



# Analyzing the Impact of Android Usage on Social Interaction of Elementary School Students

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## ABSTRACT

Android affects not only the lives of adults, but also the daily lives of elementary school-aged children. This includes how these children behave, act, or think, all of which contribute to the lack of effective interactions between kids and their parents, teachers, friends, and the people around them. In order to describe the effects of android use on social interaction among fifth grade kids at MIN 5 Jember, the researchers set out to perform this study. The research carried out was a case study, using qualitative research techniques. The researcher is a key tool in research, and supporting tools like interview and observation guidelines can help the researcher collect data. Data collection activities are obtained through in-depth interview techniques, observation, and documentation studies. Researchers employed the Miles and Huberman approach, which was completed in four stages, to analyse the data. Source triangulation was employed by the researchers in the interim to ensure the accuracy of the data. The results of the research show that children who use androids excessively can develop ego and individualism. Lack of responsibility and supervision will have an effect, leading to a lack of direct social interaction, turning children into anti-social and reclusive individuals.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

The pace of technological development in this era is quite quick. This growth can be seen in the emergence of the android project, which makes it easier for people to do things like access information rapidly. Technology is a tool or device made by humans to facilitate communication or to use less energy while performing various tasks. Technology can benefit people and have an impact on all demographics, including children, adolescents, and adults.

Most kids growing up in the millennial era have utilised various types of technology, including computers, i-Pad, smartphones, and tablets. Technology is developing and comes in different shapes and sizes. This applied science is currently available in a wide range of forms, traits, and qualities and is still expanding. Technology is one of many current demands that is of the utmost importance, and this will undoubtedly have an impact on children's development since this technology is known as one of the media or tools in the learning process that is extremely effective to employ.

Android is a form of technology that apart from being able to be used as a tool for establishing communication, can also be used to help complete other tasks. Recently, it has been seen that many parents often offer android to their young children (Anggraeni, 2019). The word "android" is used in English to describe little things with unique functionalities that are also linked to recent technological advancements (Julaeha, 2022). While children at this young age go through a time of growth and development in all facets of human physiology and mind, children's social development is frequently subpar if they are only interested in technology while they are young.

Children who play android for a long time tend to be more emotional and refuse to be disturbed, are too busy playing android or even eating (Ariston & Frahasini, 2018). So it's natural that we often see him tend to be irritable and offended at this time. These technological advances will have an impact on children because children's creativity can grow along with technological innovation. When combined with the presentation of animated graphic illustrations, singing voices or sound effects are used as learning media. Kids love using modern devices. Advances in science and technology will certainly have a significant impact on societal norms in both thinking and behavior. Tools and other forms of applied knowledge will certainly make activities easier and save time. In addition, daily use of electronic devices is not only human behavior as adults but also the behavior of young children, including their social skills (Amri et al., 2020).

A common tool in daily life, android is currently owned by practically all social classes and is accessible to both adults and young children. Children aren't allowed to use electronic devices for extended periods of time since it will harm their mental health, even when they are young. Additionally, if children use electronic devices excessively over an extended period of time, they may develop autism and lose interest in many aspects of their surroundings, particularly those that involve social interaction. A person will get alienated and perhaps rejected by many others if they show little interest in anything going on around them. Depending on how long it is used, toddler behaviour with electronics can have both positive and bad aspects.

It is evident that toddlers today prefer to spend a lot of time playing android over playing with their age-appropriate companions. This undoubtedly has an effect on how young children engage socially. As a result of some kids having access to androids with the support of their parents, who are free to engage in other activities while their kids aren't around, the device is no longer a rare find. In fact, this behaviour can accidentally be the reason why young children don't engage in social interaction processes.

School children who are still classified as elementary school-age children will show more specific growth and development patterns when viewed from various angles, starting from the child's physical, cognitive, social emotional, creative, language, and communication abilities (Syifa et al., 2019). Each person develops uniquely, and elementary school students experience growth through hands-on environmental engagement and exploration. The majority of young children will love the new developments they learn through play. Students often use android to satisfy their curiosity because it is a new concept for them. Installing online game applications on children's androids will cause most children to become dependent on playing gadgets non-stop (Fatimah, 2021). Meanwhile, children of elementary school age have to mix and socialize with their friends.

