

Impact of Social Media on Marital Relationships due to Facebook Usage: A Field Study of a Sample of Families in the Province of Béchar as a Model

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Abstract:

This study aims to understand the impact of social media on marital relationships by focusing on Facebook as a model. It analyzes its manifestations and social dimensions, ultimately formulating a future vision to develop social networks within the family. This will contribute to establishing scientific mechanisms to manage its effects on the marital life of couples. The study was conducted on a group of families in the province of Béchar, using a questionnaire as a tool for data collection. Among the results, it was found that Facebook weakens marital relationships due to misuse, negatively affecting the couple's life by reducing dialogue and discussion within the home, leading to marital infidelity. Additionally, Facebook use contributes to the exchange of knowledge, staying updated with daily news, and being utilized for scientific, cultural, educational, and economic purposes.

Keywords: Social Media; Facebook; Marital Relationships; Family.

1. INTRODUCTION

The family is considered one of the most important institutions of social interaction due to the richness it offers in social communication contexts and occasions. This is attributed to the unique relationships it enjoys, which derive their existence from the values that the family perpetuates through the process of socialization across generations. The family also serves as a teacher and guardian of values, employing various mechanisms of social control to preserve its identity and cultural elements. It plays a vital role in shaping the individual socially by training them in values, attitudes, and desired behavioral patterns. Thus, the family represents a human group with which the individual interacts, as the concept of "social communication" is closely tied to the family, social relationships, and social interaction within it. Social communication, after all, is an expression of the interconnected social relationships among individuals within a single family.

Furthermore, the family can be regarded as one of the foundational units upon which society is built, serving as the primary nucleus of its structure. It is the first environment or setting in which individuals interact and where family and social relationships are established before they move into the broader society. The family is inseparable from marriage, which is a necessary institution for preserving the human species, ensuring peaceful relations between the sexes by satisfying emotional and biological needs, and providing stability for individuals. No other type of relationship can replace family relationships, as marriage in human societies is not merely a biological function to satisfy sexual needs and bear children to preserve the species, but also represents complete harmony between a man and a woman.

With the developments occurring within the family environment and the network of marital relationships, these too have been influenced by the growing technological advancements, particularly with the emergence of what is known as social media platforms. These platforms have become easy tools for many individuals, serving as spaces for socialization, communication, and the exchange of ideas, information, news, and knowledge. However, they also pose a threat to the stability and standing of society, potentially altering the system of social values. Undoubtedly, these changes have a direct impact on individuals and the institutions that make up society, leading these societies to adapt to benefit from the advantages offered by social media in various fields.

Islam has paid great attention to society in general and to the family in particular, granting it special care, as the family is the building block of society. If the family thrives, the society thrives; if it deteriorates, the society deteriorates. God intended for the family to be a source of comfort, social and psychological warmth, as well as a means of love, compassion, and kindness. It is the ideal ground for planting the seeds of future human behavioral life and the field for training in these noble human values. Therefore, the family is considered the primary cell of society, the most widespread and general institution. No society is devoid of a familial aspect, as it is the nucleus of society, the center of upbringing and education, from which individuals grow and develop personal, social, and psychological characteristics. The family is the main center for training in social relationships, instilling values, and transmitting culture.

1.1 Study Problem

Modern communication tools have become an effective means of social interaction, providing individuals with the opportunity to establish a variety of relationships and helping them connect with others. In this context, electronic networks have sought to offer platforms that contribute to weaving a network of relationships and facilitating social communication. Among these platforms are Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and others, which have significantly influenced social values, whether positively or negatively. Facebook, like other applications, is one of the platforms witnessing an increasing number of users due to its interactive and communicative features, which allow individuals to connect with one another. Despite these advantages, Facebook has drastically changed the nature of communication between people. It no longer merely serves to transfer and send information but has numerous cultural and social implications. These platforms have expanded the network of relationships between individuals and their societies, both domestically and internationally.

In our present time, communication tools have become the cornerstone of various aspects of life, and they are now an essential necessity within societies due to the multiplicity of their forms, purposes, and uses. They are characterized by their accuracy and speed in transmitting, analyzing, and presenting information, whether auditory or visual. Moreover, social media platforms have attracted a significant number of users from various segments of society.

The use of these platforms sounded an alarm for a notable technological shift, connecting numerous relationships by eliminating all physical distances. However, it also highlights the dangerous roles that the internet can play in socially isolating individuals and dismantling relationships. People are now spending long periods of time engaging with these platforms, leading to social isolation from others in their real lives, which may have negative effects on the system of marital relationships. This prompts us to ask the following question: What is the impact of social media on marital relationships, particularly through the use of Facebook?

1.2 Study Hypothesis

Social media has significantly affected marital relationships within Algerian families, which has disrupted the network of relationships among them. All roles and functions within the family have been altered due to the rapid development of new media, particularly through the use of Facebook.

2. Concepts Related to the Study

2.1 Social Media

Social media is defined as the process of communicating with a number of people, whether they are relatives, colleagues, or friends, through electronic sites and services that provide rapid information delivery on a broad scale. These platforms not only provide information but also synchronize and interact with the user while delivering that information within their network. It serves as a tool for instantly exchanging information through the internet, or as interactive social networks that allow users to communicate at any time and from any location (Al-Dulaimi, 2011, p. 183).

A group of scholars, including Mustafa Youssef Kafi, defines it as a collection of websites on the internet that emerged with Web 2.0, known as the second generation of the web. It is a virtual community that facilitates interaction among members of society (Abdelrahman, 2007, p. 23).

These platforms are also social network sites that have earned the label of social media platforms because they function for personal and interactive communication, offering instant messaging services and rapid social interaction (Al-Shamaliya, 2013, p. 200).

Operational Definition: Social media platforms are websites on the internet that allow individuals to communicate, interact, and exchange information and ideas.

2.1.1 Facebook

Facebook is a social networking website that allows both individuals and organizations (such as companies) to promote themselves and enhance their presence through the site's tools for communication with other people, either within the site or through connections with other social media platforms, thereby establishing links with others (Nasser, 2010, p. 10).

Facebook is one of the most widely used and influential social media platforms globally (Saleh, 2011, p. 11). It is a social networking site launched in February 2004 and owned by a company with the same name. The site allows its users to create and join multiple sub-networks, usually within a specific category, and has been one of the most popular websites since its inception. Mark Zuckerberg views Facebook as a social movement rather than just a tool or means of communication (Al-Qandilji, 2013, p. 350).

Facebook is said to be a marketplace that displaces and replaces email, and it is predicted to dominate all aspects of human activity on the web, earning it the title of the "world's directory." It enables ordinary individuals to create a public identity by sharing and participating with information about themselves and their personal feelings.

Facebook is also defined as a social network that has gained widespread acceptance and responsiveness, particularly among young people worldwide. It is considered a virtual platform for expression, allowing users to join various sub-networks within the site, such as geographical areas, schools, and other places, which help them discover more people within the same network (Al-Zahrani, 2013, p. 09).

According to Awad Aan, Facebook is one of the most famous social media platforms on the internet, marking a pivotal moment in the rise of social networking sites. It allows its users to exchange information, although it has generated significant controversy over the past few years and has been banned in several countries at different times (Mousa, 2014, p. 12).

Operational Definition: Facebook is an effective tool for social communication and interaction, and it is the most widely used application for interaction and message transmission between parties.

2.1.2. Marital Relationship

The marital relationship is a cooperative bond between the spouses, where both are jointly responsible for maintaining this union. In general, harmony increases when both spouses are capable of fulfilling their duties and responsibilities toward each other, their children, and the family as a whole. This harmony is further strengthened when both parties can effectively and positively manage internal and external challenges, working towards solutions without neglecting their roles or shirking their responsibilities. However, in modern times, many couples are unaware of each other's rights, while being strict in demanding their own, which is one of the main causes of the breakdown of such relationships. Many spouses place their partners at the bottom of their list of priorities, behind work, family, friends, and personal desires (Alukah Network, n.d.).

2.1.3 Family

The family is a group of enduring and interwoven relationships among individuals who occupy a social status obtained through marriage and parenthood (Al-Houli, 1987, p. 56). Ahmed Zaki Badawi defines the family as the primary social unit that aims to preserve the human species and is based on the norms accepted by collective reasoning and the rules established by different societies.

