

## Impact And Adverse Effects On The Youth Of Crippled Language Used In Social Media

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### Abstract

The sole purpose of the current study was to understand texting style, use of non-existing elements while texting, and to identify the most frequently used crippled language on social media. The group for the study was youth who were actively using social media regularly. The method adopted by the researcher was survey and through observation data was compiled. The major and astonishing findings are; frequent use of crippled language in texting and relying on auto spell on mobile or internet, badly affect the ability of using the correct spellings. The study also suggested that the frequent use of non-existing signs, symbols were increased while texting on social media. Youth have developed their set pattern of crippled languages, their capabilities of applying correct spelling are gone astray misdirection. Speedily texting increase misspells and it harms their writing style. It is also observed that the use of 'Backspace' or 'Delete' tab or button frequently used while typing, writing or texting. The youth largely rely on auto text while chatting or typing on social media platforms. Even the use of emoticons, GIFs, abbreviations, self-developed signs language, symbols, are common among youth's texting and it keeps changing or evolving.

*Keywords: Youth, Crippled Language, Social Media, Texting, Spelling, Auto Spell, Communication*

### Introduction

Human being prefer communication to share their ideas, thoughts, emotions, feelings, and so on. Nowadays, we all have moved towards social media platform as an alternative for direct communication. By means of the social media, we interact through chatting, texting, videos, images, etc. In technical words, social media is the platform for connection among individuals or groups to share, create, and exchange information in the form of ideas, images, videos over the internet, and virtually. Social media and networking have tremendously grown over the last few years. Social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, MySpace, LinkedIn, and many others have occupied an essential space of everyone's life. Nowadays, teenagers and youth and even kids are growing up under the canopy of mobile devices and interactive social networking sites. These sites have become a vital aspect of their life. More probably, teenagers tend to cherish these new and high-tech networking platforms with their friends and classmates. Nowadays, even school going children meet in chat rooms, find and connect with friends on Facebook, and engage within the social network via mobile phones anywhere and anytime. Social media offers more profound benefits to youths. Social platforms provide a chance to involve in community gatherings through charity, volunteering for events, or institutes. Also, it enhances ones' personality through sharing of artistic, musical endeavours with each other.

Social media plays both the impacts i.e., positive as well as negative impact on youth. Social media's positive effects are that it is an invaluable tool for professionals to reach the desired audience, promote a product, conduct sales, promote business virtually across the globe, and get new expansion opportunities. For children, the internet is a crucial platform for accessing educational information, and they can have their home library. During the difficult times of pandemic when schools are closed, the internet has become an education mode for students. In contrast, the same media possess a negative side as well. Several parents get overwhelmed with their child's knowledge and usability of computers and the internet. But they may not be aware of the dangers residing behind the usage of internet and social platforms.

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Parents must understand the effects of these social platforms and how to protect their kids from them. Here, based on the study performed by researchers at the University of Rome, it is apparent that around 50,000 people know the effects of social media on their lives. Here, the researcher has given several examples for reference purposes: hate speech, social disturbance, virtual bullying, theft, online stalking, violent imagery, virtual grooming, emotional imbalance, and poor interpersonal skills. The duration of time the child spends sitting in front of a computer or laptop can impact the posture. Further, it generates obesity, brings undeveloped social skills, and brings addiction. So, it is evident that social networking sites excessive usage of technology and activities performed there are changing youths' behaviour with their parents and peers.

Here, in the present study, the objectives are to focus on understanding the impact and adverse effects on the Youth of Crippled Language Used in Social Media. At this point, the researcher has executed this study to comprehend: –

1. To study youth's writing abilities while texting on social media
2. To understand the use of non-existing elements of the language (abbreviations, emotions, slang terms, and many other)
3. Identify the most frequently used crippled languages on social media, crippled language terms.

### **New Tech, New Trends and New Rules**

With the Internet's revolution and its usage on mobile phones, it is changing the living style and language. With the use of the Internet and mobile phones, people are changing their fundamental language of communication. Previously, they used to convey clear messages or emails in proper English with correct grammar and spellings. The updates in mobile phones, auto correction features, and several other apps have changed the language. Correct spellings, complete sentence construction, punctuations, and other grammatical corrections have almost disappeared from all spheres of phones or social life. The Internet and mobile phones are reversing everything again. Although they are carrying new possibilities and technical capabilities, they have eclipsed the old communication methods that had earlier been used only the letter or the speech. The history of communication with SMS, Facebook, and other online services suggests the letter and speech elements.

