COGNITIVE SCIENCES AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Millenial Muslim Activity using Internet: An Indonesian Perception

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to describe the millennial Muslims activity using internet; frequency and duration of access, type of application, content accessed, and their attitude towards the negative content. A survey was conducted on 130 students from Pekanbaru City, Riau Province of Indonesia. The purposive random sampling research samples were students in Islamic curriculum background schools that were accessible to researchers. The data were gained through closed questionnaires and analysed descriptively. The results show that internet use in younger generation of Muslim is worrying, judging from the frequency and duration of their access, and more on social media to chat, to share photos or to view videos. Most respondents used their allowance to access the internet without their parents' concern. High school respondents are tempted to see sadistic and pornographic content when accessing the internet, compared to junior and elementary school respondents. Findings are significant to increase parents' awareness of negative effect of internet usage especially to adolescent.

Keywords: Internet syndrome; Students; Millennial Muslim generations

INTRODUCTION

Generation for the word millennial shows the similarity of birth year, age, location, and historical experience that has impact on the life phase of certain group of people (Kupperschmidt, 2000, in Putra, 2017). Berkup (2014) from Turkey stated that millennial generations are those who were born between 1980 and 2001 who right now, they are about 18 to 40 years old. Stafford and Griffis (2008). state that millennial generations are the population who are born between 1980 and 2000, meanwhile United States Census Bureau (2015) limits the birth of kids between 1982 until 2000 for millennial generation.

The research by Yuswohady (2016) explains the characteristics of millennial generations; 1) believe more on user generated content

(UGC) than unidirectional information, 2) prefer phone to TV, 3) must have social media, 4) lack of interest in reading conventionally, 5) tends to be not loyal but work effectively, 6) tends to do cashless transaction, 7) know more on technology compared to their own parents, 8) utilizing technology and information, and 9) tends to be lazy and consumptive. Another research (Octabia, 2018) found the millennial generation dependency on internet and social media.

Kids age 5 to 9 years old become the users of internet comprising of 25.2% of 171,17 million users of internet as surveyed by Association of Indonesia Internet Provider (APJII) (Bstian, et. al., 2019). Another survey found that 91% of kids age 16 to 24 years old using social media (Subu et. al., 2019). Another study conducted by UNICEF and The Ministry of Communication and Information (2014) with 400 children age 10-19 as their samples found data at least 30 million kids and teenagers in Indonesia are internet users. The digital media become the first choice of communication channel for 80 % respondents who live in the city like Region of Yogyakarta, Jakarta, and Banten. The data of the millennial Muslim activity using internet in Riau are not found in that research yet.

The purposes of using internet for millennial generation are accessing global information, sources of learning, social media and network, entertainment, games, and participation in online group or community (Subu, et. al., 2019). The results of research by Mulyana and Afriani (2017) find out that 20% teenagers use smartphone to access social media, 14,7% listening to music, 12,5% sending messages, 12,1% for playing games, 11,5% for phone calls, 8,1% for watching videos, 3,3% for emails and 2,3% for other

needs. The results of another research show that accessing social media becomes the first majority purpose of the teenagers in using internet achieving 64,4% (Pasquala, Sciacca, and Hichy, 2015). Besides that, internet is also used for sources of learning and it is considered effective because it can be used randomly based on their willingness and ideas presented in line with the symbol and graphic, and can also involve students' high interactivity (Khairuni, 2016).

Beside the positive aspects above, some other research findings show negative impact of using internet for kids. At elementary school level, kids who access internet becomes anti-social because they are too busy with their communication in the internet, and they are lazy (Sulidar Fitri, 2017). The results of research by Foerster, et. al. (2014) show that smartphone users are susceptible of medial symptom and psychological symptom such as headache, social anxiety, and insomnia (Demirci, Akgonul, Akpinar, 2015), and the problem of hearing (Takao, 2014). The more worrying impact of the usage of internet on kids and teenagers is that it can cause them to be the victims of sexual harassment. In 2016, Indonesia ranked first in the internet for cases of sexual harassment of kids all over the world (Probosiwi, 2015).

