

THE IMPACT OF DIGITAL CULTURE ON IRAQI FAMILY SOCIAL LIFE: ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES

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ABSTRACT

The study of the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families and its advantages and disadvantages aims to understand the nature of digital culture in the digital age and to identify events and areas that influence individual culture, especially family culture. The main conclusions drawn by the researchers are: Digital culture provides fast and convenient access to a variety of information and resources, improving the education and knowledge level of family members. Social media and digital applications have improved communication between family members at home and abroad, making it easier to share photos, videos, and important events. Based on these conclusions, the researchers recommend a survey: A comprehensive survey could be launched to understand the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families.

Keywords: Family interaction, social communication, Family Security.

INTRODUCTION

The investigation of the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families aims to understand the positive and negative effects of digital technology on family relationships and social interactions within the family. Digital culture is a broad concept that includes the use of digital technology, social media, and electronic communications in individual and community life. On the positive side, digital culture can improve communication and interaction between Iraqi family members and shorten the geographical distance between them, as communication can be carried out through smartphones, instant messaging applications, and social media. Digital culture also provides extensive access to online knowledge and resources, thereby helping to promote education and improve the culture of family members. (Faruk, 2008)

In terms of entertainment, the digital culture of Iraqi families provides a variety of entertainment and pastimes, such as watching movies and series online, listening to music, etc. This allows family members to enjoy their free time and strengthen emotional bonds within the family.

However, the use of digital technology in family life may also bring challenges and disadvantages. Excessive use of technology and social media may cause individuals in the family to isolate themselves from each other and have a negative impact on family relationships and social interactions. Family members may also be exposed to negative media and harmful online content.

Therefore, Iraqi families must be aware of the use of digital technology and find a balance between utilizing the positive aspects and avoiding the negative aspects. Effective

communication and interaction among family members and improved digital awareness are needed. (Soham, 2009)

Search problem:

The use of the Internet and the use of electronic devices have become mandatory for different age groups, sectors and regions of our society, so this matter has become urgent for the good people in it, especially considering the tremendous development that the world is undergoing in relationship with technology and digital transformation, which is being imposed on individuals and societies to keep up with the pace of this development, with the emergence of various events and conditions in society and the widespread use of new electronic technologies, which contribute to the search for new ways and new ways of life for families, including different values, beliefs, practices and manifestations than those previously supported, that is, digital culture, in which cultural practices are combined with digital space, leading to many problems faced by families when they are constantly exposed to the Internet network through various social networks or other related websites, some of which are related to moral, social, behavioral, safety or psychological aspects.

The research questions include the following questions:

- 1 - What is the nature of digital culture?
- 2 - What is the reality of Iraqi families in the digital age?
- 3 - What changes are taking place in Iraqi families?
- 4 - What is the impact of digital culture on digital families?

Research Objectives:

For the research purpose, the following goals are sought:

1. Understand the nature of digital culture in the digital age.
2. Determine the interests of Iraqi families based on digital culture.
3. Determine the events and areas that affect personal culture, especially family culture.
4. Determine the social impact of digital culture in general and Iraqi families in particular.
5. Try to develop a vision for protecting Iraqi families in the digital age.

The second topic: The pros and cons of digital culture

Before talking about the advantages and disadvantages of digital culture, it is worth noting that researchers from various disciplines of social sciences mostly agree that the means of digital technology are rejected and a living reality that cannot escape its influence. These means have become an integral part of the needs of life, and regardless of the positive aspects of digital technology and its significant role in the development of life, meeting the needs of life faster and more efficiently is different from the previous traditional life. Despite the positive aspects of digital technology and the excellent digital services it provides, its negative aspects have the most severe impact and harm on family members and society. The ideas about the effects of using digital technology vary, from those that emphasize its positive aspects to those that worry about its negative aspects. With this in mind, we will look at the pros and cons of digital culture when using digital technology.

