ONLINE PRIVACY AMONG KIDS AND ADOLESCENTS: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW FOR A RESEARCH PROJECT

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Introduction

Although the internet was not created with children in mind, 75 % of 6 to 17-year-olds in Europe were reported by their parents to be using the internet (Flash Eurobarometer 2008). During the last 10 years, the European governments recognized that kids and adolescents have specific needs and vulnerabilities to be taken into account. What do kids and adolescents believe about their online privacy? What do they know about it? Is it for them a concern?
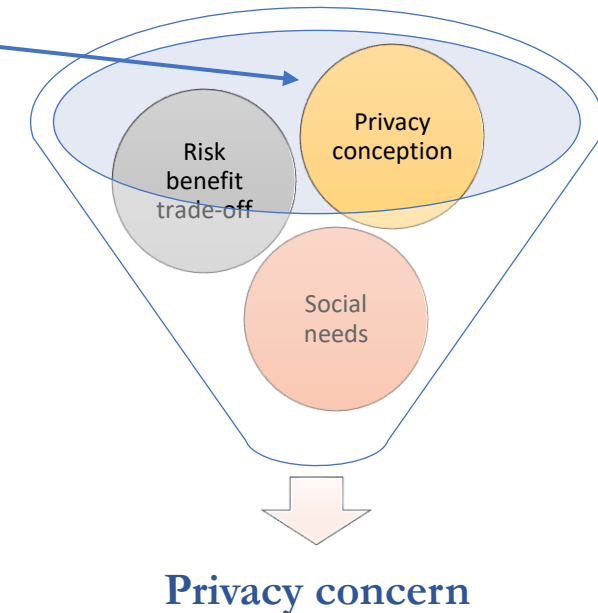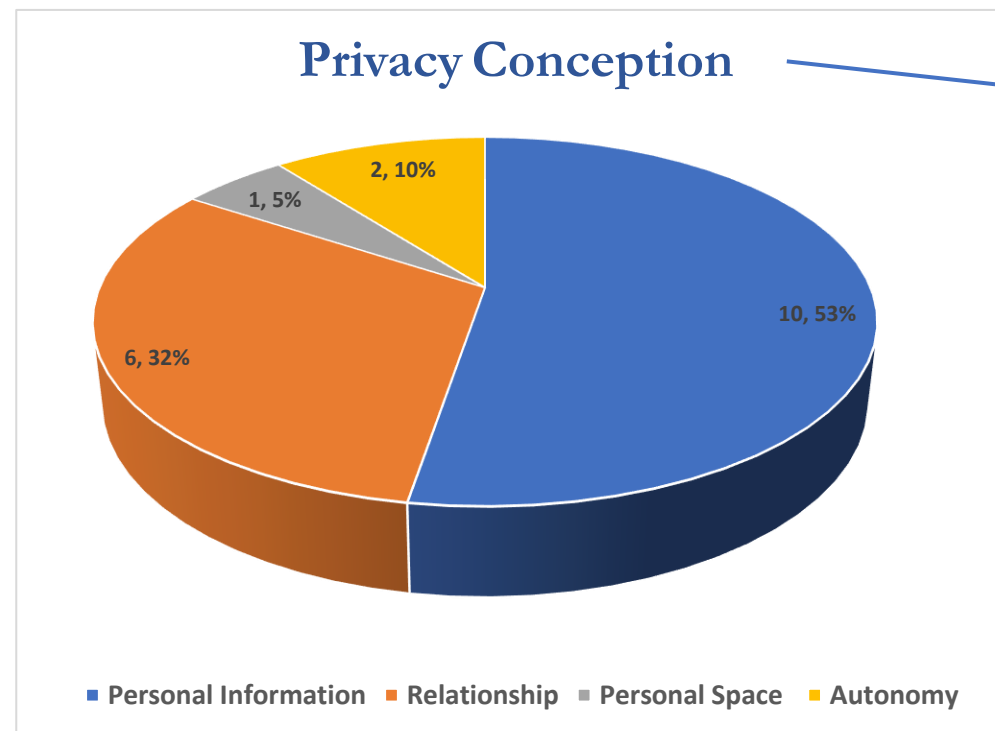
Aims

1. To investigate the concept of online privacy among adolescents.
2. To find and measure the concern about their online privacy.

Metods

PRISMA guidelines (Moher, et al., 2009)

1. Identification: Records identified through database searching (n = 501) Duplicates removed (n= 173)
2. Screening: Records after duplicates removed and screened for the abstract text (n = 328)
   Records excluded (n. 290) due to:
   - not a journal articles: n. 51
   - papers not referring to age Kids and Adolescents: n. 20
   - Not English and Italian: n. 2
   - papers not referring to Privacy: n. 207
   - Systematic review: n. 10
3. Eligibility: Full-text articles assessed for eligibility n. 37
   Full-text articles excluded (n. 18).
4. Included: Studies included in the qualitative synthesis (n. 19)

Results

Privacy Conception

- 10, 53% — Personal Information
- 6, 32% — Relationship
- 1, 5% — Personal Space
- 2, 10% — Autonomy

Risk benefit trade-off · Privacy conception · Social needs

Privacy concern

Discussion and conclusion

Most of the studies present a developmental perspective regarding the difference in the definition of privacy between kids at a different age, according to the perspective by Vedder (2011) who identified four factors of privacy definition: relationships, personal information, personal space, and autonomy.

With this theory, Vedder claims that cognitive beliefs can influence the feeling about privacy (Eagly, Mladinic, and Otto 1994; Kaplan 1991). In other words, to assess and interpret the held attitude of individuals concerning privacy, not only the affective part should be considered (i.e., how concerned they are with privacy) but also the cognitive aspect, that is, an individual's specific idea concerning what privacy exactly is.

Linking Vedder's perspective with a developmental perspective suggests that observed behaviour online can be explained by the social needs and desires of a specific life phase. Young and old people exhibit different behaviour as they gratify different social needs and make different trade-off

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