Nowadays, only youths or very few people are aware of new writing rules using various emoticons, acronyms, errors of the medium, sounds, and other elements representing the type or a casual communication style. Here, in this study, the researcher has studied newly written texts with language elements. Also, the researcher has shifted focus onto typed speeches in social media. Modern tech changes have created clear boundaries between the spoken and written language; it is also becoming increasingly vague. Nowadays, tonnes of spontaneous words and lines are in use and flowing into social platforms at a pace. These unexpected words and language used by youths or social users is a form of crippled language. Virtual communication has become a part of modern life, especially for children. There is hardly a youth who has not used a phone and unaware of its usage. Studies show that around 90% of youngsters belonging to age 16 to 18 use a mobile phone in developed countries.<sup>1</sup>

The language in use nowadays for SMS-texts, Facebook, or Twitter is interesting. Social communication (interpersonal communication) is essential for humans. It is performed in many ways through SMS, face-to-face, emails, chats, and social media channels. Texting or chatting has become quite an essential means of communication. The majority of youngsters or even older adults use these platforms to convey dates, set meetings, connect with their loved ones, say goodnight- good morning to them, and fix meeting schedules using text. Texting is manageable, convenient, and does not interfere with other tasks. The language of new media has considerably changed compared to the traditional language at almost all levels. It shows differences from the ideographic level, morphological, syntactic, semantic, and lexical to the (hyper) textual.

The language of the Internet involves emoticons or smileys, abbreviations, stylistic icons

e.g. @; \*\*\*\*; !!! !!; ???; \$\$\$\$; ###; hahaha, etc.

The repetitions of the same sounds and letters to elaborate different emotional states (e.g., hey, !!!!!!!).

Further, the social media language also involves logos, web addresses, links, audio and video recordings, etc.

### **Mobile Communication and Disconnection**

Usage of mobile for communication is becoming a core part of routine life. The researcher has performed a study to understand the impact of new technology developments on youths. It is observed that mobile communication and the latest technology connects people uniquely. Further, the nature of connection may vary from “perpetual contact,” “connected presence,” or “ambient virtual co-presence.”

In the past times, mobile phones were used to resolve the sole purpose of communication. But now, the functionality of mobile phones has changed and expanded widely

Although disconnection is a central line in mobile communication, most digital communication experts look at it as pleasing and enjoyable. Here, in the current study, the researcher has gone through available data and invested in how and why people disconnect from specific platforms like; Twitter and Facebook. The study observed that people found various drivers for disconnection, including awareness of privacy concerns, the

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process of data mining, and so on. U. Lee, Yang, Ko, and Lee (2014) has executed the survey which stated that, “around 59% of survey respondents employed forms of temporary non-use to lower the negative impacts aligned with their smartphones.”<sup>2</sup>

Here, the researcher observed several standard disconnection methods such as changing patterns of texting and communicating through chatting and texting. The researcher has also noticed the changing applications of phone settings, using airplane mode, personal settings for non-use goals and sticking to downgraded phone and plan etc. Also, several people attach to phones with minimal Internet capability or phones without Internet capability.

Further, people tend to block their interactions with mobile and controls the influence of smart technology. Disconnection is essential while living in the digital world. Because being available online creates tension on the person and produces other side effects as well. The researcher has further observed that several youngsters develop over dependency and entrapment as they fail to control mobile contact with their friends. People follow certain practices to manage and limit mobile-mediated interactions. More specifically, people try to ignore or provide delayed responses, setting up personal and professional communication time. “The people (youth) use butler lies or white lies to send through mobile communication to clarify future or past unavailability to avoid further interactions.

### **Affordances as Socio-Technical Possibilities**

Here, the word “affordance” suggests the possibilities for action. Also, the concept of affordances has become popular within the techno-social world. The idea provides a way of accounting for the specialized agency and avoids technological determinism. Affordances are a set of opportunities produced by an object to engage the person with that object. The way personal computers were configured for use by physically disabled people. An Affordance is not a feature or an outcome. Here, features are the properties of technology and products at the end after usage of features. For the reference, the researcher has given one example, a phone has a media player as a feature, and using that player to play a song or video means an outcome.

