

The Influence of Social Networks on Youth Identity Formation

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Abstract. This article examines the role of social networks in shaping youth identity, exploring both positive and negative influences. It discusses how social networks provide platforms for self-expression, peer interaction, and identity exploration. The study also highlights potential risks, such as cyberbullying and identity distortion. By analyzing data from surveys and interviews with young individuals, the research provides insights into the complex interplay between social networks and identity development. The paper calls for educational programs that promote digital literacy and responsible social media use among youth to foster healthy identity formation.

Keywords: Youth Identity, Social Networks, Digital Literacy, Cyberbullying, Self-Expression

Introduction

Social networks have become integral to the lives of young people, playing a crucial role in the formation of their identities. This article explores the multifaceted influence of social networks on youth identity development, focusing on the opportunities and challenges they present. Social networks offer platforms for self-expression and peer interaction, allowing young individuals to explore and construct their identities in a digital space. However, these platforms also pose risks, including cyberbullying and identity distortion. Through surveys and interviews with young users, the study examines how these dynamics affect identity formation. The research emphasizes the need for educational initiatives that enhance digital literacy and encourage responsible social media use, aiming to support healthy identity development among youth. By understanding these influences, stakeholders can better guide young individuals in navigating the complexities of digital identity.

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References

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