



Media and Crime Representation

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Authors

Amir Taha Makhdoumi (*1)

(1) PhD, Department of Criminal Law and Criminology, Faculty of Law, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

Corresponding Author's Info

Tell: +989198394380

Email: Dr.makhdoumi@yahoo.com

ORCID: 0000-0002-0169-0993

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ABSTRACT

Background

Advancement in science and technology leads to the fact that mass media do not set boundaries for themselves and cross the political borders between countries. They have been accessible to any place and time by different parts of society. They can watch programs and educational content of virtual networks, the Internet, TV, etc., and be influenced by them.

Materials and Methods

Our work method in this research is to describe cyberspace's individual and social harms in a descriptive-analytical manner.

Ethical Considerations

The present article has been written while preserving the originality of the content and observing the principle of fairness and trustworthiness.

Findings

Cyberspace, like all human innovations, along with its many advantages, causes much harm to different walks of life, especially children, which is of special importance because it is an emerging phenomenon. The media represents the expression of reality, and this representation can lead to harm.

Conclusion

The most important harms of cyberspace are the transformation of anomalies and crimes into norms and customs, normalization of crime, and targeting society's culture. In the meantime, children and adolescents will suffer the most due to a lack of knowledge and experience and a lack of knowledge about data adaptation.

Key words

Pathology, Cyberspace, Media, Crime, Representation.

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INTRODUCTION

A. Preface

The three characteristics of the media, namely its breadth, speed of dissemination, and continuity, have made the great impact of the media on human life inevitable.

So that anyone anywhere in the world, at any time, can access and be influenced by the programs and educational content of virtual networks and the Internet. The main mission of a media outlet is to inform and inform its audience. However, in representing criminal events, educational programs and contents may be distributed to the audience, which will cause irreparable damage. The importance of media in today's world is clear due to its breadth and availability. A language is a tool for representing reality and the manifestation of language in the media in sound, image, etc., that reflects reality. The media with a high volume of information and content transmission can increase crime if not controlled. At the same time, the goal and criminal policy of criminal justice seek to reduce crime and the number of criminals and social victims. One of the most popular sections of the media is the criminal incidents and news section, and a media outlet publishes criminal incidents and news because it can compete with other media outlets to attract more audience. Without considering that, publishing such matters can cause irreparable harm to community members, especially families. Therefore, in

this study, the damage caused by the representation of crimes and criminal incidents in the media will be examined. Or the consequences of these injuries in which group of society can be affected?

Moreover, what are the disadvantages of not paying attention to the programs and content provided? It can be studied. In recent years, some researchers and law students in Iran and abroad have researched injuries and the role of the media, including Mr. Marsh in an article entitled "A Comparative Study of Crime News Coverage in the US and Other Newspapers. In a way that" After reviewing 36 newspapers in 14 different countries in the 1970s and 1980s, it was concluded that violent crimes were reflected more in newspapers than in official statistics. Or Sorensen et al. has shown in research that decreased mental health is directly related to increased study of criminal and negative news and events.

B. Literature Review

Hossein Eliassy, in a study entitled "Measuring the impact of yellow publications in reducing the sense of security and mental health of women in Tehran," has evaluated the impact of these publications on women's sense of security. Farajiha (2006), in an article examining the "media coverage of crime," identifies the criteria for selecting criminal news, analyzing the content of criminal reports, etc., in the Iranian press. Alternatively, Mohammad Mehdizadeh, in a study in 2007

entitled "Creating the content of news and incidents and crimes in newspapers," after analyzing the content of the events page of twenty newspapers in the country, stated that murder, robbery, and smuggling had the largest share in crime news, respectively. Zakai has "studied the relationship between the use of audio-visual media or delinquency of adolescents 13 to 18 years old", but other research such as Ms. Roya Asiai entitled "The role of the media in crime prevention" and Mr. Kamran Sharifi "The impact of the media and its role in preventing Child Delinquency "or Amin Amirian Farsani" Legal Status of the Media and Its Impact on Juvenile Delinquency and Victimization "or Reza Moradi Modiran" .

The Role of the Media in Delinquency and Crime Prevention "has presented research in this field. In the translation discussion, Mr. Mohammad Taghi Nouri has translated the book Media and Crime by Mr. Eun Jokes. Therefore, the hypotheses imagined in this research can be the transformation of criminal and abnormal acts into norm and custom, which has the greatest impact on children and adolescents due to lack of necessary knowledge and experience, are examined and researched.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The present study is a descriptive-analytical one with collected data using documentary and library sources, articles, and related research.