### **“A typology of Disconnective Affordances”**

According to Schrock (2015)<sup>3</sup>, “availability, portability, locality, and multimodality are mobile-based communication affordances. Further, it is observed that availability does not necessarily create social interaction. But it is neglected and filtered out with the course of changing social contexts.”

### **Disentanglement**

Smartphones or standard mobiles are light in weight, compact, and wireless devices, and one can keep them within eye line and earshot. The bodily closeness of mobile devices shows the connection with the optical, acoustic, and haptic announcements of messaging programs that captures attention. These calls are strengthened by the charm of the unknown and the pressure of expectations. The combining features and qualities form a complexity within a device, program, and person where a user is always available. Mobile devices and messaging programs maintain the entanglement; both device features and programs can cause disentanglement.

Disentanglement is permitted by notification frameworks that a person can change to defeat their knowledge of incoming messages at the platform level. A person can use disentanglement to make permanent or temporary changes to their connectivity. One cannot control when people send messages or see them, so people try to maintain that more superiorly. Some people put their phones on silent mode when they don't want to get in touch with other people. One can also manage disentanglement using device features such as taking with, leaving behind, putting away, and turning face-down. The majority of the users are interested in engaging themselves in specific tasks than their mobile phones.

### **Modulation**

Disentanglement and jamming make a person less or utterly unavailable to anyone. Here, through modulation, user can modulate availability to specific people or groups of people. The simplest form of modulation is a blocking feature that prevents all the messages and calls from a particular contact number. Here, the block feature works as a modulated jamming.

### **1.2 Concept of Social Media and Texting**

According to the concept elaborated in the Oxford Dictionary, a social network is a unique web platform that enables smooth communication among users based on information, comments, messages, and images. A social networking constructs and strengthens social relations within the group of people having likely interests. A social media allows individuals to create, publish their profile virtually, and shortlist users to share links. In the present study, the researcher has performed a survey to understand the fundamental nature and diversity of language used on social media. The researcher has also obtained knowledge about the impact and adverse effects of Crippled Language on the youth. There are various definitions of social media which are as follows:

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- Founded on the concept of Drury (2008)<sup>4</sup>, “social media is an online resource that acts as a way to share content in the form of video, photos, text, ideas, personal insight, humor, opinion, news, or gossip.”
- Based on Dykeman (2008)<sup>5</sup>, “social media is the platform for any person to publish digital and creative content; also, it provides and gives real-time feedback via online discussions or sessions, a great way of commenting and evaluations; in short, it is way to incorporate changes or corrections to the original content.”
- Marchese (2007)<sup>6</sup> “has distinguished social media from conventional media through this definition and stated that social media is not the media itself. Still, it is the data discovery system, distribution, consumption, and conversation with the surrounding.”
- Safko and Brake (2009)<sup>7</sup> both have reflected social media by way of a principal activity, practice, and human behavior that initiates online communities to share information, knowledge, and opinions by using conversational media. Safko and Brake have suggested informal media as Web-based applications that ease the creation and transmission of content in the form of words, pictures, videos, and audios.”

### **Fundamental Purpose of Using Social Media**

The interest of youth is shifting from television media to social media and towards internet-based entertainment modes. Social media is a chief influencer on youth’s lives and helps them to create a vast network worldwide. Various social media channels make it easy to make new connections with anybody present anywhere in the globe based on likes and dislikes. People on social media platforms can connect, share pictures, videos, and other information easily within or outside the network immediately at a low cost. Social networking opens a platform where people sharing the same interest can discuss and exchange information.

Further, various social media channels help people to express their feeling or thoughts with their peers. Students get information regarding submission details of their assignments to be submitted. Political changes are happening smoothly with social media's support, as most of the youngsters are available online.

Social media sites have created a significant impact on youths, as they have changed their lives incomprehensively. They communicate through thumbs-ups, profiles, activity feeds, status updates and wall posts, etc. Various studies were performed to understand the benefits and risks of social media networking on teens or youth’s lives. In the present study, the researcher has observed both the benefits and risks of social media and the crippled language. Social media plays a crucial role in youths' social life as it supports social development.