The first requirement: Advantages of digital culture in social life

The revolution in technology, computer science, and the Internet represents the primary mechanism of digital culture since it facilitates its spread and increases its impact and social consequences on the family and society in positive aspects and different areas of life. Modern technology is the central axis of its positive results and production, and its increasing use in all elements allows it to play a leading and influential role in the construction of family and social relations, as well as other aspects of life and their development at the social and cultural level. Digital culture is built on the independence of modern technology and its use, both from an economic, political, scientific, and health point of view. It has become a food, not just a technological tool since it is essential in an open world that relies on competitiveness as a criterion for prosperity and progress. Given the spread of digital technologies, the impact of its use extends to family members and society, providing them with opportunities to meet many needs and providing them with access to content, information, and news to acquire experience and skills, as well as the possibility of interaction and communication with all members of society, as well as access to advice and guidance on a variety of topics and issues in all areas of social life, as well as other services such as entertainment, recreation, and e-mail. This also contributes to the improvement of the level of social welfare. However, it is essential to remember that these positive aspects are relative and not absolute, and their benefits depend on the opportunities available to family members and society. Digital culture also helps to broadcast society and free it from restrictions by moving from freedom of thought to freedom of expression, which opens the door for intellectuals, family members, and society (Narwshige, 2000), allowing them to benefit from the availability of information and knowledge in social life from electronic services, which have become accessible to everyone, characterized by rapid access and leading to the computerization of all knowledge, all science and culture, just as it has led to the spread of world heritage and computerization (Farouk, 2008). Modern technology helps to increase the social consciousness of family members and society, which consists of a set of ideas, thoughts, and culture that an individual carries. Therefore, they have different factors that allow them to interact with social problems, which then enable individuals to play an active role in society and solve their problems because many forms of social consciousness prevail in society, including health, cultural, economic, religious, and political consciousness. This is due to the diversity provided by digital technology sources, family members and society can gain experience and general culture that contributes positively to their handling of various social problems (Tayseer, 2009). The progress of digital technologies has made it one of the essential sources of comprehensive development of society, thus creating new jobs that are in line with the modern digital era and its requirements, allowing them to generate economic gains in the face of increasing competition. Achievable goals at the local and international levels. Among these achievements and profits is e-commerce, or so-called digital marketing, which has expanded trade and increased employment opportunities for family members and society through simple opportunities. Today, all business operations are offered, requested, sent, and sold to ... brothers (Soham, 2009) through the Internet and banks and services that provide Digital services to the community (Soham, 2009) and at the policy level, digital technologies allow access to the political environment without excluding any political party so that everyone, regardless of

their social status in society, can express their opinions, demand rights, and bring to the attention of the government matters that are practical and in the interest of citizens. It is a space that guarantees freedom of expression and good governance, as well as a digital presence that promotes a democratic culture that represents a free and socially equal society, provides medical services that improve the health of family members and society, and offers digital services that promote social services for people with special needs, thus we find that digital culture is critical and it brings many positive aspects for the benefit of family members and society as a whole (ALLAMAND, 1998).

The benefits of digital literacy for family and social interaction and communication:

Over the past two decades, the widespread use of digital technologies has led to a wide discussion of digital culture and its prospects and impacts in all areas of life. Digital technologies have entered and integrated into human life, making it possible to complete the most difficult tasks in the shortest time. This has led some researchers to describe and name the era we live in after the technological development as (digital flood) (Hall et al., 2014) (digital life) (TV Reed, 2017) or (digital universe) (Peter, 2017). Digitalization has shortened the time of work and its execution, connecting geographically distant places. In addition to the security and liberation technology that allows users to communicate with family and friends at any time, the role of technology in maintaining social relationships is also vital. Despite the increasing rate of mobility of people through travel, developments related to modernity have made communication between local and long-distance relationships cheaper, faster, and easier. Communication rates have also been increasing through communication technologies, which raises some important questions: the degree of geographical and emotional closeness associated with gendered social relations, the degree to which individuals need direct face-to-face contact to feel emotionally close to friends and family, and how to refer to the above. In summary, friendship, in general, is considered to have undergone fundamental changes, resulting in the strengthening of friendship bonds. In some cases, friendship becomes increasingly important as a targeted arena for socializing through digital media, which enables individuals to easily and conveniently communicate with friends at local and global levels, characterized by greater flexibility and offering a greater range of choices and diversity in the friends they make, as well as the duration, meaning, and purpose of their relationships with friends. They remain committed to maintaining lasting and meaningful solidarity (Kate, 2021), and digital space provides individuals with an environment that is freer, more decomposed, and more limited by the rules and rituals of local natural social life, where cosmic navigation is represented digitally as a limited space. , codified and limited, with only technical constraints, rituals, and virtual rules that emerge between members of different natural and cultural communities, as well as the digitally freer rules and new rituals they create for themselves. Adapting to the nature of the new society and its digital boundaries and goals, the door is open to all forms of possible virtual digital rules and rituals that we see in chat rooms and social networking programs, as they simultaneously serve as an arena where visible and hidden can be viewed. It is a good way to communicate and socially integrate, especially for those who cannot communicate with the real world or have taboos to establish good social relations, such as B. People who work at night, need to sleep during the day, people with