Another definition views the family as the basic unit of society, as agreed upon by sociologists and thinkers, despite the variations in definitions depending on time, place, systems, and customs. Burgess and Locke define the family as a group of individuals connected by strong bonds resulting from marriage, blood relations, and adoption. This group lives in the same place, and the family members—father, mother, and children—are linked by strong social relations based on shared interests and goals.

Durkheim defines the family through the elements that each researcher emphasizes when defining it. For him, the family is not just a natural gathering of parents and children, but a social institution created for social reasons, where members are bound by ethics and rights (Al-Qusayr, 1999, p. 34).

Operational Definition: In this study, the family refers to those residing in the city of Béni Abbès, consisting of parents and their children, with the condition that the family is in a normal state and the parents are not divorced.

3. Theoretical Approaches Explaining the Study

3.1 The Theory of Technological Determinism

This theory is rooted in the belief that technology itself holds the power to alter the nature of social relationships and the social reality. Advocates of this theory, known as "technological determinism," who hold an optimistic view, believe that technology holds the key to human progress and use it as an explanation for humanity's failure to achieve genuine communication in the real world. They see this as a victory of technology over the reality that humanity experiences. According to them, individuals across the globe have failed to find solutions to maintain constant communication, while technology, with all its capabilities, has intervened to provide fundamental solutions to eliminate the issues troubling them, effectively bridging the distances between the East and the West. This perspective is enough to satisfy the supporters of this theory.

On the other hand, some who adopt a pessimistic view see technology as merely a tool for imposing dominance and control over weaker nations and for manipulating individuals' beliefs. They argue that technology invades individuals' personal lives and fragments their real-life social relationships (The Arab Organization for Administrative Development, 2013, p. 07).

Technological determinism is one of the modern theories that examines the role of the media and its impact on various societies. One of its most notable proponents is Marshall McLuhan, one of the most influential intellectuals of the second half of the 20th century and a founder of this theory (Touati, 2013, p. 183).

McLuhan was greatly influenced by the works of historians such as Dr. White, author of *Medieval Technology and Social Change*. McLuhan expanded on White's idea—highlighted in his book—that three inventions, the stirrup, horseshoe, and saddle, were instrumental in creating the feudal agricultural system. McLuhan delved deeper into this concept to emphasize the technological significance of these inventions, which led him to develop a distinct idea about the relationship between modern communication and the social changes occurring in society (Al-Dulaimi, 2011, p. 301).

Marshall McLuhan's theory suggests that technological change and development fully determine the course of history and that societies inevitably move toward technological advancement and modernization. This theory posits that technological change drives society into a new era of growth and development, with these technologies serving as a crucial factor in building an advanced and progressive society.

According to this theory, there are two approaches to viewing modern media:

- Media as a means of disseminating information, entertainment, and education, where the focus is on its content, the way it is used, and the purpose behind that use.
- Media as part of the technological evolution, where the emphasis is on its impact, regardless of its content (Al-Dulaimi, 2011, p. 300).

Thus, this theory emerged as a result of the developments in media and communication technologies, highlighting the role played by media in the social sphere and the major effects caused by these media technologies, which have fundamentally changed the information system and human behavior.

Marshall McLuhan's theory is based on three key assumptions:

- Communication media are an extension of human senses: McLuhan argues that people adapt to their environmental conditions in every era by using certain senses that are closely related to the type of communication medium in use. The dominant method of presenting media during a given period shapes societies more than the content of the message itself. McLuhan calls this "Technological Determinism," meaning that every invention arises from humanity's pressing need to adapt to its surroundings. Any newly invented medium is an extension of humanity, and the extension of any sense influences our thinking and behavior.

- The medium is the message: McLuhan states, "Many are preoccupied with interpreting the message, neglecting the medium through which the message is transmitted." He suggests that the core message in a book is the printed material itself, and the message in television is the television as a medium. The content is not important; what matters is the medium delivering the content. McLuhan also notes that each medium has characteristics that appeal to a specific audience, whose love for the medium often surpasses their interest in the content.
- Hot and cold media: McLuhan, in his classification of the stages of change according to technological determinism in communication, identifies a progression from the oral phase to the writing phase, the age of print, and then to mass media. On another level, this transition moves from "hot" media, where there is a direct, interactive relationship between the sender and receiver (such as books and cinema), to "cold" media, where the relationship is indirect and less interactive, such as television. The colder the medium, the more information needs to be provided to the audience. Hence, the wide cinematic screen is considered "hot," while the small television image is considered "cold."