Based on that, it is necessary to describe the millennial Muslims activity using internet. They must be able to use technology for effective daily living and required to behave in accordance with Islamic values and afterlife orientation (Tamimi, 2009). There have been

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Table 1: Gender, school and residence of participant

Variable	Category	F	%
Gender	Female	59	45,38
	Male	71	54,62
School	Elementary	42	32,31
	Junior High School	46	35,38
	Senior High School	42	32,31
Residence	Dormitory	104	80
	With parents at their house	26	20

Table 2: Questionnaire content and option of answering

No	Question	Option of answers
1	The usage of spare time for	Sleep, watching TV, hangout, read a book or Quran, using internet
2	Time of using the internet	Every day, only during the day, only in the night, school holiday or public holiday
3	The tool to access internet	PC/Computer, laptop, notebook, handphone
4	The ownership of tool for accessing internet	Their own, belong to parents, rental, all the options.
5	The availability of credits	Fully provided by parents at home in the form of free Wi-Fi, internet package bough by their parents for them, internet package bought by using their own pocket money/savings, area with free Wi-Fi facility
6	Duration to access internet	< 30 minutes, 30 minutes to 1 hour, 1 – 2 hours, 2-6 hours, > 6 hours
7	Type of accessed application	Facebook, YouTube, online games, WhatsApp, Google, Twitter, Instagram, Linkert, Telegram, Line Smule
8	The unwanted content such as fighting video, porn videos, hitting action	Yes, look at the unwanted content, curious and want to know No, close the content

no research results about it in the city of Pekanbaru, which is the majority of the people are Muslim. Muslims in Pekanbaru are also ethnic Malay who are very easy to accept changes (Husni Tamrin, 2007). Finding from current study will inform all Muslim parents, especially in Pekanbaru Riau province in Indonesia to aware of their children's internet activity. This research elaborates the syndrome of internet usage among Muslim millennial covering; the frequency, duration, type of application, accessed contents, and their attitude when facing with negative content.

RESEARCH METHOD

General Background

This quantitative research surveyed a sample of Muslim students that most of them (80%) lived in the dormitory provided by the elementary, junior, and senior high school in Pekanbaru, Indonesia. Closed questionnaires about frequency, duration, type of application, content accessed, and students attitude towards the negative content from internet, was used to collect data at the end of the semester of 2018-2019 academic year.

Participant

130 students from elementary school (age 10-11 years old), junior high school (age 12-

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Table 3: The average duration of time in accessing internet

No	Duration	Elementary School		Junior High School		Senior High School	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1	< 30 minutes	30	71,43	29	63,04	26	61,90
2	30 minutes - 1 hour	6	14,29	6	13,04	8	19,06
3	1 hour - 2 hours	4	9,52	5	10,87	5	11,90
4	2 hours - 6 hours	1	2,38	3	6,52	2	4,74
5	> 6 hours	1	2,38	3	6,52	1	2,38
	Total	**42**	**100**	**46**	**100**	**42**	**100**

14 years old) and high school (age 14-16 years old) participated in this study. The purposive random sampling research samples were students of schools with Islamic curriculum backgrounds that were accessible to researchers. Participants demographic information is presented in Table 1.

Instrument and Procedures

A closed questionnaire was used for collecting data about frequency, duration, type of application, content accessed, and respondents' attitude towards the negative content from using the internet. The contents of the closed questionnaire are displayed in Table 2.

Data Analysis

The data were analysed descriptively to compare the frequency, duration, type of application, content accessed, and students' attitude towards the negative content from internet base on respondent school level (elementary, junior and senior high school). The descriptive statistic was carried out on item based and on the group of school level.

