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## The internet addiction among school-aged adolescents

الإدمان على الانترنت لدى المراهق المتمدرس في الطور المتوسط

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#### **Abstract:**

The current study aimed to identify the degree of addiction of the study sample on the Internet, as well as to verify the existence of statistically significant differences in Internet addiction due to the gender variable. To answer the questions of the study and test its hypotheses, we used the descriptive analytical approach. To collect information, the Internet addiction scale was used by Ahmed (2007), and the study found the following results:

- The degree of Internet addiction is above average for the study sample.
- There are no differences in the degree of internet addiction among the study sample due to the gender variable.
- Keywords: Addiction, Internet addiction, Adolescents.

ملخص:

هدفت الدراسة الحالية إلى التعرف على درجة إدمان عينة الدراسة على الانترنت وكذلك هدفت إلى التحقق من وجود فروق دالة إحصائيا في إدمان الانترنت تعزى لمتغير الجنس وللإجابة عن أسئلة الدراسة واختبار فروضها استخدمنا المنهج الوصفي التحليلي، وتكونت عينة الدراسة من(78) مراهق متمدرس في الطور المتوسط، ولجمع المعلومات تم استخدام مقياس إدمان الانترنت لأحمد (2007)، وتوصلت الدراسة إلى النتائج التالية:

- درجة الإدمان على الانترنت فوق المتوسط لدى عينة الدراسة.
- لا توجد فروق في درجة إدمان الانترنت لدى عينة الدراسة تعزى لمتغير الجنس.

الكلمات المفتاحية: الأدمان، إدمان الانترنت، المراهق المتمدرس.

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#### - Study problem:

Many researchers unanimously agree that the Internet has opened a new era for communication and interaction between people. The Internet has reduced the world and made it a small village. The Internet has also facilitated the dissemination of knowledge and information in a large way, and facilitated the acquisition of knowledge and the exchange of experiences between people. The Internet is the fastest way to reach To any information, and this is due to the abundance of information and the speed of its provision to its users, as it plays an important role today in various fields of life. Where Zakaria Yahya 2005 indicates that there was no technology that transformed the face of life with the speed and strength with which the Internet transformed the course of our lives. This Interconnected -Net work network with all its services has dyed the nineties of the last century and the beginning of the twenty-first century with its color and moved the march of civilization from the stage (the information age) to what can be referred to today as the era (the network). The Internet is growing today so quickly that it seems to exceed The first purpose of its construction is to create a fast communication channel between the corners of the world. (Beljun, 2008, pp. 21-22)

Thus, the Internet, like all modern technology, has crept into all homes and occupied its place among all family members and has become an essential part of their daily life. Useful, it has its positive effects, and it has its negative effects. If the Internet is used in a negative and exaggerated manner and for other than the purposes for which it was found, then its use turns into pathological behavior, and it becomes a dangerous negative phenomenon on human life, balance and mental health called Internet addiction. (Abriem, 2015, p. 216) The study (Mahdi, 2004) found a correlation between misuse of the Internet, a sense of psychological alienation, and a poor relationship with society and with friends. The study of Crout et al. (Krout, et al, 1998) showed that the greater the use of the Internet, the lower the level of social activity and the greater the level of social isolation and psychological alienation.

Internet addiction is a new type of addiction, in which the addicted person uses the Internet on a daily and excessive basis. Where it conflicts with his daily life and with the duties and jobs that he has to perform, and this addiction completely controls the life of the addict, and makes the Internet and his world more important to the addict than family, friends, and

work, which negatively affects him and creates a kind of stress and anxiety for him.

Internet addiction disorder is a growing problem. British psychologists have indicated that there is one person out of (200) Internet users showing symptoms of addiction. There are even people who spend (38) hours or more on the Internet without work that calls for that. Some with work, school, family relationships, and money. (Ibraim, 2015, p. 219)

It is important to know that the biggest exposure to this problem are children and adolescents who we see lost between the growing desire to open up and form the largest number of relationships. (Abdullah, 2009) There is evidence that adolescents in the present time, in particular, are exposed to more complex and numerous problems than what was known to adolescents in previous times.(Al-Sarraf, 1986). The Internet has a strong influence on young people and adolescents through the content and the way it is presented. Today, young people are fascinated by the Internet, so most of their talk about it and visiting its sites and surfing on it for long hours, the experience of use (without addiction) in itself raises our curiosity to ask the following questions:

- What is the level of Internet addiction among the schooled adolescent in the intermediate stage?
- Are there differences in the degree of internet addiction among the study sample due to the gender variable?

## **Study hypotheses:**

- The level of Internet addiction among the schooled adolescent is high.
- There are differences in the degree of internet addiction among the study sample due to the gender variable.

## **Objectives of the study:** The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To identify the level of addiction of the middle school student to the Internet.
- Detecting the differences between males and females in the level of internet addiction.

## the importance of studying:

- The importance of this study stems from its handling of an important age stage, which is the stage of adolescence, which is characterized by many psychological problems.
- The findings and recommendations of this study may serve Algerian families and help them help their children, especially adolescents, in using this technology.

## The limits of the study:

- 1- **Objectivity border**It is an attempt to find out the level of addiction of middle school students to the Internet.
- 2- **human limits** The study was limited to a sample of 78 male and female students from the fourth year average.
- 3- **spatial boundaries:** Intermediate Lahul Abdelkader Municipality of Sidi Rashid, Tipaza Province.
- 4- **Temporal boundaries** The study was conducted in the first semester of the academic season 2021/2022.

## **Terminology of study:**

#### Definition of addiction:

Jasper knows him. K (Jaspers. K 1933) as: "an imaginary escape from the reality represented before our eyes. The addiction results from the person's inability to bear the reality that the person would like to remove through addiction." (Al-Nabulsi, 2004, p. 137)

#### **Internet definition:**

Salem 2004 shows that the word Internet is an abbreviation for the two words International Network, and therefore, when translated into Arabic, it is called the "International Network of Information." (Salem, 2004, p. 176)

And he defines it as "millions of computer systems and networks spread around the world and connected to each other by telephone lines to form a giant network, and any personal computer can connect to one of the devices in the network, which enables it to access information stored in other computers. Computers that form the giant Internet network (Salem, 2004, p. 176)

Swaidan and Mubarez (2008) define it as "the Internet is an international network consisting of a group of thousands of computer networks connected to each other all over the world, where it is called a network of networks" (Swaidan and Mubariz, 2008, p. 213).

#### adolescence:

Shrady (2006) defines it as: "It is a transitional stage from childhood to adulthood, characterized from its inception by many important characteristics that distinguish it from the childhood years and from the stages that follow, and it is thus a unique stage of human life full of physical, emotional and social changes." (Shradi, 2006, p. 233).

As for Abd al-Mun'im al-Milady: "It is approaching physical, psychological, mental and social maturity, but it does not reach full maturity until after years that may reach ten years." (Abd al-Mun'im al-Milady, 2008, p. 15)

#### **Definition of internet addiction:**

Al-Zaidi (2014) defined it as the prolonged use of the Internet for six hours or more per day and the inability of the individual to do without it (Al-Zaidi, 2014, p. 8)

#### **Previous studies:**

Study by Ghalib Gilan (2021): This study aimed to reveal the relationship between perceived social support and Internet addiction among adolescents in Saudi society. A statistically significant negative correlation between perceived social support and Internet addiction in a sample of adolescents (boys and girls). The relationship is negative, and the results of the study showed that there is no effect of the gender variable (male, female) on the relationship between perceived social support and Internet addiction among a sample of adolescents in Saudi society.

Baoufara Mokhtar's study (2018): The study aimed to reveal the level of Internet addiction among middle school students, as well as to identify the differences in the level of Internet addiction among students according to the variable of sex, place of residence and educational level. The study sample consisted of 126 students, and the results revealed that there was a low level of Internet addiction among students. Intermediate education, and the results showed that there are statistically significant differences in Internet addiction according to the variable of sex and place of residence, as well as the absence of differences in Internet addiction between different academic levels.

**Soumaya Boubaaya (2017) study:** The current study aimed to investigate the relationship between the degree of addiction to the Internet and the emergence of sleep disorders in a sample of university youth at the University of Mohamed Boudiaf M'sila. Sleep, by Anwar Hamouda Al-Banna (2007), and the study concluded that there is a statistically significant

relationship between the degree of addiction to the Internet and the degree of sleep disorders among the study sample, and the degree of Internet addiction was weak among the study sample, and the results indicated that there were statistically significant differences in the degree of addiction The Internet is attributed to the gender variable in favor of males, and there are statistically significant differences in the appearance of sleep disorders due to the job variable (worker, non-worker) in the study sample in favor of workers.

**Study by Samia Ibraim** (2014):A study aimed to investigate the relationship between Internet addiction and a sense of psychological alienation in a sample of students from Umm El-Bouaghi University. Psychological alienation scale, the study revealed that there is a positive correlation between Internet addiction and a sense of psychological alienation, and there are significant differences between males and females in the degree of Internet addiction in favor of males.

Muajil Study, (2011): Titled Internet Addiction and its Relationship with Some Variables Among University Students, Identifying the Level of Internet Addiction among University Students and Comparing Internet Addiction According to the Variables of Gender and Specialization Internet addiction test developed by the psychologist Kimberly Young (1996), and the study reached the following results:

- The level of addiction to the Internet is at an average level among the current research sample, and this is a positive result
- There are no statistically significant differences in Internet addiction among university students according to the gender variable.
- There are statistically significant differences in internet addiction among university students according to the variable of specialization (scientific, human) and in favor of those with a human specialization. (Gilan, 2021, p. 90)

**Zamil Study** (2006): A study aimed to investigate the relationship between Internet addiction and alienation among a sample of students from Al-Azhar University in Cairo. Males and females in the degree of Internet addiction, and the existence of a positive correlation between Internet addiction and alienation among the respondents. (Abriem, 2014, p. 226)

**Study by Rola Al-Homsi** (2009): The study aimed to investigate the relationship between Internet addiction among young people and social communication skills among a sample of Damascus University students. The following research (a measure of Internet addiction, prepared by

Young, and a measure of social relations, prepared by Al-Hajj). The results resulted in:

- 1- There is a relationship between addiction to the Internet and social communication skills among the studied sample.
- 2- There are significant differences in Internet addiction among the sample according to the gender variable in favor of females.
- 3- There are no differences in Internet addiction among the sample, according to the variable of economic status.
- 4- There are no differences in Internet addiction among the sample according to the scientific specialization variable.

## Theoretical framework of the study:

## Online addiction concept:

Al-Zaidi (2014) defined it as the prolonged use of the Internet for six hours or more per day and the inability of the individual to do without it (Al-Zaidi, 2014, p. 8)

Young, 1996 defined it as an impulse control disorder of Internet use that does not involve drunkenness or unconsciousness. He also went on to say that Internet addiction is the use of the Internet more than 38 hours per week.

In another definition, it is the use of the Internet for long periods without a functional or academic reason to do so, with four characteristics or manifestations: cravings, withdrawal symptoms, lack of control or control, and endurance.) Abu Ghazaleh, 2010, p. 61)

#### **Addiction causes:**

## Factors contributing to adolescent addiction to the Internet:

**came in**(Galal, and Mohamed 2005) that there are three main factors that may contribute to Internet use being an addictive practice, namely:

## **✓** Confidentiality

The possibility provided by the Internet in obtaining information, giving examples, and getting to know people without the need to introduce oneself to real details provides a pleasant feeling of control, in addition to that, the ability to appear every day in another form according to our choice is the fulfillment of a dream for more than people who do Some to internet addiction.

#### √ Comforts:

The Internet is a very convenient way and does not require leaving the house and traveling or using justifications in order to use it. This facilitation provides a high presence and ease with regard to obtaining information.

#### √ escape:

The Internet provides an escape from reality to an alternative reality, and the introverted person finds friends for himself, and each person can build a different identity for himself, and through it he can get everything he lacks in the real and daily reality, which leads to Internet addiction. (Ghalib Gilan, 2021, p. 78)

## **Symptoms of internet addiction:**

The internet addict suffers from pain in the back and eyes and those dark circles around them, obesity, wrist pain, lack of hours of sleep, fatigue and exhaustion, which leads to failure to go to work or school, and neglect of his various duties, including family and academic ones, and he is judged to be addicted if the following behaviors appear on him:

- Thirst for the Internet and neglect of social life and professional and job obligations.
- Neglecting the requirements of the family, feeling anxious and sad when there is a malfunction in the Internet, and neglecting his diet so that he eats his food while working on the Internet.
- Spending sums due to the Internet, such as subscribing and buying various electronic tools...etc
- The individual's feeling that his life is not straight without the Internet. The study conducted on World Mental Health Day also indicated that Internet users are classified as addicted if they spend thirty and a half hours in front of the Internet per week.
- Denying the user to spend too much time on the network.
- Less movement outside the home, and each worse than the one before.
- Access to the Internet, although there is a lot of work that the user must accomplish.
- Unable to control the time a user spends on the Internet.
- Occurrence of some psychological symptoms of withdrawal, when reducing the use of the Internet for a month, such as distress or working to spoil a social, personal or professional relationship. (Rola Homs, 2009, p. 406)

#### **Manifestations of internet addiction:**

The most prominent manifestations of Internet addiction, as monitored by specialized studies in this regard, are identified in the following aspects:

1- Addiction to satellite relationships: By establishing friendships and relationships through the communication space, and over time, the individuals with whom online relationships have been established become more important than real social relationships.

- 2- Addiction to searching in databases: The danger of this is due to the fact that an increase in information via the Internet can lead to what is called information fatigue, which in part leads to a decrease in productivity.
- 3- Addiction to Internet games and spending long hours in obtaining entertainment and imaginary competition.
- 4- Addiction to interaction with others through the social space left by the Internet, whether through chat rooms.
- 5- Continuous browsing of e-mail: the Internet addict always has the feeling that he will receive an important message, which is what drives him to browse his e-mail several times during the day in search of this alleged important message.
- 6- Alien sex addiction: It was possible through discussion rooms and pornography, which constantly drives individuals to watch, keep and market sexual scenes, especially for teenagers, and what is sometimes associated with this is the control of illusions over the truth through the imagined reality to the point of having sex at a distance. (Darwish, 2016, pp. 47-48)

## The effects of using the Internet: It was stated in Darwish 2016:

Computer technology and the Internet, like anything else in life, has a positive side represented in its beneficial uses in many important areas, and has a negative side represented in the abuse of this technology by some individuals who use it, especially adolescents. (Abdul Maqsoud, 2007, p. 14)

- 1- Positive effects:
- ✓ Electronic commerce: Electronic commerce includes all activities and businesses related to goods and services that are exchanged over the Internet. (Abdel-Maqsoud, 2007, p. 14)
- ✓ Scientific research: The Internet is one of the manifestations of communication globalization, and it is the beginning of a knowledge revolution that will have multiple effects on the nature of human knowledge, as it provides the researcher with access to various knowledge and from various sources.

The use of the Internet in collecting and collecting information is much greater than using it for any other purpose. (Abdel-Maqsoud, 2007, p. 14)

✓ Formation of new social relationships: The Internet has become a medium of communication that enables the formation of new

relationships that are similar to physical relationships, except for face-to-face interaction, and thus gives the opportunity to get rid of the routine pattern of daily life and talk with other friends from all over the world. (Abdel-Fattah, 2004, p. 1383)

- ✓ Entertainment and entertainment: The entertainment function of the Internet is represented by various games, movies, and chatting that are diverse and attractive, as many Internet users spend most of the time they devote to dealing with this technology in contact with entertainment sites. (Abdel-Maqsoud, 2007, p. 14)
- ✓ Culture and the Arts: The enormous technological developments have led to an increase in the computer's memory capacity so that it can handle images, sound, music, written text and moving pictures. () All of this contributed to getting to know the cultures of other countries without zeroing in on them, and that also contributed to knowing the news around the world and at the time of their occurrence.

## 2- negative effects:

- Industry and dissemination of pornography in general, in view of the effective and attractive means provided by the Internet, including pictures, videos and dialogues within the reach of all.
- Where these sites on the Internet occupy large areas, and adolescents are the most popular group for these sites, and this results in many problems related to the increase in violent behavior, rape crimes, and the collapse of society's values and morals. (Abdel-Maqsoud, 2007, p. 14)
- Financial and moral blackmail as a result of using personal pictures of some girls and women, making kinetic installations and making film material that shows obscene things that are consistent with their bad purposes.
- Violating the individual rights of others through the network, whether consciously or without realizing the legal responsibility arising from his work.
- Defamation and defamation by publishing information that may be confidential, misleading, or erroneous about the victim, who may be an individual, a community, a religious sect, or an institution.

- Manufacture and dissemination of viruses, which is the most widespread Internet crime.
- Social isolation: Sitting on the Internet for long hours causes social isolation.
- Establishing negative habits and values: Where the Internet consolidates negative habits and values in our society and the cultural invasion by foreign countries.
- ✓ Psychological effects: Psychologists talk about an alternative imaginary world provided by the Internet and computer applications, which may cause enormous psychological effects, especially on young age groups, where reality mixes with illusion, and where relationships and connections that do not exist in the real world are created that may lead to reducing the ability of the individual to create a psychological personality Together, they are able to interact with society and the lived reality.
- People escape from the real world into a virtual world.
- Introversion and psychological alienation that young people are exposed to.
- Vibration of self-confidence and the consolidation of the values of negativity, anxiety and rejection.
- Entering an alternative imaginary world provided by the Internet, which causes enormous psychological effects, as reality mixes with illusion.
- Reducing the individual's ability to create a normal psychological personality capable of interacting with society and lived reality. (**Homs**, **2009**, **p. 407**)
- ✓ Physical effects: including damage to the hands from excessive use of the mouse, damage to the eyes as a result of radiation emitted by computer screens, damage to the spine and legs as a result of the type and duration of the session in front of computers, and damage to the ears for users of loudspeakers, and then the associated damages such as obesity And the accompanying diseases it causes.
- Stress and psychological tension as a result of watching the computer screen.

- Low vision.
- Back pain, headache, wasting and sleep disturbance.
- Damage to hands from excessive use of the mouse.
- Eye damage due to radiation emitted by computer screens.
- Damages to the spine and the legs as a result of the type and duration of the session compared to computers.
- Damage to the ears for loudspeaker users.
- Concomitant damages such as obesity and the accompanying diseases it causes. (Homs, 2009, p. 407)
- ✓ Moral problems:
- Access porn sites and live sex services through instant video.
- The destruction of moral values and the possibility of the spread of rape crimes.
- ✓ Educational problems:
- Low academic level.
- Decreased daily study time for the student.
- The student failed because he was not prepared for the exam.

#### ✓ Social effects:

- Marked human withdrawal from social interaction towards isolation
- The impact on cultural identity, customs and values with this massive informational invasion
- Loss of friends and poor family control over children
- Family disintegration and rift. (Homs, 2009, p. 407)

## **Second: Field Study Procedures:**

**Approach:** In view of the problem of the study, and given that this study sheds light on a phenomenon that exists at the present time, and as it exists in reality, the appropriate approach for our study was the descriptive analytical approach.

**Study population and sample:** The study population consisted of a sample of fourth-year middle school students at Lahul Abdel Kader Municipality of Sidi Rashid, Tipaza Province, who numbered 78 students for the academic season 2020/2021, distributed as follows:

Table No. (01) represents the sample members according to the gender variable

Fourth-year middle school students					
Gander	er Frequency (N) Percentage (%)				
males	36	46.15			
females	42	53.84			
the total	78	100			

#### **Data collection tools:**

#### **Online Addiction Scale:**

#### **Scale description:**

In this study, the two researchers used the Internet addiction scale prepared by Bushra Ismail Ahmed Arnout (2007), referred to in each of the Al-Hosani study (2011) and Al-Zaidi study (2014). The scale consists of (56) items distributed on (6) dimensions, namely: Control or prominence, mood change, tolerance, withdrawal symptoms, conflict, and relapse, and it is answered within three alternatives in front of each paragraph of the scale, and the alternatives are as follows: (fully applicable) and awarded 3 points, and (applicable to some extent) and awarded 2 points and (not applicable at all) 1 point is awarded, and scores range from 56 to 168 degrees.

The following is a description of the six scale dimensions:

The first dimension: control or prominence: It means that the behavior is a prominent feature, and this happens when the Internet becomes the most important and valuable activity in the life of the individual, and it controls his thinking and feelings, and there is a prominent and excessive preoccupation, cognitive distortions, social behavior disorders, and a feeling of eagerness to perform this activity.

The second dimension: change of mood: It refers to the subjective experience that the individual feels as a result of the behavior of accessing the Internet, and it can be seen as a coping strategy, in order to avoid the consequences of missing it, and it may or may not be accompanied by tolerance.

**The third dimension: endurance:** It is the process by which the amount and quantity of the activity or behavior required to be accomplished is increased, in order to obtain the same effect that could be obtained before in an amount or a smaller quantity.

**Fourth Dimension: Withdrawal Symptoms:** Feelings of discomfort, unhappiness, or physiological effects that can occur from suddenly stopping or reducing activity. Such as (tremor, depression, irritability).

The Fifth Dimension: Conflict: It refers to the conflicts that take place between the addict and those around him, such as the interpersonal conflict, and the conflicts and conflicts between this activity and other activities (work, social life, and interests).

**The Sixth Dimension: Relapse:** It is the tendency to return again to the types of activities that he was addicted to.

Table No. (02) Distribution of the items of the Internet addiction scale according to its dimensions:

Number	The dimension	paragraphs
01	control or prominence	52 -47 -42 -36-30-24-19-13 -7- 1
02	Mood change	53 -48 -43 -37-31-25-20-14 -8- 2
03	endurance	54 -44-38-32-26-15 -9- 3
04	Withdrawal symptoms	55-49 -45-39 -33 -27 -21 -16-10- 4
05	conflict	50 -40 -34 -28 -22 -17-11- 5
06	relapse	56-51-46 -41 -35 -29 -23 -18-12- 6

The validity and reliability of the study tools:

## constancy:

The scale has an acceptable degree of stability after calculating its stability using Cronbach's alpha equation, and the results showed that the overall stability coefficient (Cronbach's alpha) of the questionnaire is 0.74, which encouraged its use in the study.

Table No. (03) represents the assessment of the stability of the scale

N	Crombach's alpha coefficient	
78	0.74	

Its psychometric properties were calculated, and it was found to be characterized by a sufficient degree of validity for the application through the use of the validity of internal consistency. Pearson correlation coefficients were calculated to measure the relationship between the degree of each item and the total degree of the dimension it belongs to. The results showed that the correlation coefficient between each item and its dimension was high at the level of Significance 0.05

Internal consistency validity: Validity was calculated using the Pearson correlation coefficient, where all dimensions were related to the total score, as is the case for items with dimensions, except for some items that were not associated with their own dimensions, such as item 07, which was not associated with its dimension (control), and item 56, which It was not associated with the (relapse) dimension, and the dimensions were correlated with each other. This indicates that the questionnaire has a great deal of internal consistency.

## Study results and discussion:

## 1-1-1 Presentation and discussion of the results of the first hypothesis:

The degree of Internet addiction is high among a sample of fourth-year students, average.

Table No. (04) represents the percentage of Internet addiction among the study population:

Gender	Internet addiction rate	total ratio	
male	77.54 %		
female	72.44 %	74.79 %	

We notice from the above table that the percentage of internet addiction among males is estimated at 77.54%, higher than the percentage of females estimated at 72.44%. The total percentage of Internet addiction was also estimated for the study sample by 74.79%. It is higher than average.

Accordingly, the current study agreed with several studies in that it was proven that the schooled adolescent in the middle stage, like the rest of the schooled students of high school students, as well as university students, are at particular risk of developing Internet addiction.

According to the researchers, this may be due to the complexity of the social life and the real environment of the schooled teenager, which makes him overuse the virtual reality of the Internet in search of the lost in real life, such as searching for social relationships or a solution to psychological, family or emotional problems......

And it agreed about the level of addiction to the Internet with a study (Moaijel, 2011): entitled Internet addiction and its relationship to some variables among university students, identifying the level of addiction to the Internet among university students and comparing addiction to the Internet according to the variables of gender and specialization, which concluded that the level of addiction to the Internet among university students Internet addiction is at an average level among the current research sample, and this is a positive result.

While it differed with the study of Baoufara Mokhtar (2018): the study aimed to reveal the level of Internet addiction among middle school students, as well as to identify the differences in the level of Internet addiction among students according to the variable of sex, place of residence and educational level, the results revealed a low level of Internet addiction among middle school students.

It also differed with the study of Somaya Boubaaya (2017): The current study aimed to investigate the relationship between the degree of addiction to the Internet and the emergence of sleep disorders among a sample of university youth at the University of Mohamed Boudiaf M'sila, and the degree of addiction to the Internet was weak among the study sample.

The researchers attribute this result to the fact that the study sample uses the Internet in general in a way that is higher than the average due to the specifics related to the sample members. In addition, the adolescent resorts to the love of adventure and discovery, as well as the formation of relationships. The adolescent's sense of his own self requires the necessity of striving to achieve something that he feels through achieving his individuality and his truth as a human being (Qashkoush, 1989, p. 317). He is also keen to assume responsibility and perform good deeds. And he shows the ability of creativity and achievement despite making some mistakes." (Fakher Aqeel, 1982, p. 119)

The researchers also attribute this result to the availability of auxiliary means to access the Internet, such as modern mobile phones, which have become within the reach of most students, and the attractive offers presented by dealers to telecommunications companies. Children have also become more freedom and independence in using the Internet, as their opportunities increase. In using the Internet, whether inside or outside the home during the day or at night for long hours in sitting on the Internet, which leads to addiction to a greater extent, and the periods of quarantine as a result of the

epidemic (couvid 19) contributed to a very large free time for the schooled teenager.

## 1-2- Presentation and discussion of the results of the second hypothesis: which states that:

There are differences in The degree of Internet addiction is exposed to the gender of the schooled adolescent in the intermediate stage.

Table No. (05) represents the significance of the differences between males and females:

Gender	N	M	SD	Percentage (%)	Statistical significance
male	36	130.28	15.01	77.54	no significant
female	42	121.71	15.21	72.44	

We note from the table that the average addiction score for males was estimated at (130.28) and with a standard deviation of (15.01), On the other hand, the average score for addiction among females was (121.71) with a standard deviation of (15.21). However, there is no statistical significance regarding addiction among males and females.

This study agreed with the study of Ghalib Gilan (2021): which aimed to reveal the relationship between perceived social support and Internet addiction among adolescents in Saudi society, the results of which showed that there was no effect of the gender variable (males, females) on Internet addiction among a sample of Adolescents in Saudi society.

It also agreed with Zamel's study, (2006): which aimed to search for the relationship between Internet addiction and alienation among a sample of Al-Azhar University students in Cairo. It also revealed that there were no differences between males and females in the degree of Internet addiction.

It also agreed with the study of Muajil, (2011): entitled Internet addiction and its relationship to some variables among university students, identifying the level of Internet addiction among university students and comparing Internet addiction according to the variables of gender and specialization, which concluded that there were no statistically significant differences, Internet addiction among university students according to the gender variable.

While it differed with the study of Baoufara Mokhtar (2018): the study aimed to reveal the level of Internet addiction among middle school students, as well as to identify the differences in the level of Internet addiction among students according to the variable of sex, place of residence and educational level, the results showed that there were statistically significant differences in internet addiction according to the variable of sex and place of residence.

And it differed with the study of Somaya Boubaaya (2017): which sought to investigate the relationship between the degree of addiction to the Internet and the emergence of sleep disorders in a sample of university youth at the University of Mohamed Boudiaf M'sila, and the results indicated that there were statistically significant differences in the degree of Internet addiction due to the gender variable in favor of males.

It also differed with the study of Samia Ibriem (2014): which aimed to search for the relationship between Internet addiction and a sense of psychological alienation among a sample of Umm El-Bouaghi University students, and the presence of significant differences between males and females in the degree of Internet addiction in favor of males.

It also differed with the study of Rola Al-Homsi (2009): which aimed to search for the relationship between Internet addiction among young people and social communication skills among a sample of Damascus University students. The results revealed significant differences in Internet addiction among the sample according to the gender variable in favor of females.

We can attribute the results of the current study in the absence of differences between males and females in Internet addiction to the role of the Internet itself in reducing the differences between the sexes, as it contributed to reducing the differences between the sexes, so that the females have most of what was enjoyed by males in the past. It can also be attributed to the common environmental factors that the study sample interact with.

#### **Recommendations:**

- Create an atmosphere of trust between parents and children.
- Parents effectively interfered with their children's work on the Internet.
- Put the computer in a central place at home
- Defining laws and restrictions for children regarding the time of using the Internet.

- The need to establish rules and controls for modern technological means.
- Using programs to block some websites that harm the individual and society on the Internet.
- Conducting more studies on the topic of the research, as the results of this study remain limited within the research sample.

#### **Conclusion:**

The paradox facing all countries is that while the Internet appears to be a manifestation of luxury and human comfort that we must acknowledge its importance and that it is inevitably useful, but we must be moderate and committed and not overuse it in general, the best things are the middle and this is what we must Do it, in order to preserve the adolescent's psychological, physical and social health.

Finally, we would like to point out that this study is an attempt to reveal the degree of Internet addiction among schooled adolescents in the middle stage, Under the challenges facing the adolescent in the age of challenges and globalization.

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