

Role of What's App in Academic Development of College Students

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Abstract:

The use of mobile devices with their connectivity capacity, combined with the power of social media provides a resource-rich platform for innovative student-directed learning experiences. What's App's capacity for bridging boundaries between formal and informal learning, between academic and social life, between the classroom and outside learning spaces, between professions and between geographical locations, proved useful for academic development. Present study is focused on student's view on role of what's app in academic development.

Introduction:

What's App is a smart phone application for instant messaging. What's App application has become popular and regards as one of the communication platform among college students. Technology gives an immense impact on human lives where the use of what's app application in education carries positive

response to the learning development. Many of the students nowadays are already exposed to this application and used it often for the purpose of communication. It provides faster and easier communication among students and develops their sharing ideas too for instance, in what's App group. What's App group consists of all members like teachers and students. All students from the class can have their discussion on certain topics via this application as it provides immediate response within the group members to join the conversation thus making the communication effective.

This technique is used to attract student's interest, attention and provides fun - based learning. It all owes the students to express thoughts and ideas via various features of the what's app application platform such as attaching pictures, sharing videos, sharing web - links, recording videos and many more. It also helps the students to get actively involved in learning activities via various features on this application. The situations occur in which the students and teacher are having regular conversation. Students could deliver their

responses freely and the teacher responds to students' inquiries and comments, starts new issues, or posts queries. This is to encourage the students to do their reading and generate ideas by exploring the knowledge available online. In fact, they become even more active in sharing attachments; hence, internal confidence in them could be gradually increased in real speaking activity lesson since they have a lot of ideas to voice out and share like what they did in the what's app platform. Even though this application is still new, students are particularly exposed to its use in their learning.

Objective of Study:

To find role of what's app in academic information sharing

To find role of what's app in academic discussion

To find role of what's app in academic knowledge enhancement

To find role of what's app in exam preparation

Hypothesis:

There is no significant role of what's app in academic information sharing

There is no significant role of what's app in academic discussion

There is no significant role of what's app in academic knowledge enhancement

There is no significant role of what's app in exam preparation

Methodology:

Descriptive survey method was applied for present study. 500 students of graduation classes were randomly selected who use smart phones. In sample 50% boys and 50% girls was taken. They were interviewed using self prepared test paper. Collected feedback was tabulated and converted into percentage for comparative analysis.

Finding and Analysis:

Table-1: Role of what's app in Academic Information Sharing

Gender	Positive Response	Negative Response	No Response
Male	57	34	9
Female	62	32	6

Table-2: Role of what's app in Academic Discussion

Gender	Positive Response	Negative Response	No Response
Male	52	37	11
Female	56	31	13

Table-3: Role of what's app in Academic Knowledge Enhancement

Gender	Positive Response	Negative Response	No Response
Male	61	32	7
Female	64	30	6

Table-4: Role of what’s app in Exam Preparation

Gender	Positive Response	Negative Response	No Response
Male	74	19	7
Female	68	23	9

