

Mobile Phone Dependence and Mobile Phone Addiction among Engineering College Women Students

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ABSTRACT

The world that people live in today is a world full of technological marvels. Everywhere of people look and every aspect of their lives has been influenced and molded by the plethora of gadgets and applications that have come up at an astounding pace to overwhelm and overhaul the economic, political, social and psychological fabric of our everyday lives (Yodida Bhutia, 2016). There is hardly an aspect of their lives and environment that technology has not touched and transformed. It is there in almost everything that they do in their daily life, the way they work and how they communicate with each other. For many of them, it would be deep to function without the conveniences that technology has brought about into their everyday lives. It is observed that the youth, especially the college going students, are the predominant users of mobile phones. They are usually the ones who are always curious and inquisitive about the latest developments in communication technology. They try to find out the different applications and features of a new technical invention. College students are at that age where they feel that they need to keep in touch with their friends every second, every minute and every hour. They want to know about the latest happenings in their friend's life as well as share theirs. Mobile phones allow for an easy, fast and convenient way to keep in touch with their friends and family. It enables them to keep in touch with their family and friends anywhere and any time of the day. (Amanda Tariang, 2016).

Keywords: *Mobile Phone Dependence, Mobile Phone Addiction, Engineering College, Women, Students.*

*I finally realized it
People are Prisoners of their phones,
That's why they are called CELL PHONES.*

- *Science*

Everyone knows there has been a great development in technology. This has resulted in the invention of many gadgets and the cell phone is one of them. Despite its usefulness,

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Received: June 10, 2018; Revision Received: July 3, 2018; Accepted: July 20, 2018

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excessive use of this device has various negative impacts. A person suffering from such a phenomenon is referred to as a cell phone addict. The person relies on his cell phone for all the various day to day activities not concentrating on anyone else near them. A person is suffering from this form of addiction can be predicted by the cell phone bills and the abrupt behaviour in case the cell phone is missing. In addition to being a means of communication and having rapidly spreading use around the world, mobile phones, in particular the new generation of smart mobile phones, are technological tools due to offering many functions, such as providing short message service (SMS) to users, taking photos, playing games, using the Internet, connecting to social networks, providing navigation services, having a video player functionality, watching TV and shopping. Cell phone activities examined in the study included calling, texting, emailing, surfing the Internet, banking, taking photos, playing games, reading books, using a calendar, using a clock and a number of applications, among them the Bible, iPod, coupons, Google Maps, eBay, Amazon, Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, YouTube, iTunes, Pandora and “other” (news, weather, sports, lifestyle-related applications and Snapchat.). (*Sode Jaimala Ashok*)

Mobile Phone Addiction

Mobile phone overuse (mobile-phone addiction, problem mobile phone use, or mobile phone dependency) is a dependence syndrome seen among certain mobile phone users. Some mobile phone users exhibit problematic behaviours related to substance use disorders. These behaviours can include preoccupation with mobile communication, excessive money or time spent on mobile phones, use of mobile phones in socially or physically inappropriate situations such as driving an automobile. Increased use can also lead to increased time on mobile communication, adverse effects on relationships, and anxiety if separated from a mobile phone or sufficient signal.

METHODOLOGY

Objectives

The objectives of the present study are as follows:

1. To find out the mean difference of mobile phone dependence among college students.
2. To find out the mean difference of mobile phone addiction among college students.
3. To find out the mean mobile phone dependence of the urban and rural college students.
4. To find out the mean mobile phone dependence among the departments of the sample.
5. To find out the mean mobile phone dependence among the siblings and the sample
6. To find out the mean mobile phone Addiction of the urban and rural college students.
7. To find out the mean mobile phone Addiction among the departments of the sample.
8. To find out the mean mobile phone Addiction among the siblings and the sample
9. To find out the relationship between Addiction and Dependence of College Students

Research Questions

1. Does adolescence college students have mobile phone dependence?
2. Is there any mobile phone addiction among college students?

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2. What is the level of mobile phone addiction in the selected students?
3. Do the level of Dependence and Addiction of the sample differ with respect to residence, Siblings, and department in Engineering Stream.
4. Does any relationship exist between dependence and addiction in the selected sample?

