NETIZENS

Survey on Internet Usage Among Urban Young People in Nepal

Body & Data

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SURVEY ON INTERNET USAGE AMONG URBAN YOUNG PEOPLE IN NEPAL

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ACRONYMS

APC	Association for Progressive Communications
ETA	Electronic Transactions Act
GNI	Gross National Income
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IP	Internet Protocol
LDC	Least Developed Countries
LGBTIQA+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Asexual, Ally
npd	No publish date
NTA	Nepal Telecom Authority
PUBG	Player Unknown Battlegrounds
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Sciences
THT	The Himalayan Times
IT	Information Technology
TKP	The Kathmandu Post
VPN	Virtual Private Network

KEY FINDINGS

INTERNET USAGE

- Urban young people in Nepal use the internet mainly for communication; most of the use was centered around social media apps and sites like YouTube and Facebook. The majority of the respondents i.e., 53% of 300 respondents[a] have been using the internet for more than five years. 92.3% of total respondents used the internet from home and the majority of them (84.3%) used it to chat with friends and family.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

- The majority of the respondents were not cautious of anyone while expressing themselves on online platforms. A distinct difference in behavior was noticed when comparing the responses from the male and female respondents: while the female respondents were more cautious of distant family members, parents, and siblings, male respondents were more careful of friends and intimate partners.
- Most of the respondents used the internet to post personal opinions and for leisure. Only 3.3% of the 300 respondents participated in civic and political discussions in cyberspace.

ONLINE HARASSMENT

- More female respondents reported facing online harassment than the male respondents. 22.7% of the female respondents reported that they were more likely to block or unfriend their harasser while only 1.3% of the female respondents (2.7% of the total respondents) were likely to report an incident to the police.

- Both male and female respondents encountered issues like trolling, cyberbullying, etc., on online platforms. 74.7% of male respondents and 82.4% of female respondents reported receiving derogatory comments and demeaning messages in online spaces.

- 33% of urban young people received negative attention and feedback even with minimal participation and presence in online spaces. The male respondents reported facing more problems when they interacted in political spaces and posted political opinions. The majority of female respondents, on the other hand, reported problematic comments and behavior when posting their pictures.

DIGITAL HYGIENE

- The majority of respondents had heard of and use similar measures to ensure or increase online security. More male respondents had heard of and used measures like IP disguisers, anti-censorship software, and virtual private network (VPN).

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BRIEF OVERVIEW

Nepal, with a total population of 28.51 million has the GNI (Gross National Income) per capita of US$730 (The World Bank, 2018)[1] and is categorized as one of the least developed countries (LDC) in the world. The majority of the Nepali population is lacking in the most basic of services and access to essential services is alarmingly low.[2] In direct contrast, however, access to the internet and mobile data penetration in Nepal have both grown rapidly since 2011. There has been an almost exponential increase (Koirala, 2018)[3] in internet access – from 10.89% of the population with internet access in 2011 (Kathmandu Today, 2011)[4] to 63% of the total population with internet access in 2017. This growth in turn has led to a growing debate as to whether increased access to the internet is a positive sign for ICT (Information and Communication Technology) development in Nepal.

Even with this rise in internet access and usage, there still exists a significant difference in the quality of access and service owing to the geographical barriers and the cultural, social, and economical inequalities present in the country. There is a distinct lack in:

    i.   the quality of design and availability of effective public access points

    ii.   the quality of and access to broadband connections, and iii) the quality and availability of technical skills.

This lack of quality and access is felt more keenly by minority groups (across gender, class, ethnicity, age, sexuality), by the poor, and by people with disabilities. The vulnerability and digital social inequality felt by these marginalized groups mirror the inequalities and exclusions experienced by them in offline spaces (Halford and Savage, 2010; Robinson et al., 2015).[5] Although some of the challenges around internet access presented by geography, and economical and social conditions have been mitigated to a certain extent by the growth in smartphone ownership and mobile connections, the disparity in the lack of quality of service continues to persist (Martin Chautari, 2017).[6]

The internet, today, is increasingly looked upon as a basic need in many cities; this is especially true within the Kathmandu Valley (Martin Chautari, 2014; 2017).[7] Urban areas enjoy higher levels of internet penetration, device ownership, and accessibility when compared to rural areas (Martin Chautari, 2016).[8] As in the developed parts of the world (Lenhart et al., 2010),[9] urban youths make up the majority of internet users in Nepal. Ease of access, availability of and access to gadgets, the infrastructure that is already in place in most urban areas, and the relative social and economic freedoms enjoyed by urban youth are some of the factors contributing to this statistic (Acharya, 2016)[10]. This growing trend has sparked a debate and inquiry into the negative and positive effects of internet use and participation in online spaces.

To date, a number of studies have highlighted the link between internet usage and behavioral patterns among young people. Alam et al. (2014) and Farrukh et al. (2014) for exapmle, discuss the interpersonal, physical, psychological, and behavioral problems among adolescents and young adults and how these issues are related to internet usage. They highlight how there is a growing trend of internet addiction among young users, and how this tendency to spend more time online than offline has lent to an increase in cyberbullying, decrease in academic performance, productivity in the workplace, and withdrawal from social activities. Because of these negative impacts, there is a growing narrative that places blame on the young people for sharing too much private information online which in turn has led to an increase in surveillance at home and school.[11]

In an effort to counter this problematic narrative which promotes victim blaming, there have been discourses that argue that young people cannot be blamed and that we cannot minimize and invalidate the importance digital spaces have for young people – as places for social interactions, learning, and self-expression given the restrictive and often dangerous offline social and political environments (Marwick et al. 2010).[12]

As technology and the internet have become more and more integrated into our lives, it has also become increasingly important to understand how important a role the plays in the lives of young people, especially of those who are vulnerable in terms of gender identity and expression. From understanding and exploring their sexual orientation, to sexual health queries and building networks, the internet can be a safe space to explore sexuality and to reduce stigma and sexual risk (Allison et al., 2017; Taggart et al., 2015).[13]

With the debate around the increase in internet use and its harmful effects taking center stage in many policy discussions, it is incredibly important to understand how exactly young people use the internet. This research, therefore focused on internet accessibility among urban young people in Nepal and how they are using the internet.

The digital divide is a complex phenomenon; internet speed and accessibility are only two of the numerous factors we need to consider when thinking about digital connectivity and digital inequalities. In the Nepali context, there is a great need to explore more than the haves and have-nots of the internet sphere (Martin Chautari, 2018).[14] Internet access and use do not follow the same pattern across different genders, socio-economic classes, and geographical regions of Nepal (Dahal and Ghimire 2016).[15] For example, even in urban areas, women and members of the LGBTIQA+ community face more difficulties accessing the internet, owning devices, and expressing their political, sexual or religious views. In a patriarchal country like Nepal, the presence of girls/women in any public sphere is considered problematic (whether it be going out late at night, sharing their pictures online, or expressing their views on their political, civic, or sexual rights on the internet). It is considered as one of the responsibilities of the parents from a "good family" to suppress their voices and opinions, to discipline their daughters (Internet Democracy Project 2017).[16]

Keeping in mind these challenges and the numerous variables that need to be considered to have a meaningful exploration of internet use and its effects, this research was exploratory in nature and used the quantitative approach to gather and analyze data including time spent by young people [b] on the internet, their ability to freely exercise their freedom of expression, their knowledge of digital hygiene, and their access to fixed internet. 300[17] college-going students were surveyed using self-administered questionnaires in order to understand

  i.   internet use

  ii.   internet accessibility

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[b] In this research the term young people is used to describe a group of individuals who are 13 to 24 years old. We have also used "young, urban people" and "urban young people" interechangeably.

iii. online privacy, safety, and harassment issues.

This particular age group was selected for the survey because this is also the age group often categorized as those who have a higher risk of HIV (irrespective of any local context or epidemic type) and are often socially neglected or marginalized because of their age, and/or gender identity and expression (WHO Policy Brief, 2017).[18]

In the context where young people are often blamed for their use of technology and are prevented from expressing their opinions and gender and sexual identities (Kayastha and Nepal 2017)[19] it is important to study and understand the challenges and opportunities attached to a more widely available and used digital access.

1.2 RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

a) To explore how the internet is used by young, urban people in Nepal

b) To understand the various kinds of challenges and opportunities faced by young people while using the internet

1.3 RESEARCH QUESTION

a) How do young urban Nepalis use the internet?

b) What kinds of challenges and opportunities do they come across while using the internet?

1.4 STRUCTURE OF THE RESEARCH REPORT

This research report is divided into four chapters. The first chapter serves as the introduction which provides a brief overview, the research objective, and the research question. The second provides a literature review and the third chapter briefly outlines the methodology, ethical considerations of the research, and proposes a conceptual framework. The fourth chapter explores the internet through young people's lens. Lastly, the final chapter summarizes the findings, presents the conclusion, and provides some recommendations.

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 INTERNET USAGE

The increasing use of the internet has directly affected many lives across the globe. Many of us cannot even imagine spending our day without the internet because it has given us the freedom to access the whole world with just a click. According to research published in the statistics portal Statista, the number of internet users worldwide in 2016 stood at approximately 3.5 billion people. This means about 45 % of the global population accessed the internet that year. The majority of internet users are located in East and South Asia, with China leading the pack as the largest online market in the world. India ranked second in a number of users followed by the USA (Statista, 2016)[20]. It was estimated that by 2018, 50% of the world population might have access to the internet and that the majority of are youths (Statista, 2016).[21]

Nepal as a developing country is still lagging behind in the various indicators of development. It is interesting to note that the internet penetration rate among the total population is nearly equal to the literacy rate of the country (Koirala 2018).[22] Following the worldwide trend, youths are the majority of internet users in Nepal, specifically youth in urban areas who have easier access to the internet and to gadgets (Acharya 2016).[23] Halloran (2015) explains how the internet has introduced improvements in technology, communication, and online entertainment which have been useful in both educational as well as occupational fields.[24] Britland (2013) further adds that the future is about access, it is about minimizing the barriers, not just about the devices but about the accessibility of the internet.[25]

Most youths use the internet to use social media, networking, gaming, shopping, and also to keep up with new technology. The data trends show that in Nepal too internet use has risen exponentially in the last decade and more and more people in urban areas are found using the internet daily. According to the Kathmandu Post (TKP), Nepal added 2.25 million internet users in 2017. People use the internet for a variety of applications and work-related issues which include professional services, IT services, entertainment, social media, chatting, and e-Commerce (Nepal Telecom Authority, 2018).[26] As the internet is increasingly seen as a basic need and with data trends and statistics highlighting how integral it has become in the lives of

young people in Kathmandu, it is interesting to study the opportunities and challenges that come with it.

2.2 INTERNET AND INCLUSIVITY

While the use of technology has saved much time in completing day to day tasks and allowed more time for creative outputs, resources have not been equally distributed (Halloran 2015).[27] Although according to a survey conducted by Statista, most internet users are between the age of 18 and 29 years and their voices and freedom of expression are often overlooked in many digital platforms. Inclusivity of their opinions on issues around online safety, harassment, and sexuality is not often promoted (Moawad, 2016).[28] Previous research has argued that the internet has positive effects on a person's health, creativity and wellbeing, and their ability to network (Deng and Tavares, 2013; Tiene, 2000).[29] However, the freedom and accessibility of the internet are not free. There is an underlying problem of digital inequality, the absence of freedom of expression, high level of policing on youths, and harassment toward women and LGBTIQA+ persons based on moral grounds. The structural imbalance between genders on the internet can be noticed through the misogynistic and harmful comments made toward women in many digital spaces. Whether it be a political debate or expression of sexuality, women have to be more careful while expressing themselves. A broad debate on any issue can easily change into a personal attack for a woman or LGBTIQA+ individual. These attacks are not in any way different from offline attacks as they range from cyberbullying to rape and death threats. Whether it be in Asia, Africa or in Europe women face various forms of online-based violence (Global Fund for Women, 2018).[30]

Violence in online spaces is not discussed as seriously as offline gender-based violence. The negligence of these issues directly affects the safety and freedom of expression of women and gender minorities (Gurumurthy and Chami, 2014).[31] Excluding women and other gender and sexual minorities from participating in the online spaces by perpetrating violence is a violation of their human rights and restricts their right to express freely. There already exists a digital divide between men and women in terms of ownership of devices as the affordability of the internet is directly linked to economic independence. Women in most developing countries are economically dependent on the men of their families as men are regarded as the breadwinners. As such they are less likely to own or access devices with internet connection, and for those who do have access their ability to freely express themselves is severely hampered. As online and

offline spaces become more interrelated in people's lives it becomes more difficult to isolate and differentiate their impacts on individuals. The barriers that women face offline in the world in their fight for equality are similar (if not the same) to the struggles women are facing in online spaces (Datta, 2017; Nepal, 2017; Pandey and Raj, 2016).[32]

Among the Nepali netizens, Facebook and Twitter are the most popular networking sites (Dahal and Ghimire, 2016).[33] As internet use has grown, so have the outreach and social movement campaigns in these networking sites. Led by the youths, women, and minorities from different parts of the world, online movements like #metoo, #blacklivesmatter, #lovewins, are gaining momentum and have become a driving force for social awareness and have been able to bring some change at the policy-making level. In Nepal, #occupybaluwatar was a successful online campaign against gender-based violence and impunity. As the internet and social media platforms become more integrated into social movement campaigns, expressing opposing political or critical social opinions is often harassed or criminalized; in Nepal such opinions can be and are monitored and prosecuted under the Electronic Transaction Act (ETA), 2008 which is also known as the cyber law (Dahal and Ghimire, 2016).[34]

2.2.1 ONLINE HARASSMENT IN NEPAL

As the use of internet grows and its access becomes more widespread, so do the instances of cybercrime, online harassment and abuse. In Nepal, the lack of adequate laws and policies regulating cybercrime often victimizes women in online spaces. Every day up to 10 cases of online abuses filed in the Kathmandu police station alone, and 90% of the victims of reported cybercrimes in Nepal are girls. This increase in cybercrime is often attributed to not only the increase in internet use but also a lack of awareness regarding privacy. As mentioned before, there is also a tendency to default blame on the victims of the crimes which had led to increased discussions around surveilling and restricting internet access and use for young people, especially young girls.