3.2 The Uses and Gratifications Theory

This theory revolves around the fulfillment of desires and meeting the latent needs within individuals. It focuses on how people interact with media rather than discussing its effects on the audience. This means that the audience is not passive in accepting everything presented to them by media; rather, they have a specific purpose they aim to achieve through their exposure.

This theory is based on several assumptions regarding how individuals use media and the gratifications they seek to achieve through this usage:

- Members of the audience are active participants in the process of mass communication, and they use media to fulfill intended objectives that meet their expectations.
- The use of media reflects the needs that the audience members recognize, and this is influenced by individual differences.
- Audience members select the messages and content that satisfy their needs, and media compete with other sources of gratification in fulfilling these needs.
- Audience members are capable of determining their motivations for media exposure and the needs they seek to fulfill, which is why they choose the appropriate media to satisfy these needs.
- Cultural norms in society can be inferred through the audience's use of media, not just from the content itself (Elshami, 2002, p. 72).

There are motives that drive family members to engage with modern media to fulfill needs, whether cognitive or emotional, which contribute to psychological integration.

4. Study Importance

The scientific significance of this study lies in enriching social research related to communication, particularly focusing on social media and marital relationships. It aims to understand the changes

occurring within families as a result of using these digital devices. Additionally, the study seeks to provide a descriptive analysis of how couples use virtual platforms and the effects they have on their relationships. It attempts to propose solutions and recommendations that could help regulate family and social networks.

5. Study Objectives

The objectives of this study include:

- Identifying the motives that drive couples to engage with these platforms.
- Understanding which social media platforms couples prefer for communication, information exchange, and news sharing.
- Uncovering the effects these platforms have on marital and family relationships.

6. Study Methodology

In this study, we adopted the descriptive-analytical method, which aims to describe and analyze the phenomenon in detail to understand how social media, especially Facebook, affects marital relationships. The purpose is to reveal both the positive and negative aspects of this impact. The descriptive method goes beyond merely describing the phenomenon by analyzing and comparing it, aiming to generalize the findings. This is achieved by collecting and analyzing data using the tools required by this method, as well as employing certain statistical principles to process the collected data.

6.1 Study Population

This study was conducted on a group of families residing in the province of Béchar, Algeria, with a total of 25 families. We selected both the husband and wife for data collection.

6.2 Study Sample

The research sample is defined as a subset of the statistical population that shares the same original characteristics, with the purpose of obtaining information related to the population by selecting a certain number of individuals who represent the population for the study. The results are then generalized to the broader research population. After accurately determining the research population, we selected the study sample using purposive sampling, where the researcher deliberately selects specific individuals rather than relying on random selection. This method was chosen due to our prior knowledge of the research population and its key elements, ensuring accurate representation and making it easier to collect data directly.

6.3 Study Tool

We used a questionnaire as the primary tool for data collection in this study. The questionnaire plays a significant role in analyzing, describing, and interpreting the phenomenon within the scope of the study. The researcher can select the most appropriate and relevant tool to achieve the study's objectives, and in this case, the questionnaire was deemed the most suitable tool for our research.

7. Data Presentation and Analysis

Table (01): Distribution of respondents by gender

Gender	Frequency	Percentage
Males	25	50%
Females	25	50%
Total	50	100%

Table (01) represents the number of respondents by gender, distinguishing between males and females. The table shows that the percentage of males is equal to the percentage of females, with each gender representing 50%. This is because the study focuses on families where both spouses use social media, particularly Facebook.

Table (02): illustrates the number of respondents according to the age variable

Age Range	Frequency	Percentage
[21-30]	2	40%
[31-40]	35	70%
[41-50]	13	26%
Total	50	100%

Table (02) shows the number of respondents by age, where the first group [21-30] represents 4%, the second group [31-40] represents 70%, and the third group [41-50] represents 26%. This indicates that the second group comprises the largest percentage, meaning that middle-aged individuals are the most frequent users of Facebook.