Hypotheses

1. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among rural and urban of the sample.
2. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample.
3. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence towards Siblings and the sample.
4. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among rural and urban of the sample.
5. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample.
6. There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction towards Siblings and the sample.
7. There will be a statistically significant positive relationship between dependence and addiction of the sample

Sample

From INFO Institute of Engineering, Coimbatore, 60 female samples were selected for the study (15-EEE, 15 IT, 15CSC, 15 ECE) in the age range of 18-21 were selected by purposive sampling method. The purposive sampling method is the technique in which the individual units are selected by some purposive method. Most of them (60%) are from High Socioeconomic status background. (20%) are from Middle socioeconomic status and (20%) are from Low socioeconomic status of the society.

- *EEE*--- Electrical and Electronic Engineering, *IT*--- Information Technology
- *CSC*--- Computer Science, *ECE*---Electronics and Communication Engineering

Area Of The Sample

The geographical area of this study is confined only to Info Institute of Engineering, Coimbatore district. The reason for selecting this area are given below

1. Residing place of the investigator.
2. Availability of the required number of the sample.
3. Cooperative rendered by the sample to the researcher.
4. The convenience of administering the test to the sample.

Tools

The personal data sheet was used to collect the relevant background of the selected students like age, residence, department, siblings, etc...The scale of mobile phone dependence and

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addiction by (Choliz, 2012) was used to assess the level of mobile phone dependence and addiction of the sample. This scale consists of 22 statements which have to be responded by giving 5 point rating. Each response carries a score of 1. The total score is summed and interpreted using the norms. It consists of 22 items related to the symptoms of mobile phone dependence and addiction experienced by the sample over the past. Scores are interpreted with the help of norms.

Procedure

Initially, permission was obtained from the authorities of Info Institute of Engineering, Coimbatore. Then the investigators established a rapport with the students. They gave a personal data sheet to each of them and collected relevant personal background details. And the test of mobile phone dependence and addiction scale were provided to the students individually. They were asked to respond to the questioners as per the given instructions. Their scores were recorded and as per the norms, they were interpreted. Out of the total sample 60. The results are tabulated and taken for further discussion.

Experimental Design

A single group pre-test design was used in this study.

Analysis Of Data

The tabulated results were statistically analyzed using ANOVA and Correlation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

OBJECTIVE- 1

➤ To find out the mean difference of mobile phone dependence among college students. In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic.

Table 1.1, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students' Mobile Phone Dependence score.

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
DEPENDENCE	Female	60	18.85	7.87

The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the overall sample (N=60) is 18.85 and 7.87 respectively

OBJECTIVE- 2

➤ To find out the mean difference of mobile phone addiction among college students. In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic.

Table 1.2, Show the Descriptive Statistics for Female college students' Mobile Phone addiction score.

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
ADDICTION	Female	60	27.03	11.19

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The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the overall sample (N=60) is 27.03 and 11.19 respectively

OBJECTIVE : 3

- To find out the mean mobile phone dependence of the urban and rural college students.
In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₁: *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among urban and rural of the sample*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *significant difference in the level of dependence among urban and rural of the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summary of One-way ANOVA

Table 1.3, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence among urban and rural of the sample

Variable	Residence	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone Dependence	Urban	33	19.48	8.04
	Rural	27	18.07	7.73

Total = 60

Table 1.4, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence among urban and rural of the sample.

Source		Df	F	Sig.
Residence	Between groups	1	.473	.494**
	Within groups	58		
	Total	59		

When the difference between urban and rural score in mobile phone dependence analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly (F=.473,). Hence, it is assumed that the urban mobile phone dependence means score (M=19.48, SD=8.047) is higher than the female mobile phone dependence score (M=18.07, SD=7.731). Therefore, the hypothesis, stating that there will be *a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among urban and rural of the sample* is rejected and concluded that the urban and rural students have more or less same level of mobile phone dependence

OBJECTIVE: 4

- To find out the mean mobile phone dependence among the departments of the sample.
In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₄: *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample.*

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In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *significant difference in the level of dependence among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summary of One-way ANOVA are presented

Table 1.5, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence among the departments of the sample

Variable	Course	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone Dependence	EEE	15	16.53	7.40
	IT	15	16.73	6.92
	CSC	15	21.27	6.77
	ECE	15	20.87	9.55

Total = 60

Table 1.6, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence among the departments of the sample

	Source	Df	F	Sig.
Departments	Between groups	3	1.647	.189**
	Within groups	56		
	Total	59		

When the difference between EEE, IT, CSC and ECE score in mobile phone dependence analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly ($F=1.647$) Hence, it is assumed that the EEE department mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=16.53$, $SD=7.405$), IT department mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=16.73$, $SD=6.293$), CSC department mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=21.27$, $SD=6.777$), ECE department mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=20.87$, $SD=9.553$) are more or less similar to each other Therefore, the hypothesis, stating *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample* is rejected and concluded that the EEE, IT, CSC and ECE students have more or less same level of mobile phone dependence.