FINDINGS

A. Media Representation

Everyone in our time lives in two worlds, one is the natural and real world, and the other is the world that the mass media have created for us [1]. Representation is the process of placing an abstract ideological concept in specific formats or representing the same social process of comprehensibility within the context of the signaling systems available - speech, writing, film, tape, video, etc. [2]. One of the representation policies is stereotyping, which reduces people to a few simple traits or characteristics. A stereotype is the reduction of human beings to a set of exaggerated and usually negative personality traits. One of the most comprehensive and influential resource tools for stereotyping and shaping stereotypes globally in the media. Stereotyping in the media takes place in three ways:

1. The media presents a false image of the presence or real domination of the group in question, such as ignoring the effective presence of that group or highlighting the presence of a certain group in certain areas, which can be called the promotion of cosmetics by women.
2. Showing limited, fixed, and stable certain group behavior: showing black youth on TV as a delinquent or violent person.
3. De-legitimizing different groups or groups while comparing them with the

ideal perception of human behavior [3]. The media affects the general knowledge and understanding of the world. People's awareness and mentality about the world depend on the content that they receive from the media. Because they are intermediaries between individual consciousness and the wider social structures of the media, they are constructive of meaning.

4. The media do not act as a mirror to reflect reality but affect the social structure of reality. Accordingly, representation is the media construction of reality. Media news and journalistic activity cannot be objective, real, and neutral due to thoughts and ideas (in the production stage). Through highlighting, marginalization, and concealment, newspapers represent the events around us and do not merely reflect them. Thus, media content is a source of powerful meaning about the social world because the constant flow of media representations of others affects the perceptions and actions of their audiences of those being represented, and these representations are deemed to be real [4].

B. Crime Media

The media has a significant impact on the overall image within society. The scope of this influence is such that it can be said that the ideas that have overshadowed the public awareness about crime are mainly the product of the electronic and print media and

are reflected in them. At the same time, it is obvious that the media can have a tremendous impact on how the general definition of crime is formed in society. In general, the most important need of any society, whether a clan or tribe, whether a nation or a country, is to establish society's security and individuals. Accordingly, security means creating safe conditions for protecting and promoting fundamental and fundamental, and vital national values from an objective point of view. From a mental point of view, it means a sense of security [5]. Nowadays, fear of crime (feeling insecure) has become an even more important social reality than the crime itself, so that the results of research show that there is no feeling of insecurity (mental) as much as security (objective) in society [6]. Fear of crime affects the quality of social security, despite its existence in society, and restricts and prevents citizens from properly exercising their basic rights and freedoms [7]. Criminal events are pursued by the audience due to its complexity and attractiveness, especially that it is related to the security of society. What are remarkable are the characteristics of the media representation of criminal phenomena in the media. A criminal event takes place in society, and the mass media publish it based on their prioritized characteristics. The presented news is the final product reflected in the media and may be far from the reality of what happened. In representing criminal events, the mass media prioritize and publish factors such as the event's attractiveness and

its alignment with the media's ideology. Due to the high value of news events, criminal events are a priority for representation in the mass media and therefore have a large audience that moment by moment the news of some terrifying words and expressions, increase the attractiveness of criminal phenomena to increase the news value of violent and criminal cases and attract more audiences.

C. Consequences of News Media's Coverage of Crime

The media may be criminalizing or decriminalizing the phenomenon of crime. On the one hand, the media can intensify feelings of insecurity, promote crime and encourage people prone to crime. On the other hand, playing the role of responsible information and promoting healthy living patterns may effectively reduce crime and provide security. In another view, the media eliminates the ugliness of criminal behavior in society and makes the occurrence of crime a normal thing [8]. Many thinkers believe that the mass media plays an important role in motivating and educating those ready to commit crimes. On the other hand, the present media themes in that society without providing the necessary grounds and contexts for understanding those themes in that society [9]. Although the coverage of news events makes people in the community aware of the dangers of increasing crime and the security burden, the media of crime, by informing the crime-prone audience, is a new way of committing.

If the crime rate continues to rise, it will have consequences in society. Including:

1- Incitement to Commit a Crime

Incitement means to incite, to move, to compel, and a kind of persuasion. In legal terms, incitement is the diligent advice and encouragement and injection of criminal thoughts to decide another to commit a particular crime. It is while we mean stimulating a kind of motivation. The same thing is not considered in criminal law in principle. In this approach, only the media, with its unique tactics, reinforces the motivation to commit a criminal act.

In some cases, this entire situation is entirely consistent with inciting the issue of criminal law. Another stimulation of the media is temptation and penetration into fundamental thoughts, mental health, and the sanctity of human thought [10]. In most cases, the mass media do not enter directly through provocation, but with their colorful temptations, they motivate people [11].

2- Facilitation of Crime

The role of the media in facilitating crime means that the media can make people who intend to commit a crime or on the verge of doing so act in a simpler and more determined way, inspired by the mass media. The media sometimes influences its audience, which suffers from psychological pressures and internal controversies. By portraying manifestations of delinquency, it

leads the audience to the so-called doing or leaving should or should not be legal or legal by him. It does not disrupt the existing order. Furthermore, sometimes, willingly or unwillingly, they become a school for committing various crimes in different ways. Thus, the media facilitates crime in two ways:

2-1- Normalizing Delinquency

The media sometimes, as an accepted institution with an influential social status, with a guided participatory and gradual action, appear on the scene the various manifestations of legal violations and moral anomalies, thereby normalizing these actions and breaking their inherent ugliness pave the way for the perpetrators and motivators for committing the crime.

