

## Social and Digital Media: Concern, Challenges and Reforms in Teacher Education

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### ABSTRACT

Social media's ascension has affected human interactions in significant ways, and such media may support learning. But how to get ready teachers who can aggrandize the educational potential of these technologies remains ambiguous. In this chapter the authors aim to summarize and synthesize actual research concerning social media use in teacher education, specifically define challenges and reforms in teacher education. They start by defining and situating social media with an eye towards essence and faults. Opportunities associated with the use of social media in the preparation of teachers in and for the digital era are discussed, and focused on institutions creating and managing their own social media and the second and emergent technical solution whereby users keep control of their data, while sharing and growing in multiple social contexts.

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The impact of social media and digital media in teacher education has been a topic of discussion for several years now. With the advent of technology and the rise of social media platforms, the way we communicate, share information, and learn has changed dramatically. Teacher education is no exception to this trend, and the integration of social media and digital media into the teacher education curriculum has become increasingly popular.

### SIGNIFICANCE

While there are many benefits to using social media and digital media in teacher education, there are also several challenges that must be considered. One of the most significant challenges is the potential

for distractions. Social media platforms like face book and twitter can be addictive, and student may be tempted to check their class during class.

Another challenge is that not all students have access to digital technologies or the internet. This can create inequalities in the classroom and make it difficult for teachers to incorporate digital media into their lessons.

Finally, there is the issue of privacy and security. Social media platform can be vulnerable to hacking, and teachers must be careful about what information they share online.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA**

Social media is the organization of people into specific groups such as tiny rural towns (or) a neighborhood associations. Digital media is possible in person, particularly in the workplace, universities and high schools, although it is most widely used online. There are countless resources available on the internet. There are millions of people looking to connect with like minded people and exchange first-hand knowledge and experiences about education, cooking, golfing, gardening, forming friendships, forming professional alliances, locating employment, business-to-business marketing, and even groups sharing information about supporting cooks to the flourish movement. As diverse and rich in intrigue are the subject as our unversis history.

All communication related media technologies, such as the internet and computer, are collectively refered to as “Digital media.”. Social media is become a useful resource for learning, connecting, amusment, friendshipship, and adventure. Nearly all aspect of human life including education, business, goverment, interpersonal relationships, and social interactions are certain to be dramatically impacted. People use new technology like the internet, cell phones and laptops to remain up to date on current events and entertainment. Media has become an integral aspect of daily life. Social media now plays a crucial part in contemporary culture. Influencing, teaching, informing, entertaining and providing market for products and services are the five primary roles of media. In today’s fast paced society, Social media is crucial because without it society would be oblivious of both domestic and international events.

## **SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS**

There are a plenthora of simple widely used social networking tools accessible. They are;

i) Face book

ii) Twitter

### iii) LinkedIn

**Facebook** is a website and digital networking service that was and web created in February 2004 and is owned and run by facebook.inc. Mark Zuckerberg, Eduardo Saverin, Dustin Moskovitz and Chris Hughes founded it in United States. Face book has more than 845 million active users earlier in February 2012. People use it to communicate information. Facebook offers teachers a simple approach to share knowledge with students without having to travel.

**Twitter** is a well liked social networking website and a micro blogging service that lets users send and read 140 characters entries known as tweets. Jack Dorsey created it in March 2006, and began operating in July. The Internet's equivalent of SMS has been used to describe it. Twitter enables users to connect with individuals based on their interests, share their ideas, and participate in debates. It also enables one to stay current with individuals, business and developments.

**LinkedIn-** A professional-focused social networking site is called LinkedIn. It was found in December 2002 and released in May 2003. Professional networking is a typical usage for it. There are several educational social networks on the Internet. However, for certain administrators and faculty members. LinkedIn may be preferred online platform for business communication. In addition to having many benefits to offer people working in colleges or schools, LinkedIn offers some of the greatest social network privacy choices available.

## TEACHING THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA

Teaching through social media is practice of imparting knowledge to students while utilizing social media platform disciplinary, topic and context-specific instruction. It typically involves communication, note taking and focus on the practical applications of new media technology. Including social media in your utilizing web-based media technologies to improve the manner in which educators approach teaching, counselling, mentoring and working with students and one another, educators can incorporate techniques that enhance the educational experience for their students.

The use of Social media in the teaching and learning process is an essential tool. It gives students the means to communicate with teachers and their peers outside the classroom. Additionally it gives students the freedom to control their own education in the best manner possible for them. Reading, watching, investigating, researching, interacting, sharing, saving, communicating, collaborating, discussing, commenting and sharing one's own knowledge and experiences are just a few of the ways that learners can learn. Though the use of social media in teaching, students can access a variety of learning resources, learn at anywhere, anytime, and without regard to their location.

## CHALLENGES AND REFORMS OF SOCIAL MEDIA INTO TEACHER EDUCATION

While social media can offer numerous benefits to teacher education, there are also concerns and challenges, along with potential reforms:

**Digital Literacy:** One of the most significant concerns with social media use in teacher education is the lack of digital literacy among teacher candidates. Many teachers may not understand the risks and benefits of social media effectively and responsibly. To address this concern, teacher education program should offer digital literacy training to their candidates.

**Privacy and security:** Another concern is the potential for privacy and security breaches when using social media. Teacher candidates need to be trained in how to protect their privacy and security online, and teacher education programs should establish clear policies on social media use.

**Time Management:** The use of social media can be time-consuming and can detract from other aspects to teacher education. Teacher candidates should be taught how to manage their time effectively and use social media as a tool to enhance their learning experiences.

**Pedagogy and Ethics:** The use of social media in the classroom raises questions about pedagogy and ethics. Teacher education programs should address these issues by providing teachers with guidelines and best practices for social media use in the classroom.

**Equity and accessibility:** social media use can exacerbate existing inequalities in access to technology and digital media literacy. Teacher education program should strive to ensure that all teacher candidates have access to the necessary technology and training to use social media effectively.

**Professionalism:** Social media use by teacher may also raise concern about professionalism. Inappropriate behavior, such as engaging in online arguments, posting offensive or insensitive content, or sharing confidential information, can reflect poorly on the profession and damage the reputation of the school. To address this challenge, teacher education program should provide guidance on social media use in the context of professional behavior.

To reform social media use in teacher education, there are several potential solutions. Teacher education programs should integrate digital literacy training and pedagogy and ethics education into their curricula. Program should also establish clear policies and guidelines for social media use and ensure that all teacher candidates have equal access to technology and training. Finally, ongoing professional development and support for teachers should be offered to ensure that they are up-to-date on the latest trends and best practices in social media use

## CONCLUSION

Every teacher educator should incorporate technology into their pedagogical practice, support constructivism, encourage student collaboration recognize individual differences and develop instructional materials from online and offline sources. They should also give their all for their students and expect the same in return as well as contribute to the learning society. For students to acquire the knowledge and skills essential for the twenty five century, social media use the classroom is a necessary but insufficient prerequisite It must be followed by curriculum reform modifications to teaching strategies that help students build abilities in a particular subject area and adjustment to evaluation. It is clear that many instructors are working effectively in this fashion, yet there is still a lot of opposition to such extream change for instance, according to teacher educators, trainers and students, social media will be improved in the future of e-learning. Wider bandwidth, improved learning platforms, the use of audio and video, more engagement and group communication tools are some of these. Social meia is here to make developing social media easier to acces and it must work in tandem with educational innovation and improvement.

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