SOCIAL MEDIA: A FRIEND OR AN ENEMY TO THE 21ST CENTURY LEARNERS

by:
Josephine S. Hunter

“People influence people. Nothing influences people more than a recommendation from a trusted friend.” -Mark Zuckerberg

One of the best sources to define “social-media” is through a social media. According to a site found under Merriam Webster, Social media is defined as forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (such as videos). It is where teachers down load and upload information relevant to their everyday teachings namely: Daily Log Lesson (DLL), Learning Materials, Ready Made Test Items for printing, and many more.

Social Media is open to all, and the 21st century learners are not out-casted from its benefit. Students researched and use informative sites to help them get through school assignments, group works, reports, and projects. But on the contrary, that’s not all about social media. There are sites or apps like Facebook, Quora, Twitter and the like require personal data in logging in, in fact, the age of the user is asked. It may have seemed to find out that it is too easy to create an account used even by the elementary graders. Nowadays, there has been reports on cyber bullying even from primary pupils. Why? They are too open, they are too vulnerable and exposed to social media. The truth of the matter is, their own parents are the ones responsible in getting access to this millennial advantage.

It is said from a bible verse in Corinthians 10:23, “Everything is permissible, but not everything is beneficial.” What is permissible for children of this generation is not
always beneficial to them. The use of unguided social media is definitely not healthy for the 21st century learners.

Advantages and disadvantages on the use of social media is clearly stated once you click these words in your gadget using the net. Do parents and guardians pay attention to the threat that their children are prone to? Too busy, too confident, too trusting, too submissive, reasons normally given by parents when asked on related issues.

Parents, guardians and teachers must work hand on hand in handling the welfare of the children. Teachers need to embrace the responsibility of calling the attention of the parents immediately, not compiling issues and leaving them all unsettled until the next Parent-Teacher-Conference. Critical time of the children are spent mostly in school, thereby teachers must be vigilant in looking for signs of possible problems. Prevention is better than solution. No solution is necessary once already prevented.

References:


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