

Students' Perception Of Online Dating: An Exploratory Investigation

Peter Voo, Ismail Maakip, Azizi Yahaya & Balan Rathakrishnan

*Faculty of Psychology and Education, Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu,
88400, Malaysia.*

ABSTRACT

Background and purpose: Online dating offers significant advantages for single people such as it provides an effective and less expansive choice of approach in choosing a date. However, with so many online dating sites there would be pros and cons in choosing and participating in the site. This study explores an individual's opinion about online dating among university students.

Methods: A qualitative research approach was chosen to explore their perception and opinion on online dating. Respondents are required to answer a question by writing a self-report during a structured interview. Data collected were compared to reassure the validity and reliability of the result.

Findings: Research finds that majority of respondents hold a positive and negative view of online dating, on positive side its was found that online dating is being viewed as another source of novelty, way to approach other and be deemed as a "beneficial" activity. Meanwhile on negative side research finds that online dating can cause cyber-crime and social problems, misuse of information or misleading information and online dating is wasting time and money.

Conclusions and implications: The implication of this study gives some insight into the view and perception of a university student on the aspect of online dating which might be influenced by their upbringing and culture/norms.

Keywords: Online Dating, Students, Malaysian, Exploratory Study