION, FOR BETTER OR WORSE?

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People are divided about whether using the internet to socialize is a positive or negative trend among young learners.

Online socializing, in my opinion, is a negative trend. Without a doubt, social networking websites have caused more problems than benefits. For starters, cyberbullying is a serious threat to the well-being of young people. In fact, cyberbullying occurs on a daily basis on most social networking websites such as Facebook and Twitter, contributing to an increase in the suicide rate among youth. For another, socializing online provides learners with fewer opportunities to practice their interpersonal skills, particularly face-to-face communication skills. Even without doubt, more and more young people nowadays prefer texting each other on Facebook to speaking to each other in person. Furthermore, too many students waste their valuable time that should be spent studying by spending too much time on social networking websites. More specifically, the majority of them prefer to spend their time online chatting with others rather than doing their homework at home.

To be sure, social networking websites allow students to communicate with friends who live far away. This is reasonable in the case that some colleagues may live in other cities; however, send an email to them would have been a more beneficial option because emails take less time. As a result, social networking sites can be helpful in this regard.

In the end, despite the fact that online socializing is a popular new trend, it does not help young learners with communication, time management, or mental health.
References: