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Brief Description of the New Social Media Setting

The Facebook social media platform is new to me. I have never developed much interest in signing up for an account for the platform, for I usually use the Twitter platform. However, I joined the platform for this assignment to witness how people engage and interact in this big social platform. Fast-forward, I realized that so many people are connected through this platform to a tune of up to very many users making it one of the most important social media platforms where the world enjoys free interaction and engagement through the help of the internet. Additionally, Facebook is engineered so that when you sign in to their application, there are suggestions of people you may know with whom you send a friend request. At the same time, upon the other person's request for acceptance, they will see the views you post on your timeline. Also, there are suggestions to join groups and pages or an option where one friend can invite to join. In those groups and pages, people can discuss various matters of their concern; this made me realize that Facebook is a very interactive platform used by people worldwide.

Analysis of People's Interaction in The New Platform

I realized that most young people use the platform more often than older adults in my platform analysis. Also, Facebook offers ease to its users irrespective of the language known by a user. This is seen when one types a post or comment and the same information is translated into English for others to understand. Alternatively, those who have challenges in the English language can also translate the posts done in English to their language. The translation made by Facebook to its users significantly improves the socialization process of its members, as put by Ainin (2015). Who recognizes that Facebook's ability to provide in usage to its members who

can interact with anyone from any corner of the globe without hindrance and barriers makes it easier for them to interact and socialize accordingly.

Also, there is a creation of social capital gained by the platform users through its user friends. The aspect of social capital is witnessed when groups and pages are opened in the platform where members who have interest based on the page or group's purpose join and share information and ideas that promote their social interest. Docherty (2020) analyzed Facebook's role in society and agreed that through social media blogging and being in groups that share the same interests; people have been able to cooperate by networking among themselves to the extent of having shared prosperity. The interaction created by Facebook to its users allows for easy sharing of information among people since it is easy to know what happens in other countries through the messages shared on the platform.

The Facebook public group, "Only USA Girls Friendship US," contains over 544.1k members who actively share love messages. I was fascinated by a specific post in the group by a female user seeking a serious relationship. The comments were positive since there were so many users who appreciated her beauty and encouraged her. They existed male users who publicly shared their numbers to be contacted about the same. In their criticisms of the development of Facebook, Levy et al. (2014) how did not challenge the fact that Facebook helps people to live together by enhancing better understanding of others. This is also evident through the group page, where the participant members easily share their relationship status and freely ask for anyone interested in them. Considerably, this platform plays a significant role in building a social institution: marriage and family.

Additionally, Wittenborn (2019) recommends Facebook as a perfect platform for discussing family therapy topics. Through this, many people are likely to get helped in managing

this social institution of marriage and family. Facebook, therefore, contains a free platform where people can share and discuss various social challenges affecting their lives and possibly find a way out through discussion they find from others and the free space of expression offered by the social media platform.

Notably, Facebook has created a culture of no secrecy. In this open social culture, people post anything they may feel at any time without any particular hindrance unless they violate the platform's community standards. In conjunction, the platform allows people to express their feelings, for it encourages people to post what is on their minds. Patterson (2012) also agrees with this statement that people can share with others on the platform their feelings freely because when one logs in to the account, they are encouraged to post through the phrase "What's on your mind?" McAndrew & Jeong (2012) posit that the platform has created a social-cultural standard mainly for the young generation. People can easily predict the age, sex, and relationship status of a user with Facebook; significantly less behavior may be hidden. This creates a culture where one's life or whatever one is going through in life can easily be predicted just through a look at someone's timeline posts.

Also, my sociology knowledge on social control, deviance and crime make me understand that the platform can form a perfect breeding ground for the radicalization of youths. Facebook provides a free platform where youths can be engaged by criminals through their Facebook messenger and, in turn, recruit the youths for criminality. Ekwok (2017) also confirmed that Facebook increased an engagement platform among people; consequently, it also provided a good platform for youth radicalization due to its users' free social space. This calls for a controlled use to make the platform helpful to society rather than being destructive to the human being.

Comparison Between the Old and New Platform Setting

In comparing my favorite platform, Twitter and Facebook, there are huge differences I have witnessed in terms of platforms' usability and membership. Twitter is very precise since it only requires users to apply only 140 characters when communicating and interacting with others through the platform. At the same time, Facebook does not limit one's number of words to be used when posting on the platform. Also, I realized that Twitter contains people with moderate and high levels of education, majorly, as seen in the Twitter discussions and engagements. While Facebook does not show any sense of social stratification and class separation since the discussion on Facebook benefit everyone as long as their level of discussion corresponds to their social interests.

Additionally, it is straightforward to follow a piece of current information on Twitter as the feeds for the current issues immediately become trending. At the same time, for Facebook, it takes a relatively long time to reach what is new in society. Forsey (2019) also believes that Twitter is less for social friendship than Facebook, making Facebook more attractive for people with low social status in society. Further, people at the social class pyramid are less interested in social friendship. They prefer Twitter, which gives them the platform to categorically air out their views in a short and precise manner. I frequently use Twitter for the candid and mature arguments, discussion and engagement the platform provides to its users.

Conclusively, I found Facebook, a giant social media platform that connects people and helps people understand how others live. The social platform encourages social institutions like family and marriages for people have quickly and freely talked their life struggles in that institution, and by engaging, they find help. Social capital is also another massive aspect of Facebook since people with the same social norms and interests share ideas for shared

prosperity. However, the platform can be a dangerous perfect ground for youth radicalizing by criminals if not controlled due to its free space. Lastly, the social stratification witnessed in Twitter is conspicuously lacking in Facebook.

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