

SOCIO ENVIRONMENT COMPENDIUM





FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA



GENDER DIFFERENCES IN DIGITAL COMPETENCE AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

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ABOUT

The purpose of this study was to compare who is at a greater risk of cybercrimes, and to assess whether there is a significant difference in the digital competency between girls and boys in rural areas.

DESIGN/METHODOLOGY/ APPROACH

Digital competence was measured as technology, cognitive, ethical knowledge and communication, and cybersecurity was measured as intellectual property, privacy, accuracy, and accessibility. Questionnaires were distributed to selected secondary schools. the purposive sampling technique, a total of 240 samples were obtained from all schools that have been determined. The data was collected by grouping the sample into smaller groups. They were then couched on how to answer, and guidelines on how to answer each question was provided. Careful assistance was given to ensure all the respondents had a very clear understanding of the meaning of each item. Statistical package for social science software (IBM SPSS version 23.0) was used to analyse all the obtained data. Both descriptive and inferential statistics were applied. Simple frequencies were performed to study characteristics of the respondents. Comparison analysis was carried out to examine differences in the digital competence and behaviour between genders.

FINDINGS/EXPECTED FINDINGS

Based on the t-test analyses of 211 responses, the findings indicate there is a significant difference in the attitude toward ICT usage between male and female students, as well as significant differences in the behaviour of troubleshooting, staying safe online and being credible and in the ethical knowledge. Comparing the cybersecurity traits, gender differentiates the privacy concerns, accuracy, and accessibility behaviour.

ORIGINALITY/VALUE/ CONTRIBUTION

These findings can assist educators identifying strategies to enhance and integrate learners' digital literacy and competence into education in becoming a good digital citizen. Instilling digital citizenship skills through education is crucial to helping learners be confident to ensure preventing unacceptable digital moral values such as cyberbully, online unsafety, digital irresponsibility, and privacy issues. It is suggested that population will be selected from all geographical area including urban and sub-urban area. This is to ensure that the findings represent a nationwide school learners' digital competency.

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