Most abusers in online spaces create fake identities on social media to extort money and defame others, and generally the perpetrators are already known to the victim. In Nepal, cases of cybercrime are usually settled outside the courtrooms and the abusers rarely face any legal consequences (Shrestha, 2016).[35] There is also a tendency to dismiss online abuse (by users and also authorities) as there is rarely any physical consequences of the crimes. However, the sexual,

mental and emotional torture faced by victims can be very severe, sometimes even leading to self-harm suicide. In Nepal cybercrimes and online abuses are prosecuted under the Electronic Transaction Act and the Defamation Act. However, with the growing numbers of internet users these laws/acts are not enough to deal with the many facets of cybercrimes as they do not wholly address crimes like stalking, bullying, child pornography, etc. (Bhandari, 2018).[36] However, with the introduction of The Individual Privacy Act, 2018 there is a scope to ensure an individual's privacy of personal information even in digital spaces. While the Individual Privacy Act states that it is making provisions to protect an individual's data and information from public authorities and entities, it also mentions that "Competent Authorities or Authorized Officials" can access the required data if needed (there is no clear definition or guideline as to who these authorities or officials are and how to identify them). Although this act will serve as the first specific legislation governing the protection of individual privacy, the Government of Nepal has yet to issue any implementing rules (Pioneer Law Associates, 2018).[37]

The implementation of these bills and laws made by the government to protect the privacy of its citizens often hinders their right to freedom of expression. Although the Interim constitution of Nepal guaranteed the freedom of expression in online spaces, the constitution of Nepal under Article 17, section 2a (1), 2015 poses certain restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this restriction is justified by stating and ensuring that any opinions that amount to a defamation of character or an act which may be contrary to public decency and morality are not allowed (Nepal Gazette, 2015).[38] Also, the ban on pornography to reduce offline rape culture shows the government's ineffectiveness in dealing with the real problem and stating the internet as the source of violence. This act not only shows the government's incompetence and reluctance to deal with real issue but also takes away an individual's internet freedom (Kayastha, 2018). [39]

In addition, the introduction of a stricter IT law replacing the Electronic Transaction Act that was already infamous for scrutinizing people and discouraging free expression of opinions shows the government's regressive nature in making the internet a safer place (Pradhan, 2018).[40] Using Article 47 of the Electronic Transaction Act (ETA) 2008, also known as the cyber law of the country, helps the police surveil people's freedom of speech (Dahal and Ghimire, 2016).[41] The government's steps to ban pornography to prevent violence against women instead of ensuring the security of girls/women are being taken as a way to hinder the agency or privacy

of a person to explore their sexuality and sexual need by the citizens and many sexual rights activists (Heanue, 2018).[42]

2.2.2 THE DIGITAL DIVIDE AND THE INTERNET

Gender inequalities concerning the digital divide exist in relation to internet access, digital skills, and patterns of use. A significant divide in opportunities and outcomes in digital spaces, with wider gaps in low- and middle-income countries is still prevalent (Livingstone et al., 2017).[43] Digital inequalities suppress and limit the opportunities for women and queer communities to voice their political, civil, citizenship, as well as sexual rights in a wider public sphere (Women's Rights Programme, 2012; Lim, 2018).[44] Furthermore, Chakrovorty (2017) points out that a cross-national comparative research on a global scale indicated that gender equality and social development through ICT development and the development of accessible digital products and environments should be promoted in order to bridge the gender digital gap.[45] However, robust and up-to-date statistics collected internationally is limited and difficult to find, with data on non-adult populations being particularly patchy (Livingstone et al., 2017).[46] In the context of a patriarchal society like Nepal, males have always enjoyed a greater access and freedom to exercise all of their rights including digital rights. The huge internet and technology space is male-dominated not only in Nepal but also around the world (Dahal and Ghimire, 2016; Pandey and Raj, 2016).[47] Women in rural areas are especially disadvantaged when it comes to the access to and ownership of technology and the proportion of women and girls surveilled regarding their use of the internet is significantly higher than their male counterparts even in urban areas. In some parts of India, women and girls are banned from using mobile phones altogether (Kayastha and Nepal, 2017).[48]

The IT sector the world over is predominantly male dominated; when we think of famous names or personalities in technology, the first names that come to mind are "big" names like Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, and Mark Zuckerberg. The main reason behind this disparity maybe the male-dominated education system; less than one out of five engineering or computer bachelor's degrees are being granted to women all around the world (Staiger, npd).[49]

In homes where digital technology is provided by the parents or guardians, it is more likely that girls will be given access at an older age than their male siblings, cousins or peers; that the access which they are given will be more curtailed or surveilled; and that the idea of ICT-related

careers and encouragement to pursue them will be associated with and more available to boys than to girls (Livingstone et al., 2017).[50] This gender disparity and inequality is also widespread within social media. Instances like the removal of the pictures of the tattooed chests of breast cancer survivors instead of the page which posted rape jokes on Facebook shows the need of feminist internet; the need for research among the margins about the challenges they face within the digital world (Phisarody, 2017).[51]

2.2.3 MORAL POLICING AND SURVEILLANCE

As a reflection of societal practices and norms, the online opinions of the women, girls, and LGBTIQ communities are often policed (Solnit, 2017).[52] Although the Universal Declaration of Human Rights posits freedom of expression as an essential right of every individual and other minorities often find themselves fighting to exercise this right of expression and are constantly subject to surveillance (Gurumurthy, 2017).[53] Online spaces can often be so discouraging that women, non-binary persons, and other minorities feel far more secure by not disclosing their gender and/or sexual identities in digital platforms (Phisarody, 2017; Wijewardene and Wijesiriwardena, 2017) .[54] These are all results of a patriarchal, binary-structured society which dictates the so-called correct norms and codes of behavior. It is easier for women or LGBTIQ individuals to not express their opinions than to voice their opinion or discuss their gender identities as these discussions may invite violence and lead to debates around preconceived notions of right and wrong. Blackwell et al., (2016) [55] further mention that as LGBT individuals are already fighting a battle to be heard and treated equally in offline spaces, some of them try to restrict themselves from practicing freedom of expression on online spaces to protect themselves.

In Nepal the influence of the patriarchal, binary-structured societal structure is felt in how keenly girls and women are monitored and suppressed, from their offline social lives to their online activities. This type of policing and surveillance often means less time spent on and less control over access to digital media. As Livingstone et al., (2017) [56] discuss in their study of young adolescents and digital media, individuals who have less control over digital media are less likely to take advantage of online opportunities, and are less frequently encouraged to undertake skills training. In many developing countries like Nepal, time and access to the internet is also determined by the division of work within the household. As girls are burdened with more work, they have less time to use the digital space to seek information or to voice their

opinions. While on one hand digital media can open up opportunities for freedom of expression previously denied to marginalized persons and communities, increased presence on and use of digital media and space can lead to a further tightening of parental control, and even incite and increase violence in a society where families and communities are expected to monitor and discipline their children, especially their daughters (IDP, 2017). [57] These constraints on girls by parents and communities, often imposed, at least in part, from positive welfare motives, can be a substantial barrier to accessing education and improved livelihoods further contributing to the landscape of an ever increasing digital gender inequality.

2.2.4 RISKS OF THE INTERNET AND PRIVACY

As the demand and consumption of the internet have both grown, it has become increasingly essential to understand and address the safety and security concerns around internet use. The increasing number of young children and adolescents with internet access mean that while young people are gaining opportunities to exercise their creativity and build networks, it also means that a lack of education and limited knowledge regarding privacy and internet security has made young people more vulnerable to online abuse and harassment. Similarly, violence against women and other minorities have grown in online spaces, with online harassment and stalking, intimate partner violence, violence targeting communities becoming more and more common (TKP, 2012; Shrestha, Online Violence, 2016; Shrestha, Settling Scores, 2016; Women's Rights Programme, 2012). [58]

With a rise in cybercrime and online violence, parents and guardians are increasingly worried about the risks that children, especially young girls may face online. As we have discussed earlier, there is a distinct disparity in the surveillance, policing, and restrictions on access to technology faced by girl children when compared with their male counterparts (Mesch, 2009). [59] We have also discussed how there is a problematic trend of victim blaming when it comes to online harassment and privacy breach. As Datta (2017) points out, more often than not a leaked, sexual video of a person invites both moral and legal judgment onto the victim while the culprit ends of escaping punishment altogether.[60] Instead of promoting this victim-blaming culture and policing internet use and content using unreasonable standards, it is essential that we teach internet users, especially young users, about best digital hygiene practices

like smart passwords, up-to-date apps, extra authentication, protective anti-virus on all gadgets, and so on (Connect Safely, npd).[61] Practices like multilayer authentication using biometrics and iris scans (Klosterman, 2017)[62] can also be used to secure digital spaces. Along with addressing digital threats involving software and data protection and privacy, it is also incredibly important to educate young people regarding predatory behavior on the internet, and schemes such as catphishing.[d]

The solution to the risks posed by the internet is not in tightening control over internet content and criminalizing freedom of expressions and blocking sites as the Nepal government is wont to do; there should be effective measures, technology and policy related, put into practice to secure digital space instead (Dahal and Ghimire, 2016). [63]

The literature shows that the majority of research that is available have discussed and focused on the importance of internet accessibility and the digital divide in terms of geographical coverage, and on the threats and challenges of cybersecurity in general. There is a gap in the research in the context of Nepal, and therefore an increasing need to understand internet use by young urban people, the type of access they have to digital platforms, and the challenges and opportunities they face as young internet users.

Catphishing is a form of online deception that involves using a fake identity to lure victims into online relationships with the intent of exploiting them for money, sexual exploitation, or access to private information.

METHODOLOGY, CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK, AND ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 METHODOLOGY

Considering the need to bridge the gap in research to understand the accessibility of the internet, its use, and its effects on the young, urban people of Nepal, this research surveyed 300 respondents[e], 15 to 24 years old, from the Kathmandu valley. The respondents were asked to answer questions by filling out a self-administered questionnaire. The sampling size was determined using non-probability convenience sampling, and quantitative methodology was used to both gather and analyze the data.

3.2 CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Two frameworks, i) Ragnedda and Ruiu's framework (2017)[64] showing the interrelationship between social, economic, cultural, and digital capital and online activities, and ii) the Feminist Principles of Internet Version-2 (APC, 2016)[65] were used to develop the framework for this research which also helped frame the questionnaire. The data collected was analyzed using the descriptive analysis tool in SPSS.

3.3 ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

As young people under the age of 18 are considered as minors in Nepal, informed consent was taken from teachers and college coordinators. The field researchers explained very clearly that the participants could stop filling out the survey anytime they wanted. Participation was voluntary, and teachers were requested to stay out of the classes while the students completed the survey. A total of 383 surveys were collected, of which 83 were discarded due to incomplete responses. This shows the students were in complete control over their answers and were not

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[e] For more see: https://www.sciencebuddies.org/science-fair-projects/references/sample-size-surveys

forced or coerced in any way to participate in the study. We do not identify/mention the students' names anywhere in this report as to maintain their anonymity.
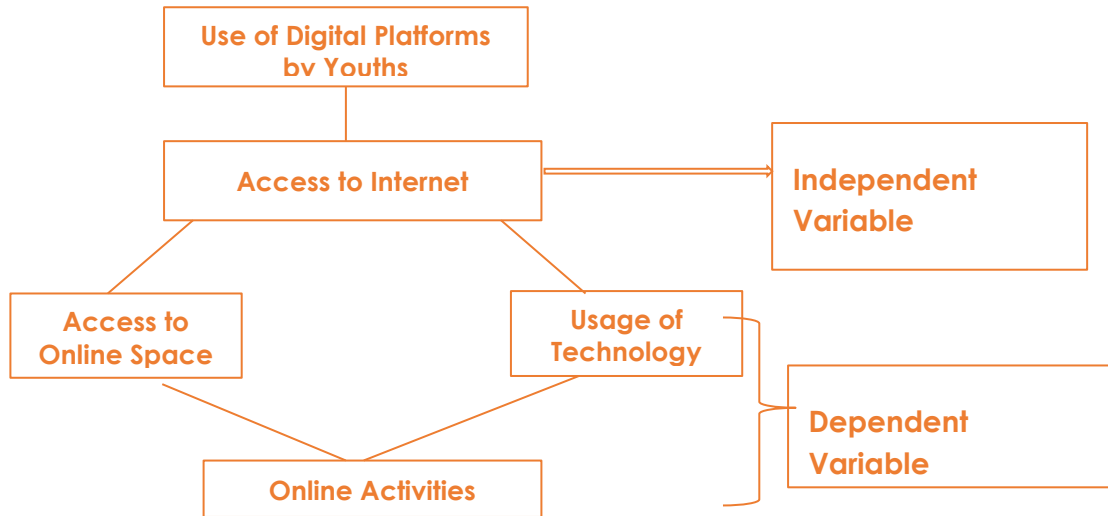
Figure 3- 1: Conceptual Framework

Source: Ragnedda and Ruiu, Theorizing Digital Divides, 2017 pp. 21-34 Association for Progressive Communications, 2017

Note: For this research, *Access to Online Space* was used as the sole independent variable and all other variables in Figure 1 were used as dependent variables. The dependent variables were used to understand both the use of the internet by the respondents and the challenges and opportunities they faced while using the internet. Also, the dependent variable Usage of Technology was used to assess consent, privacy, and digital hygiene.

EXPLORING THE INTERNET THROUGH YOUNG PEOPLE'S LENS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

This research initiated a quantitative study using a questionnaire survey. We collected data from 300 college-going students[f] between the ages of 15 and 24; this data was later analyzed using the descriptive analysis tool in SPSS.

The majority of the students surveyed were between the ages of 19 and 24, and were studying in the first year of an undergraduate degree. As other similar research indicated an overrepresentation of women (Dickinson et al., 2012)[66], we selected a male-dominated engineering college in order to ensure that we obtained a balanced sample.[g] The demographic data of the population between 15 and 24 years shows a near equal ratio of male to female population (Index mundi, 2018), [67] and as this study was aimed at understanding the overall usage of the internet by all
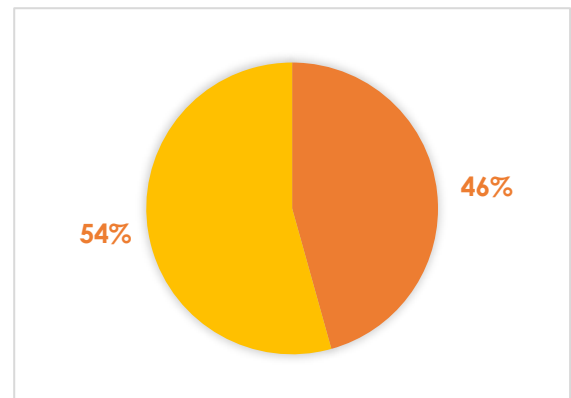
Figure 4- 1: Age Distribution of the Respondents

Source: Fieldwork, 2018/1019
Note: The total number of respondents (N)=300

young people in an urban area, we felt it was necessary to survey male respondents so that equal representation could be achieved. In addition to that, as the research was not limited to any one specific college, adding the male representation did not risk the balance in representation in the

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[f] In total five colleges from the Kathmandu valley were selected for the survey. The students from St. Xavier's College, Kathford International College of Engineering and Management, Kantipur Engineering College, CHANAKYA COLLEGE of Management, and SS College participated in the survey.

[g] 61 male respondents were purposely selected from the Civil Engineering Department of Kantipur Engineering College, Dhapakhel.

larger sample group. The equal ratio of male and female participants gave this study the opportunity to explore the different patterns of internet use across the two genders, how they understand online harassment and privacy issues, and also how these might affect their freedom of expression.

Although all the respondents identified as male and female, three respondents did not consider themselves as cisgender. Two of the respondents considered themselves as bisexual, and one of them considered themselves as asexual. The self-administered questionnaires were given out to students during college hours because of the high probability of receiving the responses immediately. The students were selected from five different colleges and different courses/faculties. Considering time and cost limitations, the study chose respondents who were already using the internet. Thus, this study was not able to explore the difference in the access to the internet and to the devices between the two genders.

As mentioned earlier in the literature review, the majority of the earlier studies done in and around the topic of internet usage in Nepal have focused on the accessibility of the internet. Earlier studies have missed exploring the interconnectedness of online and offline space and how urban young people use these spaces. This study was therefore designed and administered with the purpose of bridging this gap and to understand the online space through young people's perspective. Building on the literature review and the conceptual framework, the questionnaire form for this survey focused on four main themes: i) access and use of the internet, ii) freedom of expression, iii) online harassment, and iv) online safety and privacy.