disabilities that prevent them from fulfilling a good social role, people who lack social skills and prefer social isolation, or people who have friends or relatives who are attached to others and live in some places. All these people find opportunities to establish social relations and integrate into the digital society in social media and cyberspace. Then, they can overcome obstacles and lack of social skills because it helps them develop scientific and intellectual skills and social talents to emphasize things that have a positive impact on society (Ali, 2008). At the level of family communication, given these broader shifts to flexibility, choice, the disappearance of geographical boundaries, and support for interaction and communication with family and friends, there have emerged types of technologies used around gender relations in family, friendship, and work and documented the use of digital technologies for emotional labor purposes, especially to maintain family relations, friendship, and communication (WAG & Other, 2008). Women play a role at the level of family interaction in the digital field, so for the first time, the owners of feminist technology theory recognized the importance of digital technology as a means to overcome gender discrimination. Emphasis on gender inequality and the fact that women use technology more in the field of family and friendship than in the field of work and employment. "Women remain an important social factor in maintaining friendships, family, and social bonds." The intentional use of digital technologies enhances the sense of belonging between family members and society. It helps maintain social and family relations (Moragan, 2005) because digital culture promotes interaction and communication patterns between family members through digital means, mobile devices and phones, computers, and the Internet through various social networking programs. The ease of communication and interaction comes from the tremendous development of the digital field, which, in turn, makes communication between the entire family possible. The diversified use of modern means of communication has brought any distance closer, shortened distances, and accelerated communication, and the world has become a small village, exacerbating the fatal pain caused by separation and alienation and also promoting always good and accelerated communication between family members, which is the characteristic of social and family relations. Thanks to digital technologies, there are different views on the positive aspects of digital culture, and another team warns about its use, which is what we will discuss on the other side of the topic.

The second requirement: The adverse effects of digital culture on family and social interactions:

The last era of the digital age has witnessed various digital technologies that have contributed to the formation of an interactive digital social culture, the H. Digital culture, in the broad sense, has had a negative impact on the transformation of relationships within the family and its reformulation in correspondence with the digital environment. After the value that humans derived from the family, the school, and the society in which we live today, these social institutions have a substitute. They are replaced by digital technological devices that have become widespread and open source and one of the most dangerous sources of social education. These means have changed the nature of family and social communication, and warm and calm conversations and beautiful stories between the head of the family and the members, and nothing more, almost no longer dominate communication between family members. Man is