OBJECTIVE : 5

- To find out the mean mobile phone dependence among the siblings and the sample
In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₅: *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence towards Siblings and the sample.*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *significant difference in the level of dependence towards siblings and the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summary of One-way ANOVA are presented in *Table 1.7*

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Table 1.7, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence towards the siblings of the sample

Variable	No of Siblings	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone Dependence	0	7	17.57	9.94
	1	42	19.48	8.14
	2	11	17.27	5.38
	Total= 60			

Table 1.8, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of dependence towards the siblings of the sample

Source		Df	F	Sig.
Siblings	Between groups	2	.438	.648**
	Within groups	57		
	Total	59		

When the difference between siblings score in mobile phone dependence analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly ($F=.438$) Hence, it is assumed that the students who are single born have mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=17.57$, $SD=9.947$), The students who have one sibling have mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=19.48$, $SD=8.140$), The students who are Two or more siblings have mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=17.27$, $SD=5.387$), and are more or less similar to each other, Therefore, the hypothesis, *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of dependence towards Siblings and the sample* is rejected and concluded that the single born, one sibling and more than two siblings students have more or less the same level of mobile phone dependence.

OBJECTIVE: 6

- To find out the mean mobile phone addiction of the urban and rural college students.
In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic.

H₆. *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among urban and rural of the sample*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *significant difference in the level of addiction among urban and rural of the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summery of One-way ANOVA are presented in the following table 1.7,1.8 and figure 2.3

Table 1.9, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of addiction among urban and rural of the sample

Variable	Residence	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone addiction	Urban	33	28.18	12.04
	Rural	27	25.63	10.09

Total = 60

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Table 1.10

	Source	Df	F	Sig.
Residence	Between groups	1	.769	.384**
	Within groups	58		
	Total	59		

When the difference between urban and rural score in mobile phone addiction analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly ($F=.769$). Hence, it is assumed that the urban mobile phone addiction mean score ($M=28.18$, $SD=12.048$) is more or less equal to the rural mobile phone addiction score ($M=25.63$, $SD=10.096$). Therefore, the hypothesis, stating that there will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among urban and rural of the sample is rejected and concluded that the urban and rural students have more or less same level of mobile phone addiction.

OBJECTIVE: 7

➤ To find out the mean mobile phone addiction among the departments of the sample. In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₇: *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample.*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the significant difference in the level of addiction among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE of the sample, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summery of One-way ANOVA are presented Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of addiction among departments of the sample.

Variable	Course	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone Dependence	EEE	15	24.13	11.27
	IT	15	26.73	10.58
	CSC	15	28.73	9.07
	ECE	15	28.53	13.85

Total = 60

Table 1.12

	Source	Df	F	Sig.
Department	Between groups	3	.531	.663**
	Within groups	56		
	Total	59		

When the difference between EEE, IT, CSC and ECE score in mobile phone addiction analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly ($F=.531$) Hence, it is assumed that the EEE department mobile phone dependence mean score ($M=24.13$, $SD=11.27$) , IT

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department mobile phone dependence mean score (M=26.73, SD=10.58), CSC department mobile phone dependence mean score (M=28.73, SD=9.07), ECE department mobile phone dependence mean score (M=28.53, SD=13.85) are more or less similar to each other Therefore, the hypothesis, stating *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction among EEE, IT, CSC and ECE departments of the sample* is rejected and concluded that the EEE, IT, CSC and ECE students have more or less same level of mobile phone addiction.

OBJECTIVE: 8

➤ To find out the mean mobile phone addiction among the siblings and the sample In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₈: *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction towards Siblings and the sample.*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *significant difference in the level of addiction towards siblings and the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summery of One-way ANOVA are presented.

Table 1.13, Show the Descriptive Statistics for college students in the level of addiction towards the siblings and the sample.

