

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Tan Zong Yan^{1*}, Norhayati Ibrahim², Normah bte Che Din³, Kok Jin Kuan⁴

ABSTRACT

The Internet is being widely used by many, and it has greatly affected the medical field, especially in terms of the learning and practice of psychiatry. Record-keeping and the transmission of information are facilitated and made available to many through accessibility to the Internet. However, there are some shortcomings following the advancement of the Internet. Suicide, which is regarded as a serious public health issue, has been related to the use of the Internet. Therefore, the aim of this review is to summarize and assess the existing work on the influence of internet usage over suicidal ideation and suicide attempts among young people. The appropriate studies were identified through four databases, namely Ebscohost, Ovid, PsyArticle and SAGE Publications. The key terms employed in the search were “problematic Internet use”, “Internet use”, “suicidal*” and “adolescent*”, and the publications were limited to the years 2005 to 2015. A total of fourteen studies were included in this review. The results suggested an association between search trends with the suicide-related terms and the suicide rate. In addition, young people also tend to portray their suicidal ideation through the Internet. Besides, the websites that were accessed using the suicide-related terms tended to be both pro- and anti-suicide. Therefore, it is suggested that future research should be aimed at developing websites which can provide assistance to the group at risk.

Keywords: *Internet Use, Young People, Adolescents, Suicide, Suicidal Ideation, Self-Harm*

The use of the Internet is said to have affected the practice of medicine, whereby it has significantly influenced the areas involved in the learning and practice of psychiatry, such as psychiatric education, clinical care, and administration (Alao, Soderberg, Pohl & Alao, 2006).

¹ Student, Master of Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

² Senior Lecturer of Health Psychology Programme and Registered Counselor, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

³ Associate Professor of Clinical Psychology, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

⁴ Associate Professor, Department of Psychology and Counselling, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman

[*Responding Author](#)

Received: January 18, 2017; Revision Received: March 18, 2017; Accepted: March 23, 2017

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

By accessing the Internet, physicians and other practitioners are able to retrieve information regarding various psychiatric illnesses and treatments, while more patients are able to receive assistance such as from support groups, self-help groups, and discussion groups. Besides, with the aid of the Internet, record-keeping in clinical care settings and also the transmission of information concerning research works have become easier than before. However, the advantages of the Internet also come with some negative impacts.

Meanwhile, suicide is not only a serious public health problem in high-income countries, but is a global phenomenon that is affecting countries throughout the world. It is reported that more than 800,000 people end their life through suicide annually. Meanwhile, 75% of suicides globally were reported in low- and middle-income countries (World Health Organization [WHO], 2015). According to the WHO (2015), one of the major risk factors of suicide is suicide attempts, which occur at a higher ratio to every suicide reported, and suicide was also ranked as the second leading cause of death in youths aged 15 to 29 in 2012.

More than 100,000 sites on suicide appear on the worldwide web. According to Dobson (1999), these websites tend to condone suicide, and it is said that anyone who tries to advise users against committing suicide will be prohibited from accessing the sites. In addition, it has been reported that some of the suicide websites carry materials such as copies of suicide notes, death certificates, and colour photographs. The sites may also provide electronic boards which allow users to post suicide notes or suicidal intentions, and it is important to note that one site alone can easily receive 900 postings of suicidal ideation within a month. It has also been reported that young people between the ages of 14 to 24 years are at higher risk of suicide, and they tend to be more vulnerable to lower level peer support and are easily influenced by the information they receive. Therefore, this review was aimed at summarizing and assessing the existing work on the influence of Internet usage on suicidal ideation and suicide attempts among young people.

METHODOLOGY

A literature search was conducted through four major electronic databases, namely Ebscohost, Ovid, PsyArticle and SAGE Publications. The key terms used to facilitate the search were “problematic Internet use”, “internet use”, “suicidal*” and “adolescent*”. In addition, in order to be included in this review, the studies had to be written in English and published between the years 2005 and 2015. Besides, only full and accessible studies were included.

