



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USE AND SELECTED DIMENSIONS OF  
POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

**TOKTAM NAMAYANDEH JOORABCHI**

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**RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USE AND SELECTED  
DIMENSIONS OF POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

**By**

**TOKTAM NAMAYANDEH JOORABCHI**

**Thesis submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

**February 2013**

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## DEDICATION

### *In The Name of God*

This research is dedicated to my wonderful parents who have raised me to be the person I am today. You have provided me with support, emotionally and financially throughout this long and challenging journey. You have been a great source of much more than physical and emotional support. You have been with me every step of the way, through good times and bad. Thank you for your unconditional love, guidance, and support that you have always given me, helping me succeed and instilling in me the confidence that in doing anything I will succeed if I put my mind to it. I am grateful too, to my brother, who has guided and supported me with excellent suggestions. Finally, this thesis is dedicated to all those who believe in the richness of learning.



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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OF POSITIVE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

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**TOKTAM NAMAYANDEH JOORABCHI**

February 2013

**Chairman: Md. Salleh Hj. Hassan, PhD**

**Faculty: Modern Languages and Communication**

The importance of public use of the Internet has noticeably increased in our daily lives. The Internet, with its imminence potential possibilities, has been a major attraction, especially for students because they are often involved with the Internet based on the need for accessing information, satisfying leisure activities, transferring information, and communicating with others near and far in real time.

This study was designed based on the application of Media System Dependency and Uses and Gratification theory to understand Internet usage among students. The objectives of this study are to identify the relationships between the pattern of Internet usage, attitude towards the Internet, Internet skills, problems and purpose of using the Internet with the

gratification of Internet usage as mediation and selected dimensions of positive youth development.

The present study used a survey design to achieve its objectives in which cluster sampling was employed. A total of 400 respondents participated from Universiti Putra Malaysia in this study to analysis the data SPSS version (19) and AMOS version (18) were the statistical tools used in this study.

Five categories of gratification for using the Internet were identified, namely, Escape, Affective, Cognitive, Social Integration, and Personal Integration. In addition, four selected categories of positive youth development were identified in the current research which is confidence, character, caring, and connection. Most students use the Internet to search for and get knowledge. They think that the Internet is the fastest way to research knowledge and they have a positive attitude toward the Internet.

This research found that checking *Facebook* was the most important purpose for students to use the Internet. This study also found that most popular search engine is Google.com. The most common problem of using the Internet is slow Internet connection and the most common gratification of using the Internet is searching for information.

This study found that there was significant relationship between problem of using Internet and connection in PYD dimension. There was also significant relationship between attitude and character. In addition, there was significant relationship between attitudes toward the Internet and gratification of Internet use. Furthermore, the relationship between

purpose of Internet usage and connection was also significant. Finally this study found that the relationship between purpose of using Internet and gratification was significant.

Meanwhile, the results show that there was no significant direct relationship between Internet skill and the four dimensions of positive youth development and gratification of Internet usage. The results also indicate that there was no significant direct relationship between years of using the Internet and four dimensions of positive youth development. In addition, there was no significant relationship between pattern of Internet usage and gratification of Internet usage. However, the results found that there was significant direct relationship between gratification of Internet usage and the four dimensions of positive youth development.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah.

**HUBUNGAN DIANTARA PENGGUNAAN INTERNET DAN DIMENSI  
TERTENTU DARI PEMBANGUNAN POSITIF REMAJA**

Oleh

**TOKTAM NAMAYANDEH JOORABCHI**

**Februari 2013**

**Pengerusi: Md. Salleh Hj. Hassan, PhD**

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Kepentingan dalam penggunaan awam Internet telah meningkat secara mendadak dalam kehidupan seharian manusia. Dengan kepelbagaian kemungkinan yang dibawa oleh Internet telah menjadi satu daya tarikan yang besar terutamanya kepada para pelajar. Mereka terlibat dengan Internet berdasarkan kepada keperluan mereka untuk mendapatkan maklumat, memenuhi aktiviti masa lapang, berkongsi maklumat dan berkomunikasi dengan yang lain sama ada jauh atau dekat dalam masa sebenar.

Kajian ini telah dijalankan berpandukan kepada aplikasi rangka teori “Pergantungan Sistem Media” dan ‘Penggunaan dan Kepuasan Kehendak’ dalam memahami penggunaan



Internet dikalangan pelajar. Objektif utama bagi kajian ini adalah untuk mengenalpasti pola hubungan antara penggunaan Internet, sikap dan pandangan terhadap Internet, kemahiran menggunakan Internet, masalah dan tujuan dalam menggunakan Internet dengan tahap kepuasan penggunaan Internet sebagai pengantaraan dan beberapa dimensi terpilih pembangunan positif remaja.