4.2 ACCESS AND USE OF THE INTERNET

The internet is a huge part of our day to day lives, especially in the urban context. There has been an exponential increase in internet users since 2011 when the total users accounted for only 9 percent of the total global population. The data trend also shows a growing number of internet users influenced by the boom of cellular data. In the year 2017, 63 percent of the total global population was connected to the internet (Nepal Telecom, 2018).[68] While the high grown rate concentrated in urban areas and is influenced by the widespread availability of cellular data the steep rise in the use and influence of the internet cannot be overlooked in the overall Nepali context.

As the respondents were young people between the ages of 15 and 24, the number of years of their internet usage ranged from more than ten years to less than a year. As shown in Figure 4-2, the majority of the respondents stated that they started to use the internet frequently in the last five years.
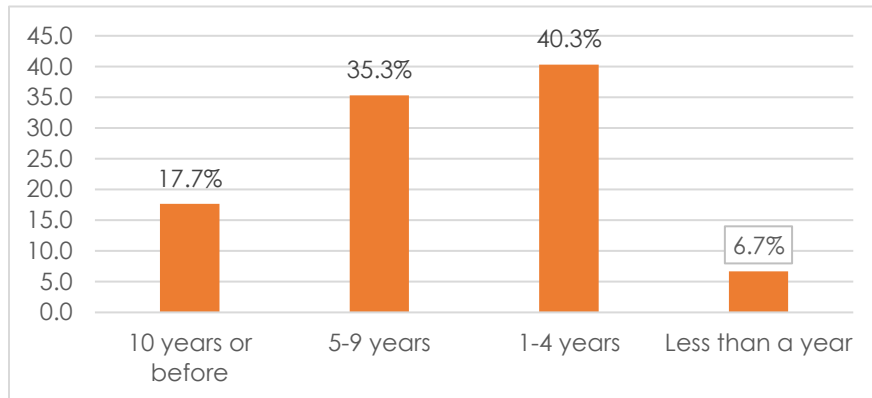
Figure 4- 2: Distribution of years of internet usage

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
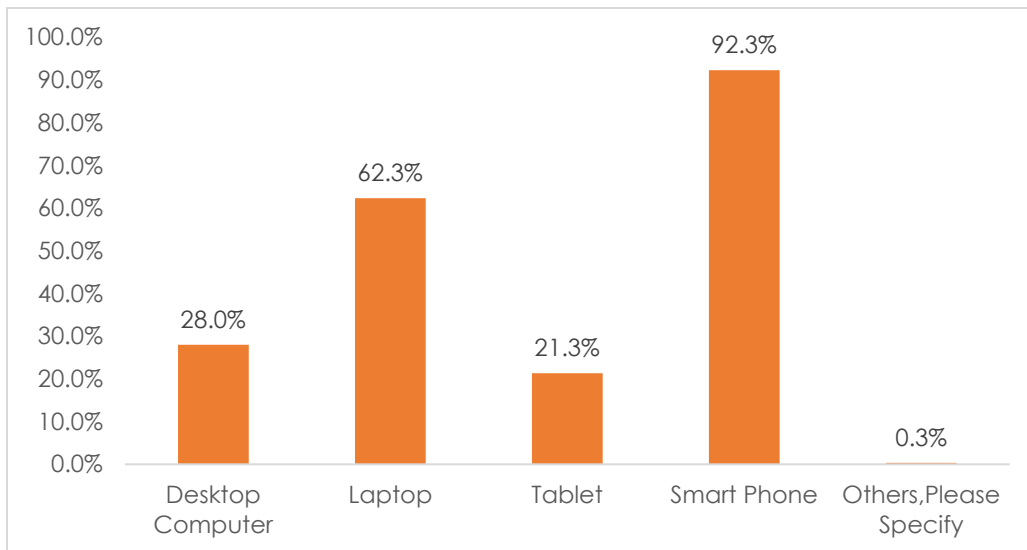
Figure 4- 3: Distribution of devices used to connect internet

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

Figure 4-3 shows that most of the respondents used smartphones to connect with the internet. Figure 4-3 also confirms what Figure 4-2 has cited, that the rise in the use of smartphones over the last five years has prompted a corresponding increase in the number of internet users. The national data shows a growing trend in the increase of smartphone ownership by 10% each year. The availability of cheaper smartphones in the market and the growing trend of bringing smartphones into the country (for family and friends) by those who are studying or working abroad has increased access to the devices (Nepal Telecom, 2018; THT, 2017).[69] As a result of this increase in access to cellular data and to the devices, the number of internet users have also sharply increased in the past few years.
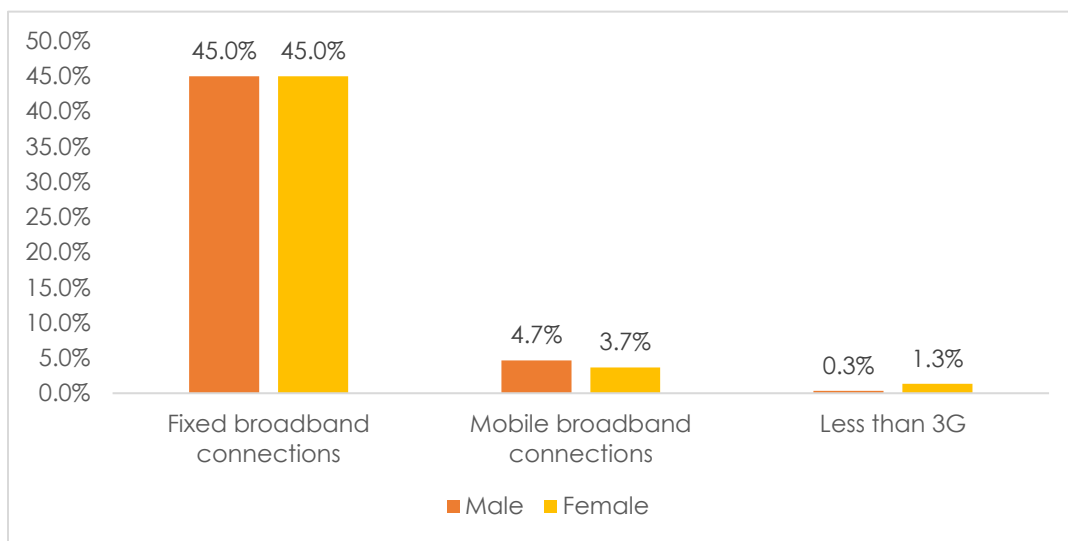
Figure 4- 4: Gender-wise distribution of the respondents with different types of internet access

Source: Data Collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

According to Figure 4-4, there is no huge difference in the type of internet access based on gender. The majority of the respondents relied on a fixed broadband connection. Earlier studies have shown the digital divide that occurs between male and female users due to the women's dependence on economic support from male counterpart, especially in the rural areas of Nepal (Martin Chautari, 2016; 2017).[70] Unlike in rural areas, where internet is mostly accessed through a cellular connection, the majority of young people, both male and female, in urban areas enjoy fixed broadband connections in their houses. The majority of the respondents, i.e., 92.3% of the total respondents connected to and used the internet in their own homes (Refer to Annex- Table 10).
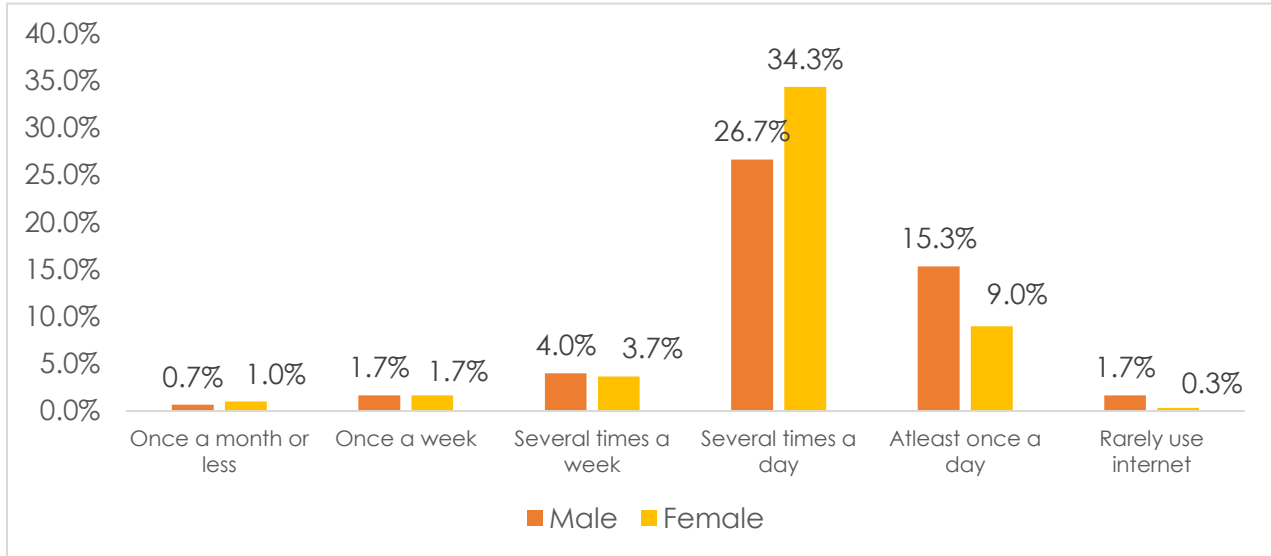
Figure 4- 5: Gender-wise distribution of internet usage

Source: Data Collected from the Fieldwork, 2018/19.
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300.

As shown in the above figure, female respondents used the internet more frequently than the male respondents. As Figure 4-6 shows, more male respondents considered cost as the limiting factor for internet usage. Through these two figures it is evident that the cost of internet is correlated with the frequency/usage of internet.
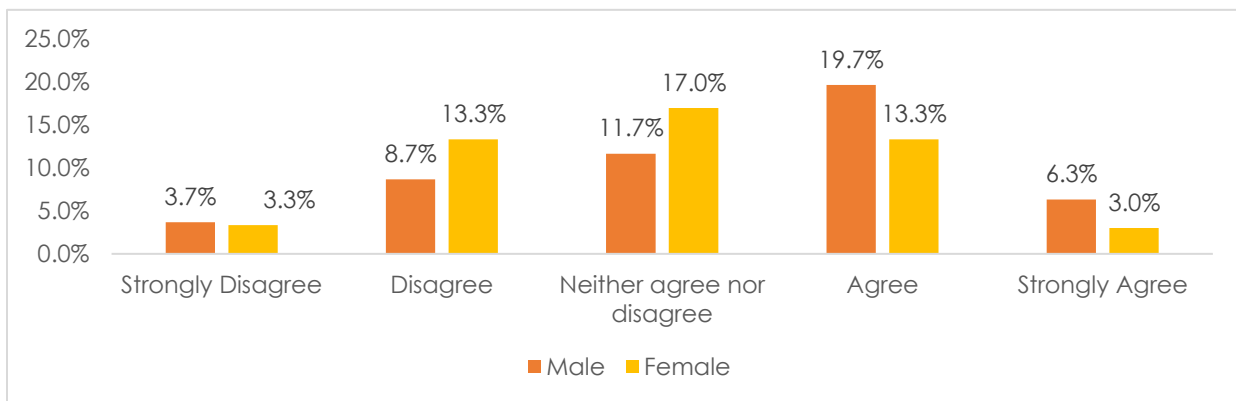
Figure 4- 6: Gender-wise perception of cost as limiting factor while using internet

Source: Data Collected from the Fieldwork, 2018/19.
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300.
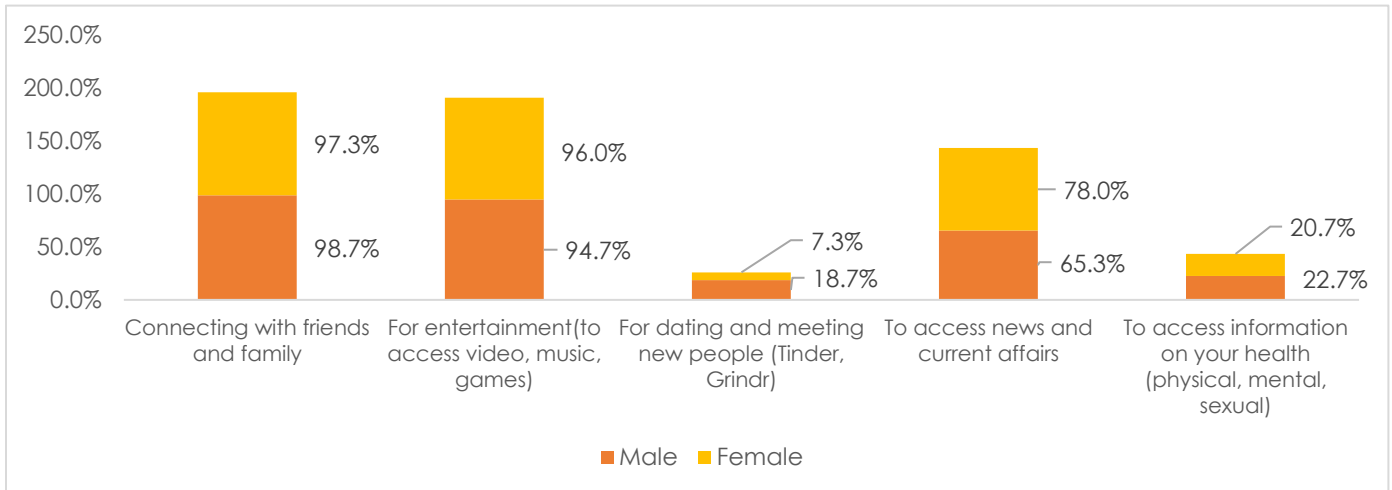
Figure 4- 7: Gender-wise internet usage for personal activities

Source: Data Collected from the Fieldwork, 2018/19.
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300.