The use of android by elementary school students may have a negative effect since kids are more likely to play android than engage in social interaction and play with kids their own age in the neighbourhood. This circumstance may lead to kids being anti-social. Android is an electronic product, and thanks to technological advancements, communicating with other android devices is now simple. Videos, games, and other modern features are available on android. According to Alifiani et al., (2019), android looks like a small electronic device that contains certain applications that can make users happy to use it for a long time. This situation will cause contamination of a person's way of thinking and behaving. This android is also a real manifestation of the progress of the times with increasingly developing technology today (Itsna and Rofi'ah, 2019; Putri, 2022).

MIN 5 Jember is one of the elementary schools that had recognized android, starting from grade I to grade VI students already using android. Researchers often see some students in Class V MIN 5 Jember already addicted to android. As described above, the use of android is very influential on the interaction of elementary school age students. Based on the issues seen, it makes researchers challenged to discuss in depth the problems related to the impact caused by the use of android on the level of interaction of elementary school-age children, therefore researchers chose to discuss further in order to find an explanation of "Analysis of the Impact of Android Use on Social Interaction of Elementary School Learners".

## 2. METHODS

The type of research used in this research activity is a descriptive qualitative method that seeks to describe the situation that is happening in the social environment at the time of conducting the research (Ramadhan & Hidayah, 2022). This descriptive method is a method that seeks to interpret data about an on-going process. Researchers chose the type of case study, because researchers felt this method was suitable for use in the research being conducted. A case study is an in-depth research activity carried out within a specified time limit which aims to obtain a complete, in-depth and complete description of an entity in a particular group or individual. The technique of determining informants in this study was carried out through non-probability sampling techniques through snowball sampling techniques.

Where in this study the researcher acts as a key instrument in data collection, the researcher is assisted by supporting instruments such as interview guidelines and observation guidelines. To collect data on the research activities carried out, it was carried out in three ways, namely in-depth interviews, surveys or non-participant observations and documentation studies. After the researcher conducted interviews with relevant informants, the researcher then made observations to state the reliability of the data obtained. During observation, researchers also took field documentation as evidence that the data obtained was valid and accurate (Sugiyono, 2013).

For data analysis techniques, researchers used the Miles and Huberman technique which was carried out in four stages. The first is data collection through interviews, observations and field documentation. The second is data reduction to select and categorize the data obtained. The third, namely, data display which presents data in the form of a research report to provide an overview of events or data obtained during research activities. Fourth, namely drawing conclusions which contain the final results of the research or in the form of answers to the problems raised. Meanwhile, to ensure the validity or authenticity of the data, researchers used triangulation of sources (teachers, students and parents).

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The development of technology and science in the midst of society has indeed made their lives pass through very pleasant times, without these gadgets in their daily lives they would feel very lonely and easily bored. Because technology that provides instant communication interactions (instant) changes very much and quickly, social interaction in early childhood if it has developed can be seen from the child's interest in daily activities with their peers. This is an action that is prone to imitating activities in early childhood, children will tend to imitate when they see their peers playing android. This condition will certainly hinder the process of social interaction, even though there are groups or groups of children in one place, they rarely talk to their friends and are busy with their respective android.

Android is a communication tool that has many other functions, with such a small tool humans can easily communicate with a wider range of people. According to Oktaviana (2021), this android media can make it easier for people to carry out social interactions, through the use of android or other electronic media, humans can interact with other people remotely. Meanwhile, according to Agustina et al., (2022), in general android was created to make it easier for humans to interact.

The visible use of android can have a negative impact which affects the behavior of early childhood to be able to interact or communicate with others it is known to be a barrier in the process of child growth and development (Saniyyah et al., 2021; Abdulatif & Lestari, 2021; Rini et al., 2021). Because it is hindered by distance and time a person must use an android, this is because the android is a medium that plays an important role in this day and age (Yulsoyfriend et al., 2019). Parents believe that this android can support learning activities so that they can run smoothly, and can make children's learning activities effective and efficient, and can be used as a communication tool in various children's learning activities. This condition will also have a positive effect on children, with the use of this android they can get significant benefits as a supporter of children's learning activities, children can find out new information from various sources to add their insights related to the material they are learning.