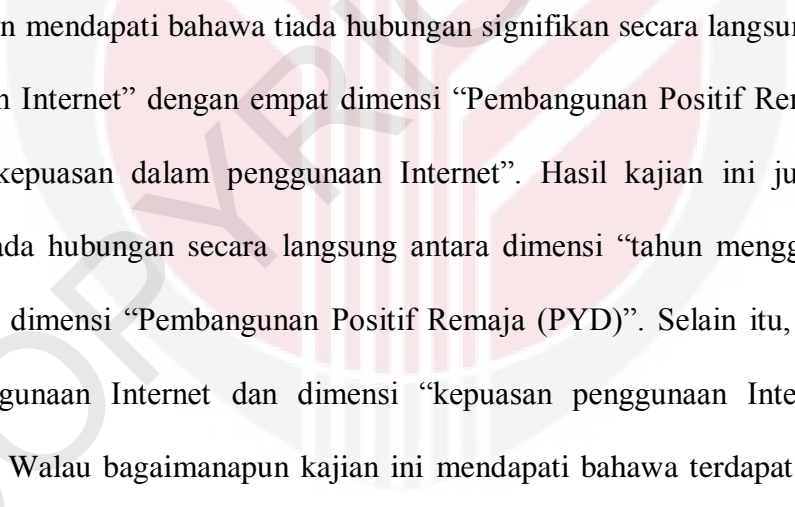
Kajian ini telah menggunakan teknik kaji selidik bagi mencapai objektifnya. Kaedah persampelan berkelompok telah digunakan di dalam kajian ini. Sejumlah 400 responden yang terdiri dari pelajar Universiti Putra Malaysia telah mengambil bahagian di dalam kajian ini. Program SPSS versi (19) dan AMOS versi (18) merupakan alat statistik yang telah digunakan untuk menganalisis data dalam kajian ini.

Lima kategori kepuasan bagi penggunaan Internet telah dikenalpasti iaitu, medium menenangkan fikiran, Afektif, Kognitif, Integrasi Sosial, dan Integrasi Peribadi. Empat kategori terpilih pembangunan positif remaja juga dikenalpasti seperti keyakinan diri, perwatakan, sifat penyayang, dan perhubungan. Kebanyakan pelajar menggunakan Internet untuk mencari dan mendapatkan ilmu pengetahuan. Mereka berpendapat bahawa Internet merupakan cara terpantas untuk mengkaji ilmu, oleh itu, mereka berpandangan positif terhadap Internet.

Kajian ini mendapati melayari laman sosial *Facebook* merupakan tujuan utama bagi para pelajar. Kajian ini juga mendapati kebanyakan daripada mereka menggunakan *Google.com* bagi tujuan mencari maklumat. Masalah utama yang dikenalpasti semasa menggunakan Internet adalah sambungannya yang tidak stabil. Manakala, bagi tahap

kepuasan sewaktu menggunakan Internet, didapati bahawa para pelajar amat berpuas hati apabila mereka menjumpai maklumat yang dicari.

Kajian ini mendapati terdapat hubungan yang signifikan antara dimensi “masalah dalam penggunaan Internet” dan dimensi “hubungan Pembangunan Positif Remaja (PYD)”. Terdapat juga hubungan yang signifikan antara dimensi “sikap” dan dimensi “perwatakan”. Selain itu, hubungan antara dimensi “sikap terhadap Internet” dan dimensi “kepuasan dalam penggunaan Internet” adalah signifikan. Hubungan antara dimensi “tujuan penggunaan Internet” dan dimensi “hubungan Pembangunan Positif Remaja (PYD)” adalah juga signifikan. Disamping itu, kajian ini juga mendapati hubungan antara dimensi “tujuan penggunaan Internet” dan “kepuasan” adalah signifikan.

Hasil kajian mendapati bahawa tiada hubungan signifikan secara langsung antara dimensi “kemahiran Internet” dengan empat dimensi “Pembangunan Positif Remaja (PYD)” dan dimensi “kepuasan dalam penggunaan Internet”. Hasil kajian ini juga menunjukkan bahawa tiada hubungan secara langsung antara dimensi “tahun menggunakan internet” dan empat dimensi “Pembangunan Positif Remaja (PYD)”. Selain itu, hubungan antara pola penggunaan Internet dan dimensi “kepuasan penggunaan Internet” juga tidak signifikan. Walau bagaimanapun kajian ini mendapati bahawa terdapat hubungan secara langsung yang signifikan antara dimensi “kepuasan penggunaan Internet” dan empat dimensi “Pembangunan Positif Remaja (PYD)”.  