According to the survey, 84.3% of the total respondents used the internet mostly to chat (Refer to Annex- Table 15); the results were similar when priorities were cross-tabulated according to gender. As shown in Figure 4-7, the majority of the respondents used the internet to connect with friends and family and for entertainment (to access video, music, games, etc.) regardless of gender. More male respondents (11.3%) used the internet for dating and meeting new people; and more female respondents (13.7%) used the internet to access news and current affairs. The internet was used almost equally by both genders to access information regarding physical, mental, and sexual health. Most young internet users found social media to be the friendliest and welcoming online spaces and online dating sites to be the least friendly and unwelcoming online platforms (Refer to Annex- Table 19). The majority of the respondents confirmed using the internet mostly to access and use their social media accounts; 92.3% of the total respondents used social media platforms like YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram (Refer to Annex- Table 46).
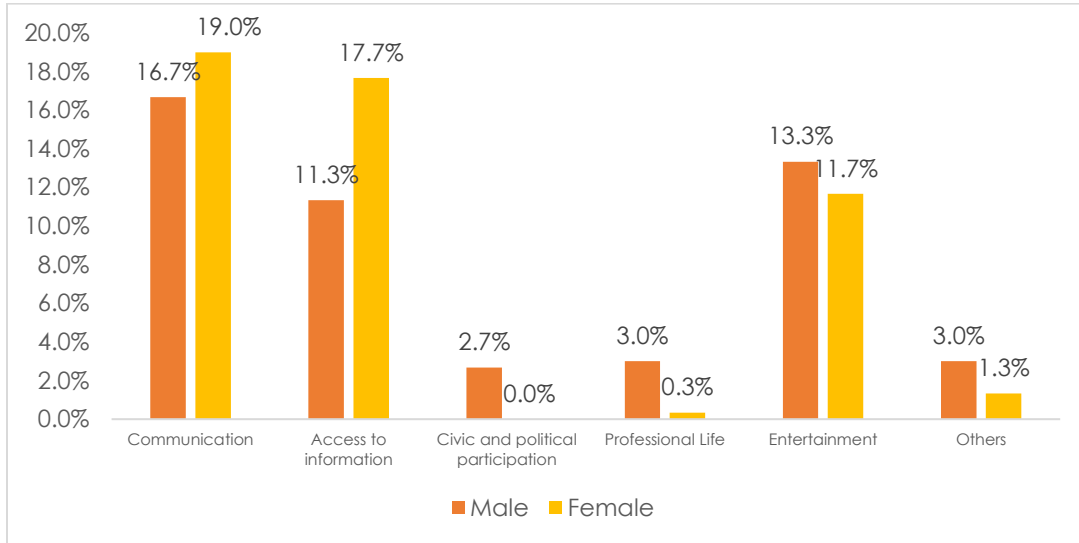
Figure 4- 8: Gender-wise most important activity while using the internet in the past three months

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others: In this category, PUBG, PORNHUB, and TIKTOK were highly repetitive responses

Both male and female respondents mostly used the internet for communication, to access information, and for entertainment. However, a higher percent of male respondents used the internet in their professional life, for civic and political participation, and other activities.

4.3 FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Online and offline space cannot be separated into two different entities in the present context. Similarly, freedom of expression and participation should not be reserved only for traditional media. All new forms of communication, and information sharing platforms like the internet, should have freedom at the global, regional, and national level (UNESCO, 2019).[71] Freedom of expression is a universal human right; it allows people to express their thoughts, beliefs, and opinions without any fear. It provides a huge resource pool of information and knowledge that can lead to an exchange of dialogues and thoughts and build a platform to practice democracy. However, this right can take a new dimension in online space. Posting personal pictures, opinions, and beliefs in online spaces invites a wider audience to engage with a person, and sometimes also invites unwanted attention.
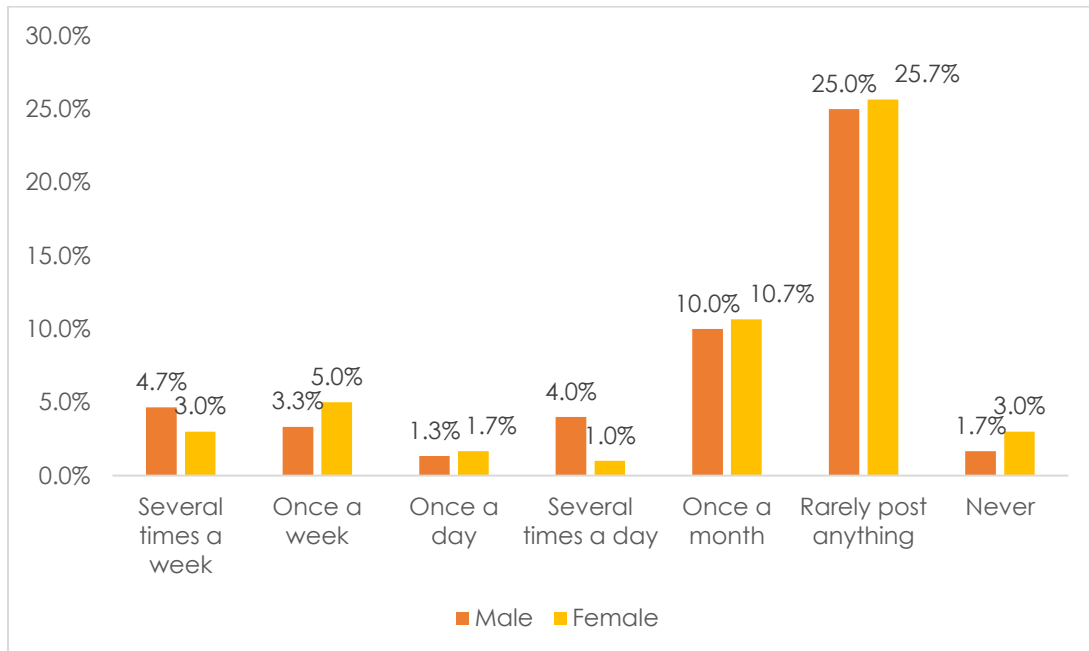
Figure 4- 9: Gender-wise online posting frequency

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

As shown in Figure 4-9, young people are less enthusiastic about posting online. Similar to the earlier studies, the survey showed that young people rarely post something online in an effort to avoid attention from the wider population of internet users. 50.7% of the respondents rarely posted anything on online space. More respondents rarely posted or posted once a month and there was no significant difference between the male and female respondents.

Although most of the respondents used social media platforms and considered them as welcoming, 78.5% of them responded that they have been victimized through mean and demeaning comments (Refer to Annex- Table 20) on social media. As the study on the *Freedom of Expression on the Internet (Éducaloi, 2019)*[72] rightfully states, freedom of expression does not equate with saying whatever you want, and hate speech, mean comments, trolling, etc., cannot be justified under the umbrella of freedom of expression. While expressing personal views one should be careful of other's right to privacy, the right of people to own and control images of themselves, people's right to their reputations, and their right to security.

A slightly different pattern was noticed among the respondents when it came to posting several times a day, once a week, and never. More young men posted several times a week while

more young women posted once a day. A higher percentage of women, 3%, compared to 1.7% of men never posted anything online at all.

The surveillance from families, society, and national authorities, self-censorship/ censorship of expression, limits and affects the right of a person to express themselves (Gurumurthy, 2017; The Guardian, 2016).[73] Although the Interim Constitution of Nepal guaranteed the freedom of expression in online spaces, the constitution of Nepal under Article 17, section 2a (1), 2015 poses certain restrictions on the right to freedom of opinion and expression and justifies these restrictions by labeling them as defamation of character or acts which may be contrary to public decency and morality (Nepal Gazette, 2015).[74]
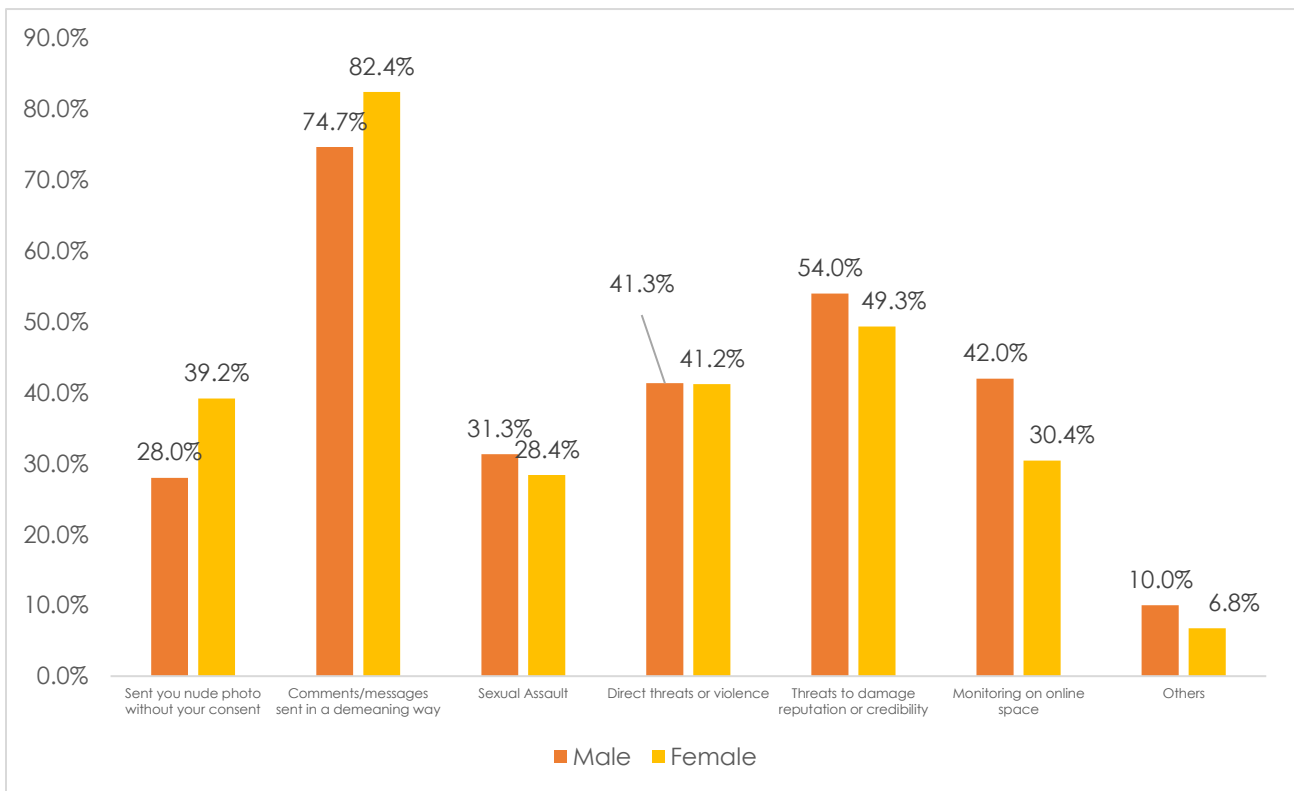
Figure 4- 10: Gender-wise perception of the most faced problems on the online space

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others: Do not know anyone who has faced any problems
problems

Online platforms provide a space for information gathering, building networks, and sharing knowledge, however these spaces also come with their own problems. The problems faced online are reflections of the offline world (UNESCO, 2015).[75] Most of the female respondents responded that receiving nude photos without consent, receiving demeaning comments and messages were some of the common problems they faced online, while male respondents felt that being monitored and receiving threats their reputation and credibility occurred more in the digital space. Due to the global patriarchal mindset, women are discriminated against and dominated based on their color, race, religion, sexuality, caste, and class among others. Their expression is often attached to their families' prestige and honor (Maskay et al., 2017).[76]
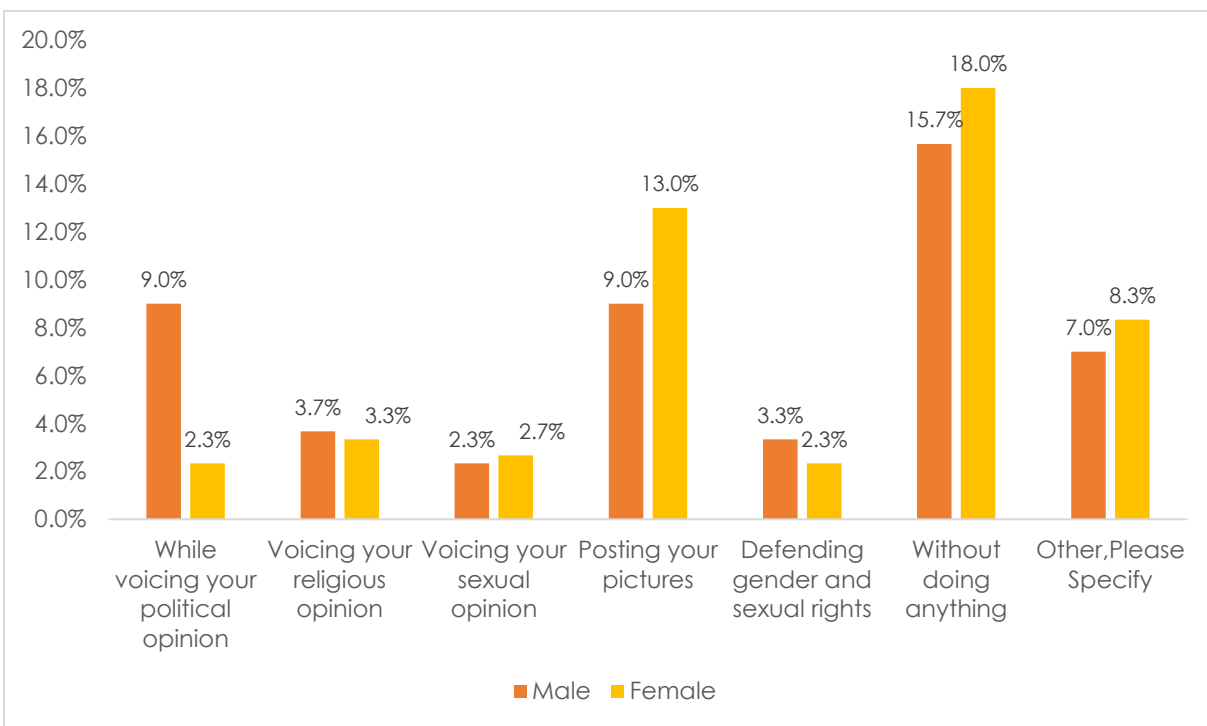
Figure 4- 11: Gender-wise distribution of online problems

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others: Have not faced such a situation

While comparing Figure 4-10 and 4-11, the study found that the actual problems the respondents faced online were reflections of the perceived threats by both genders. For example, female respondents were more vulnerable while posting their pictures and voicing their sexual opinions, whereas the male respondents faced more problems while voicing their political and

religious opinions. The difference between an attack on females while posting pictures and an attack on males while voicing their political opinion is significant. The study shows similar findings as Chemaly[77] and Lim[78]; they mention in their research that females are more often attacked on a personal level, on their looks and their opinions and thoughts on sexuality, while attacks on young men are focused on the intellectual level. This is not an accidental occurring, there is a distinct pattern of behavior. Unequal power relations between men and women in the society at large due to cultural, religious, and societal norms fosters the male superiority, and this sense of real and perceived power gives them the opportunity to comment on women's opinions and pictures in a demeaning manner. Women are often represented as subordinate, with less rational opinions; it is because of this belief that men in cyberspace are attacked on an intellectual level while attacks on women are more personal, associated with their bodies and often aimed at putting them back into their "place".[h] This power imbalance not only gives men more power, but forces women to draw the line themselves. The pressure they bear to protect their family reputation limits their expression and opinions (Nepal, 2017).[79] The study also found that men come across problems online more than women when they try to defend gender and sexual rights.

The majority of the respondents (51.3%) posted posts about their personal life. Both male and female respondents posted mostly about personal life and leisure (Refer to Annex- Table 54). This study found that although online space is an integral part of urban young people's lives and the Internet is today a primary space for expressing one's views, the respondents did not consider online and offline space as similar in terms of expressing their thoughts (Refer to Annex- Table 56). The majority of the respondents stated that they thought it was easier to comment on others' opinions and to voice their own opinions in online space than in offline space (Refer to Annex- Table 57) and (Table 58). The study also found that voicing a political opinion or civic participation among young people is limited.

