

## Social Media: An Overall Positive Thing

Social media is a new network that everyone is still getting used to. In modern times, it has had an increasing impact on kids and adults alike, now that the technology needed to access it has become increasingly available to everyone. I use social media every day, but not for the things that most people think of when they think of social media. I use it for school, after school clubs, and to occasionally tell my friends something. Many people have been saying that social media is having an overwhelming negative impact on people, but I think they are just looking at stereotypes and not it's actual uses. It has shown time and time again that it's networking abilities are extremely positive and essential for life. Social media is indeed a big part of everyone's life, including mine.

I use social media for school, after school activities, and communication. When we use it for school, teachers can post assignments, give reminders, and inform people about upcoming events. In robotics, we use it to organize events, share information, and talk with each other in general. In scouts, we use it for any communication that can't happen at meetings. Some of the apps we use are Schoology, for school and robotics, Slack for robotics, and email (I consider this social media because it is a network that connects many people) for both of those and personal uses to. I use at least one of those everyday because all of my activities rely on those platforms.

Social media is important because it can make the connections that need to be made on a large network online. These connections tie everything together, from jobs to schools. These large networks that hold up society wouldn't be possible without social

media. Social media can help people solve their problems. Because of the large network that social media has created, it is really easy to find someone who knows how to solve your problem, whether it's a physical, mental, or a digital problem. Social media can even help lead revolutions! When many citizens want to protest or organize an event, they can use social media to plan the event, get the word out about it, and post the effects of the event. They can also ask for or give aid and post footage of certain things in the world, so that the world knows what is truly going on. It has been proven that social media is effective at things like this, with social media's networking abilities leading to the downfall of many terrible regimes.

Social media may be an extremely good thing, but it does have some downsides to it. Social media can be extremely addicting. Let's just say that you saw a funny picture on a certain social media platform. Then you find another funny picture. Pretty soon, all you will be doing is looking for funny pictures, instead of doing what you are supposed to do, decreasing productivity and the time you have to learn. Also, social media is full of perfectionists that like to show off. Many people compare themselves to these perfectionists (that aren't actually perfect, they just make it look that way) and they find that they aren't as "perfect" as those people. This can lead to many problems, like depressing thought, or possibly getting a mental illness. That has led to many stereotypes about social media that decrease its popularity.

But none of those factors mean that social media is bad or that we should get rid of it. Most of the problems that social media has acquired are caused by the people who use it, not social media itself. And with all of its positive benefits, it's not going away any

time soon. People will still look at the stereotypes of social media and proclaim that it's a terrible thing that's rotting the brains of kids. But in all honesty, it's an essential part of life that is both useful and fun in the way that it connects the world together. Before we had social media, communication between people was limited. It was hard to see what was truly going on in the world. But now that we have it, it will help propel us into the future and it is going to be here to stay.