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Topic: *AS04 Mental health / 4.2 Child and adolescent mental health*

PROBLEMATIC SMART PHONE USE AND ADDICTION AMONG UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATES IN ILORIN NIGERIA – A PILOT STUDY

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Background: Smartphone use has increased at an increased pace across all age and socio-economic strata of the society worldwide. Smartphone addiction is an emerging but understudied public health issue. Little is known about its epidemiology, especially among young people. Teenagers and young people are an important target market for smartphones hence for university undergraduates, who mostly fall into this category, smartphone use is a big issue both from academic, social, psychological and behavioural standpoints. The phone is useful as an indispensable learning aid, but smartphones have also become a focal object influencing social, psychological and behavioural aspects of the lives of students.

Methods: 242 undergraduate students of the University of Ilorin were selected by systematic random sampling in a pilot study and asked to fill a socio-demographic questionnaire and the Smartphone Addiction Scale-Short Version (SAS-SV).

Results: The mean age of participants was 21.28±2.14years, 96.7% of the respondents owned a smartphone and 95.5% admitted accessing social media on their phones. Using normative SAS-SV score cut-offs of 31 in males and 33 in females, 29.1% of the students were addicted to their smartphones, 32.1% of males and 28% in females. The mean SAS-SV score was 28.52±9.86.

The smartphone addiction score correlated positively with the number of hours spent on the phone daily, the age of the students correlated negatively with the number of hours spent on the phone daily. Smartphone addiction was not associated with gender, students' academic performance Cumulative Grade Point Average or level of study.

Conclusions: Smartphone addiction is an important problem among university undergraduates. Younger students are more likely to spend longer hours on their phone, and have increased likelihood of addiction. It is important to introduce behavioural modification measures early into the school curriculum to prevent potential hazards to students in the course of their study.

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FACTORS THAT PUSH CHILDREN TO THE STREETS, A STUDY OF CHILDREN IN VOLATILE AREAS

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Background: The phenomenon of street children is global, alarming and escalating. No country and virtually no city anywhere in the world today are without the presence of street children. It is a problem of both developed and developing countries, but is more prevalent in the poor nations of Latin America, Asia and Africa, a concern expressed by the African Network of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

Methods: This study investigated the street children in Maiduguri the Borno state capital, of Nigeria, the Epi center of the Boko Haram insurgency, it is a descriptive and community study of children aged 6-14 years, using the socio-demographic questionnaire and questionnaire for street children.