Replacing the ETA which was already terrorizing people with the even more strict IT law could further control the freedom of expression and opinion in Nepal. Inappropriate use of the electronic system would result in a fine anywhere from 300,000 rupees to one million rupees,

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[h] Place here is used to define a space where a woman is seen as subordinate to a man and so does not have an equal standing with men. This notion is deeply rooted in our history and culture.

or jail time between one and ten years, or both (Pradhan, 2018) .[80] The ambiguousness of the term *inappropriate use* curtails the freedom of expression and can severely damage the journalism sector. Along with that, it snatches an individual's right to express which is a cornerstone for any democratic nation. In addition to this, the IT law can also harshly punish anyone posting content that the authorities think assassins someone's character and harms national sovereignty. Moreover, the new bill is drafted to also have tighter control over social media. The social media platforms that are not registered within the country will be restricted. The drafting of stricter cyber laws and bills will further limit and discourage young people from freely participating in the political and civic movements through online spaces (TKP, 2019; Dahal, 2019; Lama, 2019).[81]
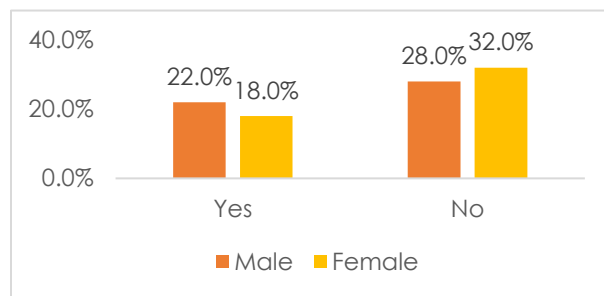
Figure 4- 12: Figure 4- 12: Gender-wise supervision felt by the respondents on online platforms

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others: The figure above shows more male respondents feel that they are under online supervision than the female participants
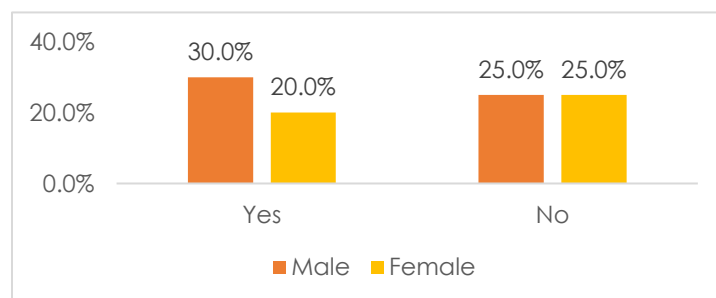
Figure 4- 13: Gender-wise supervision felt by the respondents on online platforms

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

Out of the 300 respondents, 120 said that online supervision affected their participation. The study found that male respondents were more likely to limit their online participation because of supervision; female respondents on the other hand were more likely to be scolded for using the internet. Relating with Ahearn, in today's context, women, even when given access to technology are restricted from exploring their needs and expressing their views. Their agency is compromised in order to protect the values and norms of society. Moreover, as Nepal, and Wijewardene and Wijesiriwardena mentioned in their studies women and their various online activities are often viewed as harmful actions to family reputation. The censorship forced upon women and girls often stems from the protectionist angle, claiming to keep their daughters/sisters/friends safe.
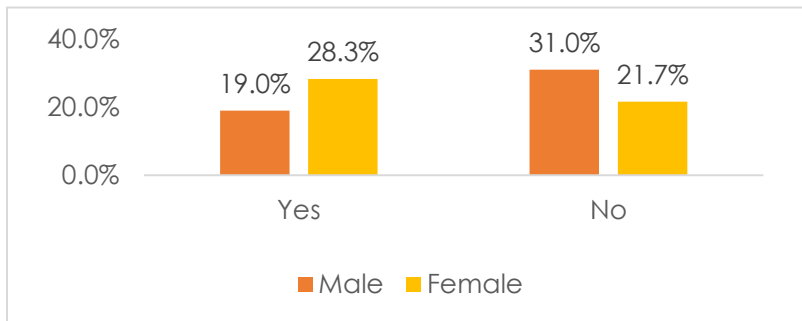
Figure 4- 14: Gender-wise distribution for getting scolded on internet usage

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
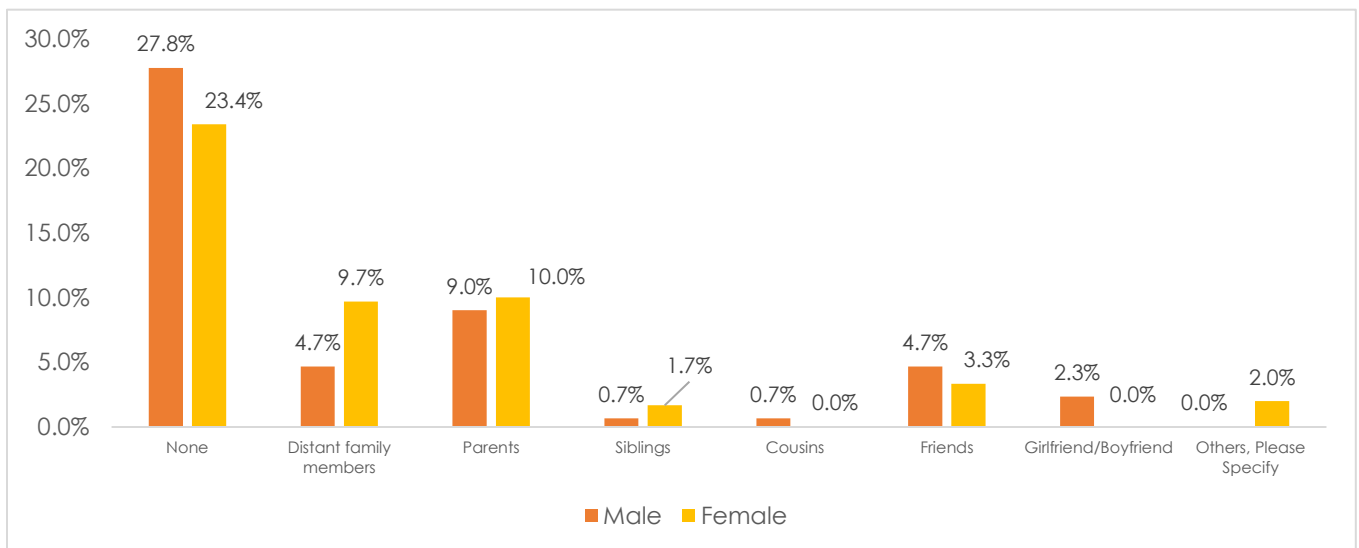
Figure 4- 15: Gender-wise distribution of respondents who are cautious while sharing views/pictures

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others here are mentioned as colleagues by the majority of female respondents.

The majority (51.2%) of the total respondents were not cautious of anyone while using the internet. However, a huge percentage of respondents (48.8%) were cautious of one or more people who were close to them. The study found that while female respondents were more cautious of distant family members, parents, and siblings, male respondents were more careful with cousins, friends, and intimate partners while sharing their views and pictures on social media.

4.4 ONLINE HARASSMENT

"Cyber harassment is understood as repeated online expression amounting to a course of conduct targeted at a particular person that causes the targeted individual substantial emotional distress and/or the fear of bodily harm."[i] Often online harassment is not taken as seriously as offline gender-based violence, and it is more likely that the perpetrators are

Figure 4- 16: Gender-wise faced online harassment

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

never known and the cases of harassment are often diluted or neglected in this course (Dagher, 2018).[82] There is low public awareness of harassment and harassment is often linked with physical or sexual abuse; as such cases of harassment of women are often underestimated. A study conducted in the United States and twelve European nations including Great Britain grossly underestimated the proportion of harassment that has occurred against women (The Guardian, 2018).[83] Similar to other studies by McLaughlin (2018), Williams (2018), and Nelson (2018) [84], this research confirms that young women face more harassment than men. While the fact men are also harassed cannot be overlooked, the majority of online harassment is faced by

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[i] As cited in Citron. (2014). Defining Online Harassment. Forbes.
https://www.forbes.com/sites/daniellecitron/2014/10/23/defining-online-harassment/#4a26e2de28de

women — 90% of women have reported experiencing some form of harassment. As mentioned above, the proportion of harassment against women is grossly underestimated, the data from this study shows a similar result as most of the respondents stated that they were more likely to choose either to unfriend the perpetrator, to stop using social media altogether, or to ignore the harassment completely instead of reporting the incidents and going to the police (Refer Annex-Table 27).

4.5 PRIVACY AND ONLINE SAFETY

As access to the Internet has grown, the spaces where one can share information, ideas, and opinions have also become increasingly diverse. Online spaces provide platforms with incredibly large audiences, and the decision to share personal information and who to share it with is and should be a personal right and choice. The right to privacy is one of the fundamental human rights, and a person should be able to exercise this right in online as well as offline spaces. As cyberspace is used more prolifically, it has also become more difficult to maintain privacy once you put out your information online. Understanding consent, rightful use of freedom of expression, securing the devices with anti-virus, understanding privacy settings, and keeping secured passwords are key to building a safer online space.
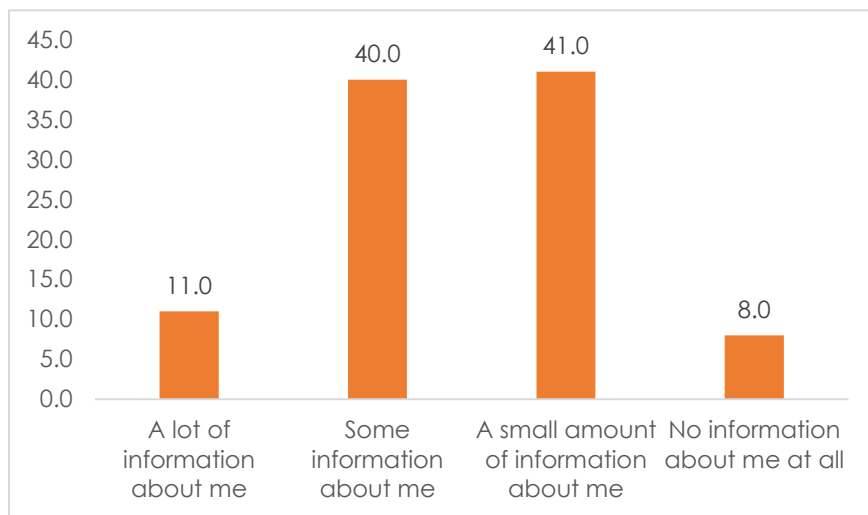
Figure 4- 17: Sharing of information about themselves on public

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

The majority of the 300 respondents shared some level of information about themselves publicly. Only 8% of the respondents were cautious to not share any information online. Privacy and online safety come hand in hand, often the victims of cybercrime are further victimized because of the lack of online privacy and safety measures. The circulation of revenge porn or non-consensual sharing of intimate photos or videos victimize the victims rather than the perpetrators who circulate the pictures or videos without consent (Datta, 2017; Jackson, 2016; BBC News, 2015).[85] Violation of the fundamental right to privacy also occurs when another person misuses their right to expression. Impersonation and identity theft are some other threats to online safety. The information on online platforms can be shared incredibly quickly. As much as we discuss the importance of the internet, often the concept of privacy and safety is not given the consideration that it deservedly needs. This study found that the majority of the respondents had heard of and used similar measures to ensure or increase online security. More male respondents had heard of and used measures like IP disguisers, anti-censorship software, and VPN (Refer to Annex- Table 32).
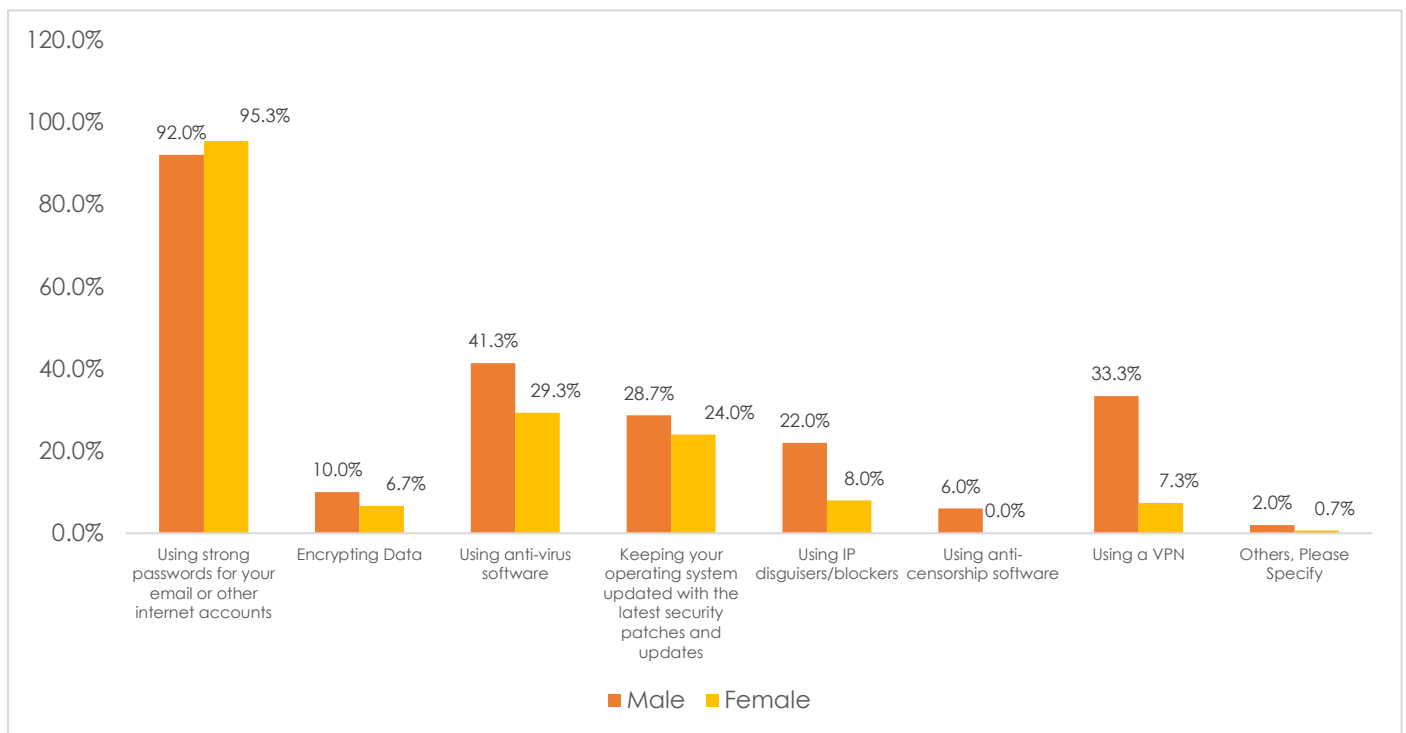
Figure 4- 18: Figure 4-18 Gender-wise measures adopted to increase online security

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300

Figure 4-18 shows that male respondents were more aware of and were using measures other than only a strong password to ensure their online safety and privacy; the majority of the female respondents (34.3%) were less likely to use a similar or the same password multiple times when compared to the male respondents (29.7%) (Refer to Annex- Table 37); females were also more likely to use anti-virus in every gadget (Refer to Annex- Table 41).