### **Social Media and its Language**

In the current research study, the research professional has tried to understand the impacts and adverse effects of crippled language used in social media. During this study, the researcher has observed slang use in English and its adverse impact on youths' writing skills. Fast forward, communication has given birth to shortcuts and slang words as a part of instant messaging. But it has produced a substantial impact on youth’s spelling and grammatical skills. (Rankin SL, 2010.<sup>8</sup>” It has also deviated youths from using Standard English language with proper punctuation, spellings, and grammar elements.”

In contrast, such changed language has positive benefits in communication and quick technology of messaging. The slang language has increased the pace and flow of information from one person to another. Various internet slangs or expressions are available on the internet. These are comforting the communication and different from routine English. The crippled language development is from SMS, where non-standard typographic forms are used to communicate instead of proper standard sentences. The sentences formed in crippled language are challenging to understand by the outsiders because of shortcut words, symbols, smileys, and many other things. The language consists of the repeated used letters such as ‘oooops’, over usage of punctuation marks as ‘hello!!!!’ and combination of two words, for example, ‘weblish’ instead of web English. Such web-based crippled language has created severe grammatical and spelling concerns in Youths. Users of crippled language is tending to use the same language outside the social life and becoming more informal. Also, the majority of the students use slang language in universities. In the present study, the researcher has tried to determine the actual impact and effects of such crippled language used on social media by youths.

### **Influence of Social Media on Youth**

Social media offers both positive and negative impacts on its users, and here youths are in a central position. Here, in the present study, the researcher has observed that social media influences youth in a negative manner as well. It encourages unethical videos, unnecessary chatting, and image sharing that forms different opinions within the network or in themselves. Youth or teenagers are immature and may become a victim of cyber-crime or cyberbullying. It also affects them at an emotional and mental level, which may lead them to feelings of frustration, depression, and even suicide. Due to low privacy checkpoints, youth accounts are at high

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risks of misuse by the third party. Youths are sticking to social media communication, and as a result, they are distracted and reduced from face-to-face communication.

### **Effects of Social Media on Youth**

The majority of the students, youths, or teenagers are on Facebook, Twitter, and several other social media networking sites. They hold their private accounts through which they communicate within network or friends. It affects their academic performances, develop poor writing skills with improper sentence construction, grammatical errors, etc. Further, the majority of youth uses social media communication through their mobile phones. Those who are using mobile phones are at the high risk of developing poor writing skills and using more crippled communication language. According to Global social media research summary<sup>9</sup>,” it is observed that around half of the world population is on social media.”

Around 4.57 billion people use the internet; more specifically, 5.15 billion are mobile users. The youth population is always busy in pining, Facebooking, or Twitting, posting social media things, etc. All these virtual engagements have crushed the passion or interest of meeting new friends, discussing issues face to face. Instead, they have developed a habit of meeting virtually, even for a coffee. The researcher also observed that majority of students often use abbreviations or slang as their writing style. Here are the examples youth use D instead of the word ‘the’, uses 4 in place of the word ‘for’. and F9 in the place of the word ‘fine’ etc. It has set the development of everyday use of English and grammar, which directly impacts academics.

### **Social Media and Health**

Besides, nowadays, everyone is using android phones, and they are sticking to social media platforms. In short, everyone is using chatting or networking applications as a means of communication. Also, several mobile phones come with auto correction feature, or one hand typing, or even hands-free typing through voice, leads to poor writing skills. The majority of the mobile user uses only thumb, which is creating health concerns.

Social media work as a powerful tool for healthcare professionals. It allows information sharing, promotion, engagement of the audience, education, and interaction within the network. Healthcare professionals are using social media for improving health outcomes, spread public awareness, and suggest discoveries, treatment options, and so on. Physicians get a chance to read articles or publications on social sites, discuss new modalities within a global community formed on social media. But here, the researcher has observed that social media networking sites have caused depression in youth, self-mutilation, family detachment, and promiscuity.

### **Positive effects of social media on health**

- Can share information easily with friends, family, colleagues, and relatives virtually.
- Can discuss anything with anybody present anywhere.
- Get suggestions, comments, and likes from friends, relatives, and other members over the post.
- Get access to the required data available on the internet easily.
- Can contribute to social activities held online.
- Help to stay connected with friends present across the globe.
- Youth can get advice or information through social networking sites related to their education, career and their academics.
- Youth can look for answers related to their career goals, assignments related to their education, references.