RESULTS

A thorough search was carried out on the four databases, as mentioned in the Methodology section, and fourteen studies which met the inclusion criteria were included in this review. The studies were then reviewed in terms of their aims, methods, samples, questionnaires used, if applicable, and also their main findings. Based on Table 1, out of the fourteen studies, seven were carried out on individuals aged from 10 to 24 years, with a total of 15,566 youths participating in the studies (Hinduja & Patchin, 2010; Katsumata, Matsumoto, Kitani &

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Takeshima, 2008; Harris, McLean & Sheffield, 2009; Mitchell, Wells, Priebe & Ybarra, 2014; Fu, Chan, Wong & Yip, 2010; Lin et al., 2014; Dunlop, More, & Romer, 2011), while the other studies were conducted through content analysis on websites, search trends with government data and one case study.

Several instruments were employed in the studies. In order to measure suicidal ideation among the participants, the Suicide Behaviours Questionnaire-Revised (SBQR), Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire (SIQ) and Beck Hopelessness Scale were used (Harris et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010). In addition, the most frequently used instrument for measuring the severity of depression was the Centre for Epidemiologic Studies Depression Scale (CES-D) (Harris et al., 2009; Fu et al., 2010; Huang et al., 2014), while the other instruments can be referred to in the list in Table 1.

Table 1, Summary of studies

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
Cash, Thelwall, Peck, Ferrell, & Bridge (2013)	To explore the ways in which adolescents use MySpace to comment on their suicidal thoughts and intentions.	Content analysis	- 64 comments from public profiles on MySpace - 13-24 years old	- NA	- Comments referenced a significant amount of hopelessness, despair, and desperation. - Adolescents use public Web to display comments about their suicidal thoughts, behaviors, and possible intentions.
Yang, Tsai, Huang, & Peng (2011)	To evaluate the association between suicide and Internet searches trends for 37 suicide-related terms representing major known risks of suicide.	Cross correlation analysis	Search trend data by Google Insights for Search during period from January 2004 to December 2009	- NA	- Suicide-related search terms, temporally coincided/preceded trends of suicide data, associated with suicide death.

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
Hinduja & Patchin (2010)	To examines the extent to which a nontraditional form of peer aggression – cyberbullying – is also related to suicidal ideation among adolescents	Random sample Survey	- 1963 middle-schoolers (US)	- 4 items adapted from American School Health Association's (1989) National Adolescent Student Health Survey	- Youth who experienced traditional bullying or cyberbullying (offender/victim) had more suicidal thoughts, more likely to attempt suicide.
Katsumata, Matsumoto, Kitani, & Takeshima (2008)	To clarify the association between the experience of using electronic media and suicidal ideation in Japanese adolescents	Self-reporting questionnaire	- 590 junior high school students, mean age 13.7	- Designed to evaluate lifetime history of suicidal ideation. Experience of electronic media use, and personal communication in daily life.	- Lifetime history of suicidal ideation may be significantly associated with a history of searching the internet for information about suicide/self-injury, experiences of anxiety/emotional pain related to the use of electronic media, and adolescents' distrust of the people around them.
Harris, McLean, & Sheffield (2009)	To better help those in suicidal crisis by examining the types of suicide-risk individuals who make use of the Internet in relation to their suicidal problem	Online survey	- 18 and older - 1016 volunteer respondents - 290 (suicide risk)	- Suicide Behaviors Questionnaire-Revised (SBQR) - General Help-Seeking Questionnaire (GHSQ) - Center for Epidemiologic Studies Short Depression Scale (CES-D 10) - Online Relationship Building Scale	- Suicide-risk individuals who went online for suicide-related purposes reported greater suicide-risk symptoms, less likely to seek help, perceived less social support. - Many reported more support, felt less alienated – reduced suicidality - Sought suicide methods and likely to visit “pro suicide” sites

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
				(ORB) - Online Behaviors	
Mitchell, Wells, Priebe, & Ybarra (2014)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess rates of thoughts of self-harm and thoughts of suicide in the past 30 days - Report past year rates of youth exposure to websites encouraging self-harm and suicide for all youth. Those who report thoughts of self-harm and those youth reporting thoughts of suicide - Examine the characteristics of youth who visit self-harm and suicide websites to determine whether similar risk factors present - Relationship between visiting these websites and actual thought of self-harm and suicide 	Telephone survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1560 - 10-17 years old and parents 	- Trauma Symptom Checklist for Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth reported visiting a website that encouraged self-harm/suicide - 7 times more likely to say they had thought about killing themselves - 11 times more likely to think about hurting themselves
Singaravelu, Stewart, Adams, Simkin, & Hawton (2015)	To identify and analyze websites potentially accessed by these young people (at risk of self-harm)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “mental state” – suicide, depression, self-harm - “how to self-harm” – how to self-harm, tips for self-harm, ways to kill yourself 	- 314 websites	- NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sites accessed by self-harm/suicide search terms were mostly positive or preventive in tone - sites accessed by the term ways to kill yourself tended to have a negative tone - Information

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
		- Google, Yahoo, Bing, Askjeeves			about self-harm methods was common with specific advice on how to self-harm in 15.8% of sites, encouragement of self-harm in 7.0%, and evocative images of self-harm/suicide in 20.7%. Advice on how to get help was given in 56.1% of sites
Fu, Chan, Wong, & Yip (2010)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To examine the prevalence of adolescents' internet addiction in Hong Kong, China - To test its differentiation from other correlates - To examine its relationships with correlates in a representative community sample of adolescents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two-wave panel household survey - Self report 	- 208 adolescents age between 15-19 years old	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internet addiction checklist by Young - Suicidal Ideation Questionnaire (SIQ) - Depression Anxiety Stress Scales (DASS) - Center for Epidemiologic Studies Depression (CES-D) Scale - Beck Hopelessness Scale (C-HOPE) - Irrational Values Scale 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prevalence rate for having 5/more symptoms of internet addiction was estimated to be 6.7% - Positive dose-response relationships were found between the number of symptoms of internet addiction and 1-year changes in scores for suicidal ideation and depressive symptoms
McCarthy (2010)	- To investigate the feasibility of monitoring the volume of suicide-related internet searches as a tool to more rapidly identify trends that could influence	- "suicide", "teen suicide", "depression", "divorce", "unemployment" were entered to Google Trends	- Year 2004-2009	- NA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Google search volumes correlated to CDC statistics for both suicide and self-injury, but in patterns that differed by age. - internet search activity was negatively

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
	suicide risk on a population-wide level				correlated to the suicide rate in the general population, it was positively correlated to both intentional self injury and completed suicides among youth
Naito (2007)	- To analyse the subject of “net suicide” in Japanese society with reference to the mental health state among adolescents and young adults	Case study	- 4 cases	- NA	- Impact of internet usage on vulnerable adolescents and its link to “net suicide” - Internet is utilized by young people to facilitate group suicides
Silva (2010)	- To investigate the disturbing trend of Internet group suicide in Japan by examining the individual and social psychological aspects of Internet group suicide	Endography	- Internet suicide websites, two social commentaries in Japanese popular culture, work of developmental psychologist Philippe Rochat	- NA	- Participation in Internet suicide forum and even the act of Internet group suicide result from both a need for social connectedness and the fear of social rejection and isolation
Lin, Ko, Chang, Liu, Wang, Lin, Huang, Yeh, Chou, & Yen (2014)	- To examine the associations of suicidal ideation and attempt with Internet addiction and Internet activities in a large representative Taiwanese adolescent population	Stratified random sampling Questionnaires	- 9510 adolescents aged 12-18 years old	- Kiddie Schedule for Affective Disorders and Schizophrenia (Kiddie-SADS-E) - Chen Internet Addiction Scale (CIAS) - Center for Epidemiological Studies	- Internet addiction was significantly associated with suicidal ideation and suicidal attempt - Online gaming, MSN, online searching for information, and online studying were associated with an increased risk of suicidal ideation