Figure 1: The usage of spare time base on school level
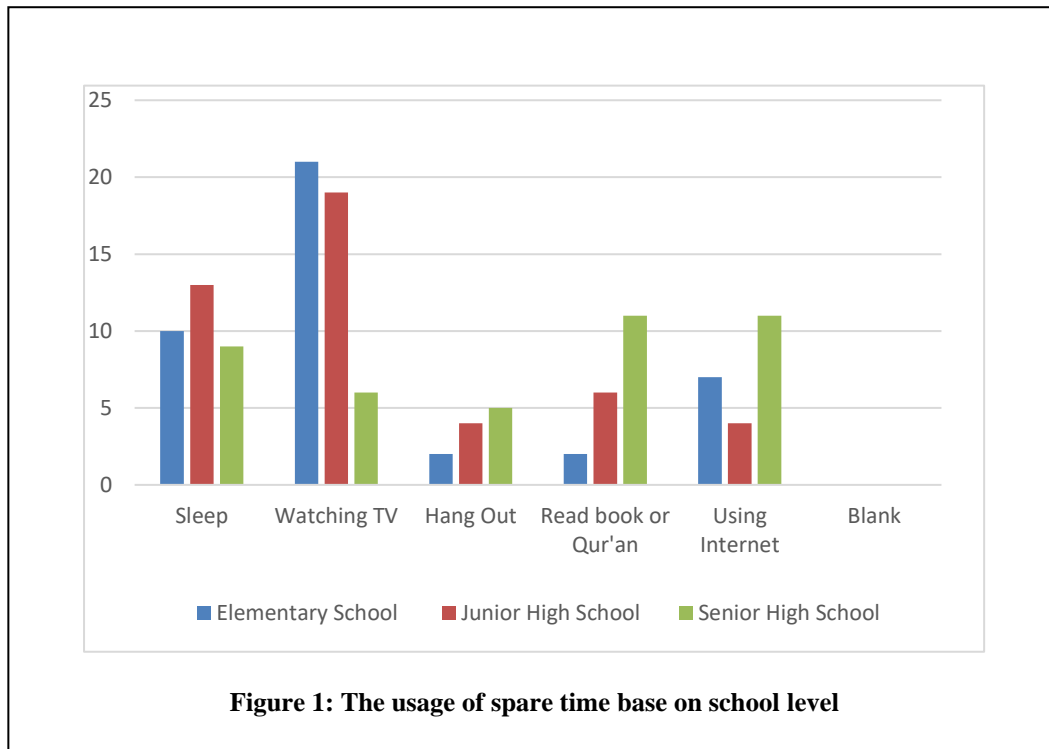
RESULT

This research was conducted towards respondents from the level of basic education age 10 years old until the middle age (12 – 14 years old) and high school (age 14-16 years old). All respondents were active students coming from institution which integrates Islamic curriculum with general subject materials. Most of the kids and teenagers (80%) who became the respondents of this research lived in the dormitory provided by the school.

The research data shows the majority (76%) of last education of respondents' parents was senior high school. The type of research done by the respondents' parents was working outside government's institution (69%), and

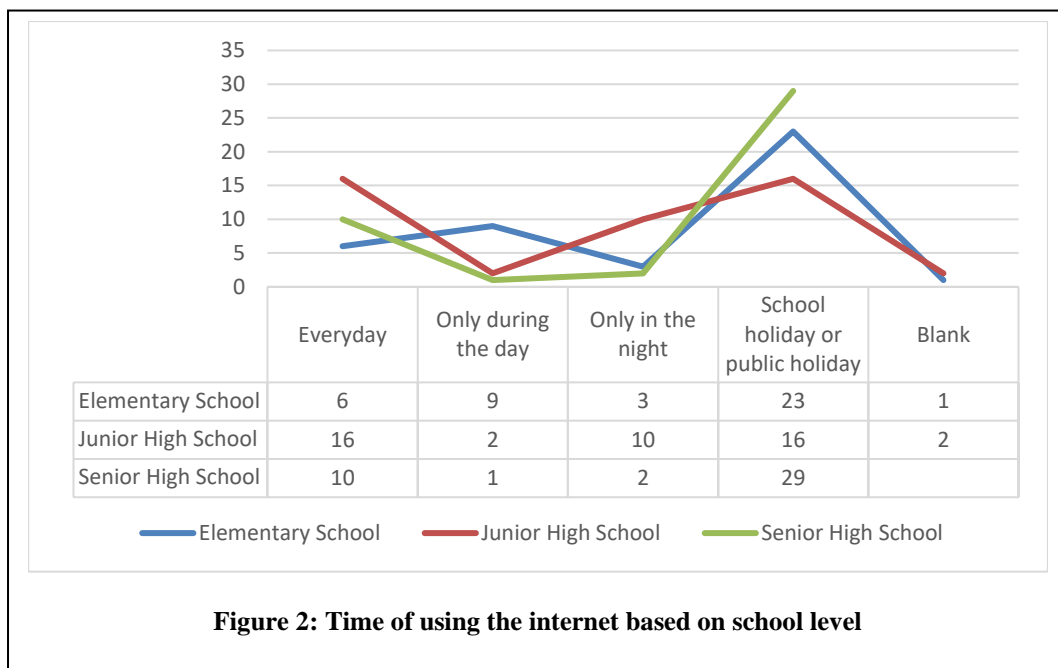|	Everyday	Only during the day	Only in the night	School holiday or public holiday	Blank
Elementary School	6	9	3	23	1
Junior High School	16	2	10	16	2
Senior High School	10	1	2	29	