Table (03): will illustrate the number of respondents according to the variable of educational level

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage
Primary	1	02%
Middle School	4	08%
Secondary School	15	30%
University	30	60%
Total	50	100%

Table (03) illustrates the number of respondents by educational level. It shows that 60% have a university education, followed by 30% with a secondary education, 8% with a middle school education, and finally, 2% with a primary school education.

Table (04): will show the number of respondents according to the variable of occupation

Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
Employee	31	62%
Freelance	10	20%
Unemployed	9	18%
Total	50	100%

Table (04) illustrates the number of respondents by occupation. It shows that 62% are employees (31 individuals), while 20% are engaged in freelance work, and 18% are unemployed.

Table (05) will show respondents' opinions on whether they had prior knowledge about social media platforms

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	33	66%
No	17	34%
Total	50	100%

Table (05) illustrates respondents' opinions regarding prior knowledge about social media platforms. It shows that 33 respondents, representing 66%, stated that they had prior knowledge of social media, while 17 respondents, representing 34%, indicated that they did not. This suggests that most couples have a good educational background, as the majority have a university-level education, which enables them to navigate and understand social media effectively.

Table (06): will present respondents' opinions on the amount of time they spend on social media platforms according to the gender variable

Responses	Gender				Total	
	Males		Females			
Time spent on social media	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
One hour	7	14%	9	18%	16	32%
Two hours	14	28%	12	24%	26	52%
More than that	4	80%	4	80%	8	16%
Total	25	50%	25	50%	50	100%

Table (06) represents the opinions of respondents regarding the amount of time they spend on social media according to the gender variable. We find that the total number of males who responded with "one hour" is 7 respondents, representing 14%, while those who responded with "two hours" are 14 respondents, representing 28%. The number of those who responded with "more than that" is 4 respondents, representing 8%.

For females, the number of respondents who indicated "one hour" is 9, representing 18%, while those who responded with "two hours" are 12 respondents, representing 24%, and those who responded with "more than that" are 4 respondents, representing 8%.

This shows that the majority of respondents, both male and female, spend two hours on social media, making them the most frequent users.

The variation in responses confirms that the time spent on social media is significant. This highlights the growing interest in social media platforms, particularly Facebook, as the study primarily focuses on this platform.

Table (07): will show respondents' opinions on their preferred location for browsing social media.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
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At home	20	40%
At work	20	40%
Both places	10	20%
Total	50	100%

Table (07) illustrates respondents' opinions on their preferred location for browsing social media. The results show that 20 respondents browse social media at home, and another 20 browse at work, each representing 40%. Meanwhile, 10 respondents (20%) indicated that they browse in both locations. This can potentially affect the roles and responsibilities of spouses. The statistical analysis reveals a lack of role integration between spouses in performing tasks, whether at home or outside, which negatively impacts their social life. Additionally, the relative similarity in responses between genders highlights the changes occurring within families.

Table (08): will present respondents' opinions on the type of content they most frequently follow on Facebook

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Interactions	5	10%
Friends	15	30%
Posts	5	10%
Chatting	20	40%
Other	5	10%
Total	50	100%

Table (08) presents respondents' opinions on the most frequently followed content on Facebook. It shows that 5 respondents, representing 10%, follow interactions, while 15 respondents, representing 30%, primarily follow friends. Those who follow posts or provided other responses each amounted to 5 respondents, or 10%.

Thus, the majority of Facebook users tend to have other interests, such as participating in groups, playing games, or watching videos. This demonstrates that Facebook is no longer limited to friendships, following posts, and chatting, as its features and functions have diversified. This reflects the rapid development of communication tools, with individuals engaging with them based on their preferences and desires.

Table (09): will show respondents' opinions on the reasons that motivated them to use Facebook

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Communicating with friends and relatives	15	30%
Academic research	6	12%
Keeping up with technological advancements	10	20%
E-commerce	12	24%
Following daily news and expressing opinions	7	14%
Total	50	100%

Table (09) presents respondents' opinions on the reasons for using Facebook. It shows that 15 respondents, representing 30%, use Facebook to communicate with relatives, while 6 respondents,

representing 12%, use it for academic research. Ten respondents, or 20%, use Facebook to keep up with technological advancements, and 12 respondents, or 24%, use it for e-commerce. Meanwhile, 7 respondents, representing 14%, use it to follow daily news and express opinions.