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
				Depression Scale (CES-D) - Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSES) - Family APGAR Index (APGAR)	- online gaming, chatting, watching movies, shopping, and gambling were associated with an increased risk of suicidal attempt - watching online news was associated with a reduced risk of suicidal attempt
Whitlock, Powers, & Eckenrode (2006)	- To shed light on the role of message boards in spreading information about self-injurious practices and influencing help-seeking behavior	- Terms “self-injury”, “self-harm”, “self-mutilation”, “cutting” – Yahoo, Google, MSN, AOL, Gurl.com	- 400 self-injury message boards, 12-20 years old	- NA	- online interactions clearly provide essential social support for otherwise isolated adolescents - may also normalize and encourage self-injurious behavior and add potentially lethal behaviors to the repertoire of established adolescent self-injurers and those exploring identity options
Dunlop, More, & Romer (2011)	- To determine whether Internet sites, such as online news and social networking websites, expose young people to suicide stories that might increase suicide ideation	Interview	- 719 young people ages 14 to 24, participated in a prior nationally representative survey	- NA	- traditional sources of information about suicide were most often cited (79% were from friends and family or newspapers) - online sources were also quite common (59%) - Social networking sites were frequently cited as sources, but these reports were not linked to increases in ideation - online discussion forums were both

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

Author (year)	Aim	Method	Sample	Name of Questionnaire	Result
					- cited as sources and associated with increases in ideation

DISCUSSION

Search trends on suicide. Studies based on search trends on suicide typically employed search engines such as Google, Yahoo, MSN, AOL, Bing and Gurl.com. In 2011, Yang and his colleagues carried out a cross-sectional analysis using 37 suicide-related terms to search Google Insight for a period ranging from January 2004 to December 2009 in Taiwan. The results indicated that a set of suicide-related terms temporally coincided with or led the trend on suicidal data. Besides, Yang et al. (2011) also reported that the variance of 30.2% in the suicide data was accounted for by search terms such as “major depression” and “divorce”. Meanwhile, by considering only the leading search trends, terms such as “divorce” and “complete guide of suicide” were identified having contributed to a variance of 22.7% in the suicide data.

Another study by McCarthy (2010) used search terms such as “suicide”, “teen suicide”, “depression”, “divorce” and “unemployment”. The researcher employed Google Trends, and the results were limited to the United States (US) from January 2004. The retrieved results were then directly compared with the data on suicide and intentional self-injury from the Centres for Disease Control (CDC). The results indicated that there was a correlation between Google search terms and the CDC statistics; however, there was a difference in the pattern according to age. It was reported that the Internet search activity was positively correlated to intentional self-injury and complete suicides among youths, but the pattern was the opposite for the general population. The researcher suggested that self-injurious behaviour among youths is facilitated by the use of the Internet (McCarthy, 2010).

Web page, self-injury and suicidal ideation. A study was done by Whitlock et al. (2006) with the purpose of discovering the role played by message boards as a medium for spreading information about self-injurious behaviour as well as their influence on help-seeking behaviour. The study used several terms such as “self-injury”, “self-harm”, “self-mutilation” and “cutting” for five search engines, namely Yahoo, Google, MSN, AOL and Gurl.com. 406 message boards were identified; with a tremendous increase being shown from year 1998 to 2000. The researchers also examined the contents of the message boards using content analysis, and 2942 posts were coded. The top five categories which were most frequently discussed were identified as informal support, motivation or triggers, concealment issues, addiction as well as formal help-

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

seeking or treatment. This suggests that message boards can serve as a social support platform for those who surf the net, and also to normalize their behaviour.

As mentioned, individuals tend to gain social support by surfing the net. A study by Silva (2010) on Internet suicide websites using the endography technique also suggested that participation in suicide forums as well as the actions of suicide groups on the Internet indicate the need for social connectedness in individuals. The results also indicate that individuals who participate in suicide websites fear isolation and social rejection. In addition, a content analysis carried out on comments posted in public profiles on Social networking sites (SNSs) also indicated that adolescents use the Internet as a platform to express their suicidal thoughts, behaviours and possible intentions through their comments. The comments were also found to be negative in tone, referring to hopelessness, despair and desperation (Cash et al., 2013).

Recently, Singaravelu et al. (2015) carried out a study on possible access to websites by young people at risk (self-harm) by employing several terms such as “suicide”, “depression”, “self-harm”, “how to self-harm”, “tips for self-harm” and “ways to kill yourself” in search engines such as Yahoo, Google and others. A number of 314 websites were retrieved. The results showed that sites with negative tones were only associated with search terms such as “ways to kill yourself”, but access to sites by using terms such as “self-harm” or “suicide” tended to be more positive.

