

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE LEVEL OF VERBAL AGGRESSIVENESS AND COMPUTER USE

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Verbal aggressiveness is thought to be mainly a destructive form of communication. Verbal aggressiveness is viewed as a skill deficiency whereby an individual lacks the verbal skills required to deal with normal disagreements and everyday frustrations.

Keywords: teenagers, aggressiveness, verbal aggressiveness, level of aggression, computer.

Computer and information technologies come to the fore and are now one of the important factors that influence the formation of the personality of a teenager. In addition to games and other entertainments, teenagers have access to various kinds of information, which often has a negative character.

Republican Research and Practice Center for Mental Health conducted a large-scale study in 2014-2015. About two thousand teenagers and young people under 30 years old were tested for computer addiction. Among the second group, 18 percent were diagnosed addicted, among boys and girls this percentage was only slightly lower [1].

Infante and Wrigley (1986) defined aggressive behavior in interpersonal communication as “a joint product of the individual's aggressive traits and the way the person perceives the aggressive inhibitors and disinhibitors in the given situation.”[2].

Verbal aggressiveness is one of two aggressive communication traits, which influence people's behavior when engaged in interpersonal conflict. Verbal aggressiveness is the predisposition to attack the self-concept of another person in order to inflict psychological pain, hurt, and embarrassment. The consequences of trait verbal aggressiveness and the use of verbally aggressive messages have been found to result in negative outcomes in a variety of interpersonal communication contexts including family, dating, marital, and instructional. As such, verbal aggressiveness is considered a destructive communication trait [3].

In the study, was attended by 349 teenagers from different districts of the Republic of Belarus. The methodological basis for the study was the Bassa – Darka aggressiveness questionnaire, which includes 75 questions. Each of the teens was asked to indicate how long it uses a computer or smartphone.

Depending on the time of use of the computer, we divided all the adolescents into several groups and analyzed the level of verbal aggressiveness. Using the methods of descriptive statistics, we obtained a reliable level of difference between the levels of verbal aggressiveness, depending on the time of use of the computer. The lowest level of verbal aggressiveness is noted when using a computer for up to 2 hours. The highest level of verbal aggressiveness is noted when using a computer for more than 10 hours.

Using the methods of descriptive statistics, we obtained a reliable level of difference in the level of verbal aggression when using a computer for up to two hours and more than 10 hours, up to two hours and more than 16 hours, up to two hours and up to 24 (confidence level $p < 0.05$). A reliable level differences in the level of verbal aggression when using a computer for up to three hours and more than 10 hours, up to three hours and more than 16 hours, up to three hours and up to 24 (confidence level $p < 0.05$). A received a reliable level of verbal aggression when using a computer to six hours in and more than 10 hours, up to six hours and more than 16 hours, up to six hours and up to 24 (confidence level $p < 0.05$).

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