Chapter 6:

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Children into the world of internet and its consequences are prime topics of discussion in the present world were the technology is used. This study has focused on the aspect of high internet propensity and cyber deviance among the children of Kerala, India. During the study, many factors relating to the attributes were studied in depth and the findings were listed in the previous chapter.

The main objective of the study is to uncover the factors responsible for the internet propensity and cyber deviance among children. The study was conducted on a theoretical framework supported by the Space Transition theory (2008) of cybercrime propounded by Dr. K. Jaishankar, Routine Activity theory (1979) propounded by Cohen and Felson, Rational Choice theory (1986) propounded by Cornish and Clark and other relevant conventional theories of causation of crime. The prime aim of the study is to understand the factors responsible for the internet propensity and cyber deviance and to study the depth and patterns. The study is also aimed at formulating the remedies for the issues relating to the studied factors.

The participants of the study were from different family setups, areas of living, genders, age, culture, and etc. The school going children of the age group 14-17 years was the targeted population of the research. The study aimed at many of the factors which are personal to the respondents. Despite all these difficulties, the study was conducted effectively and the results were drawn.

It is understood from the findings that majority of the children are using the internet and mobile phones. Early usage and the ways of usage are found to
be a concern with respect to the child’s moral development and adaptation. Easy availability of all the information with less cost and flexibility of identity are some of the identified reasons behind the internet attraction for children.

It is also important that the low conviction rates, low rates of apprehension, huge amount of material gain, enormous opportunity to commit deviance, identity flexibility, quest for immediate gratification, underdeveloped superego, absence of supervision, technological knowledge and lack of technological knowledge, absence of awareness, cyber addictions, huge amount of deviant contents, and the role of internet to teach deviances are some of the reasons identified behind the cyber deviance among children.

Some of these findings are hence proved with the help of the theories of crime causations. Other than these theories, this study could propound some assumptions and facts strongly supported by the data collected during this study. These suppositions will surely help the future researchers to identify the remedies for the issues and can act as a ground to conduct more studies.

The children are facing lots of issues with respect to the cyber world. Many of the issues are unidentified by the children or the authorities. A proper sanitation must be made sure to prevent the ill effects of these issues. The society has to take initiative to join hands with different components in the society to deal with the children living with technology in the technologically assisted world. A proper coordination is a must for the effective interference. We should be very clear in mind that stringent acts are not the solution for the issue, but more of a brilliant or smart approach will only help to deal with children in the new era.
Recommendations

The findings and factors identified in this study act as a guiding line for the researchers and authorities to formulate or extend the knowledge. To suggest some measures for the cyber deviance and high internet propensity is one of the objectives of the study. The recommendations which are perfect to deal with the issues that found in this study with respect to children can be divided on the basis of the individuals responsible for dealing that aspect. The main recommendations that are found suitable are as follows. These recommendations are formed based on the findings, previous experience of the researcher, the opinion of the respondents, the opinion of experts in the fields, reports and other relevant sources.

To the Children

- This study found that majority of the children are using internet for extensive hours and spend less time in family interactions or activities. Family interactions and activities is an essential in the proper functioning of the family and thereby the society. These interactions can help the individual to face problems and to get proper guidance. So children should take part in family interactions more than internet and it can help them to bypass the stress and strains.

- This study uncovered the tendency among children to stay away from social interactions in the physical world and to restrict those interactions in the Social Networking sites (SNS). Considering the danger of fake profiles, fake relationships in SNS, children should be ready to promote social interactions in the physical world and participation in social activities.

- It is very much important to prefer outdoor games than computer/online games. This will help to learn the ‘healthy competitions’ and
‘mutual respect’. Outdoor games can improve the health of the individuals.

- Identity flexibility of internet can create victims among the tender generations. So children should be aware of the facts relating to cyber-attacks.

- It is good and safe to learn from the elders and technologically sound persons about the internet and its hidden truths.

- Think before you act is the perfect statement that the children should follow in the cyber world. In addition to thinking, children can adopt ‘getting help’ before they act.

- Every incidence of cyber deviances that children come across should be reported to the law enforcement agencies without the delay.