Internet use and suicidal ideation. Fu et al. (2010) carried out a study on 208 adolescents aged 15 to 19 years in Hong Kong. The aim was to identify the prevalence of Internet addiction and other correlations among adolescents. The results showed that there was a positive dose-response between the number of symptoms of internet addiction and scores for suicidal ideation and depressive symptoms after a year. The results were similar to those obtained by Lin et al. (2014), who carried out their study on 9510 adolescents aged between 12 to 18 years. The results from the study also indicated that there was a significant association between Internet addiction and suicidal ideation and suicidal attempts. However, only certain types of online activities were reported to be associated with an increased risk of suicidal ideation such as online gaming, MSN, online searches for information, and online studying, but watching online news was reported to be associated with a reduced risk of suicidal attempts (Fu et al., 2014).

On the other hand, a study by Katsumata et al. (2008) for the purpose of identifying the association between the experience of using electronic media and suicidal ideation in Japanese adolescents indicated that there might be a significant association between individuals with a lifetime history of suicidal ideation and the search for information about suicide or self-injury through the Internet. The study also showed that adolescents tend to experience anxiety or emotional pain as well as distrust of the people around them (Katsumata et al., 2008). In another study by Harris et al. (2009) it was shown that individuals at risk of committing suicide and who used the Internet for suicide-related purposes reported a higher risk of symptoms. Apart from that, these individuals also tended to perceive that they had less social support and were less

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

likely to seek help. However, the report also suggested that some individuals also reportedly felt less alienated, which may have contributed to the reduction in the suicide rate (Harris et al., 2009). Meanwhile, a study with 1560 youths also showed that youths who were reported to visit self-harm or suicide websites were 7 times and 11 times more likely to kill and hurt themselves, respectively (Mitchell et al., 2014), while youths who experienced cyberbullying were also reported to have more suicidal thoughts and were more likely to attempt suicide (Hinduja & Patchin, 2010).

A study by Dunlop et al. (2011) showed that young people aged from 14 to 24 years received information about suicide mainly through traditional sources (friends and family). However, online sources were also common, whereby 59% of young people were reported to receive such information through online sources. The study also noted that only online discussion forums were reported to be associated with increases in suicidal ideation but not SNSs, which were reported as frequent sources of information about suicide. Besides, Naito (2007), who analysed several case studies on net suicide, identified a link between vulnerable adolescents and “net suicide”, as young people tend to use the Internet to facilitate group suicides.

LIMITATIONS

One of the limitations of this review is that although the researchers managed to identify the association between search terms and the suicide rate for a certain time frame, however, the causal effect of the relationship between these two is unclear. Apart from that, although the researchers have tried to identify the influence of Internet usage on suicidal ideation among young people, no standardized instrument has been developed. Hence, the results have to be interpreted cautiously.

CONCLUSION

As mentioned in the introduction, the aim of this review was to summarize and assess the existing work on the influence of Internet usage on suicidal ideation and suicide attempts among young people. A total of 14 studies were retrieved for this purpose, and the studies could be categorized into three types, namely cross-sectional studies, comparisons between search trends and available data, and content analyses and case studies of websites.

The results revealed that there are associations between search trends and the suicide rate. However, only some of the terms might be related but not the others. Meanwhile, the search terms that are used to lead to suicide-related websites are also different across age groups. Therefore, authorities may need to monitor the search trends to predict the occurrence of suicides in specific areas. Meanwhile, studies have also shown that young people tend to use the Internet as a platform to express their suicidal thoughts, to gain social support as well as to facilitate net suicide. In addition, unregulated WebPages that are usually free, such as online forums, which enable young people to express their thoughts freely without restriction, are also related to an increase in suicidal ideation.

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

It is important to note that individuals who visit suicide or self-harm-related websites may have a heightened risk of performing such behaviour. However, there are also websites that provide helpful information for those in need. Furthermore, young people tend to use such websites in order to gain social support or self-identity. Researchers should take advantage of the accessibility to the Internet to provide helpful information while assisting in meeting the needs of young people at risk by developing new websites that are able to provide information and virtual assistance when needed. This may be helpful in preventing suicide among young people.

