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Social Networking Websites and their Impacts

Internet has revolutionized human lives and by its advent, several impacts have been felt on individual, societal and national levels. One of the most vibrant inductions is that of the social media websites in the domain of internet. However, some of the social media websites have become the sensation for the youth as well as adults alike. The websites that are dominant in social media domain include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to name a few. However, there are numerous others that have a user base from tens of thousands. However, like any other scientific invention, it has a number of pros and cons associated with its usage.

The best advantage of having a social networking account is that it allows the person to socialize with almost everyone from all around the globe. The expansion of social networking websites has allowed the people to interact with each other and know more about each other's lives and their lifestyle. It can also include posting some picture, arranging them into albums or even send numerous instant messages free of cost. Also, almost anyone can find out the relationship status, address and phone number within no time. Even a person can share their mental anxieties and difficulties in life and surprisingly, people try to help out the person in distress. The social networking websites allow the people to assess the likes and dislikes of the person by viewing their profiles and hence, get a fair idea of the personality of the person. Most of the contemporary recruiters find the social networking websites, a useful tool to assess the degree of fitness for their organization(s). Besides, the official usage, people also like to use social

networking websites to ease up their mental stresses after a busy day at the office or at school. Even, people can also keep themselves in touch with their families and friends who are not in the city or even the country. The social networking sites have patched through these relationship gaps and has allowed the formulation of better and stronger ties with people all across the globe. On the darker side of the picture, the social networking websites are not that much secured and have been presented with privacy issues. Whether it is the NSA data mining, the user's data or if it is some hacker trying to invade your privacy, both ways are a serious breach of privacy of the user's data. From time to time, cyber-bullying has also become a virtual reality on internet and more specifically, social media users. Also, the reporting channels provided by the very social networking websites are not that effective in reducing the exposure of those bullying and discriminating activities. People from all the mindset are present on these sites, and it makes sharing of content containing religious, sectarian, and racial and/or gender prejudice quite common. Furthermore, it reduces the tolerance of people when words full of hatred are spoken on these websites. Sometimes, it also destroys a perfectly working relationship based on the speculations that s/he is exchanging messages with his/her boyfriend or girlfriend. Above all, these websites are quite interesting and are a perfect way to waste the precious time by surfing for hours on the internet.

All in all, the social networking websites are quite good to interact with people; however, the issues of privacy and cyber-bullying are getting in the way of enhancing the support of these sites on the large scale.