

8th Grade

The Growing Presence of Social Media

Facebook. Instagram. Pinterest. Snapchat. TikTok. Tumbler. Twitter. These are all different types of social media. Social media plays a significant role in the world today. It can be used to divide, but it can also be used to bring us together.

Social media is a growing presence in our communities. More and more people of all ages have started using some form of social media. Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and TikTok are popular. People of different ages prefer different platforms. Younger people seem to use TikTok, while people my age spend more time using Snapchat and Instagram. Older people may use Facebook and Twitter more. For example, according to Pew Research Center, seventy percent of all adults use Facebook.

Social media is starting to play a role in my life and my friends' lives. Among my teenage friends most of us have both Snapchat and Instagram accounts. Pew Research Center reports that Snapchat and Instagram are the two most popular social platforms for people between the ages of 18 and 29. Me and my friends like using Snapchat to text each other, video chat, and send funny things we see to each other. I like to use Instagram to post pictures and to see others' posts. Others post things like art, makeup, and food. They also share events they've gone to and pictures of themselves and their friends. I think that for the most part, social media is a positive thing and has had a positive impact on me and my friends. It can be to spread love and encouragement. When some hits the "like" button or makes a nice comment, it makes people feel good.

Unfortunately, social media can also divide the . It may divide due to the fact that certain social media platforms are more or less popular with certain age groups. When we spend more time on social media than we spend face-to-face, our relationships can suffer. According to the Aspen Institute, "...Community members, by encountering each other in real life build friendships, mutual respect, and greater understanding." You can't do that by using Social Media. According to Scientific American, the nature of how we interact and connect online leaves the door open for tenuous connections. Social media connections are generally not as strong as real life friendships. Lastly, for the people who don't use social media they may feel less aware and included.

Social media can make our entire community more inclusive. The growing popularity of social media can build a stronger sense of community and increase community engagement. This could happen by ensuring that everyone has access to accurate and up-to-date information about community events. Social media can share details such as news updates, snow plowing updates, closures due to special events, and voting times and places in Roseville. Social media can also inform the people in our community by letting them know about fun events like the 623 Walk Run, events at The Oval, and the annual Fourth of July fireworks at Central Park.

In conclusion, I think that social media and the Internet very much have a growing presence in our lives and in our community. Social media can play a role among the majority of people from all age groups. social media can be used to divide our community however it can also make our community more inclusive and engaging for all its residents.