undoubtedly considered a social being, but today, in the digital age, man has undoubtedly become a technological being. From here on, the ongoing sociological debate revolves around the nature of contemporary family relations and the types of ties that replace the traditional bonds of solidarity formed by family members, relatives, clans, and neighbors, describing these relations as unsustainable, fragile, and superficial compared to before (Beck et al., 2003). The separation of parents (Taws, 2013) from social values and customs, replaced by the values and culture of users of virtual communication sites, as many family members are attracted to electronic means of conversation, then family communication is missing, limited to necessary short sentences, leading to indifference in family relations, most virtual ties are far from the usual traditional social interaction (Spring, 2016), these relations can promote relationships outside the framework of marital relations that provide opportunities for emotional communication, leading to weak family ties, the possibility of betrayal and the possibility of divorce and the dismantling of the family system, the damage caused by digital technologies comes from the digital culture of users of these means, addiction to the use of these means can lead to marital isolation and so-called silent divorces, isolation of children from society, disintegration of the structure of social life, and intrusion into family life, depriving them of the possibility of interaction within the family and communication with each other and the lack of family values (Miqdadi, 2013) and digital culture reduces modern technology in the field of communication and family relations, it leads to the instability of family values. The family interaction process and family communication have been significantly reduced, leading to a decrease in the number of times family members meet and a lack of compliance with family obligations, which shows that these digital technologies have led to an increase in family and social problems. The increase in the value of social interaction, on the one hand, has brought geographically distant people closer together, making communication more accessible. Still, on the other hand, it has also distanced people who are closer to each other. With the creation of social networking sites and various programs, each family member lives in a separate world from those with whom he communicates and therefore bears the burden of allocating time to be with family members and pay attention to their affairs or visit relatives and keep track of them. . This has a negative impact on family interaction. A family crisis has emerged, with many Iraqi families suffering under the shadow of the existence of a digital society in which multiple cultures exist and differ according to their origins. Hence, it helps each family member and each member of society to form a digital culture that they see fit. At his will. The emergence of a social crisis reflects the reality of family life, including the weakness of family and social relations (Heba, 2021).

The impact of digital culture on family and social values and practices:

Human societies, mainly Arab and Iraqi societies, under the influence of the modern digital environment and communications and digital devices, have undergone severe changes in the value systems, customs, and traditions imposed by digital culture, almost to the point of complete contradiction, which has dramatically affected the cultural identity of these societies (Mohammed, 2003). The adverse effects of these changes outweigh the positive ones. The adverse effects involve changes in the values adopted by a society or a part of it or at least one of them. In contrast, many human societies have changed values due to technological progress,

which has affected the structure of these societies to varying degrees, depending on the quality of the values that prevail in each society, the degree of their ability to change and transform, the degree of their resilience and stability, and the elements of social characteristics and social components that they represent. The technological revolution has changed human consumption activities, and the structure of the family and society (Ezzat, 2013), and digital technologies have taken the lead in influencing the social system of Arab societies. These influential technologies include mobile devices, computers, satellite channels, the Internet, and other digital technologies used to provide information and numerous services, such as mobile devices. No one in Arab society has a phone anymore - neither a child nor an older man. A young man, an older man, and a woman. This technology has opened many windows to the world, allowing interaction and establishing interactive relationships with friends all over the world, as well as providing information, products, and acquaintances. The negative impact here lies in culture, values, and ideas, whose social, material, and educational foundations are shaken under the weight of the forces of the rapid spread of technology and information, which are changing the values of cultural and moral heritage (Samir, 2002). Due to the chaos caused by openness, urbanization, and learning, society and its cultural and social institutions remain almost helpless and do not take any measures against the culture that comes to us through the means of technology and modern digital technologies about the culture of others, as well as the weakness of family members' guidance and leadership and their introduction of digital technologies and its dangers to the culture, values, and customs of the society, parents in Arab society do not participate in the dialogue with children. Many important issues and morally sensitive topics within the family, such as sexual relations, marriage, romantic relationships, friendship, acquaintance, and information exchange, lead members of society, especially adolescents and children, to learn about these topics through various ways of interactive communication. The purpose is to learn more about the prohibitions within the family, especially in adolescence, when young people tend to find many issues related to their personality, as well as their growth stage and how they shape their existence in the group in which they can live, show, and prove. The freedom and ability to view these contents through Internet sites or various satellite channels or mobile phones prevents this. When the role of parents is absent, young people rush to satisfy their desires and needs in this regard. This can be dangerous information and behavior that leads to the degradation of morals and customs that prevail in the family and society. Digital culture from Western society has influenced the value system and social value formula within the family and society, giving priority to the principles of liberation, freedom, and openness to others without thinking (Mohammed Al-Fateh, 2009). In terms of culture, digital technology and the related contact with Western culture are essentially open to changes in artistic and aesthetic values, including purposeful singing, gorgeous words, and high-quality performances that solve social problems and contribute to the solution of human problems. Issues such as high literary style, dance, singing, nudity, and scandalous scenes lead to instability in the psychological, intellectual, and cultural values of family members, especially young people, and adolescents, as they are the most sensitive part of the family. The charm of digital technology society is that (Haidar, 2002).