Variable	No of Siblings	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Mobile Phone Dependence	0	7	24.00	13.83
	1	42	28.21	11.83
	2	11	24.45	5.53
	Total= 60			

Table 1.14

	Source	Df	F	Sig.
Siblings	Between groups	2	.777	.465**
	Within groups	57		
	Total	59		

When the difference between siblings score in mobile phone addiction analyzed, it was found that they did not differ significantly (F=.777) Hence, it is assumed that the students who are single born have mobile phone addiction mean score (M=24.00, SD=13.83) , The students who have one sibling have mobile phone dependence mean score (M=28.21, SD=11.83), The students who are Two or more siblings have mobile phone dependence mean score (M=24.45, SD=5.53), and are more or less similar to each other, Therefore, the hypothesis, *There will be a statistically significant difference in the level of addiction towards Siblings and the sample* is rejected and concluded that the single born, one sibling

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and more than two siblings students have more or less the same level of mobile phone addiction.

OBJECTIVE: 9

➤ To find out the relationship between Addiction and Dependence of College Students
In order to realize the objective, hypotheses were formed and they were tested by working out one-way ANOVA statistic

H₉: *There will be a statistically significant positive relationship between dependence and addiction of the sample*

In order to test the hypothesis stated above and to find out the *statistically significant positive relationship between dependence and addiction of the sample*, One-way ANOVA statistic was worked out. The descriptive statistics and the summery of One-way ANOVA are presented.

Table 1.15, Shows the correlation for addiction and dependence among college students

VARIABLES	MEAN	STANDARD DEVIATION	r- VALUE
DEPENDENCE	18.85	7.871	.763
ADDICTION	27.03	11.193	

Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed)

From the above table, it is clear that there is a strong positive relationship between mobile phone addiction and mobile phone dependence among adolescent college students ($r = .763$, $p < 0.01$). therefore, the hypothesis stated *There will be a statistically significant positive relationship between dependence and addiction of the sample is Accepted.*

CONCLUSION

- The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the overall sample is 18.85 and 7.87 respectively
- The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the overall sample is 27.03 and 11.19 respectively
- The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the Urban sample are 19.48 and 8.04, the mean dependence and the standard deviation of the Rural sample are 18.07 and 7.73 respectively with the F value of .473 and the significance level of .494, which is not significant.
- The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the EEE department sample is 16.53 and 7.40 respectively, The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the IT department sample is 16.73 and 6.92 respectively, The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the CSC department sample is 21.27 and 6.77 respectively, The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the ECE department sample is 18.85

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and 7.87 respectively with the F value of 1.64 and the significance level of .189, which is not significant.

- The mean dependence and the standard deviation of the sample with no siblings is 17.57 and 9.94, the mean dependence and the standard deviation of the sample with one sibling is 19.48 and 8.14, the mean dependence and the standard deviation of the sample with two or more sibling is 17.27 and 5.38 respectively with the F value of .438 and the significance level of .648, which is not significant.
- The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the Urban sample are 28.18 and 12.04, the mean addiction and the standard deviation of the Rural sample is 25.63 and 10.09 respectively with the F value of .769 and the significance level of .384, which is not significant.
- The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the EEE department sample is 24.13 and 11.27 respectively, The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the IT department sample is 26.73 and 10.58 respectively, The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the CSC department sample is 28.73 and 9.07 respectively, The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the ECE department sample is 28.53 and 13.85 respectively with the F value of .531 and the significance level of .663, which is not significant.
- The mean addiction and the standard deviation of the sample with no siblings is 24.00 and 13.83, the mean addiction and the standard deviation of the sample with one sibling is 28.21 and 11.83, the mean addiction and the standard deviation of the sample with two or more sibling is 24.45 and 5.53 respectively with the F value of .777 and the significance level of .465, which is not significant.
- The correlation between the variables mobile phone dependence and addiction is .736. Indicating a strong positive correlation

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

In spite of detailed analysis made in the present study, this study is not free from limitations.

The following are the important limitations:

1. The study is purely based on the views of 60 respondents only and hence the results may not be universally applicable.
2. Large samples could have been included
3. The geographical area of this study is confined only to Info Institute of Engineering, Coimbatore District.
4. The only descriptive study was carried out, Intervention program could have been given to the needed sample.
5. Some more psychological variables could have been included, as it is only a descriptive study.
6. The limitations of this method are applicable to this study.

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Acknowledgments

The authors profoundly appreciate all the people who have successfully contributed in ensuring this paper is in place. Their contributions are acknowledged however their names cannot be mentioned.

Conflict of Interest

The authors colorfully declare this paper to bear not a conflict of interests

How to cite this article: Britto, J. A. & Selvaraj, B. (2018). Mobile phone dependence and mobile phone addiction among engineering college women students. *International Journal of Indian Psychology*, 6(3), 87-99. DIP: 18.01.008/20180603, DOI:10.25215/0603.008