

**Title:** Social Media and Adolescents Sexual Comportments: Implications for HIV/AIDS incidence

**Author(s):** Amoo Emmanuel O

**Outlet:** in Nigeria, In Imhonopi David and Ugochukwu M. Urim (eds.) A Panoply of READINGS in Social Sciences: Lessons for and from Nigeria. Department of Sociology, Covenant University. Ota.

**Date:** 2013

**Abstract:** Social media technologies have potential for societal change against the traditional restrictions on sexual information. However, the flagrant explicit display of sexual content through these media is becoming worrisome especially in era where sexual misdemeanours are threats to human existence. The study therefore examined the effects of exposure to social media on sexual comportment among adolescents in urban areas of Nigeria. Face-to-face structured interviews were carried out among 264 adolescents in a purposively selected urban centre in Lagos, Nigeria. Data obtained were analyzed using a combination of univariate and multivariate analysis. The result revealed that almost all the respondents have knowledge of how HIV/AIDS is being transmitted. While those who use social media for business-like activities, such as trading, will be 0.482 less likely to be involved in sexual activity, adolescents who watch movies or indulge in listening to music, chatting and sexing via social media would be 16.058, 39.639 and 6.713 times more likely to be involved in sexual intercourse compared to those who use it to complete class works and assignments. Since restriction in terms of access to these media might be practically impossible or negate technological development and advancement of young people, global scrutinizing and censoring of social media contents and coverage are a panacea to sexual misdemeanor and the menace of HIV/AIDS among adolescents in Nigeria. Finally, social media can be tailored towards the education of people, skill acquisition and empowerment of adolescents who are the future mainstay of labour and economy of any nation.