This diversity in responses reflects the various ways in which couples use Facebook, each with their own preferences and opinions. These results are highly positive, considering the rapid and widespread growth of information technology. The emphasis couples place on staying updated with technological advancements, engaging in e-commerce, following daily news, and expressing opinions is linked to Rogers' diffusion of innovations theory, which emphasizes the adoption of new cultures and scientific ideas that aim to serve knowledge and science.

Table (10): will present respondents' opinions on whether there is neglect from one of the spouses.

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	40%
No	30	60%
Total	50	100%

Table (10) illustrates respondents' opinions on whether there is neglect from one of the spouses. It shows that 20 respondents, representing 40%, stated that there is neglect, while 30 respondents, representing 60%, stated that there is no neglect. Consequently, the majority of respondents believe that the use of Facebook does not negatively affect the marital relationship, and there is no neglect from either spouse. This aligns with the findings from the previous table, where the responses were generally positive regarding the impact of Facebook on the family environment of the couple. Thus, building a successful and healthy family depends on the couple's choices, as they may differ in mentality and mindset, influenced by mood, behavior, traditions, and upbringing.

Table (11) will present respondents' opinions on expressing views toward social media platforms

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Significant importance within society	10	20%
Helps in raising individuals' concerns	5	10%
Contributed to societal disintegration and moral decline	15	30%
Intellectual proximity and making the world a small village	5	10%
Provides an opportunity for dialogue and discussion	5	10%
Education and learning	10	20%
Total	50	100%

Table (11) represents respondents' opinions on expressing views toward social media platforms. It shows that 10 respondents, representing 20%, believe social media holds significant importance within society, while 5 respondents (10%) see it as a means to raise individual concerns. A notable 15 respondents (30%) believe social media has contributed to societal disintegration and moral decline. Additionally, 5 respondents (10%) believe it fosters intellectual proximity and makes the world a smaller place, while another 5 respondents (10%) think it provides an opportunity for

dialogue and discussion. Finally, 10 respondents (20%) see its importance in education and learning.

In conclusion, with the rapid development of social media networks, we can observe that there is an informational culture that can shift from negative to positive. However, some negative impacts are present due to the irrational use of these platforms, such as moral decay, increased problems, and marital infidelity. Thus, social media acts as a double-edged sword.

Table (12): will present respondents' opinions on the relationship between spouses in the context of using social media (Facebook)

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Good	15	30%
Average	20	40%
Poor	15	30%
Total	50	100%

Table (12) illustrates respondents' opinions on the relationship between spouses in the context of using social media. The results show that 15 respondents, representing 30%, believe their relationship has improved, while 20 respondents, representing 40%, think it has become average. On the other hand, 15 respondents, or 30%, stated that their relationship has deteriorated. This change in marital relationships is largely attributed to the influence of modern media and social media platforms. The frequent use of these platforms by spouses negatively impacts their lives, as many roles and responsibilities may become disrupted or neglected, such as the lack of dialogue and discussion about household matters. Additionally, digital addiction can cause one spouse to neglect the other and overlook household duties. These platforms are a double-edged sword, and their impact largely depends on how they are used.

Table (13): will present respondents' opinions on the consequences of social media platforms

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Positive	20	40%
Negative	10	20%
Both	10	20%
No response	10	20%
Total	50	100%

Table (13) presents respondents' opinions on the consequences of social media platforms. It shows that 20 respondents, representing 40%, believe that social media has positive consequences, while 10 respondents, or 20%, believe it has negative consequences. Additionally, 10 respondents (20%) indicated both positive and negative impacts, and another 10 respondents (20%) did not provide an answer. Therefore, it is crucial for everyone to handle electronic media and platforms with great caution. Despite some spouses being knowledgeable about using social media, there are hidden aspects that may lead to mistakes, with serious and catastrophic consequences that could threaten the safety and stability of society.