The excessive use of electronic media including android in early childhood will certainly have a negative effect on their social life (Sunita & Mayasari, 2018). The adverse effects caused by android use occur in children's ability to interact with the social environment. In modern times, technology is very easy to develop (Nanndo Yannuansa et al., 2020). Compared to previous generations, the majority of technology users are millennial children. Now android has been used or applied by various groups from toddlers to adults, it is now known that android is not used by parents alone. Excessive use of android will have an effect on the level of concentration of students during the learning process and of course this incident can trigger low or even falling learning achievements achieved by students (Budiwati et al., 2022). In addition, it can also be a trigger for children to like or favor interactions carried out digitally through this android, which results in reduced social interaction for children (Simbolon &

Sapri, 2022). Therefore, the use of an Android that is not appropriate to the needs can have a dangerous impact on a child's social life and will also be an obstacle to growth and development.

It cannot be denied that the use of android today has a negative influence on the lives of people, be it adults or children. Parents do not realize that things like this can affect the level of children's ability to establish social interactions, because children will often play with their android compared to their peers. Children's dependence on android is caused by children playing android for too long, playing Android for a long time and playing every day will make children become autistic individuals. The effect of playing android is that children will be more inclined to individualism. All of this certainly causes children to forget how to interact and forget how to communicate well with family, friends and also other social beings in the surrounding environment.

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The effect of playing android is that children will be more inclined to individualism. All of this certainly causes children to forget how to interact and forget how to communicate well with family, friends and also other social beings in the surrounding environment. Without direct interaction with their friends, children will become closed off from their social environment, and because they are engrossed in their gadgets, they can become antisocial (Feri & Husna, 2022). In addition, when children are exposed to electronic products, they often ignore their surroundings, do not respond to speech, and do not concentrate on learning at school, resulting in a lack of attention in the real world. Because they prefer to sit and enjoy the gadget world quietly, which will inevitably interfere with the child's health, child growth and child development, especially will interfere with the child's brain and also psychology. This can also have a negative impact on children's social skills children will tend to choose their android rather than friends because it has become their habit to live in cyberspace or the digital world.

One form of interaction is the interaction that occurs between individuals and groups, interactions that occur between individuals who have an interest in mingling or relating to certain groups. For example the interaction that occurs between an individual (educator) and a group of students in an educational environment, the interaction that occurs between educators and students shows that there is an urgent need for an individual to establish relationships with certain groups. The next is the interaction that occurs between one group that establishes interactions with other groups, the type of interaction carried out is an interaction that has a relationship in the form of communication, in this interaction sometimes there are also individual interests in it. This interaction that occurs is an interrelated unit, in which there are individual interests in interactions that occur in groups.

In general, the term interaction can be interpreted as a relationship or reaction that occurs in two or more individuals and interconnected communities (Hidayati, 2020). Therefore, social interaction in general can also be interpreted as a relationship or interrelationship between individuals in one group who are interconnected and establish communication and carry out social actions. Social interaction is also one of the principles in which there are communication skills in carrying out cooperation to encourage better and maintained communication between individuals and their environment.

Social interactive behaviour is a person's behavior in a social environment that can have an influence on others (Lestari et al., 2015). In social action or behavior, a person must also consider the existence of other people in their environment. This is very necessary because the social interaction established by a person is a manifestation of a relationship or social interaction. So it can be seen that social interaction is a relationship or communication where two or more individuals influence each other in achieving a goal, therefore it can be explained that the process of social interaction there is a relationship between individuals, groups, namely a relationship where humans act on one thing based on the meaning owned by humans.

The development of social interactions that occur in early childhood can be seen and characterized by children's interest in daily activities carried out together with their peers. When a child sees another child his age playing android, he will automatically imitate his friend to play android. This is an action that will usually tend to imitate actions in early childhood. Of course, actions like this can hinder the process of social interaction, in this condition that occurs even though there is a group of children in one place, but they rarely talk to their friends but are busy with their respective Androids.

From the research activities carried out by researchers in Class V MIN 5 Jember, important information related to the use of this android was obtained. The use of android in Class V students of MIN 5 Jember has an influence on children, such as children rarely exchange stories when mingling with their friends. This seems to have gradually eliminated existing habits. The results of the research conducted by researchers show that the majority of androids obtained by children from their parents are based on the wishes of the children themselves and are used to fulfill certain goals. For example, parents want to introduce technology to their children earlier or simply so that their children do not feel bored. According to these parents, through android early childhood education can further expand their network of friends and can immediately join the social media that is available.