### **Ill Effects of Social Media on Health**

- Incorrect self-diagnosis
- Potential breach of privacy
- It is difficult to understand the stranger and real one or fake IDs
- Less privacy securities that may lead to cyber crime
- Wasting time in chatting which impacts mental health
- Socially available wrong information may distract youth

### **Crippled or slang language and youth**

Slang is a type of speech variety that refers to any speech form used by one or more speakers. With the development of social spheres within the last several decades, the lifestyle of beings is changing adversely. Also, it is affecting the language used to communicate within the network. Social media or the internet world is demanding informal conversation and receiving a response in crippled format. There is the addition of new words, new phrases, and statements that are causing modern vocabulary development. Youth is the crucial part of any society, and it represented individual status. The current crippled language used by youth is not understandable for influential groups. But for youth, such slang words mean beauty, emotions, and only apparent to youth.

### **Usage of Crippled Language on Social Media and Youth’s Academic Performance**

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According to Lenhart's survey<sup>10</sup> (2010), around 57% of social media users fall within 18-29. They have created numerous profiles and accounts on various social networking sites. The majority of them spend around half an hour daily on social media sites. Around 50% of college-going students visit social media more than necessary.

## 2. Research Methodology

Here for the present study, the researcher has chosen the survey method to understand the impact and adverse effects of crippled language on the youth. Here, the researcher has performed a survey among youth. The researcher also checked writing abilities to understand and gauge for the presence of useful or useless elements of the crippled language. Also, in this study, the researcher has examined the impact of crippled language on youth. Further, the research method involves using a systematic study approach to highlight defined problems and assumptions. Online survey method carries the various advantages like it saves cost and time of the researcher, it provides complete freedom to the respondent about their availability and interest and gives them the liberty to take decision to participate in the survey or not. It also provides better access to the respondents.

The data were collected through observation, conducted survey using a referral form available users. Here, in the present study, the researcher conducted online surveys and snowball sampling. For the survey, the researcher developed a questionnaire online and distributed across social platforms, mobile links, etc.

## Population and Sample

The population and the sample for the present study consisted of youth. The observation collected the data specially used texting messages in English language while chatting through social media. The research aimed to examine the impact and adverse effects on the Youth of Crippled Language Used in Social Media.

## Hypotheses

Following are the research hypotheses:

- H1 - The crippled language used by the youth for conveying messages to write on social media does not deteriorate them
- H2 - Youth uses standard language for writing or texting message, which they gradually develop.
- H3 - The language used in social media platform do affect youth's vocabulary and spellings.

## Statement of Problem

The imminent trends in technology and rapid social media usage as a core mode of communication changed everyone's life. It is a fostering change in the various segments of the world. A lot of people, most probably teenagers and youth, are forming virtual communities using multiple social media platforms. The effect of the language used on social media depends on how the user chooses to use it. Social media carries diverse impacts and consequences. The present study surveyed the effects of the crippled language used on social media by teenagers. Further, in the current study, the researcher has tried to obtain answers for the following questions:

What is the impact of crippled language on a youth? And hence, the statement of the problem is framed in the following way:

“Impacts and Adverse Effects on the Youth of Crippled Language used in Social Media”

## Objectives of the study

The present study's fundamental objective is to examine the impact and adverse effects of crippled language used in social media on the Youth. The objectives of the research are hereunder:

- i. To understand the impact of social media language on the spelling ability of youth.
- ii. To obtain illumination on the effect of crippled language and related confusions in spellings of the youths.
- iii. To discover the ways by which youth come across these new terminologies, slangs texting language.
- iv. To obtain a detailed understanding of the social media and social networking sites that caused the formation of crippled language in youth.

## Research Questions

- 1. What is the effect of social media having on youth and their spelling ability?
- 2. What is involved in crippled language?
- 3. How frequently youth use crippled language on social media?
- 4. In what manner social media affects the spelling ability of youth?

## Literature Review<sup>11</sup>

The world is stuffed full of the latest information technologies and provides computer-aided communication services. Internet is a critical component of this world. Internet is a cluster of thousands of heterogeneous computer networks that creates a worldwide communication platform. It is a conglomerate of diverse categories of networks and set up links. These links are known as computers and support computer networks based on a standard addressing system and communication protocol. The internet has different uses that include chatting, texting, e-based chats, etc.

