COMPUTER ADDICTION AMONG THE SECOND YEAR MARINE ENGINEERING STUDENTS

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Abstract

Technology has developed so much that it is almost crucial to have electronic devices particularly the personal computers at home, school, internet café, etc. Teenagers have gotten so used to have technology around them. However, while having these computers that make life easier, comfortable, and handy at most of the times, it could also have negative effects on their lives particularly in their studies when used too much.

If the computer use is so pervasive that it interferes with other life activities, and if the user seems unable to stop using the computer to excess despite negative consequences, the problem is computer addiction.

This study was conducted in order to know if students in the marine engineering are computer addict and what computer activities they are fond of doing.

To answer the objectives of the study a descriptive research design was used. The respondents were the 75 second year marine engineering students of John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University-Molo for the second semester of Academic Year 2012-2013. The study utilized a researcher made questionnaire to

gather data needed for the study. The instrument consisted of two parts. Part I dealt with personal data of the respondents. Part II of the questionnaire was the questions on causes of computer addiction among the second year marine engineering students. The statistical tools employed were the mean, percentage, t-test and analysis of variance (ANOVA). The level of significance for inferential test was set at .05 alpha-level.

Results of the study revealed that as a whole group, the students "agree" that computer causes addiction. When the causes of computer addiction was evaluated separately, the students "strongly agree" that they are "fond of facebook". The least cause of computer addiction was " I used to watch pornography".

There was no significant difference in the causes of computer addiction among the second year marine engineering students as a whole group and when classified according to the categories of variables age, residence and monthly family income.

In order to minimize if not to eliminate computer addiction among the students of John B. Lacson Foundation Maritime University-Molo, the following recommendations were made:

- Social networking should be banned in school.
- Facebook and twitter should be blocked and not be given access in the schools' internet social networking sites.
 - 3. Students should know how to utilize their time in using the computer.

- Computer technicians should be strict in checking the computer activities of the students in the internet center.
- 5. Result of this study should be made available to the librarians, computer laboratory technicians and internet center technicians so they will be aware of the activities of the students using the computers.