Occasionally parents can also use android to distract their children so as not to interfere with parents work's, therefore parents also need to occasionally give android to their children at an early age. The use of Android in early childhood shows that the use of Android will feel fun compared to playing with peers. This condition would not be possible without the games installed in children's android, which would certainly increase children's interest in playing games on android compared to traditional games in their neighborhood.

Parents agree on the statement that when their children play the Android, the children tend to focus and quietly stare in front of the android screen and do not care about the world around them. Without realizing it, their children are already addicted to using android. Addiction is one of the most powerful negative effects of using android. As stated by one of the informants when the researchers conducted an interview with the parents of one of the fifth grade students of MIN 5 Jember:

*"On the children's cellphones, there are games that often make them negligent if they have played. After school, instead of eating, the child often immediately looks for cellphones, after that they eat. Sometimes they forget to change school clothes, until children have also fallen asleep with their hands still holding cellphones whose games are still open. It's very different from when we were their age, we used to come home from school after we finished changing clothes, we went straight to play and even that often forgot the time to recite." (Interview 3, students Parents, 16 March 2023).*

In the interview, the informant revealed that in using this android, most children will spend more time playing in front of the android screen. From this point of view, children who initially preferred to play with friends have now been replaced by games contained in the android as a substitute for playmates. Children's dependence on android is also caused by using android for a long period of time. This is in line with the explanation of other informants when interviewed by researchers who conveyed the following:

*"We brought cellphones to the school when we were working together, brother, only that day we could play at school. If you don't go to school, you can only play at home, brother. But it's more fun to play alone because we can focus more on winning, if their friends bully us, we can lose if they talk to us." (Interview 1, one of Class V Student, 15 March 2023)*

In this interview, the informant mentioned that if children play android for a long time and it has also become a child's daily routine, it can cause a child to have a sociopathic personality. The real effect of this is to make children more individualistic, because it can slowly make them forget how to interact and communicate with their environment. This can result in social interactions that occur between a child and the community and the surrounding environment becoming minimal or even thinning. We all know that at this early age children are able to hone their social skills well in the social environment. Another statement was also made by the next informant who mentioned the following:

*"It seems that many class V students are addicted to cellphones, especially those who have games on their cellphones will forget the time. Often mothers observe that children who are addicted to this cellphone will rarely do the homework that mothers give. When asked why they don't do homework, the majority of children answer that they forget and there are also other lying reasons they give. After the mother asked their parents, the parents answered that the child played cellphones from school, even some of them refused to help their parents when their parents forbade them to use cellphones, the child did not hesitate to dare to fight his parents. In fact, not infrequently the child often uses his sleep time to play cellphones, so they will wake up late and come to school late. Even at school, when children tell their friends the topics discussed are mostly about games and cellphones, when mothers reprimand students who are addicted to cellphones, they are often seen jacking up." (Interview 2, Teacher of Class V, 15 March 2023)*

From the interview above it can be seen that the signs of gadget addiction in early childhood are loss of willingness to do activities, children continue to talk about technology every time they have a conversation. The child will tend to refuse when someone reprimands him not to use the android the child will become a sensitive or easily offended and will also become a selfish or difficult to manage. The use of android will also cause children to have difficulty sharing time between playing the android and establishing communication or interaction with others. Children will also often be stubborn and will always look for ways to be able to play their android as often as possible even though it will cause their sleep time to be disturbed.

From these characteristics, it can be seen that the use of an android at an early age will cause social interactions with parents, peers and the community on a daily basis to be disrupted. Therefore, parental assistance and guidance is very much needed when children use electronic products, especially this android. Parents need to play a role in implementing a disciplinary attitude to prevent children from becoming dependent and having a negative

impact on their development, especially their relationships with other people in the child's social life.