Negative impacts of digital culture and risks to families and social security.

Digital culture plays an important role in threatening the safety of families and society. With the change in crime patterns, the development of digital technology plays an important role in the field of crime because the digital field has the most advantages. Among them, it is important that digital technology systems can commit crimes in record time compared to the time of implementation of traditional crimes, and digital criminals can eliminate the impact of their crimes with just the click of a button. Although there are positive aspects of digital technology systems, when these positive aspects are exploited to the opposite negative aspects, and as our lives in the 21st century are increasingly transformed into digital life, its negative aspects are more serious and harmful to family members and society. We live in the so-called digital society, given the openness of the information and communication society, away from laws and legislation, which allows many people to use it freely in an unknown identity, which leads to members of society in general and family members in particular, who are exposed to many dangers that have become a threat to their solidarity. These dangers include electronic crimes (Hana, 2017), and interactions through technology are often associated with digital unknowns and their intentions that are difficult to control and monitor. When social institutions no longer protect members of society from the dangers of the digital world, they increase the dangers generated by these interactions because they surround members of society with fences to prevent the occurrence of dangers, thereby threatening the safety of members of society. The safety of the family and its members (Qadri, 2017), where electronic terrorism has become a common method of achieving goals or objectives by hacking into websites, vandalizing websites, and manipulating their content. There are also many types of fraud in the Virtual world, which is done by sending fraudulent emails allegedly from official institutions or banks, with the purpose of deceiving recipients and tricking them into revealing their bank account numbers and credit cards, which are types of electronic fraud, and the consequences of electronic fraud, identity theft and personal information theft, where individuals commit fraud for many purposes and in different ways through many other methods and means, each method of fraud is a fraud corresponding to its goal (Shaqra, 2014), for example, the purpose of fraud is to ensure the safety of life through illegal and illegitimate means, so that fraudsters can defraud vast amounts of money without much effort (Schneyar, 2022), and with the increasing threats posed by modern technology, it has been noted that each virtual society has formed its own digital culture, which is influenced by many factors, including the demographic characteristics of the participants and their common interests and the technical methods prepared or prepared. The configuration of the network and the programs used by its members, through which they interact in a digital environment that encompasses all aspects of social life, and through these virtual activities, the formation of digital culture for each member of the network in the community, this culture influences the occurrence of many violations of family and community safety, just as the culture of health affects the health of members of society, the owner of a good culture of health is protected from various diseases, and the owner of a culture of health is protected from various diseases. A culture with low hygiene is at risk of epidemics and diseases, as in the case of the Covid-19 pandemic. Similarly, the risk faced by members of the networked society is often higher. Low digital culture is more likely to expose their privacy

than those who commit these violations (Nasser) because of the trust generated by the strong relationships between friends and those who are integrated into the programs of the networked community, these means are the use of subscribers' personal information to begin to form the characteristics of data leakage (Abdullah, 2012), which causes great moral and psychological harm to individuals, and sometimes even material losses. In other cases, blackmailers use it to abuse and defamation, publishing photos and videos that contradict the general policy of the community. Given the possibility of creating fake accounts on social networking sites and the lack of legal liability, some people resort to insulting others, impersonating others without their knowledge, blackmailing others, threatening others to violate their privacy or image by posting on the site or paying a sum of money or negotiating sex. These blackmails and threats have led to suicide and the destruction of family and social structures. The more you navigate in the electronic world, the more you will realize that there is a wide variety of electronic crimes that affect the safety of society and the family. These crimes stem from the electronic conditions that the criminal enjoys in this field. He can create a complete picture of his crime so that no one can follow him through the network or computer and track his actions. In addition, he uses many means and skills to reach the victim and commit the crime without the opportunity to reveal his identity or show who he is (Attia, 2009). He does not question himself and is described as a social person compatible with his society, but he commits this type of crime (Mohammed, 2022). These crimes also include electronic terrorist crimes, which have become one of its global manifestations and show the relationship between terrorism and crime by adopting this idea in different countries of the world and recruiting new members by using these organizations. Various electronic means are used in terrorist actions to achieve their goals (Youssef, 2013). In conclusion, we note that the use of modern digital technologies has contributed significantly to the occurrence of many crimes and violations and has also contributed to the spread of opposing ideas in the form of cultural sanctuaries, such as B. Canned food is easy to eat, tastes delicious, and does not make people feel dangerous, which has led many people to become victims of electronic crimes and related risks and violations, mainly affecting family safety and society in general.

