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# Social Media and Its Influence on the Morals of the students of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso

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## ARTICLE INFO

#### **ABSTRACT**

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Youth these days are able to adapt to any environment that they perceive as a new and exciting thing. Although sometimes they find it difficult to limit themselves from useless and harmful things. Psychologists often describe these dilemmas as phenomena and moments of identity crisis. This study aims to reveal Social Media and Its Influence on the Morals of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso Students. The type of research used is Field Research. The locus is MA Al-Ikhlas Poso. The methods used are observation, interviews, and documentation, and data analysis techniques used were data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions. The result shows that the most widely used social media accessed by MA Al-Ikhlas Poso students include: 1. Facebook, 2. Youtube, 3. Instagram, and 4. Online games. The positive effect that researchers found is that social media can make it easier to communicate with faraway people through SMS or calls using social media applications on smartphones. While the negative impact that the researchers found was that students often forgot to do their assignments, were lazy in studying, and often slept in class. Morals affected by social media, both positively and negatively, are morals towards others and themselves. The positive effect is maintaining communication with others even though they are not together. The negative effect is making someone behave defiantly towards others and themselves.

## 1. Introduction

The world has changed and will continue to change. The distance between regions and even between countries is getting closer. Several decades ago, people were amazed by television which shares moving images and information to all corners of the country. Now, more than that, everyone can talk and see each other directly wherever he is. Social media is one of the many results of today's technological sophistication. Social media is now here to provide an easy and efficient interaction service. This situation continues to encourage programmers to develop the capabilities of their applications for their users' convenience. Social media has become an integral part of modern society. Virtual spaces are in great demand by users and have more users than the population of most countries. There are accounts to share photos, videos, and status updates, greet each other and meet virtually with new and old friends. There is always a way out through social media to the needs for various communications that arise in society, especially among teenagers (Hariqo Wibawa Satria dan Luqman Hakim Arifin, 2014).

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These teenagers can adapt to any environment they perceive as something new and exciting. Even though sometimes, it is difficult for them to restrain themselves from things that are not beneficial or even have a harmful impact. Abdul Munir Mulkhan states that character and vitality, on the one hand, in their own insignificance, make adolescents see themselves in two worlds of images with reality and society. Psychologists often describe this dilemma as a phenomenon and a moment of identity crisis. The world of teenagers looks elegant and makes them easily influenced by new things presented by the world of advertising images (Abdul Munir Mulkan, 2012).

Morals are manners, temperament or behaviour. Morals are also often associated with the merits of a job. Morals that are more widely understood in society are good habits, but many still find it challenging to have good morals. (Rois Mahfud, 2011). Morals or this behavioural system occurs through a concept of what and how these morals should be realized. The concept or set of notions about morals are arranged by humans in their idea system. This system of ideas is the result of processes from internalized and previously formulated norms (normative and descriptive norms). The rules or norms that constitute these provisions arise from a value system contained in the Qur'an or Sunnah formulated through Divine revelation or compiled by humans as a conclusion from the laws in the universe created by Allah SWT (Abu Ahmad, 2007). Morals are fundamental in life, either in religious, family, or social life. The relation between morality and religion is piety, which is mentioned a lot in the verses of the Qur'an and the Prophet's Hadith, which instruct us to have good morals in worshipping God. The relationship with the family is how people behave towards their parents, husband, wife and children. A child is obliged to obey the commands of his parents because that is God's commandment contained in His word, and having good morals towards parents is a reflection of understanding this verse. Morals related to society are how people interact in their social life (Zainuddin Ali, 2011). The morals of each individual are greatly influenced by internal factors such as family and external factors such as education and the surrounding environment. It cannot be denied that the development of science and technology is also very influential in life. Social values in society are also starting to be influenced by the rapid development of science and technology.

The rapid development of science and technology occurs not only in urban areas but also in rural areas and even in remote areas. The impact can be found with the entry of sophisticated electronic goods, especially cell phones with advanced features and applications and various social media that can access various information.

MA Al-Ikhlas Poso is very supportive of seeing the extent to which social media influences the morals of students. Morals have a huge role because a person's morals are generally the fruit of his mindset. The believer who has perfect faith is the one with the best morals. If his faith is good, then his morals will be good too. These days, many adolescents' morals have been influenced by social media. It can be seen that many human morals today are contrary to religious teachings, for example: when the call to prayer resounds in the mosque, many people do not heed the call to prayer and are more concerned with their own activities, such as playing with cellphones, especially children who are still in transition to know which ones are good and evil in behaviour and other matters. The purpose of this study was to determine Social Media and Its Influence on the Morals of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso Students.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Social Media

Social media has grown rapidly. Regarding the birth of the internet itself, there is no agreement whether it was born when the adoption of TCP / IP or when the World Wide Web (WWW) appeared. However, the monumental moment of the global network occurred on October 29, 1969. The development of social media today is getting faster, more diverse, and unique, reaching various segments and characteristics. Social media is an online site or service that allows its users not only to consume but also to participate in creating, commenting on, and spreading a variety of content in various formats, such as text, images, audio, or video. Meanwhile, according to Elvinaro, social media is similar to mass media. Mass media is divided into two parts: printed media (such as newspapers and magazines) and electronic media (such as radio, television, film, and online media/internet). Social media is generally defined as online media that supports social interaction. It uses Web-based technologies that turn communication into interactive dialogue. Some popular social media sites today include Blogs, Twitter, Facebook, and Wikipedia (Nisa Khairuni, 2016).