Acknowledgments

The author appreciates all those who participated in the study and helped to facilitate the research process.

Conflict of Interests

The author declared no conflict of interests.

REFERENCES

- Alao, A. O., Soderberg, M., Pohl, E., & Alao, A. L. (2006). Cybersuicide: Review of the role of the internet on suicide. *Cyberpsychology & Behavior*, 9(4), 489-493.
- Cash, S. J., Thelwall, M., Peck, S. N., Ferrell, J. Z., & Bridge, J. A. (2013). Adolescent suicide statements on MySpace. *Cyberpsychology, Behavior, and Social Networking*, 16(3), 166-174.
- Dobson, R. (1999). Internet sites may encourage suicide. *British Medical Journal*, 319, 337.
- Dunlop, S. M., More, E., & Romer, D. (2011). Where do youth learn about suicides on the internet, and what influence does this have on suicidal ideation? *Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, 52(10), 1073-1080.
- Fu, K. W., Chan, W. S. C., Wong, P. W. C., & Yip, P. S. F. (2010). Internet addiction: Prevalence, discriminant validity and correlates among adolescents in Hong Kong. *The British Journal of Psychiatry*, 196, 486-492.
- Harris, K. M., McLean, J. P., & Sheffield, J. (2009). Examining suicide-risk individuals who go online for suicide-related purposes. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 13, 264-276.
- Hinduja, S., & Patchin, J. W. (2010). Bullying, cyberbullying and suicide. *Archives of Suicide Research*, 14(3), 206-221.
- Katsumata, Y., Matsumoto, T., Kitani, M., & Takeshima, T. (2008). Electronic media use and suicidal ideation in Japanese adolescents. *Psychiatry and Clinical Neurosciences*, 62, 744-746.
- Lin, I. H., Ko, C. H., Chang, Y. P., Liu, T. L., Wang, P. W., Lin, H. C., Huang, M. F., Yeh, Y. C., Chou, W. J., & Yen, C. F. (2014). The association between suicidality and internet addiction and activities in Taiwanese adolescents. *Comprehensive Psychiatry*, 55, 504-510.
- McCarthy, M. J. (2010). Internet monitoring of suicide risk in population. *Journal of Affective Disorder*, 122, 277-279.

Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review

- Mitchell, K. J., Wells, M., Priebe, G., & Ybarra, M. L. (2014). Exposure to websites that encourage self-harm and suicide: Prevalence rates and association with actual thoughts of self-harm and thoughts of suicide in the United States. *Journal of Adolescence*, *37*, 1335-1344.
- Naito, A. (2007). Internet suicide in Japan: Implications for child and adolescent mental health. *Clinical Child Psychology and Psychiatry*, *12*(4), 583-597.
- Silva, C. O. (2010). Shared death: Self, sociality and internet group suicide in Japan. *Transcultural Psychiatry*, *47*(3), 392-418.
- Singaravelu, V., Stewart, A., Adams, J., Simkin, S., & Hawton, K. (2015). Information-seeking on the Internet: An investigation of websites potentially accessed by distressed or suicidal adolescents. *Crisis*, *36*(3), 211-219.
- Whitlock, J. L., Powers, J. L., & Eckenrode, J. (2006). The virtual cutting edge: The internet and adolescent self-injury. *Developmental Psychology*, *42*(3), 407-417.
- World Health Organization (2015). Suicide. Retrieved <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs398/en/>
- Yang, A. C., Tsai, S. J., Huang, N. E., & Peng, C. K. (2011). Association of Internet search trends with suicide death in Taipei City, Taiwan, 2004-2009. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, *132*, 179-184.

How to cite this article: Yan T, Ibrahim N, Din N, Kuan K (2017), Internet Use and Suicidal Ideation among Young People: A Narrative Review, *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, Volume 4, Issue 2, No. 94, ISSN:2348-5396 (e), ISSN:2349-3429 (p), DIP:18.01.152/20170402, ISBN:978-1-365-84229-0