Figure 2: Time of using the internet based on school level
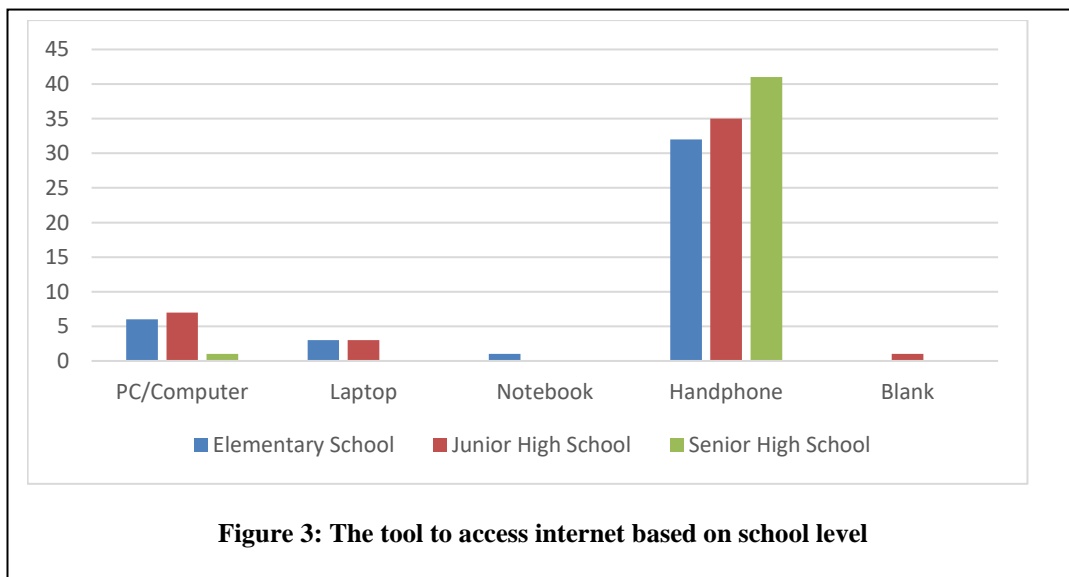
Figure 3: The tool to access internet based on school level

	Their Own	Belongs to parents	Rental	All of them; their own, belongs to parents, and rental	Blank
Elementary Schoolq	23	14	4	1	
Junior High School	25	11	5	3	2
Senior High School	34	6	0	2	