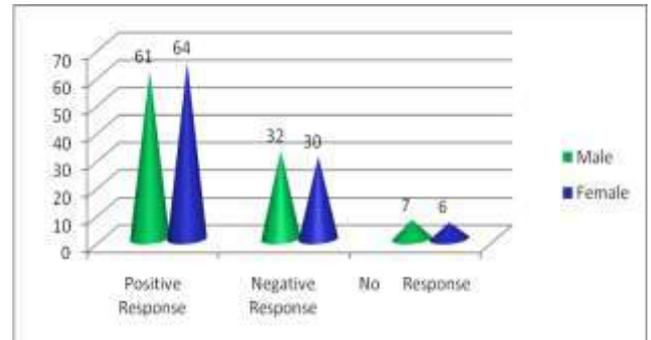


Chart-3: Role of What’s App in Academic Knowledge Enhancement

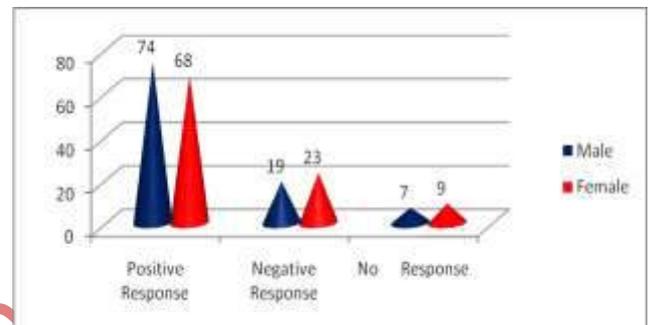
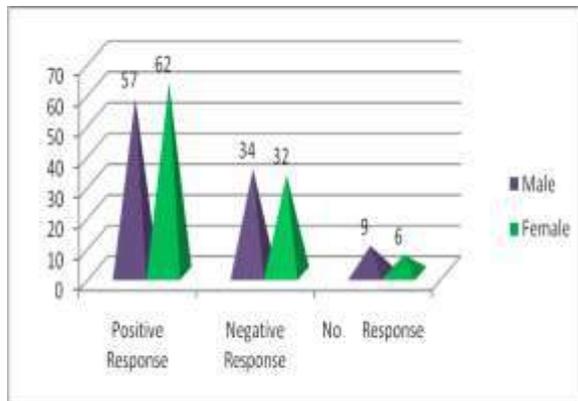


Chart-1: Role of What’s app in Academic Information Sharing

Chart-4: Role of What’s App in Exam Preparation

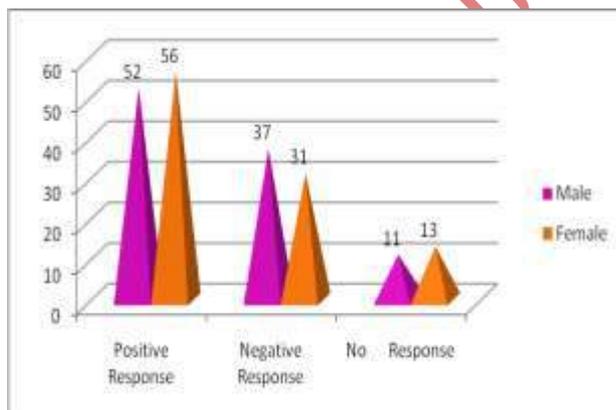


Chart-2: Role of What’s App in Academic Discussion

Academic performance sharing data shows that 57% male students have positive response, 34% have negative response and 9% have not expressed their response. Among female students 62% exhibit positive, 32% negative response. Thus strength of positive response is greater and hypothesis 1 there is no significant role of what’s app in academic information sharing is rejected.

Role of what's app in academic discussion related data shows that 52% male students show positive response whereas 37% show negative response. 11% male students show no response. 56% female students have positive and 31% have negative response. Hence hypothesis 2, there is no

significant role of what's app in academic discussion is rejected.

Data related to academic knowledge enhancement also shows that 61% male, 64% female indicate positive response. Negative response exhibited by 32% male and 30% female students. 7% male and 6% female students have not expressed their views. Therefore hypothesis 3, there is no significant role of what's app in academic knowledge enhancement is rejected.

In the context of role of what's app in exam preparation, 74% male and 68% female students have positive response. On the other hand 19% male and 23% female students have negative response. 7% male and 9% female students have no response. Hence, hypothesis 4 there is no significant role of what's app in exam preparation is rejected.

Conclusion:

From the above discussion, it can be concluded that what's app is useful in academic development of students. It is

significant learning tool as increases student's engagement in learning through discussions. The use of what's App in learning the subject concepts is really beneficial to the students and also to be implemented in today's education since it could be able to make the learning more effective. What's App as a medium of transferring and sharing information, ideas, pictures and many more for the students to explore more on their own. Thus, it means the use of what's app application in classroom may take into consideration as student's needs of learning the subjects. It promotes an active involvement of the student where they can decide on how and what to learn.

References:

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