



Journal Homepage:

<https://cab.unime.it/journals/index.php/asmc/index>

Copyright: © 2024 The author



Editorial

Francesco Pira^{1*} , Carmela Mento² 

¹ University of Messina, Dept Ancient and Modern Civilization, Email: francesco.pira@unime.it

² University of Messina, Dept Biomedical and Dental Sciences and Morphofunctional Imaging, Email: cmento@unime.it

EDITORIAL

We are pleased to launch the first issue of a new scientific journal focused on Addiction behaviors and the dynamics related to social communication. This journal brings together the two scientific areas of Clinical Psychology and Sociology of Social Communication with the use of digital technologies and media. Published by the University of Messina, this journal emerges from a multidisciplinary network with the aim of creating opportunities for scientific dialogue and research on topics of particular relevance in the fields of clinical psychology and sociology.

In this first issue, we have welcomed papers from diverse perspectives centered on a fundamental investigation theme: the role of technology in the social life of new generations and their relationship with digital media.

The opening article, titled “The Technological Revolution, the Metaverse, and Artificial Intelligence” addresses digitalization as a profound societal impact process that offers users an overproduction of data that needs to be deciphered, interpreted, and understood correctly. One of the most evident consequences of this process is the transformation of the social dimension of individuals, manifesting in an externalization of the private sphere. This epochal change affects society and especially people's lives. The fragmentation of individual identity is also influenced by the power of technology in the modern world. Many people live parallel and virtual realities, often using fake profiles on social media, and their daily lives are heavily influenced by their relationship with technological tools.

In the article “What kind of addiction is Internet abuse? Similarities and differences between substance and behavioral addictions” the authors present a study investigating the relationship between Internet addiction and other forms of addiction, highlighting the role of compulsive tendencies in personality traits that can directly influence perceived overall well-being, taking into account the level of social desirability.

In the article titled “The Educational Challenges Posed by Generation Z”, the author highlights some levels of challenges and opportunities that digital technology presents in the field of education through a critical reinterpretation of traditional pedagogical actions, addressing new theoretical and didactic perspectives grounded in the capability approach.



The psychological aspect of the discussion is also found in the article “Millennials and Z: generations compared”, which focuses on the behaviors of the “Y” and “Z” generations, who have experienced significant changes connected to the developments of media and social media. The article centers on an examination of the breakdown of the generational pact, with consequences for identity construction, which today is heavily based on image and appearance, leading to behavioral patterns of psychological distress, adaptation, and emotional regulation.

Finally, the article “Virtual Reality, Metaverse, and Mental Health” focuses on addiction behaviors and the area of Mental Health, exploring the impact of virtual reality on people's daily lives. It reflects on how the introduction of new technologies now affects many sectors of science, opening the context to new frontiers in cyberpsychology.

With this new issue, we hope to open a scientific reflection and direct exchange among researchers to understand the new dynamics of daily life that affect all generations, from the young to the old, with direct impacts on health, healthcare, quality of life, and well-being. Additionally, we aim to prevent new forms of behavioral distress and suicide risk. The digital area offers new frontiers for understanding and delivering educational and healthcare services, from new studies on educational gaming to the entire area of services and treatments based on virtual reality and telemedicine. In this broad scientific scope and climate of dialogue, we welcome our Authors and Readers.

Editor in Chief

Francesco Pira & Carmela Mento

University of Messina, Italy