Predictors of excessive use of social media and excessive online gaming in Czech teenagers

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* Internet usage, practices and engagement
* Risks and harms
* Content-related issues
* Wellbeing

## Sample

This study uses data collected within the Czech part of the ESPAD in 2015. ESPAD is one of the largest Europeancross-sectional studies focusing on substance use among adolescents and was initiated in 1995.
The final sample consisted of4,887 secondary school students (mean age=16.66;SD=0.878), with near equal distribution of males (51%) and females (49%)

# Abstract

Background and aims:
Young people’s involvement in online gaming and the use of social media are increasingrapidly, resulting in a high number of excessive Internet users in recent years. The objective of this paper is to analyzethe situation of excessive Internet use among adolescents in the Czech Republic and to reveal determinants ofexcessive use of social media and excessive online gaming.
Methods:
Data from secondary school students (N=4,887) were collected within the 2015 European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs. Logisticregression models were constructed to describe the individual and familial discriminative factors and the impact of thehealth risk behavior of (a) excessive users of social media and (b) excessive players of online games.
Results:
Themodels confirmed important gender-specific distinctions–while girls are more prone to online communication andsocial media use, online gaming is far more prevalent among boys. The analysis did not indicate an influence offamily composition on both the excessive use of social media and on excessive online gaming, and only marginaleffects for the type of school attended. We found a connection between the excessive use of social media and bingedrinking and an inverse relation between excessive online gaming and daily smoking.
Discussion and conclusion:
The non-existence of significant associations between family environment and excessive Internet use confirmed thegeneral, widespread of this phenomenon across the social and economic strata of the teenage population, indicating aneed for further studies on the topic.

# Outcome

"The models confirmed important gender-specific distinctions–while girls are more prone to online communication and social media use, online gaming is far more prevalent among boys. The analysis did not indicate an influence offamily composition on both the excessive use of social media and on excessive online gaming, and only marginaleffects for the type of school attended. We found a connection between the excessive use of social media and binge drinking and an inverse relation between excessive online gaming and daily smoking" (Spilková et al., 2017, pp. 611)