As mentioned earlier, the majority of the respondents used the Internet to engage with social media like YouTube, Facebook, and Instagram among others. This study therefore tried to look at the password sharing behavior among the respondents. A minority of them, both the female and male respondents, responded that they share their social media accounts' password (Refer Annex- Table 45). In addition to this, both 10% of the male respondents and 10% of the female respondents (20% of total respondents) also shared their general password.
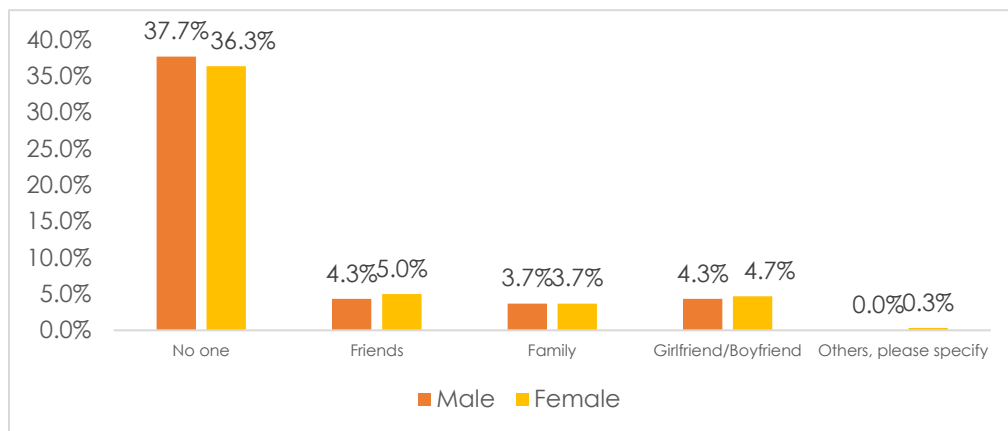
Figure 4- 19: Sharing of social media passwords by the respondents

Source: Data collected from fieldwork, 2018/19
Note: The total number of respondents (N) = 300
Others here are indicated as colleagues by the majority of the respondents

As shown in Figure 4-19, the majority of both male and female respondents do not share their social media passwords, however there was some password sharing among friends, family, and intimate partners. Previous research has shown that young people usually share their passwords to build and protect their relationships with their intimate partners and friends (Jansen, 2016).[86] This is a troubling trend as relationships rarely remain static, and can sour leading to harassment issues like revenge porn, and sharing passwords with family can also turn

into strict surveillance and censorship. A person's right to privacy and online safety can be compromised when their passwords are compromised, regardless of with whom the passwords might be shared.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The exponential growth of internet use in Nepal is no doubt related to the ease of access because of cellular data and availability of devices; this study also found that the presence of a fixed broadband connection was likely to encourage young urban users because they were able to use the internet in a private space (their homes, for instance). Cost was found to be a limiting factor mostly for the male respondents. Because we were limited by time and cost, this study was able to only survey young people from within the Kathmandu valley who already had access to the internet and to devices, which severely limited our sample size. Further enquiries into gender disparity and internet access should aim to gather data from urban centers other than the Kathmandu valley,

This study also found that online harassment faced by young women in Nepal is underestimated and underreported. It is interesting to note that while it was expected for women to feel more surveilled regarding their use of internet and technology, this was not the case. A higher percentage of male respondents (22%) felt surveilled while using the internet than the female respondents (18%) and in turn limited their internet use (30% of the males compared to 20% of the females). However, young women responded that they were scolded more often for using the internet than their male counterparts. It is also interesting to note that while females faced more online harassment when compared to males and were monitored on their use of the internet more strictly, they also used the internet more frequently (34.3% of female respondents shared that they accessed the internet multiple times a day compared to 26.7% of the male respondents). A further, more comprehensive and inclusive study is necessary to fully understand if there really is a trend among young, urban, female internet users to ignore social and online pressures and use the internet as they want.

This study also confirmed that online threats and attacks are often gender biased, and women find it more difficult to engage in political, civil, sexual rights discussions in online spaces. In order to create a safer internet for all users, and especially for female users, we need to encourage reporting cases of online harassment and make the process easier. Although small positive steps like establishment of a cybercrimes division of the Nepal Police have been taken,

the lack of proper monitoring and updates, continuing social stigma, and the lack of an effective response mechanism for when a crime is reported still persist.

This study also found that women were less likely to use the internet for professional interests but were more likely to use it to find information and access news media. This trend sheds an interesting light on the divide that exists within the two genders and how this gap might be closing in some areas (learning, finding information, sharing information) while widening in other areas (professional development, civic and political engagement).

The data also shows how there is an urgent need for education regarding online privacy and safety as a significant number of the respondents shared that they share some personal information, pictures, videos online. This also highlights the need for a comprehensive overhaul of laws and bills regarding internet use, privacy, and safety. The current laws regarding cybercrime and online safety in Nepal have provisions that restrict the citizens' rights to exercise their freedom of expression under the guise of ensuring online privacy and safety. There needs to be a clear division on what is considered as national interest and security and what is considered as an individual's online privacy and security, and any new laws should address these two as separate entities.

The young urban people of the Kathmandu valley are using the internet to communicate, to build networks, to learn, to share information, and to express opinions. On the other hand, self-censorship, fear of harassment, censorship from society and family, monitoring from family, community, and the government are some of the barriers to internet use among young people. Our sample size was small, (300 respondents from within the Kathmandu valley), for there to be a more comprehensive understanding of the factors that encourage or limit internet use among young people, a more comprehensive, national study is needed.

ANNEX

QUESTIONNAIRE FORM

Usage of Internet among Urban Young People of Nepal

नेपालका शहरी युवाहरुमा इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग

Questionnaire Form प्रश्नावली   **Questionnaire Number:**

Hello. We are from Body and Data, an organization focused on creating a free, open and just Internet that respects autonomy of individuals and upholds their dignity. We are conducting a research on the use of internet among young urban people of Nepal and the opportunities and challenges they face while using it. Your input in this research will be valuable and outcome will help in some way to create a safer online space. Note that all information provided by you will be treated in the strictest confidence, only to be used for research/statistical purposes and the reports will be summarized and in no manner would your individual identity be revealed.

Thank you in advance for your participation in the survey and for your assistance.

नमस्ते, हामी बडि एन्ड डाटा नामक संस्थालाई प्रतिनिधित्व गर्छौं जसले व्यक्तिको स्वतन्त्र र सम्मानपूर्वक इन्टरनेटमा पँहुच केन्द्रीत कार्यक्रमहरु गर्ने गर्छ। हामी शहरी युवाहरुमा इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग, त्यसको अवसर र चुनौती विषयक एक अध्ययन गर्न गइरहेका छौं जसमा यहाँहरुको विचार र सहभागिता यस अध्ययनको प्रतिफल प्राप्तिका लागि निकै महत्वपूर्ण हुने छ। यहाँहरुले उपलब्ध गराउनुभएको सूचनाहरुको गोपनीयतालाई सुनिश्चित गरिएको जानकारी समेत गराउदै सो सूचना केवल अध्ययनको तथ्याङ्क विश्लेषण लागि प्रयोग गर्ने प्रतिबद्धता समेत जाहेर गर्दछौं।

यहाँहरुको सहयोग र सहभागिताको लाग अग्रिम धन्यवाद व्यक्त गर्दछौं।

Survey location   सर्वेक्षण स्थल कोड Code

1.Kathmandu   काठमाण्डौं

2. Lalitpur   ललितपुर

3.Bhaktapur   भक्तपुर

A. Demographics   जनसांख्यिक विवरण

A1. Please select your age. कृपया आफ्नो उमेर समूह छनौट गर्नुहोस्।

1.	10-14	१०-१४
2.	15– 19	१५ -१९
3.	19-24	१९ -२४
4.	25 or above	२५ वा सो भन्दा माथी
5.	I prefer not to answer	म जवाफ नदिने पक्षमा छु

A2. Please select the gender you identify with most. कृपया आफू अनुकूल जेन्डर छनौट गर्नुहोस् ।

1.	Male	पुरुष
2.	Female	महिला
3.	Others, if you want please specify	अन्य, यदि खुलाउन चाहनुहुन्छ भने उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।
4.	I prefer not to answer	म जवाफ नदिने पक्षमा छु

A3. Do you consider yourself to beरु आफूलाई कै भनी परिभाषित गर्नुहुन्छ ?

1.	Male	पुरुष
2.	Female	महिला
3.	Lesbian	समलिङ्गी महिला
4.	Gay	समलिङ्गी पुरुष
5.	Bisexual	द्विलिङ्गी
6.	Transgender	पारलिङ्गी
7.	Intersex	अन्तरलिङ्गी
8.	Asexual	अलैङ्गिक
9.	Gender Queer	क्वेयर
10.	Others, if you want please specify	अन्य, यदि खुलाउन चाहनुहुन्छ भने उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

B. Access to Internet   इन्टरनेटमा पँहुच

B1. Do you use internet? के तपाईं इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग गर्नुहुन्छ ?

ञ।	Yes	गर्छु
द्व।	No	गर्दिन
	If No, end of interview	यदि गर्दिन भने, प्रश्नहरु यहि सकिन्छ ।

B2. How long have you started to use internet frequently? (Please select one) इन्टरनेट निरन्तर रुपमा चलाउनु भएको कति वर्ष भयो ?

1.	10 years or before	दश वर्ष वा त्यो भन्दा अघि देखि
2.	9-5 years	९ देखि ५
3.	1-4 years	१ देखि ४ वर्ष
4.	Less than a year	एक वर्ष भन्दा कम

B3. Which of the following devices do you use to connect to the internet? (Check all that apply)
इन्टरनेट चलाउनका लागि तलका मध्ये कुन साधन प्रयोग गर्नु हुन्छ ? (मिले जति सबैमा ठिक चिन्ह लगाउनुहोस्)

1.	Desktop computer	डेस्कटप कम्प्युटर
2.	Laptop	ल्यापटप
3.	Tablet	ट्याबलेट

4.   Smart Phone   स्मार्टफोन
5.   5. Others, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस्

B4. What do you mostly rely on to access your internet at home? (Please select one)
घरमा कुन माध्यमबाट इन्टरनेटको सबैभन्दा प्रयोग गर्ने गर्नुभएको छ ?

   1.   Fixed broadband connections, (e.g. DSL, ADSL, VDSL,
        cable, optical fibre, satellite, public Wi-Fi connections)
        निश्चित ब्रोडब्याण्ड (जस्तै डि.एस.एल, एडिएसएल, भिडिएसएल, केबुल, अप्टिकल फाइबर, स्याटलाइट,
        सार्वजनिक वाइफाई
   2.   Mobile broadband connections (via mobile phone network,
         at least 3G, e.g. UMTS, using (SIM) card or USB key,
         mobile phone or smart phone as modem)
        मोबाइल ब्रोडब्याण्ड (जस्तै थ्री जी, युएमटियस, युएसबी)
   3.   Dial-up access over normal telephone line or ISDN (optional)
        Mobile narrowband connection (via mobile phone network
        ल्याण्डलाइन मार्फत् डायल अप वा आइयसडिएन, मोबाइल न्यारोब्याण्ड
   4.   less than 3G, e.g. 2G+/GPRS, using (SIM) card or USB key,
        mobile phone or smart phone as modem)
        थ्रीजी भन्दा कम जस्तै टु जी, जिपिआर एस, सिम कार्ड वा युएसबी कौ प्रयौग

B5. Where are you most often when you use the internet? इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग गर्दा प्राय: कहाँ गर्नुहुन्छ ?

   1.   Home   घर
   2.   Cafe or Restaurants   क्याफे वा रेस्टुरेन्ट
   3.   Friend's Home   साथीको घर
   ढ।   Library   पुस्तकालय
   छ।   Work   कार्यलय (अफिस)
   6.   Others, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

B6. How often do you access internet? इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग कत्तिको गर्नुहुन्छ ?(Please select one)

   1.   Once a month or less   महिनामा एक पटक वा कम
   द्ग   Once a week   हप्तामा एक पटक
   घ।   Several times a week   हप्तामा कयौं पटक
   4.   Every day   प्रत्येक दिन
   5.   Several times a day   दिनमा कयौं पटक
   टा   Rarely use internet   विरलै मात्र

B7. Is cost limiting factor for internet usage? के इन्टनेटको मुल्यले तपाईंको इन्टरनेट प्रयोग गर्ने मात्रामा केही असर गरेको छ/गर्छ ? (Please select one)

   ज्ञ। Strongly Disagree   कत्ति पनि गर्दैन
   2.   Disagree   गर्दैन
   3.   Neither agree nor disagree   न गर्छ न गर्दैन
   4.   Agree   गर्छ
   5.   Strongly Agree   एकदमै गर्छ

C. Access to Information   सूचनामा पँहुच

C1. What types of websites have you visited last month? (Check all that apply) अघिल्लो महिना कस्तो प्रकारको वेभसाइटहरुको प्रयोग गर्नुभयो ?

1. Chat   च्याट
2. Online Shopping   अनलाइन खरिद
घ) Educational/School   शैक्षिक गतिविधी
4. Games   भिडियो गेम
छ) Music/Celebrity/Fashion   संगीत, चर्चित व्यक्ति वा कलाकार, फेसन
6. News   समाचार
7. Political   राजनैतीक गतिविधी
8. Religious   धार्मिक गतिविधी
9. Sexual Health   यौन स्वास्थ्य
10. Sports   खेलकुद
11. Dating App (Grindr, Tinder)   डेटिङ्ग एप (टिन्डर, ग्रिन्डर)
12. Others, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस्

D. Usage of technology   प्रविधीको प्रयोग

D1. In general, how much information about you is publicly available online? (e.g. home address, phone number, picture, sexual orientation/gender identity, political affiliation, groups I belong to...)

सामान्यतया : तपाईबारे कति सूचनाहरु सार्वजनिक रुपमा अनलाइनमा छन् ? (जस्तै घरको ठेगाना, सम्पर्क नम्बर, तस्वीर, यौनिक अभिमुखीकरण, जेन्डरको पहिचान, राजनैतीक कार्यहरु, आफू आबद्ध समूहहरु ....)(Please select one)

1. A lot of information about me   मेरो बारे धेरै सूचनाहरु छन्
2. Some information about me   केही सूचनाहरु छन्
3. A small amount of information about me   एकदमै कम सूचनाहरु छन् ।
4. No information about me at all   केही पनि सूचनाहरु छैनन् ।

D2. Please select top three personal activities that you use the Internet for

कृपया तलका मध्ये तपाई आफूले इन्टरनेटमा गर्ने मुख्य ३ क्रियाकलापहरु छनौट गर्नुहोस् ।

1. Connecting with friends and family परिवार तथा साथीभाइहरुसँग सम्पर्क
2. For entertainment (to access video, music, games) मनोरञ्जन (भिडियो हेर्ने, संगीत सुन्ने, गेम खेल्ने इत्यादी)
3. For dating and meeting new people (Tinder, Grindr) डेटिङ्ग र नयाँ मानिससँग भेटघाट (टिन्डर, ग्रिन्डर)
4. To access news and current affairs समाचार तथा समसामयिक खबरहरु बुझ्ने
5. To access information on your health (physical, mental, sexual) स्वास्थ सम्बन्धी जानकारीहरु लिने (शारीरिक, मानसिक, यौनिक)

D3. Please rank the following platforms in terms of how friendly and welcoming it is towards you (from 1 to 5, 1 being the friendliest and 5 being the least friendly).