CONCLUSIONS

These conclusions are intended to highlight the different effects of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families. Families should take advantage of the positive aspects of technology, be aware of its potential drawbacks, and approach it with caution and awareness.

Some of the main conclusions about the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families are as follows: It should be taken into account that these conclusions may vary depending on the personal, cultural, and social environment of each family.

Examining the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families, many advantages and disadvantages can be found. Some of the important conclusions are:

Each:

1. Digital culture allows for easy and quick access to a variety of information and resources, improving the education and knowledge level of family members.
2. social media and digital applications have improved communication between family members at home and abroad, making it easier to share photos, videos, and important events.

3. Digital services such as online shopping and mobile banking provide convenience and ease for families, who can complete tasks at home without going to public places.

Negative effects:

1. Over-reliance on technology and social media can lead to social distance between family members because it reduces the time for honest interaction and actual presence.
2. The Internet and social media can lead to the spread of hoaxes and inaccurate information, affecting trust and regular communication between family members.
3. Social pressure and excessive expectations imposed by social media can negatively affect the mental health of family members, such as B., through feelings of anxiety and depression.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Some suggestions can be followed to study the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families, between advantages and disadvantages:

1. Conduct a survey: In order to understand the impact of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families, a comprehensive survey can be conducted. Questionnaires and interview tools can be used to collect and analyze data from multiple families.
2. Data analysis: After the data is collected, it needs to be carefully analyzed and interpreted. The use of statistical methods and content analysis can lead to important conclusions.
3. Evaluate the pros and cons: The pros and cons of digital culture on the social life of Iraqi families should be evaluated. Specific criteria such as social communication, mental health, education, and family communication can be used.
4. Study the influencing factors: The factors that influence the formation of digital culture in Iraqi families should be studied. These factors can include economic, social, technological, and cultural factors.
5. Awareness and education: Awareness and education on the proper use of technology and social media in the family should be promoted. Awareness workshops and lectures can be organized for family members to increase awareness and knowledge.
6. Organization and management: Families should develop strategies for the proper organization and management of technology and social media use. Clear rules for the use of digital devices can be set, and sufficient time for honest interaction and family communication can be guaranteed.
7. Analysis of consumption patterns: Analyzing the digital media consumption patterns of Iraqi family members may be helpful. Preferred modes of digital use, such as gaming and social media platforms, can be examined, and their impact on psychosocial well-being can be assessed.
8. Studying the impact of technology on education: The effect of technology on the learning process in Iraqi families can be studied. It can explore how digital media can be used to improve education and develop necessary skills.
9. Impact of social media: The impact of social media on family relationships and communication between Iraqi family members should be examined. The positive and negative effects of excessive use of social media should be assessed, and measures to maintain good family communication should be developed.

10. Impact on privacy and security: The impact of the spread of technology and digital culture on privacy and e-safety in Iraqi families should be examined. Challenges related to privacy and digital security need to be analyzed, and appropriate solutions must be provided.
11. Creating opportunities and equality: Explore how to create opportunities and equal access to technology and digital resources within Iraqi families. Challenges related to the digital divide should be analyzed, and appropriate support should be provided to promote equal digital participation.
12. Impact on mental health: The impact of digital culture on the health of Iraqi family members should be examined. Psychological strain and social challenges related to excessive use of technology can be examined, and necessary support can be provided.

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