To better understand the impact of the crippled language used in social media on adolescents, it is essential to understand the definitions, theories, and research relevant to comprehend the relationship between adolescents and communication language. Excessive use of new words in communication language has motivated the researcher to investigate its impact on youth. The present review examines the implications for social work practice and includes a study statement for this specific research topic.

### Definitions

It covers Internet shorthand, SMS speak, or Cyber-slang, and many others. These slangs refer to several everyday expressions that people use on the internet.<sup>12</sup>

### Definitions of slang

“Slang or crippled language is considered as an independent communication tool.”<sup>13</sup>

Elisa Mattiello<sup>14</sup> has specified the term as “Within the sociological approach, slang is ascribed the two opposite purposes of keeping insiders together and outsiders out”.

According to Jespersen (1922:298)<sup>15</sup>, “slang finds amusement in creating and propagating new words and attaching new meanings to old words”.

J.B Greenough and C.L Kittredge, as cited in Partridge (1933,i)<sup>16</sup> assert that “slangs is a peculiar kind of vagabond language always hanging on the outskirts of legitimate speech but continually straying or forcing its way into the most respected company”.

The American heritage college dictionary describes slang as a “kind of language, especially in casual, formal and frisky speech which is usually made up of short-lived raciness and coinages”.<sup>17</sup>

In a nutshell, slang or the crippled language which is frequently used by the youth is a self-developed variation of language that is attached to other non-standard varieties of language. The primary difference is that it is joyful, expressive, and full of new words.

### Texting or Messaging

Texting uses specific language and technology and hence requires definition. In research and theoretical literature, text messaging is the exchange of brief messages through technology use (Tilley, 2009)<sup>18</sup> it involves texting, a short message service (SMS), social networking services like Twitter over a cellular telephone network, and messages sent to both individuals and groups. “It is observed that teenagers have accepted SMS a mobile phone-based texting, instant messaging (IM), and computer-based text chat systems.: (Tilley, 2009)<sup>19</sup>. Here, the word SMS is used to text, send text messages, and text messages”. “Adolescents have created their crippled language. Text messaging uses textual shortcuts as there is a restriction of 160 characters per “short messaging system”.

Text messaging made communication convenient and quick. Language of texting is used as a book of shorthand. Here, users reduce/ shorten the words by dropping vowels or at times endings of words or uses single letters, numbers, symbols, or combinations. Also, they replace letters, syllables, or whole words with others. (Durkin et al., 2010)<sup>20</sup>.

Here is the example of shortened words Wed rather than Wednesday, removed letters from a word, e.g., goin for going, words with acronyms example,

LOL for laughing out loud, and symbols to replace terms example use of & for and.

The researcher also studied the literature that shows the sequences of characters, involves joining a colon, a dash, and a right parenthesis to create “emoticons” representing feelings or emotion, and to express strong emotions, and letters are capitalized.

Following table no. 1 represents some basic emoticons and their meanings.

Emoticons	Emoticon Definition
: -)	Smiling face
;-)	Smile with a wink
:- (	Frown

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:#	My lips are sealed / speechless
:-O	Surprised
:/	Confused
:P	Sticking tongue out
:-@	Screaming
B-)	Cool
:-D	Laugh

Note. This table includes common emoticons used in text communication (Russell, 2002).<sup>21</sup>

The following table no. 2, signifies the Abbreviations those are usually apply at the time of Texting

Shorthand / abbreviation	Definition / meaning
AAMOF	As a matter of fact
AFAIK	As far as I know
BRB	Be right back
BTW	By the way
BTD	Been there done that
F2F	Face-to-face
G2G (GTG)	Got to go
IKR	I know right
IDC	I don't care
IDK	I don't know
LMHO	Laughing my head off
LOL	Laugh out loud
ROTFL	Rolling on the floor laughing

Note: (Russell, 2002)<sup>22</sup> the above mentioned table includes common shorthand abbreviations and definitions used while text communication.