कृपया निम्न मञ्च(स्थानहरु) प्रयोगकर्ता (तपाई आफै) मैत्री र तपाईंप्रति संवेदनशील भएको आधारमा आफूलाई लागेको अंक दिनुहोस् । (अंक १देखि ५ सम्म, अंक १ एकदमै मैत्रीपूर्ण र ५ अति कम मैत्रीपूर्ण)

Social networking sites/apps: 1☐   2☐   3☐   4☐   5☐

सामाजिक संजालहरु/एप	१☐	२☐	३☐	४☐	५☐
Online dating websites/apps:	1☐	2☐	3☐	4☐	5☐
अनलाइन डेटिङ्ग /एप	१☐	२☐	३☐	४☐	५☐
Comments section of a website:	1☐	2☐	3☐	4☐	5☐
वेभसाइटको टिप्पणी (कमेन्ट) क्षेत्र	१☐	२☐	३☐	४☐	५☐
Online discussion sites:	1☐	2☐	3☐	4☐	5☐
अनलाईन छलफल मञ्च	१☐	२☐	३☐	४☐	५☐

D4. Which of the following are the most faced problems in the internet space? Please choose up to three most relevant options.

तलका मध्ये इन्टरनेटको दुनियाँमा सबैभन्दा बढि पाइने समस्याहरु कुन कुन हुन ?कृपया ३ प्रमुख सान्दर्भिक समस्याहरुमा ठिक लगाउनुहोस् ।

1. Sent you nude photo without your consent   आफ्नो सहमति विपरित नग्न तस्बीर पठाउने
2. Comments/messages sent in a demeaning way   अपमानजनक टिप्पणी, सन्देश
3. Sexual Assault   यौन दुर्व्यवहार
4. Direct threats or violence   प्रत्यक्ष धम्की वा हिंसा
5. Damage to reputation or credibility   व्यक्तिगत प्रतिष्ठामा क्षति
6. Monitoring on online space   अनलाइन निगरानी
7. Other, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

D5. In what kind of situation, did you come across such experience the most?

कुन परिस्थितीमा त्यस्तो दुर्व्यवहारको सामना गर्नुपरेको छ ? (Please select one)

1. While voicing your political opinion   आफ्नो राजनैतीक विचारहरु अभिव्यक्त गर्दा
2. Voicing your religious opinion   आफ्नो धार्मिक विचार अभिव्यक्त गर्दा
3. Voicing your sexual opinion   यौन सम्बन्धित धारणाहरु व्यक्त गर्दा
4. Posting your pictures   आफ्नो तस्बीरहरु पोस्ट गर्दा
5. Defending gender and sexual rights   यौन तथा जेन्डर अधिकार सम्बन्धित विषयहरुबारे बहस गर्दा
6. Without doing anything   केही नगर्दा पनि
7. Other, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

D6. Did you limit your participation on online space due to such experience? (Please select one)

के त्यस्ता दुर्व्यबहारले गर्दा आफ्नो अनलाइन गतिविधीहरुलाई कम गर्नु भएको छ ?

1. Yes   छ
2. No   छैन

D7. If yes, which of these platforms have you limited your participation in? (Please select one)

यदि छ भने तलका मध्ये कुन स्थानमा आफ्नो गतिविधी वा सहभागितालाई कम गर्नुभएको छ ?

1. Social networking sites/apps   सामाजिक संजाल
2. Online dating websites/apps   अनलाइन डेटिङ्ग साइट
3. Comments section of a website   वेबसाइटहरुको टिप्पणी (कमेन्ट) क्षेत्र
4. Personal email account   व्यक्तिगत इमेल खाता
5. Online discussion sites   अनलाइन छलफल साइटहरु
6. Others, Please Specify   अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस्

D8. How did you handle the situation? त्यस्तो परिस्थितीलाई कसरी सामना गर्दै आउनुभएको छ ?(Please select one)

1. Talked with that perpetrator directly and solved the issue. पीडकसँग प्रत्यक्ष कुराकानी मार्फत समस्या समाधान
2. Stopped using all social media सामाजिक सञ्जाल प्रयोग गर्न नै बन्द
3. Report to Police प्रहरीमा उजूरी
4. Stopped using specific social media on which online abuse occurred अपमानजन्य व्यवहार भोगेको खास सामाजिक सञ्जाल चलाउन बन्द
5. Unfriended or blocked the person   अपमान गर्ने व्यक्तिलाई ब्लक वा अनफ्रेन्ड
6. Asked help from a friend, colleague आफ्नो साथी वा सहकर्मीसँग सहयोग मागेर
7. Stop posting certain issue निश्चित मुद्दाहरुबारे कुरा नगरेर/पोस्ट नगरेर
8. Didn't respond and continue doing same activities केही प्रतिक्रिया नदिई आफूले गरिआएकै काम गरेर
9. Others, Please Specify अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस्

D9. Have you personally been harassed on the online space? के तपाई अनलाइनमा कुनै दुर्व्यवहारमा पर्नुभएको छ? (Please select one)

1. Yes   छ
2. No   छैन

D10.Have you heard of any of following ways for increasing your online security? (Check all that apply)

के तपाईंले तलका मध्ये कुनै पनि अनलाइन सुरक्षा प्रविधीबारे सुन्नुभएको छ ? (मिल्ने जति जवाफ छनौट गर्नुहोस् ।)

1. Using strong passwords for your email or other Internet accounts आफ्नो इमेल वा इन्टरनेट खातामा बलियो पासवर्ड राख्ने
2. Encrypting data डाटा एनक्रिप्ट गर्ने
3. Using anti-virus software एन्टि भाइरस सफ्टवेयरको प्रयोग गर्ने
ढ। Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches and updates कम्प्युटर अपरेटिङ्ग सिस्टमलाई पछिल्लो सुरक्षात्मक प्रणालीहरु मार्फत अपडेट गराइराख्ने
5. Using IP disguisers/blockers आइपी लुकाउने वा ब्लक गर्ने प्रणालीको प्रयोग
6. Using anti-censorship software एन्टी सेन्सरसीप सफ्टवेयरको प्रयोग गर्ने
7. Using a VPN भिपिएनको प्रयोग गर्ने
8. Others, Please Specify अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

D11.Have you used any of the following to increase your online security? (Check all that apply)

के तपाईंले आफ्नो अनलाइन सुरक्षा बृद्धि गर्नका लागि तलका मध्ये कुनै काम गर्नुभएको छ ?

1. Using strong passwords for your email or other Internet accounts
   आफ्नो इमेल वा इन्टरनेट खातामा बलियो पासवर्ड राख्ने
2. Encrypting data डाटा एनक्रिप्ट गर्ने
3. Using anti-virus software एन्टि भाइरस सफ्टवेयरको प्रयोग गर्ने
4. Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches and updates
   कम्प्युटर अपरेटिङ्ग सिस्टमलाई पछिल्लो सुरक्षात्मक प्रणालीहरु मार्फत अपडेट गराइराख्ने
5. Using IP disguisers/blockers आइपी लुकाउने वा ब्लक गर्ने प्रणालीको प्रयोग
6. Using anti-censorship software एन्टी सेन्सरसीप सफ्टवेयरको प्रयोग गर्ने
7. Using a VPN भिपिएनको प्रयोग गर्ने
8. Others, Please Specify अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

D12. Who made your first ever online account (gmail/Hotmail/social media account)? तपाईको सबैभन्दा पहिलो अनलाइन खाता कसले बनाउन मदत गरेको थियो ? (जिमेल ⁄ हटमेल ⁄ सामाजिक सञ्जाल खाता)(Please select one)

1. You, yourself   म आफैले
2. Others   अरुले
3. Don't remember   याद छैन

D13. Do you have password for all the online accounts? (Please select one)

के तपाईले आफ्नो अनलाइन खाताहरुको पासवर्ड राख्नुभएको छ ?

1. Yes   छ
2. No   छैन

D14. Do you have same password for different accounts? (Please select one)

के तपाई विभिन्न अनलाइन खाताहरुमा उस्तै पासवर्डहरु प्रयोग गर्नुहुन्छ ?

1. Yes   गर्छु
2. No   गर्दिन

D15. Do you have password for every gadget you use? (Please select one)

के तपाई आफ्नो प्रत्येक प्रविधीका साधन (ग्याजेट्समा) पासवर्डको प्रयोग गर्नुहुन्छ ?

1. Yes   गर्छु
2. No   गर्दिन

D16. Do you have anti-virus for every gadget you use? (Please select one)

के तपाई आफ्नो प्रत्येक प्रविधीका साधन (ग्याजेट्समा) एन्टी भाइरसको प्रयोग गर्नुहुन्छ ?

1. Yes   गर्छु
2. No   गर्दिन

D17. Do you share your general password (phone/other gadgets, email) with anyone else? (Please select one)

के तपाई सामान्यतया आफ्नो पासवर्ड (इमेल, फोन वा अन्य साधन) अरु कसैलाई दिने गर्नुभएको छ ?

1. Yes   छ

2. No   छैन

D18. Have you shared your social media password with anyone? (Please select one)

के तपाईले आफ्नो सामाजिक संजालको खाताको पासवर्ड कसैलाई दिनुभएको छ ?

1. Yes   छ

2. No   छैन

D19. Which application do you use the most while using internet? (Please select one)

1. Facebook   फेसबुक
2. Youtube   युट्युब
3. Instagram   इन्स्टाग्राम
4. Tumblr   टम्बलर
5. Twitter   ट्वीटर
6. Dating Apps   डेटिङ्ग एप्स
7. Others, Please Specify   कृपया अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस्

D20. With whom have you shared your password (email, phone/other gadgets) with? (Please select one)

यदि आफ्नो साधन वा अनलाइन खाताको पासवर्ड दिने गर्नुभएको छ भने कसलाई ?

ज। No one   कसैलाई पनि छैन
2. Friends   साथीहरुलाई
3. Family   परिवारको सदस्यलाई
4. Girlfriend/Boyfriend   प्रेमी / प्रेमिका
5. Co-workers   सहकर्मीहरुलाई
ट। Others, please specify   कृपया अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

D21. With whom have you shared your social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc.) password with? (Please select one)

1. No one   कसैलाई पनि छैन
2. Friends   साथीहरुलाई
3. Family   परिवारको सदस्यलाई
4. Girlfriend/Boyfriend   प्रेमी / प्रेमिका
5. Co-workers   सहकर्मीहरुलाई
ट। Others, please specify   कृपया अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

\D22. Do you think it is fine to share your password?

के तपाईलाई आफ्नो पासवर्ड अरुलाई दिनु उपयुक्त हो जस्तो लाग्छ ? (Please select one)

1. Yes   लाग्छ
2. No   लाग्दैन

D23. Can you list at least one of the important activities you did while using the internet in the last 3 months ?

के तपाईँले विगत ३ महिनामा आफ्नो व्यक्तिगत प्रायोजनका लागि अनलाइन मार्फत् गरेको कम्तीमा ३ महत्वपूर्ण क्रियाकलापहरुको बताउन सक्नुहुन्छ ?

....

D24.How frequently do you post your opinion or picture on the online space?

तपाई आफ्नो धारणा वा तस्वीर कतिको आफ्नो अनलाइन खातामार्फत् सार्वजनिक गर्नुहुन्छ ? (Please select one)

1. Several times a week हप्तामा कयौं पटक
2. Once a week हप्तामा एक पटक
3. Once a day दिनको एक पटक
ढ। Several times a day दिनमा कयौं पटक
5. Once a month महिनामा एक पटक
6. Rarely post anything विरलै केही पोस्ट गर्छु
ठ। Never कहिल्यै पनि गर्दिन

D25. What are your posts mostly related to?

तपाईले अनलाईन राख्ने सूचना(पोस्टहरु) बढी के सँग सम्बन्धित हुन्छन् ?(Please select one)

1. Work आफ्नो काम
द्र। Leisure फुर्सद
3. Personal व्यक्तिगत
4. Civic and political participation नागरिक तथा राजनीतिक सहभागिता
5. None of the above, Please Specify माथिका कुनै पनि होइन, कृपया के हो खुलाउनुहोस्

D26. Do you think online and offline space are similar in terms of expressing your thoughts?

के तपाईलाई आफ्नो विचारहरु व्यक्त गर्नका लागि अनलाइन र अफलाईन माध्यम उस्तै जस्तो लाग्छ?(Please select one)

1. Yes लाग्छ
2. No लाग्दैन

D27. Do you think it is easier to be comments on others opinion on the online space?

के तपाईलाई अनलाइन मार्फत् अरुका विचारहरुमा टिप्पणी गर्न सजिलो हुन्छ जस्तो लाग्छ ?(Please select one)

1. Yes लाग्छ
2. No लाग्दैन

D28. Do you think it is easier to voice your opinion in internet?

के तपाईलाई अनलाइन मार्फत् आफ्नो विचारहरु व्यक्त गर्न सहज हुन्छ जस्तो लाग्छ ? (Please select one)

1. Yes लाग्छ
2. No लाग्दैन

D29. Do you think you are under someone's supervision on the online platform?

के तपाइलाई आफू अनलाइनमा कसैको निगरानीमा छु जस्तो लाग्छ ? (Please select one)

1. Yes लाग्छ
द्र। No लाग्दैन

D30. If yes, does that affect your participation?

यदि लाग्छ भने के त्यसले तपाईको अनलाइन सहभागितालाई असर गरेको छ ? (Please select one)

1. Yes छ
2. No छैन

D31. Do you get scolded for using internet? के इन्टरनेटको प्रयोग गर्दा तपाईलाई गाली गरिन्छ ? (Please select one)

1. Yes   गरिन्छ
2. No   गरिदैन

D32.When you share your views/pictures on social media, whom are you most cautious from?