Figure 4: The ownership of tool for accessing internet based on the school level
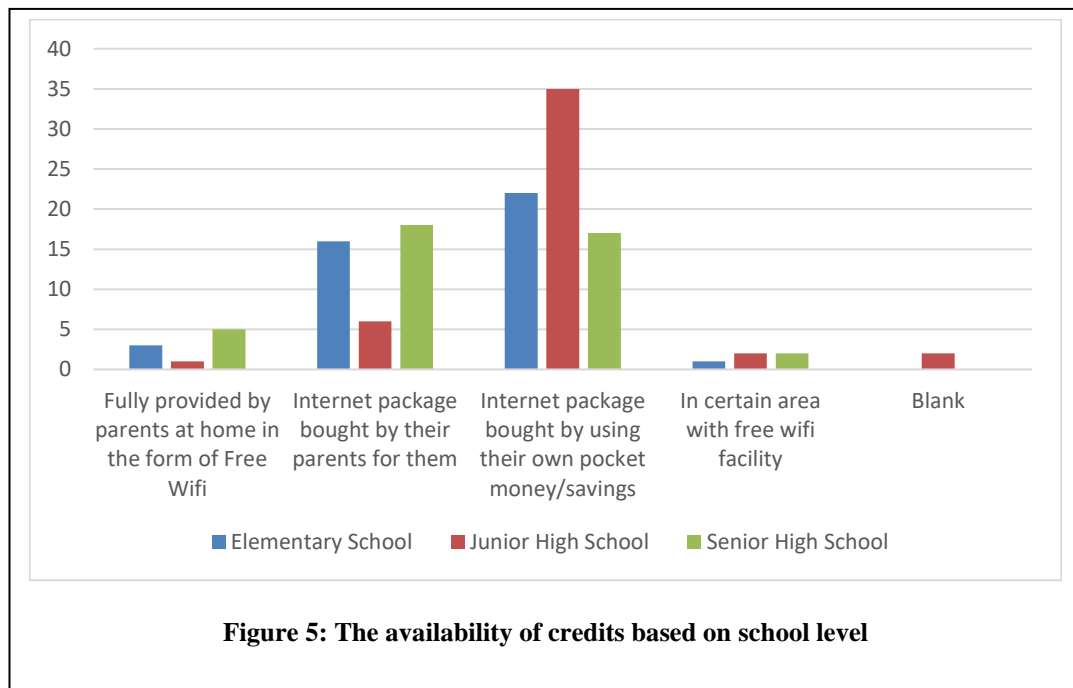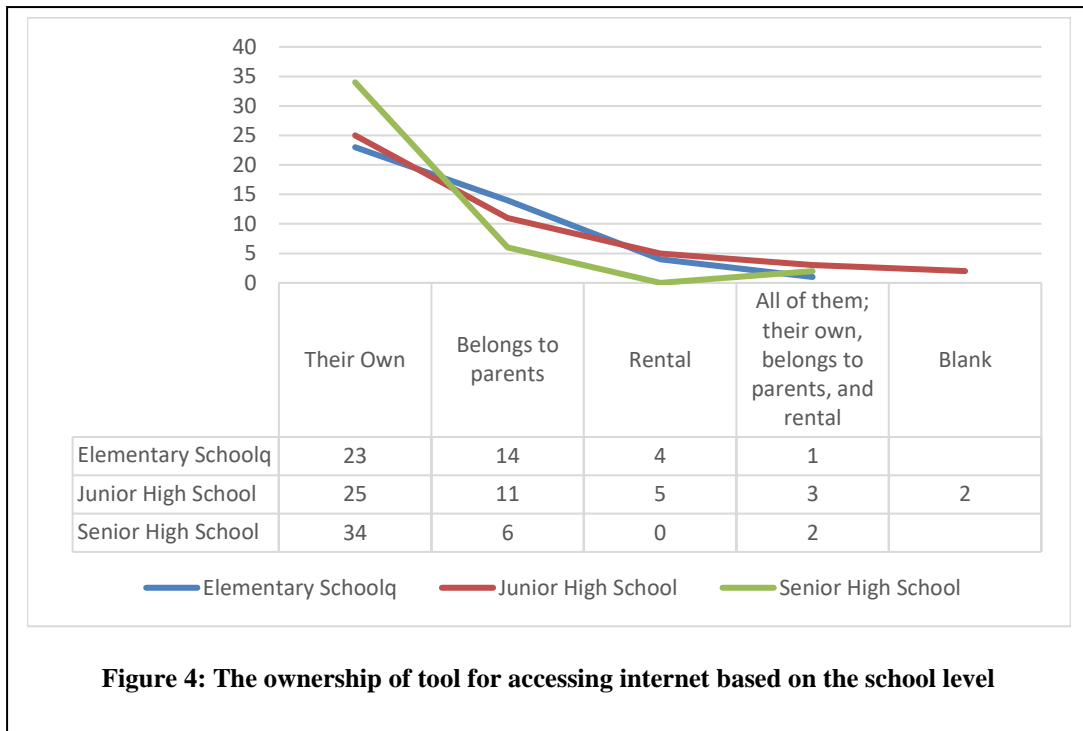

Figure 5: The availability of credits based on school level

working in the palm oil farm or rubber plantation (30%). Data show that respondents at elementary school use more of their spare time for watching television compared to respondents at junior high school and senior high school. Internet accessed is more frequent done by Senior High School respondents. The description of data on spare time usage can be seen in the graph in Figure 1.