- Tips for safe living in cyber world
  - ‘Look up’ instead of ‘Look down’: When children are on phone or internet, they are ‘looking down’. If they look up, they will visualize the society.
  - ‘Respect others’
  - Don’t let your morals go down
  - Give help and get help
  - Learn the internet before you access
  - Identify the ‘real’
  - Beware of ‘professionals’
  - Don’t let internet to guide you, but let your parents guide you.
  - Stay away from ‘Society Forbidden’.
  - Control your emotions
Conclusion and Recommendations

- Respect your teachers, parents, and internet.
- Keep yourself engaged
- Maintain the decorum in relationships
- Know your weaknesses and strength
- Know your law and moral values
- Define your ‘line of control’
- Respect your country and beliefs
- Know your rights and perform your duties.

- Stay away from professionally acted pornography and make sure that those acts are done with training and are ‘exaggerated’. It is equally important to learn about sexuality from ‘society certified trustable resources’.

To the Parents

- This study revealed that less supervision of parents is a reason behind the high internet propensity and cyber deviance among children. The duty of ‘supervision’ should be performed not only in physical world but also in ‘virtual world’. This may be called as ‘virtual parental supervision’. To perform such a role, the parents should be aware of the technology.

- If parents are providing the children with computer or internet or mobile, then it is the duty of the parent to learn about it, accept the dangers, get information and learn about it. Make yourself technologically aware.

- The parents should talk to the school authorities, kid’s friends and family, school counselors, people in the society, and other persons who can give information on their child’s activity.
• The parents should not be reluctant to approach law enforcement agencies or to get help from the experts in case of issues with respect to children and virtual world.

• Tips for safe parenting online
  o Be aware and make your children are about virtual world
  o Be sure that children are away from danger
  o Don’t think that your child is an exception
  o Don’t trust too much
  o Know what they can hide, where you can find, and how to deal with it.

• Let the children interact with elders. This fact is relevant as stated in the study of dealing with kids online. The study suggests that “making the new generation aware of the elder population, their gifted experience and how valuable their knowledge is one of the best ways we can have. Parenting should start from school” (Baby, 2017).

To the School authorities

• It is important that the school authorities to supervise well on the children on their online activities. This step can reduce the incidence of deviance.

• Tips for school authorities
  o Let others study your children and guide you
  o Make your children aware of the aspects of virtual world
  o Don’t be good in ‘papers’ but treat children good
  o Talk to parents, counselors, doctors and law enforcement agencies in case of an issue
Spend on prevention and save on treatment

Open your walls and gate for society and healthy criticism and close your gate for intruders.

**To the Criminal Justice System (CJS)**

- It is understood from the study that the low rate of conviction and low rate of registration of cyber cases often act as a driving force towards cyber deviances. So the CJS should formulate strategies for effective registration, investigation, apprehension, conviction and treatment of cybercrime cases.

- The CJS should be equipped with sound knowledge in technology so that effective dealing of cybercrime cases is assured.

- The CJS should act as a body to give awareness to public, children, schools, government, parents and etc. on these cases.

- A proper strategy should be formed in order to deal with juvenile in conflict with the law in cyber cases. It is also recommended that there should be an amendment in the existing laws of Juvenile Justice.

**To the Government**

- The government should take initiative to properly formulate effective awareness programs to the children about cyber world. “These awareness programs should be activity based and not to be theoretician based” (Baby, 2017). This awareness should be given to all the individuals in the society on different aspects related to cyber world.

- Government should form strategies to cyber security and should be equipped with instruments to monitor the behavior of individuals in cyber world.
• The government should enact laws to effectively deal with cyber cases with respect to all categories of individuals, especially children.

To the Academicians and Researchers

• Since cyber technology is a new concept which was introduced in the recent past, not much studies are been conducted on its attributes. So more studies are to be promoted on the internet and children so that more factors relating to high internet propensity and cyber deviances can be understood. This will help in formulating effective prevention strategies for children.

• Researches on this area can contribute for the formulation of effective awareness program to deal with high internet propensity and cyber deviance among children. “Parenting in cyber world should also be exposed to studies with the help of feedbacks drawn from parents, kids, teachers, society, experts, psychologists, criminologists, doctors, and etc. This can brought a change in the concept of parenting. This may be helpful in performing ‘parenting in virtual world” (Baby, 2017)

• Development of good psychological tests to measure the effects of the cyber world on children can be performed by the researchers and academicians in the field of study.