Social media (social networking) is an online media where users can easily participate, share and create content, including blogs, social networks or social networks, wikis, forums, and the virtual world. Blogs, social networking, and wikis are the

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most common forms of social media used worldwide. Andreas Kaplan and Michael Haenlein define social media as a group of internet-based applications that build on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0 and enable the creation and exchange of user-generated content (Wiga Secsio Ratsja Putri, 2016). Ardianto revealed that online social media is called social networking because social media has social power that significantly influences public opinion that develops in society. Raising support or mass movements can be formed because of the power of online media. Social media has proven to be able to shape the opinions, attitudes, and behavior of the public or society (Errika Dwi Setya Watie, 2011). Currently, there are many types of social media that we can find. The type of content on social media is also very diverse. For example, social networking, online communities, and blog sites.

#### 2.2 Student Morals

The Word "Morals (Akhlak)" comes from Arabic, the plural form of "khuluqun" which literally means manners, temperament, behavior, or character (Ministry of Religion, 2016). The words al-khalq (physics) and al-khuluq (morals) are two words that are often used together as in fulaan husnu al-khalq wa al-khuluq, which means the person is good both physically and mentally, so that means the word al-khalq is its outer form while al-khaluq is the inner form. The word al-khaluq is a trait that is imprinted in the soul, from which actions are born easily without thinking and contemplating first. Al-khuluq is an attribute of the soul and its inner picture. The beauty of the human form cannot be realized only with the beauty of two eyes, without a nose, mouth, and cheeks. All these elements must be beautiful so that the beauty of the human being is manifested. Likewise, in the human mind, four pillars must be fully fulfilled so that the beauty of khuluk (morals) is realized. If the four pillars are fulfilled, beautiful, and compatible with each other, then the morals are realized (Ali Abdul Halim Mahmud, 2016). Morals is a trait that is firmly embedded in oneself. People who give alms rarely or only occasionally are not called a philanthropist because these traits are not deeply ingrained in them. Likewise, people who are silent when angry, with difficulty and great effort, are not said to be a person with a forgiving character. However, people who did not give out alms do not always mean he is not a philanthropist. Probably, it happened because he had no money or because there was an obstacle. While there may be people whose morals are curmudgeonly, but they give out alms because there is a certain motive that drives them or because they want to show off (Ali Abdul Halim Mahmud, 2016). Therefore, literally speaking, morals can be good or bad depending on the values used as the basis, even though in Indonesia, the word morals already contains a good connotation. Meanwhile, in terminological terms, morality is the science that determines the boundaries between good and bad or between the best and the reprehensible, both in words and in actions.

Morals cover the area that relates to human behavior from the good and bad sides, as well as ethics. Morals are a set of religious values that must be realized in everyday life.

Students are people who come to an institution to obtain or study several types of education. A student is a person who studies science regardless of age, origin, and ethnicity to increase his intellect and morals in order to develop and purify his soul and follow the path of goodness (Shafique Ali Khan, 2005). Students have "unique" personalities, have potential, and experience a process of development. In the development process, children or students need help and support from people whose nature and style are not determined by the teacher but by the child himself in life with other individuals (Zakiah Daradjat, 1995). Students are also members of society who are prepared to become better members. They belong to the family environment, the surrounding community, and the wider community. Students need to be prepared so that, in time, they can carry out their roles in the world of work and adapt to society. Community life starts in the family environment and continues within the school community. In this context, students interact with their peers, teachers, and the community associated with the school. It is in this situation that the best social values can be instilled in stages through a process of learning and direct experience.

Students in the psychological approach is an organism that is growing and developing. Students have various human potentials, for example, talents, interests, needs, social-emotional-personal, and physical abilities. These potentials need to be developed through the process of education and learning in schools so that there is an overall development to become a complete human being. Development describes changes in quality and ability in a person, namely changes in structure, capacity, function, and efficiency. It is comprehensive, for example, the development of intelligence, social, emotional, and spiritual, which are interconnected with one another. That is why the educational approach places students as essential elements who have rights and obligations within the framework of a comprehensive and integrated education system.

