

The Model Explaining and Predicting Loneliness Level and the Problematic Internet Use of Turkish Computer Education and Instructional Technologies (CEIT) Students

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Abstract

The objective of present research is to develop a model explaining and predicting relationship between loneliness level and problematic internet use. The problematic internet use of Turkish Computer Education and Instructional Technologies (CEIT) students has been described with respect to the levels of problematic internet use and loneliness. The subjects were CEIT students from 3 different universities in Istanbul, Turkey. In data gathering, Personal Information Form, Generalized Problematic Internet Use Scale 2 (GPIUS2) and UCLA Loneliness Scale have been used. In the research, it has been found that problematic internet use of CEIT students is above medium level. It has been concluded that CEIT students' level of loneliness is medium and as their level of loneliness increase, their problematic internet use also rises in the same manner. As for the model, it has been found that loneliness level of the CEIT students is a significant predictor of problematic internet use, thus it explains and predicts 22 percent of the variance of problematic internet use of CEIT students.

Keywords: *Problematic Internet Use, Internet, Technology, Students, Loneliness*