Figure 6: The usage of internet by children
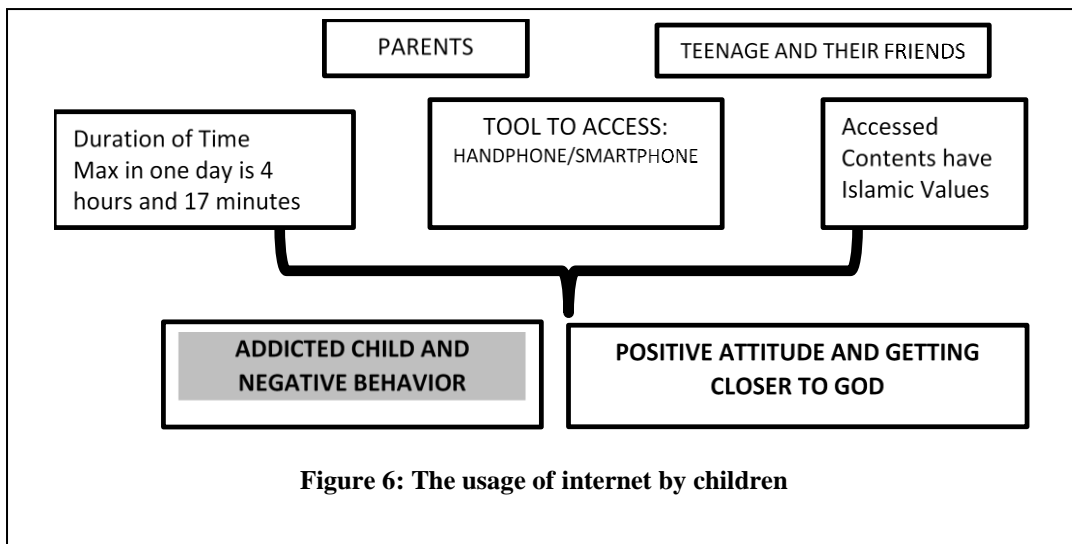
Because most respondents live in the dormitory and under school supervision, then they access internet more during the holiday. Related to the time using the internet, more answer is every day the respondents at junior high school compared to the students at Senior High School and Elementary School.

Mobile phone or smartphone becomes the main tool to access internet for all respondents as shown in the Figure 2 and Figure 3.

This research also reveals the ownership of tool used by respondents to access the internet. Data show that most respondents have their own tool to access internet (see Figure 4), especially the respondents at Senior High School level.

In order to access internet, they need internet network obtained from buying the internet package by themselves or using the special internet network at certain area. The results in Figure 5 of this research show that most respondents use their own money obtained from their parents (pocket money) to buy internet package in order to be able to access the internet.

The research result also shows that most of Muslim millennial generations use their own internet without the involvement of other people. However, in elementary school level, parents are still involved (28.57%) in providing internet access. In fact, there are kids who use their time more than six hours in a day for accessing internet even though the percentage is small. Most of them are in Junior High School (6.52%). The duration of time in accessing the internet in a day by Muslim millennial generations for these three educational levels can be seen in the Table 3.

Type of application and level of access of respondents are described in the Table 4.

From the Table 4, the application which is mostly accessed by the participants were Google for elementary school level and junior high school level, however different from teenagers at senior high school who accesses Youtube, and social media. Social media used by Senior High School respondents are

Table 4: Type of accessed application

No	Range % of Answers	Access Level	Elementary School	Junior High School	Senior High School
1	0-20	Very Low	Facebook, Line, Smule	-	-
2	21-40	Low	Youtube, Twitter, Instagram, Hypstar	Online games, Whatshap, Twitter, Instagram, Smule, Hypstar, Snapchat, Line	Online games,
3	41-60	Middle	Whatshap, Online games	Youtube, Facebook	Twitter, Google Facebook Line
4	61-80	High	Google	Google	Youtube Instagram, Whatshap
5	81-100	Very High	-	-	-

Facebook and WhatsApp which aiming for chatting, uploading photo and video, and selling things online.