Students or learners are an input component in the education system, which is then processed in the educational process, so that they become quality human beings in accordance with national education goals. According to Abu Ahmadi, students are human figures as individuals/personal (whole human beings). The word individual is defined as a person who is not dependent on other people, in the sense that he is truly a person who determines himself, and is not forced from the outside,

has his own characteristics and desires (UPI Educational Administration Lecturer Team, 2009). While Hasbullah argues that students as learners are one of the inputs that also determine the success of the educational process (Hasbullah, 2010).

#### 3. Methodology

The type of research used is Field Research. The data collection was carried out by conducting direct observations of the object under study to obtain the necessary data (Suharsimi Arikunto, 2003). While the locus of this research was MA Al-Ikhlas Poso, the locus or location of the research was the place where the research was conducted (Winarta Sujarweni, 2014). The data collection techniques used were observation, interviews, and documentation. Observation is the method of collecting data through the human senses. Based on this statement, the human senses are the primary tool in making observations. The interview is a question-and-answer method between two or more people directly or through certain conversations. Documentation is taking official documents consisting of internal and external documents (Umar Sidiq and Moh. Miftachul Choiri, 2019; Hardani, et al., 2020; Rahmadi, 2011). The data analysis technique used consists of 1) data reduction, which is a form of analysis that sharpens, classifies, directs, removes unnecessary and organizes data in such a way that the final conclusion can be taken; 2) presentation of data, which is an activity when a set of information is compiled, thus giving the possibility of drawing conclusions. The form of presentation of qualitative data in the form of narrative text (in the form of field notes), matrices, graphs, networks, and charts; 3) Data verification or commonly called conclusions, is one of the qualitative data analysis techniques; and 4) Drawing conclusions is the result of analysis that can be used to take action (Ariesto Hadi Sutopo and Adrianus Arief, 2010).

#### 4. Results and Discussion

The social media most accessed by MA Al-Ikhlas Poso students include 1) Facebook. It is the most accessed social media worldwide, and anyone can access this social media. It is also the most widely accessed social media by students of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso. They use this social media to share stories, post pictures and videos, and comment on one another; 2) Youtube. It is a video-based social media, so everyone can watch the videos they want. Students mostly use YouTube to watch movies; 3) Instagram. In addition to sharing photos, students also use Instagram to share their videos because Instagram is a social media for pictures and videos; and 4) Online games. Online games are also one of the most widely accessed social media among students because apart from displaying characters according to the user's wishes, online games can also interact with fellow online game users. Online games that are frequently accessed are PUBG or Free Fire games.

Based on the results of these interviews, the researcher found positive and negative impacts of using social media on the morals of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso students. The positive impact that researchers found is the ease of communicating. Social media can make it easier to communicate with other people far away from us by texting or calling using the social media application we have on smartphones. With social media, we also easily share knowledge and information. In addition, the positive impact of social media, when associated with moral education, has many benefits. Among them, children/students can learn how to adapt to the public by managing a network of friends, as well as making it easier for children to learn because it can be used as media for discussing with friends about their school assignments. However, the researchers also found a negative impact: students often forgot to do their assignments, were lazy studying, and often slept in class. This is due to the use of social media not for studying but for their activities on social networks, so children are negligent with their duties and take up a lot of their night's rest. Other negative impacts can also make children addicted to playing social media triggering children to be lazy to do social activities because they are engrossed in their own world. Too much time used going online makes students lazy to study, more likely to access negative sites, and more likely to communicate via the internet rather than meet in person. Therefore, based on the explanation above, the morals that are affected are morals towards others such as maintaining good relations, continuing to interact well and also morals towards oneself because humans are ordered to maintain self-purity, cover their private body parts, do justice, be honest in words and deeds. The morals that are affected by the use of social media, both positive and negative, are morals towards others and oneself. The positive impact is being able to maintain communication with others. People can still interact even though they are not together, but the negative impact is making a person behave defiantly towards others and themselves. Seeing the impact of using social media, this is where

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the policy of educational institutions and teachers is to provide guidance or prevent the negative effects of using social media. Given that, students need guidance and direction from the teacher to avoid using social media for things that are not in accordance with what they should do. MA Al-Ikhlas Poso has taken steps to anticipate the impact of using social media, including limiting the use of cell phones and coaching students to be wise in using social media. In addition, the school also involves parents of students to control their children when using social media at home.

#### 5. Conclusion

The use of social media on the morals of MA Al-Ikhlas Poso students has positive and negative impacts. The positive impact is being able to maintain communication and interaction with others who are far away by texting or calling using a social media application that is available on the smartphone. Social media can also make it easier to share knowledge and experiences as well as information. The negative impact is that students often forget to do their assignments, are lazy in studying, and often fall asleep in class. In addition, students behave defiantly, such as lying and not respecting those older than them because students often find excuses by lying when being reprimanded for not carrying out their duties.

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