SOCIAL MEDIA SLAVES

by:
Imelda S. Corpuz
Teacher III, Lamac National High School

Our day would not be complete without checking out our social media accounts. From Twitter to Facebook and Instagram, surfing these SMS have been an indispensable part of our daily lives. No doubt, it has provided bridges to the gaps between us and the people we love far from us.

As I scan my newsfeed in Facebook, majority of the posts come from millennials. These young users have taken over these platforms and used these as podium top, voice out their expressions, emotions and sometimes, just their random feeling or rants about something.

On one side, the development and growth of communication through social media was a huge help to the world. People from different ages, from young ones to the old ones, have made valuable participation in important social issues that need more attention. The voice it has given us is undeniably screaming across the world. People in all parts of the world are always updated of the daily events and the recent pace of the world as the information flows so quickly and one can immediately have access to this information.

In terms of personal development, social media has helped us unleashed our own potentials. This has become the cheapest and most accessible stage to express our inner talents may it be in blog writing, web developing and many more. Companies and other business can also exploit it as a promotional tool to promote and advertise their products and services using little time and energy.

With the above mentioned benefits, social media has undeniably changed the world and our lives. But a resounding question always haunts people: does it change us for the better? Or had it made us worse?
Scanning through the random Facebook posts, I have seen that high schools students are among the top users. But what was surprisingly disappointing was some have become slaves of social media.

As we can observe, instead of reading books, students read petty posts in Facebook. Instead of acquiring a gram of knowledge from studying, students are busy checking their Instagram accounts. In meal time, foods are not being paid much attention as heads are force down focused on their phones. Then they will turn to Twitter and write about how they feel disappointed about it.

Students’ phone have been constantly buzzing even in the middle of the class, begging them to drop everything just to find out what the notifications are all about.

As their mentors and their second parent, what aid can we extend to help them remove that chain? While obsession has yet to eat up our students, it is our duty to help our students achieve balance, merging their physical and mental lives.

Our responsibility as educators is to instil in their mind the limitations, the risks and consequences of being a digital slave. We should help them understand the downside of being dependent to social media that too much connection can eat up their time, to which they can spend reading books, listening to music, talking to their families and friends, and having spiritual time with the Lord.

It is important that while we have the chance to be with them in the four corners of our classroom, we make sensible discussions and serious deliberations regarding having a balance between our lives in the digital world and our lives in reality- where we should be a responsible, powerful and capable human beings who can help building our world.

Reference:

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