The use of androids by children at an early age will reduce the process of communication and social interaction in their daily lives with parents, peers, and society. Therefore, parental assistance and guidance when children use electronic products is very necessary (Marryono et al., 2019; Alawiyah et al., 2022). Parents need to play a role in enforcing discipline on their children so that their children are not addicted or prevent children from becoming dependent and hurting their development, especially their relationships with other people in the child's social life. The use of android has a very diverse effect, some will produce positive effects and of course, there will also be bad or negative effects. Because of this, the golden age of children needs to be the main focus of parents' attention, parents need to make more efforts in preparing the right toys and learning patterns to be applied at the age of their children. The goal is to be able to prevent children from android addiction and also aims for children to become creative, innovative and intelligent.

If a child uses android too much, it can be overcome by implementing one of the methods that parents can use to monitor their children in various ways. One way is to set a time limit for children to use android and parents need to always pay attention to what applications are on their child's android. In other words, parents need to sort and choose the applications installed on their child's android to support the learning process. Usually, children will go through a period of development in several stages, namely the exploration stage and the stage of interacting directly with the surrounding environment at elementary school age (Muhinat, 2021; Ojo & Obimuyiwa, 2019).

Elementary school students will tend to like new innovations or new things that they get from the surrounding environment through daily activities such as playing. Often we find elementary school age students will play android to answer all their curiosity with the use of this android. For elementary school age children android is one of the many things that are unique to them, this is also supported by the many installs of online game applications on android. The majority of children spend more of their daily lives playing Android. Meanwhile, elementary school students should be able to mingle and interact with the people around them or with their peers.

It can be concluded that the use of android in children will make them do other activities, become dependent, no longer able to focus on learning activities, and make them an anti-social person. Using an android for too long can cause it to become a selfish and individualistic person, especially the lack of responsibility and supervision will have an impact, manifested by an unwillingness to communicate directly with social beings in the surrounding environment, causing a person to become an anti-social and closed person, making the child individualistic. Because excessive android use can cause the child's way of thinking to be difficult to develop, of course this requires care and attention for all android users, especially those who use android are students. So at this time parents play a very important role to supervise and control when children use android. Setting a time limit for using android, filling children's time to play together or it can also be by bringing children to share stories, and bringing children to socialize with friends their age, which can minimize the negative impact of the negative use of this android.

In minimizing the negative impact of using this android, parents need to provide special rules and attention so that children do not spend too long playing their android. Parents should always be with their children when they play with electronic products, or give instructions and restrictions on the use of electronic products by their children, but not limit or even be harsh on the child, so as not to affect their mental health. When giving warnings

and advice to children, parents need to deliver them gently and politely. With good delivery, of course, children will be more likely to follow the advice of their parents and children can understand and follow the information conveyed by their parents. Of course it can fulfill the expectations conveyed by parents so that children are not addicted to android. For example, when children often use their android to play and only use time to study for 2 hours. From this case, if parents guide children in a gentle way and provide understanding in a way that is easy for children to understand, of course children will want to follow and carry out the advice of their parents well.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

It can be concluded that the use of android in children at an early age will make children lazy to carry out various activities, addicted, unfocused when learning, become a new habit and can make children an anti-social person. The continuous use of android can make children selfish and individualistic especially the lack of responsibility and supervision will have an impact, manifested by reluctance to communicate directly with people in the surrounding environment, become anti-social and closed, making children individualistic. If the child plays android too often, the child's mindset will be difficult to develop.

Children can become a closed person from their social environment because children rarely interact with their environment and because children are too engrossed in their android children can become antisocial. In addition, when children are exposed to electronic products, they often ignore their surroundings, do not respond to speech, and do not concentrate on learning at school, resulting in a lack of attention in the real world. Because they prefer to sit and enjoy the android world quietly, the health and developmental process of the child's body will be disrupted, especially the psychology and brain. This can also have a negative impact on children's social skills. Because the majority of children prefer to play android rather than play with their friends, it will cause children to get used to living in cyberspace or this digital world.

Suggestions that can be given by the author to readers, especially parents, to always supervise and provide special rules for children as an effort to be able to overcome the adverse effects of this android device. Parents should always be with their children when they play with electronic products, or give instructions and restrictions on the use of electronic products by their children, but not limit or even hard on children, so as not to affect their mental health. When parents reprimand children, it is necessary to speak gently, through the delivery of advice in a polite way, children will definitely want to listen to their parents' advice and children can understand and follow the information conveyed by parents, so that they can fulfilled the expectations conveyed by parents.

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