आफ्नो धारणा, तस्वीर सामाजिक संजालहरुमा राख्दा को देखि बढि सजक हुनुहुन्छ ?(Please select one)

1. None   कसैसँग पनि होइन
2. Distant family members   टाढाका आफन्तजन
3. Parents   परिवार
4. Siblings   दाजुभाइ, दिदिबहिनी
5. Cousins   मामा, फूपुको छोरा छोरी
6. Friends   साथीहरु
7. Co-workers   सहकर्मीहरु
8. Girlfriend/Boyfriend   प्रेमी / प्रेमिका
9. Others, Please Specify   कृपया अन्य भए उल्लेख गर्नुहोस् ।

TABLES FROM QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

Table 1. Age distribution of the respondents

Age Group	Percent
15-19	45.7%
19-24	54.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 2. Gender distribution of the respondents

Gender	Frequency
Male	150
Female	150
Total	300

Table 3. Sexual orientation of the respondents

Sexual Orientation	Percent
Male	49.7%
Female	49.3%
Bisexual	0.7%
Asexual	0.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 4. Crosstabulation between gender you identify with and your sexual orientatio

	Male	Female	Bisexual	Asexual	Total
Male	49.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	50.0%
Female	0.0%	49.3%	0.3%	0.3%	50.0%
Total	49.3%	49.7%	0.7%	0.3%	100.0%

Table 5. Survey Location

	Percent
Kathmandu	31.3%
Lalitpur	42.7%
Bhaktapur	26.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 6. Distribution of years of internet usage

	Percent
10 years or before	17.7%
5-9 years	35.3%
1-4 years	40.3%
Less than a year	6.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 7. Distribution of the devices used to connect internet

	Percent
Desktop Computer	28.0%
Laptop	62.3%
Tablet	21.3%
Smart Phone	92.3%
Others, Please Specify	0.3%

Table 8. Distribution of the respondents with the type of internet access

	Percent
Fixed broadband connections	90.0%
Mobile broadband connections	8.3%
Less than 3G	1.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 9. Gender-wise distribution of the respondents with the type of internet access

	Fixed broadband connections	Mobile broadband connections	Less than 3G	Total
Male	45.0%	4.7%	0.3%	50.0%
Female	45.0%	3.7%	1.3%	50.0%
Total	90.0%	8.3%	1.7%	100.0%

Table 10. Place the respondents are most often while using internet

	Percent
Home	92.3%
Cafe or Restaurants	4.7%
Friend's Home	1.0%
Work	2.0%
Total	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 11. Frequency of internet usage

	Percent
Once a month or less	1.7%
Once a week	3.3%
Several times a week	7.7%
Several times a day	61.0%
At least once a day	24.3%
Rarely use internet	2.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 12. Frequency of internet usage by gender

	Once a month or less	Once a week	Several times a week	Several times a day	At least once a day	Rarely use internet	Total
Male	0.7%	1.7%	4.0%	26.7%	15.3%	1.7%	50.0%
Female	1.0%	1.7%	3.7%	34.3%	9.0%	0.3%	50.0%
Total	1.7%	3.3%	7.7%	61.0%	24.3%	2.0%	100.0%

Table 13. Respondents' perception of cost as limiting factor while using internet

	Percent
Strongly Disagree	7.0%
Disagree	22.0%
Neither agree nor disagree	28.7%
Agree	33.0%
Strongly Agree	9.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 14. Gender-wise perception of cost as limiting factor while using internet

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly Agree	Total
Male	3.7%	8.7%	11.7%	19.7%	6.3%	50.0%
Female	3.3%	13.3%	17.0%	13.3%	3.0%	50.0%
Total	7.0%	22.0%	28.7%	33.0%	9.3%	100.0%

Table 15. Distribution of websites visited last month

	Percent
Chat	84.3%
Online Shopping	34.7%
Educational/School	59.3%
Games	56.3%
Music/Celebrity/Fashion	67.7%
News	48.3%
Political	18.3%
Religious	9.0%
Sexual Health	12.7%
Sports	33.7%
Dating Apps	5.3%
Others, Please Specify	2.7%

(Go back to report)

Table 16. Publicly available online information of the respondents

Publicly available Information	Percent
A lot of information about me	11.0%
Some information about me	40.0%
A small amount of information about me	41.0%
No information about me at all	8.0%
Total	100.0

Table 17. Top three personal activities while using internet

	Percent
Connecting with friends and family	98.0%
For entertainment (to access video, music, games)	95.3%
For dating and meeting new people (Tinder, Grindr)	13.0%
To access news and current affairs	71.7%
To access information on your health (physical, mental, sexual)	21.7%

Table 18. Gender-wise distribution of top three personal activities

	Connecting with friends and family	For entertainment(to access video, music, games)	For dating and meeting new people (Tinder, Grindr)	To access news and current affairs	To access information on your health (physical, mental, sexual)
Male	98.7%	94.7%	18.7%	65.3%	22.7%
Female	97.3%	96.0%	7.3%	78.0%	20.7%

Table 19.Distribution of online platforms in terms of friendly and welcoming

	Social Networking sites/apps	Online dating websites/apps	Comments Section of a website	Online discussion sites
Friendliest	35.7%	16.0%	11.7%	19.0%
Friendly	24.7%	13.0%	26.0%	28.0%
Moderately Friendly	19.7%	9.3%	38.0%	27.7%
Slightly Friendly	10.7%	9.3%	16.7%	14.7%
Least Friendly	9.3%	52.3%	7.7%	10.7%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 20. Most faced problems on the online space

	Percent
Comments/messages sent in a demeaning way	78.5%
Threats to damage reputation or credibility	51.7%
Direct threats or violence	41.3%
Monitoring on online space	36.2%
Sent you nude photo without your consent	33.6%
Sexual Assault	29.9%
Others, Please Specify	8.4%

(Go back to report)

Table 21. Gender-wise perception of most faced problems on the online space

	Sent you nude photo without your consent	Comments/messages sent in a demeaning way	Sexual Assault	Direct threats or violence	Threats to damage reputation or credibility	Monitoring on online space	Others
Male	28.0%	74.7%	31.3%	41.3%	54.0%	42.0%	10.0%
Female	39.2%	82.4%	28.4%	41.2%	49.3%	30.4%	6.8%

Table 22. Distribution of online faced problems

	Percent
While voicing your political opinion	11.3%
Voicing your religious opinion	7.0%
Voicing your sexual opinion	5.0%
Posting your pictures	22.0%
Defending gender and sexual rights	5.7%
Without doing anything	33.7%
Other,Please Specify	15.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 23. Gender-wise distribution of online faced problems

	While voicing your political opinion	Voicing your religious opinion	Voicing your sexual opinion	Posting your pictures	Defending gender and sexual rights	Without doing anything	Other, Please Specify	Total
Male	9.0%	3.7%	2.3%	9.0%	3.3%	15.7%	7.0%	50.0%
Female	2.3%	3.3%	2.7%	13.0%	2.3%	18.0%	8.3%	50.0%
Total	11.3%	7.0%	5.0%	22.0%	5.7%	33.7%	15.3%	100.0%

Table 24. Limitation of participation due to online faced problems

	Percent
Yes	40.7%
No	59.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 25. Gender-wise limitation of participation due to online faced problems

	Yes	No	Total
Male	19.7%	30.3%	50.0%
Female	21.0%	29.0%	50.0%
Total	40.7%	59.3%	100.0%

Table 26 Platforms respondents limited their participation in

	Percent
Social networking sites/apps	28.7%
Online dating websites/apps	1.3%
Comments section of a website	7.3%
Personal email account	1.3%
Online discussion sites	1.7%
Others, Please Specify	0.3%
Total	40.7%

Table 27. Handling of situation by the respondents

	Percent
Talked with that perpetrator directly and solved the issue	15.3%
Stopped using all social media	5.3%
Report to Police	2.7%
Stopped using specific social media on which online abuse occured	5.0%
Unfriended or blocked the person	38.3%
Asked help from a friend, colleague	3.7%
Stop posting certain issue	3.3%
Didn't respond and continue doing same activities	16.3%

Others, Please Specify	10.0%
Total	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 28. Gender-wise handling of online faced problems

	Talked with that perpetrator directly and solved the issue	Stopped using all social media	Report to Police	Stopped using specific social media on which online abuse occured	Unfriended or blocked the person	Asked help from a friend, colleague	Stop posting certain issue	Didn't respond and continue doing same activities	Others, Please Specify	Total
Male	**8.3%**	**3.7%**	**1.3%**	**3.3%**	**15.7%**	**2.3%**	**2.3%**	**9.3%**	**3.7%**	**50.0%**
Female	7.0%	1.7%	1.3%	1.7%	22.7%	1.3%	1.0%	7.0%	6.3%	50.0%
Total	**15.3%**	**5.3%**	**2.7%**	**5.0%**	**38.3%**	**3.7%**	**3.3%**	**16.3%**	**10.0%**	**100.0%**

Table 29. Personal experience on online harassment

	Percent
Yes	15.3%
No	84.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 30. Gender-wise experience on online harassment

	Yes	No	Total
Male	6.3%	43.7%	50.0%
Female	9.0%	41.0%	50.0%
Total	15.3%	84.7%	100.0%

Table 31. Measures respondents have heard to increasing your online security

	Percent
Using strong passwords for your email or other internet accounts	95.3%
Encrypting Data	18.0%
Using anti-virus software	42.3%
Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches and updates	29.3%
Using IP disguisers/blockers	23.3%
Using anti-censorship software	5.7%
Using a VPN	29.7%
Others, Please Specify	1.7%

Table 32. Measures respondents (gender-wise) have heard to increasing your online security

	Using strong passwords for your email or other internet accounts	Encrypting Data	Using anti-virus software	Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches and updates	Using IP disguisers/blockers	Using anti-censorship software	Using a VPN	Others, Please Specify

Male	93.3%	21.3%	47.3%	34.0%	33.3%	8.7%	44.0%	2.0%
Female	97.3%	14.7%	37.3%	24.7%	13.3%	2.7%	15.3%	1.3%

(Go back to report)

Table 33. Measures respondents have used to increasing your online security

	Percent
Using strong passwords for your email or other internet accounts	93.7%
Encrypting Data	8.3%
Using anti-virus software	35.3%
Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches and updates	26.3%
Using IP disguisers/blockers	15.0%
Using anti-censorship software	3.0%
Using a VPN	20.3%
Others, Please Specify	1.3%

Table 34. Measures respondents have used (gender-wise) to increasing your online security

Using strong passwords for your email or other internet accounts	Encrypting Data	Using anti-virus software	Keeping your operating system updated with the latest security patches	Using IP disguisers/blockers	Using anti-censorship software	Using a VPN	Others, Please Specify

Male	92.0%	10.0%	41.3%	28.7%	22.0%	6.0%	33.3%	2.0%
Female	95.3%	6.7%	29.3%	24.0%	8.0%	0.0%	7.3%	0.7%

Table 35. Use of password for all the online accounts

	Percent
Yes	93.7%
No	6.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 36. Use of same password for different accounts

	Percent
Yes	36.0%
No	64.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 37. Gender-wise distribution of use of same password for different accounts

	Yes	No	Total
Male	20.3%	29.7%	50.0%
Female	15.7%	34.3%	50.0%
Total	36.0%	64.0%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 38. Password for every gadget

	Percent
Yes	72.3%
No	27.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 39. Gender-wise distribution of use of password for every gadget

	Yes	No	Total
Male	34.7%	15.3%	50.0%
Female	37.7%	12.3%	50.0%
Total	72.3%	27.7%	100.0%

Table 40. Use of anti-virus for every gadget

	Percent
Yes	47.3%
No	52.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 41. Gender-wise use of anti-virus for every gadget

	Yes	No	Total
Male	23.0%	27.0%	50.0%
Female	24.3%	25.7%	50.0%
Total	47.3%	52.7%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 42. Sharing of general password (phone/other gadgets, email) by respondents

	Percent
Yes	20.0%
No	80.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 43. Gender-wise tendency of sharing general password

	Yes	No	Total
Male	10.0%	40.0%	50.0%
Female	10.0%	40.0%	50.0%
Total	20.0%	80.0%	100.0%

Table 44. Sharing of social media password by the respondents

	Percent
Yes	22.0%
No	78.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 45. Gender-wise tendency of sharing social media password

	Yes	No	Total
Male	11.7%	38.3%	50.0%
Female	10.3%	39.7%	50.0%
Total	22.0%	78.0%	100.0%

Table 46. Most used application while using internet

	Percent
Facebook	39.3%
YouTube	39.7%
Instagram	13.3%
Tumblr	0.7%
Twitter	2.7%
Dating Apps	0.3%
Others, Please Specify	4.0%
Total	100.0%

Table 47. Gender-wise use of application while using internet

	Facebook	YouTube	Instagram	Tumblr	Twitter	Dating Apps	Others, Please Specify	Total
Male	19.7%	23.0%	3.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.3%	3.0%	50.0%
Female	19.7%	16.7%	10.3%	0.7%	1.7%	0.0%	1.0%	50.0%
Total	39.3%	39.7%	13.3%	0.7%	2.7%	0.3%	4.0%	100.0%

Table 48. People respondents' share password with

	Percent
No one	67.3%
Friends	12.7%
Family	11.0%
Girlfriend/Boyfriend	8.3%
Others, please specify	0.7%
Total	100.0%

Table 49. Gender-wise tendency to share password with

	No one	Friends	Family	Girlfriend/Boyfriend	Others, please specify	Total
Male	34.0%	6.0%	5.7%	4.0%	0.3%	50.0%
Female	33.3%	6.7%	5.3%	4.3%	0.3%	50.0%
Total	67.3%	12.7%	11.0%	8.3%	0.7%	100.0%

Table 50. Do you think it is fine to share your password?

	Percent
Yes	11.7%
No	88.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 51. Have you shared your social media password with anyone? * Do you think it is fine to share your password? Crosstabulation.

	Yes	No	Total
Yes	9.7%	12.3%	22.0%
No	2.0%	76.0%	78.0%
Total	11.7%	88.3%	100.0%

Table 52. Most important activity while using the internet in the last 3 months

	Percent
Communication	35.7%
Access to information	29.0%
Civic and political participation	2.7%
Professional Life	3.3%
Entertainment	25.0%
Others	4.3%
Total	100.0%

Table 53. Gender-wise preference for activity while using the internet in the last 3 months

	Communication	Access to information	Civic and political participation	Professional Life	Entertainment	Others	Total
Male	16.7%	11.3%	2.7%	3.0%	13.3%	3.0%	50.0%
Female	19.0%	17.7%	0.0%	0.3%	11.7%	1.3%	50.0%
Total	35.7%	29.0%	2.7%	3.3%	25.0%	4.3%	100.0%

Table 54. Distribution of most related posts of the respondents

	Percent
Work	9.0%
Leisure	23.7%
Personal	51.3%
Civic and political participation	3.3%
None of the above	12.7%
Total	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 55. Distribution of most related posts of the respondents (gender-wise)

	Work	Leisure	Personal	Civic and political participation	None of the above	Total
Male	6.0%	10.7%	25.0%	2.3%	6.0%	50.0%
Female	3.0%	13.0%	26.3%	1.0%	6.7%	50.0%
Total	9.0%	23.7%	51.3%	3.3%	12.7%	100.0%

Table 56. Perception of respondents on online and offline as similar space

	Yes	No	Total
Male	10.3%	39.7%	50.0%
Female	11.3%	38.7%	50.0%
Total	21.7%	78.3%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 57. Gender-wise perception on easiness to comment on others' opinion on online space

	Yes	No	Total
Male	30.3%	19.7%	50.0%
Female	28.3%	21.7%	50.0%
Total	58.7%	41.3%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 58. Gender-wise perception on easiness to voice the opinion on internet

	Yes	No	Total
Male	33.0%	17.0%	50.0%
Female	30.0%	20.0%	50.0%
Total	63.0%	37.0%	100.0%

(Go back to report)

Table 59. Gender-wise perception on being supervised on online platform

	Yes	No	Total
Male	22.0%	28.0%	50.0%
Female	18.0%	32.0%	50.0%
Total	40.0%	60.0%	100.0%

Table 60. Link between someone's supervision and internet usage

	Percent
Yes	20.0%
No	20.0%
Total	40.0%

Table 61. Gender-wise tendency to be affected by someone's supervision while using internet

	Yes	No	Total
Male	30.0%	25.0%	55.0%
Female	20.0%	25.0%	45.0%
Total	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%

Table 62. Gender-wise distribution for getting scolded for using internet

	Yes	No	Total
Male	19.0%	31.0%	50.0%
Female	28.3%	21.7%	50.0%
Total	47.3%	52.7%	100.0%

Table 63. Gender-wise distribution of respondents who are cautious while sharing views/pictures

	None	Distant family members	Parents	Siblings	Cousins	Friends	Girlfriend/Boyfriend	Others, Please Specify	Total
Male	27.8%	4.7%	9.0%	0.7%	0.7%	4.7%	2.3%	0.0%	49.8%
Female	23.4%	9.7%	10.0%	1.7%	0.0%	3.3%	0.0%	2.0%	50.2%
Total	51.2%	14.4%	19.1%	2.3%	0.7%	8.0%	2.3%	2.0%	100.0%

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