“Immense research has been completed on social networking and the present study describes many aspects or dimensions. But here, the researcher has tried to understand the relation among using crippled language on social media and teenagers. The majority of the studies were performed to understand the relations between social networking and academic performance” (Alwagait et al., 2015)<sup>23</sup>. “Several attempts were made to highlight the learning aspects of using social networking”. Study has also been performed to understand the negative of social networking on children (Maddena et al., 2016)<sup>24</sup>. Several research professionals invested time to understand why children are using social networking sites (Samaha and Hawi, 2017)<sup>25</sup>. The study has also been performed to discover parents' sensitive role in their children's social networking use (Lovea et al., 2016)<sup>26</sup>. Many studies show that there is no significant impact of time spent on social media with studies of youth. In contrast, several researchers and studies explain a positive impact of social media networks on students' academic performance. Few studies show the positive impact of social media on language and reading (Tuan, 2013)<sup>27</sup>. The study performed by Deng and Tavares (2013)<sup>28</sup> states that “web-based discussions can contribute to the development of students' reflective ability and critical thinking skills.” A study performed by Gross (2004)<sup>29</sup> explains that both males and females were accepting the Internet as a core of communication within their friend's circle. Further, the researcher indicates that chatting via instant messaging is the core activity among American high school students.

### Methodology

For the present research, the method adopted by the researcher was a descriptive survey. Here, the design is considered to allow the researcher to produce data through standardized data collection procedures using highly structured research instruments and study concepts. Barbie (1997)<sup>30</sup> suggests that the survey is the best technique for scientists to obtain original data from a defined population. Also, survey design allows professionals to measure orientation and attitudes even in a large population. Osuala (2001)<sup>31</sup> states that the survey method offers large and small populations by selecting and studying samples from the people to explore the relative incidence, distribution interrelation of sociological and psychological variables. The survey process involves selecting samples using the identified sampling technique, measuring instruments, data representation, data analysis, and interpretation. For data generation in the survey method, the researcher generally uses a questionnaire, personal interview, and observation.

### Data Collection

In the present study, the observation and survey method of data collection is used. Here, the observations were made on the youths belonging. Further, the researcher developed statements to match the



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study's purpose and made qualitative analyses and studies using previous adolescent and social media language literature. Here, the researcher observed participants on social media platforms through their messages, comments and posts.

### Data Analysis

The researcher used data analysis with an interpretative approach to examine the obtained data from the interviews. According to Berg, 2009, data or content analysis is a systematic examination of a material to identify its patterns, themes, biases, and meaning, then it is compared to the current literature. The data will also be interpreted through the researcher's theoretical framework and state of the literature (Berg, 2009).

### Sampling

Here, the researcher observed several youth through purposive sampling, which is a nonprobability sampling technique. In this technique, the researcher uses judgment and prior knowledge to select people for sampling. For recommendations researcher connected possible youth. Here, Snowball sampling is a nonprobability sampling strategy where selected participants can identify other potential participants.

### Data Presentation

In the present study, the researcher took the support of observations and obtained information.

### Research Findings

The present research's fundamental motto is to understand better the impact and adverse effects of crippled language used in social media on youth. The present study's findings help in a better understanding of parents, teenagers, youth and related peers. The discussion compares and contrasts the available literature with the results of this study.

1. What effects does social media have on youth and their linguistic factors and spelling ability?/ Does social media affect language skills?

To answer the first research question, the researcher collected data, analyzed it, and concluded. The study denotes that the youths on social media platforms use crippled language. The study shows adequate usage of new words and slang language, which affects their spelling ability. Also, several respondents have explained that they neither get adverse effects nor positive effects with spelling ability. The use of shortcuts in instant messaging creates significant damage to students' spelling and grammar development skills. (Rankin SL, 2010<sup>32</sup>). It deviates learners from the everyday use of the English language.

Further, Goldstuck (2006)<sup>33</sup> describes that "language is changing with time and explained with an example; people used to say thank you, but not it has been modified to "tnk" and then to "tx"." "Both have a positive impact on instant text messaging, and it allows quick communication. It increases the flow of information and communication."<sup>34</sup>

2. What is involved in crippled language?

"Crippled language or internet slangs involve the shorthand, SMS speak that has been in use by the people on social media. The crippled language is in use to ease communication, and such communication is different from semiotic situations. The researcher observed that the use of slang or crippled language is common in American students, teachers."<sup>35</sup>. According to Thurlow and Brown (2003)<sup>36</sup>, "slang or crippled language is non-standard typographic forms that finally form a message in code words instead of the formal standard language." But this coded language is challenging to understand by the outsiders as they don't have proper grammar and structure. The researcher also observed that crippled language involves repeated words, letters, additional punctuation marks, and unnecessary capital letters.