DISCUSSION

The research findings prove that Muslim millennial generations in Pekanbaru who obtains education at boarding school have accessed to the internet especially when they have a day off school. The students mostly use their own handphone/smartphone to go online. They even use their pocket money to buy the credits to access the internet. The type of application that they used in the internet are mostly google and social media which might contain not non-Islamic contents as well.

Essentially, humans, according to the Al-Quran, are perfect creatures in terms of biological creatures, personal creatures, social creatures, and religious creatures. Human as religious creatures cover three other components such as human as biological creatures, personal creatures, and social creatures who are always attached to religious values (Abdul Hayat, 2008). As a Muslim, the existence of Islamic values become the guidelines in

daily life behaviour in accordance with the era development indeed the faith of Islam becomes the solution of each problem in life (Stanard, Singh, and Piantar, 2000, in Abdul Hayat, 2008). This is proven by the results of research by Chalfant and Heller in 1990 (Abdul Hayat, 2008) who state that around 40 percent people have experienced anxiety of soul and they prefer to come to religionist. It means the content which is not in line with Islamic values will affect the social life of Muslim millennial generation and this will cause disorder in their life if there is no solution for it.

The question that is going to be answered is that do we need to worry about the usage of internet among Muslim millennial generation based on the data of this research? To analyse the answer towards this question, then indicators on the healthy usage of internet are arranged such as covering the duration of time, accessed content, and attitude towards non-Islamic contents.

This research reveals handphone as the most tool to access the internet and it was belonging to them, especially the respondents at

Senior High School level. The normal duration of accessing the internet by using handphone or smartphone according to the results of research by (Sativa, 2017) around 257 minutes or about 4 hours and 17 minutes every day. If more than that time, then the kids will be categorized into addicted category which is known as compulsive mobile phone use (CMPU) (Bianchi & Philips, 2005). Refer to my finding 6,53% Junior High School had classified as CMPU, that they used their time more than six hours in a day for accessing internet. Even though the percentage is small, the impact that might occur, they cannot manage the usage of handphone in accessing internet which relates to the dependency and social behaviour disorder (Billiex, 2012). They will feel anxious when the battery of their phone is off, or if it is out of network reach (Campbell, 2005). More specifically, the characteristics of CMPU behavior is that intolerance, escape from problem, withdrawal, craving, negative consequences, and low social motivation (Bianchi and Philips, 2005). According to Meerkerk et al. (2009), compulsive internet use comprises of loss of control, preoccupation, withdrawal symptoms, coping strategies and conflict. Next researchers are advised to explore the characteristics of CPMU from Muslim millennial generation.

In addition, it is necessary to make indicators of worry from the non-Islamic contents which emerges accidentally and causing curiosity on teenagers. This research data shows that most of the respondents (85%) when accessing internet, accidentally looking at the unwanted content such as fights video, porn videos, hitting action, and raping. Most of the respondents (78%) directly close the content and 22% of elementary school students and junior high school students do not close the content because they are curious and want to know more. This kind of curiosity is low on senior high school students (15%). This condition can cause problem from neurotic dimension which is the kids and teenagers' emotion tends to be unstable in which their heart situation easily changes, sorry, and easy to get angry, fear of being rejected, and high anxiety on emotional relationship (Igarashi, et. al., 2008). The research by Augner and Hacker (2012) found out the correlation between low emotional stability and the addiction of using internet through handphone. Based on these explanations, the following scheme is arranged in order to give consideration for parents on the usage of internet by children.

In Figure 6, the scheme is expected to be the reference for parents and educators, and it can be developed to be the pattern for future research.

CONCLUSION

Based on the scheme above from the results of this research, parents need to be worried about the usage of internet by their children because most of the children accessed internet more than 6 hours which can lead to negative effects. The children/students even use their pocket money so that they can access the internet and this fact shows their high dependency on using the internet.

Besides, the smartphone/handphone bought by parents with the initial intention as a communication tool might not be the only purpose but also to access the internet. Parents also need to worry about the non-Islamic contents that accidentally seen by children because there are some of them who are curious and wanted to know more. Thus,

parents need to be aware and to protect their children from CMPU, because CMPU will make them away from the view of Islam as Muslim.

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