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In the name of Allah, the most Beneficent, the most merciful. All praises and thanks are to Allah, the Lord of the universe and all that exist.

Working on this thesis has been one of the most rewarding things that ever happened to me during the two years at Graduate school. It is difficult to adequately convey the depth of my gratitude to the many people who participated in this project with their generosity and encouragement.

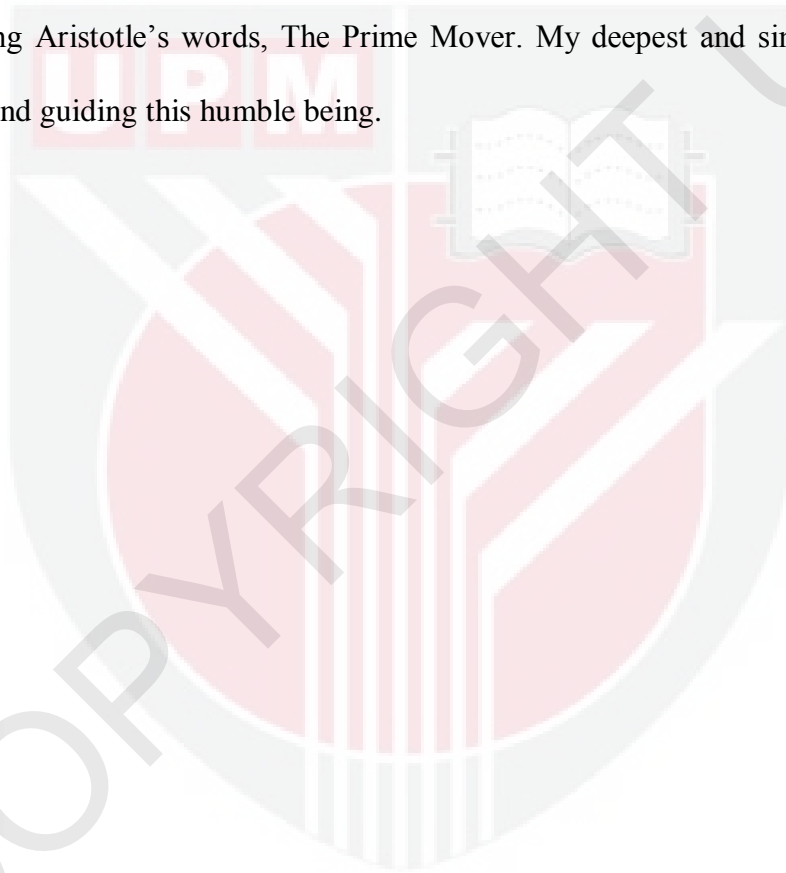
First of all, I give thanks and honor to God for sustaining me through the various trials, setbacks, and rewards that I have encountered along the way and for allowing this project to be brought to completion.

The first person I would like to thank is my thesis advisor, Professor. Dr. Md. Salleh Hj Hassan, for his inspiring suggestions, guidance, encouragement, and great patience with my seemingly endless revisions. Professor Salleh cares about his students so much that he is just like a father and I am really glad that I have had the privilege of getting to know him in my life.

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My sincerest thanks go to my family who supported me with their advice and finance. They offered me great help throughout. I could not have advanced and achieved the goals in my life without their support.

There have been countless others who have contributed in part to the completion of this work and collectively, to the development of my mind and spirit. The chain of my gratitude would be definitely incomplete if I should forget to thank the first cause of this chain, using Aristotle's words, The Prime Mover. My deepest and sincere gratitude for inspiring and guiding this humble being.



## APPROVAL

I certify that an Examination Committee has met on 26 February 2013 to conduct the final examination of Toktam Namayandeh Joorabchi on her Doctor of Philosophy thesis entitled “Relationship between Internet use and selected dimensions of positive youth development” in accordance with Universiti Putra Malaysia (Higher Degree) Act 1980 and Universiti Pertanian Malaysia (Higher Degree) Regulation 1981. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously or concurrently submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or other institutions.

---

**TOKTAM NAMAYANDEH JOORABCHI**

Date:

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