3. How frequently youth uses crippled language on social media? The researcher has observed that around 80% of teenagers (students) use slang words while chatting with their friends. 10% used slang words when they meet their friends face to face. Social media is the primary root cause for spreading slangs, where one to one chat has become very common. Here social media bridges the gap among friends or strangers smoothly. Platforms like Facebook, Path, Messenger, WhatsApp, Twitter, Line, and WeChat are the social places where teenagers and youth use crippled language.

4. In what manner social media affects the spelling ability of youth?

The crippled language used on social media affects teenagers. It is said that around 5% of people use slang in college, while 20% of people use slang at home.<sup>36</sup> Youth use slang words in college as a part of informal communication with their friends to show closeness. The use of crippled language saves time, establishes easy communication, and is useful for those who are unaware of Standard English, making communication engaging and full of fun. It creates humour, establishes strong relations, and secures secrets. Further, the researcher observed that the elements of crippled language vary with the location, level, and educational background of the youth. Additionally, the crippled language affects the productive skills of writing and alters student's academic performance.

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Further, several adolescents explained that they use crippled language in attempting the paper. The fundamental reason behind this was the shortage of time, also slangs helped them create novel and unique answers in their style. Further, the use of slang shifts formal type of communication to casual, and due to this, they suffer from the flawed structure of language and affects writing.

### Findings of the Study

Based on the framed objectives and the hypothesis, obtained findings and the outcome of the study can be stated as follows regarding youth who uses crippled or slang language in the social media. The following observations are based on the objectives which were framed by the researcher while executing the study.

1. The youth frequently used crippled language while using social media for communicating and texting.
2. Due the set pattern of crippled languages, their capabilities of applying correct spellings have gone astray in the misdirection. This habit harm their writing style and they are prone to commit lots of mistakes while writing and texting.
3. Due to frequent mistakes in the spellings while writing and texting 'Back Space' button is in continuous use by the youth. They always try to make their spelling correct by using 'Back Space' button more regularly.
4. The youth rely on auto text while chatting or typing on social media platforms.
5. Crippled language has badly affected their vocabulary and oral communication too. Eg. 'No probs' – it means No problem, 'Despo' – Desperate and so on.
6. Youth while texting frequently uses emoticons, GIFs, and abbreviations. Self-developed signs language, and symbols, are also in fashion and common among youth's texting.  
E.g. \*\*\*\*; !!! !!; ???; \$\$\$\$ etc.

### Conclusion

We learn mainly through language. Language plays a pivotal role in one's life. When we talk about education, we understand that how the language should be treated. There is no doubt that internet, mobile phones, technology, and other gadgets have impacted the teaching and learning process to a large extent. Students are learning and getting education through various apps, the internet, and social media. In this pandemic time when the doors of schools were closed, and the teaching-learning process was shelved for a particular time; internet, social media, and technology came forward and helped the educators and students make the teaching-learning process easy and moving.

Learners get to engage in academic tasks through reading, writing, exploring the internet. For learners learning a language, it is a solution to 'do' things with language rather than just learning about the teacher's language. Technology makes it achievable for learners to interact with their language and accumulate an absolute understanding of the language elements.

Internet, Social media, and technology have become an imperative element of a student's social life. Now it is deemed as a learning platform that assists in improving student engagement and potential. If used wisely, it can help students build and boost their knowledge and language skills.

The present research paper sought to illustrate the Impact and Adverse Effects on the Youth of Crippled Language used in Social Media. From the obtained results, it has been observed that youth who uses crippled language on social media avoid the complications of vocabulary and compact patterns of English. While using such language, they use symbols, acronyms, and other slang words that ease communication speed. However, the use of mobiles also makes communication easy. Developments of various social media platforms have affected and increased the habit of using chatting applications.

Further, it has raised interest in using slang or crippled language in youth. As a result, several students have started using such slang wordings in academic writings as well. The excessive use of mobile phones in colleges and schools has been the critical factor in using slang in routine. As a result, youth do not bother about punctuation, sentence formation, and capitalization while writing, which has ruined their writing abilities, vocabulary, punctuation, and grammar.

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