Table (14): will present respondents' opinions on how one spouse's view of society is influenced by the use of social media platforms

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Serving the public interest	10	20%
Serving personal interest	10	20%
Increase in cybercrimes	20	40%
Moral decay	10	20%
Total	50	100%

Table (14) represents respondents' opinions on how one spouse's view of society is influenced by the use of social media. The results show that 10 respondents, or 20%, believe social media serves the public interest, while another 10 respondents (20%) think it serves personal interests. Twenty respondents, representing 40%, believe that social media leads to an increase in cybercrimes, and 10 respondents (20%) think it contributes to moral decay. Consequently, society is witnessing daily developments in social media platforms, which have various effects, such as the spread of virtual communities and virtual minds, with each individual seeking to satisfy their own needs.

Table (15): will present respondents' opinions on the possibility of giving up social media platforms

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	20	40%
No	30	60%
Total	50	100%

Table (15) represents respondents' opinions on the possibility of giving up social media platforms. It shows that 20 respondents, or 40%, believe they can give up social media, while 30 respondents, or 60%, believe they cannot. This indicates that, due to the significant engagement of spouses with social media, it is difficult or nearly impossible for them to stop using these platforms. The overwhelming interaction from both spouses has led to an addiction, making social media a necessary part of their daily lives.

8. Study Findings

Through this study, several key findings were identified:

- All spouses use social media platforms.
- Most spouses have a distinguished educational background, as the majority have a university-level education, which enables them to navigate and understand social media platforms proficiently.
- The majority of spouses use social media for academic research, communicating with friends and relatives, and keeping up with daily news.
- Most spouses use social media on a daily basis.

- There is a lack of role integration between spouses in performing tasks, both inside and outside the home, which negatively affects their social life. Additionally, the responses reflect a relative closeness between genders, indicating changes within the family structure.
- Most spouses prefer to browse social media using their phones rather than computers.
- Facebook is no longer limited to friendships, following posts, and chatting. Its features and capabilities have expanded, reflecting the rapid development of communication tools. Individuals now interact with these platforms according to their preferences and desires.
- Many spouses emphasized that social media plays a significant role in society, especially in education, learning, and providing a space for dialogue, discussion, and the exchange of ideas and cultures. However, others noted that it has contributed to moral decay within society.
- Most spouses agreed that social media has both positive and negative effects on societal values. The positive impacts include greater participation in decision-making and reducing digital illiteracy, as well as the exchange of information and opinions.
- There was a disparity in opinions among spouses regarding their views on society through the use of social media. Some spouses affirmed that social media serves the public interest, while others stated that it has led to an increase in cybercrime.
- The majority of spouses are unable to give up social media platforms.

9. Study Recommendations

Based on the findings from this field study, we can offer the following recommendations and suggestions:

- Conduct further studies and research on the use of social media within society to understand its effects and implications, especially in light of rapid technological advancements.
- Organize awareness campaigns to inform people about the positive and negative impacts of social media on society.
- Encourage the use of information and communication technology in education and learning, particularly for couples planning to marry, so they can understand the importance of these platforms in fostering communication and development.
- Organize workshops and seminars to raise awareness among couples about the proper use of social media, especially Facebook, and how to utilize its educational, cultural, and scientific benefits.
- Promote awareness of the importance of family cohesion, emphasizing the need for family time and conversations, while encouraging the responsible use of these technologies to avoid negative effects on social interactions and marital and family relationships.
- It is essential to monitor and analyze what is shared on Facebook and conduct in-depth social studies to reveal public opinion trends on various family issues.

10. CONCLUSION

The development of communication technology has led to the creation of new tools that have changed relationships within the family. Users now spend long periods browsing social media without realizing it. Social media platforms, particularly Facebook, are among the most influential in shaping social and family relationships. These platforms allow users to communicate easily without needing to travel, providing them with the freedom to form friendships with people from different countries and acquire new knowledge and experiences.

Despite the many positive effects of social media, especially Facebook—such as fostering communication, staying informed, exchanging opinions and ideas, and opening spaces for dialogue and discussion—there are also negative effects. These include addiction, alienation, complexity, and the disintegration of social and family ties within Algerian society, which still holds traditional relationships in high regard. The excessive use of these platforms by many individuals, especially couples, has led to a breakdown in family unity.

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