Social media and reading among secondary school students in Enugu State

ARTICLE · JANUARY 2013

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Available from: Helen Nneka Eke-Okpala
Retrieved on: 11 December 2015
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SOCIAL MEDIA AND READING AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS IN ENUGU STATE, NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT
The extensive use of social media by young people in many countries has raised concerns among adults, who are apprehensive about their effect on reading habits as well as literacy and communication skills. To what extent, however, does this situation apply to a developing country like Nigeria? This study set out to explore this question by looking at patterns of social media use among secondary school students in Enugu State; the purposes for which young people use social media; their perceived benefits and dangers; students’ attitudes toward reading; and the possible impact of social media use on reading. Adopting a descriptive survey design, the study examined the use of social media by students in six secondary schools in Enugu and Nsukka, the two urban centres in the state. Questionnaires and focus group discussions were employed to collect the data. The quantitative data were analysed using mean and percentages, while the focus