

## Probable Solutions for Social Networking Sites Usage: A Zone of Criminal Activities and Social Discomfort for South African Youth

**Ndivhuwo Doctor Sundani**

*Department of Communication Science, University of South Africa*

### Abstract

Adopting the non-empirical research design: Systematic review. This paper focuses on uses of social networking sites as zones of criminal activities and social discomfort for South African youth. The guiding objectives were designed as follows: (1) To assess how the youth use social networking sites, (2) To find causes of online criminal activities and social discomfort and (3) To identify solutions to prevent misuse of social networking sites by South African youth. This was coupled with Social Exchange Theory (SET) to clearly explain the role of social networking sites to promote social harmony among South African youth when practicing their online activities. The journal articles, online articles and libraries, dissertations and thesis were reviewed for this purpose. The results were discussed and recommendations leading to the prevention of misuse of social networking sites and new media technologies by youth in South Africa were provided. It is hoped that this paper will contribute to the continuous debates on the formulation and implementation of new media and social media policies in South Africa.

**Keywords:** Criminal activities, Social discomfort, Social networking sites, Solution, South African Youth.

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European Journal of Economics, Law and Social Sciences ISSN 2519-1284 (print) ISSN  
2510-0429 (online)

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