

Privacy Perception and Family Cohesion Level In Teenagers Whose Parents Request Friendship Members on Their Facebook Page

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Maintaining privacy in social networks often appears paradoxical. On the one hand, every owner of profile page on Facebook wants to share his personal experiences and transfer information to others. On the other hand, there is a concern that unknown individuals and organizations might make inappropriate use of the uploaded contents.

In this study, I explored the young adolescent's perception of the privacy and the antecedents of being "friends" with parents on Facebook. Specifically, I investigated if being asked and accepting friending a parent on Facebook has an impact on family cohesion and interpersonal communication between family members. I conducted a survey among 300 teenagers, between 13-15 years old. We asked adolescents whether their parents' friendship request affect teenagers' privacy perception including changing adolescents' privacy settings on their Facebook profile pages. Analysis of the data shows that Facebook does not influence family interpersonal relationship and family cohesion on the whole. This study is based on Petronio's communication privacy theory. The survey findings may contribute to understanding of relationship between parents and adolescents through their interaction on Facebook.