2-2- Deviant Media Assimilation

The content of the films should not undermine moral discipline and provoke tendencies contrary to moral principles and norms. Social values, which are a diagram of a society's vision, beliefs, and culture and the solidarity of its individuals, should not be underestimated. Criminologists believe that the criminal education of the media should be stopped due to its harmful effects.

How an offender commits a crime, which indicates how the crime was committed, and the signature behavior, that is, the set of behaviors that are not necessary to commit the crime but are committed by the offender

to satisfy his mental and psychological needs. Furthermore, each of the criminals in this field has different backgrounds, different interests, and needs. Thus, in the light of educating and representing crimes in the media, criminals learn and use more methods of committing a crime and concealing their identities. As a result, it becomes more difficult to detect crime and prosecute criminals.

2-3- Increased Fear of Crime

Research shows no logical relationship between the actual rate of crime and the fear of crime. It is due to increased crime and victimization and factors and increased crime and insecurity that can affect the media's coverage of criminal events. Also, the fear of victimization is not the same among all people. Various factors such as age, race, gender, income, occupation, previous victimization experience, and place of residence can affect the fear of crime and its extent among them and society [12]. Today, fear of crime no longer has a static existence. Rather, it is rapidly displaced through various media and attacks many minds and thoughts. The source of this fear is the dramatic growth of various social problems in the general sense, including economic recession, adopting strict policies with the slogan of war against crime. Today, we see the representation of transnational crimes such as terrorist attacks in the media, which highlights the role of the media in creating and spreading fear of crime [13].

2-4- Increasing the Commission of Crimes

By accustoming their audiences to violent events and scenes and desensitizing them in this regard, the visual media provide the ground for learning violence from the media. Then, this violence is imitated and implemented in society [14].

D. The Media Pathology of Crime

The issue of crime and social harm is one of the important social phenomena that have cast a shadow over all crises in the world today. Thus, it can be said that crime and social harms are the sources of all chaos and crises [15]. For this reason, due to the important and influential role of the media on all family members and the occurrence of injuries due to improper use of technology, injuries caused by the media can be divided into two groups: personal injuries and social injuries.

1- Personal Injuries to Media Crime

With the advent of new technologies and media, changes such as the prolongation of youth and adolescence, individualism, and the disintegration of traditional networks have created new conditions for young people. These technological developments and their effects on the tastes, tastes, and communication needs of people, especially young people, have also affected their leisure time. The two processes of home-making and media show the major part of young people's leisure time in modern

societies. Young people are increasingly spending their free time in solitude and increasingly relying on new media for entertainment. The personal harms of crime media are:

1-1- Addiction to Cyberspace

Everyone is aware of the benefits of using the Internet. The speed of action and doing things through the Internet makes life faster in the modern world, and connections with family, organizations and other sections of society are formed faster and easier. Nevertheless, if this device is consumed unrestrained, it becomes a kind of addiction [16]. Ivan Goldberg first proposed the emergence of this addiction as a separate disorder in 1995, developed by Yang in 1996. Since then, medical centers have sprung up all over the United States, and Internet addiction has even been recognized as a real mental disorder in the courts and legal system. China was the first country to consider Internet addiction as a disease. This disorder has different titles such as "Behavioral Internet Dependence", "Morbid Internet Use", "Problematic Internet Use", "Internet Overuse", "Internet Abuse," and "Internet Addiction Disorder" is introduced. Many people addicted to the Internet never accept it because the Internet is a part of their lives. Therefore, English psychologist Mark Griffiths believes that Internet addiction, like traditional addiction, has the following characteristics:

1. Prominence: Continuation in a specific activity which is the most important activity in a person's life.
2. Changing the mood and temperament: feeling intoxicated, numb, and relaxed.
3. Tolerance: Increasing the amount of activity overtime to produce the same amount of satisfaction.
4. Withdrawal symptoms: Feeling moody and irritability when the activity stops.
5. Conflict and struggle: Interpersonal conflict due to performing the desired activity and internal conflicts of the person.
6. Recurrence or return: There is a tendency to return to the previous pathological use pattern [17].

1-2- Reduction of Family Relations and Social Isolation

Individualism and social isolation are some of the harms of electronic life that will gradually create a barrier for the individual in his womb. It will not be easy to escape. E-life increases the needlessness of others in users and greatly reduces natural interactions in social relationships. The loneliness of working with electronic devices, such as computers, brings the private or virtual world to the individual. "Social exclusion" is a long-term deprivation that leads to separation from the mainstream of society. The process, by which certain individuals and social groups are excluded, marginalized from society. When a person is

denied access to an important social network, this can effectively reduce his or her "cultural and social capital" and thus Increase the possibility of rejection. In general, understanding why an individual or group has been rejected requires analyzing their relationship to the person or group they reject [18].

1-3- Increased Crime and Violence

Violence is behavior that harms someone else, ranging from humiliation and insult, rape and assault to destruction of property and murder. All mass media, especially television, because of its availability, freeness, audio, and video power, mostly affect immature children who cannot distinguish well from evil. Because the media often makes them realize that violence is the easiest solution for many problems that all positive characters use and both negative characters use, and it always has a happy ending [19].

The "sense of imitation" in childhood and with a little neglect, even for the sake of expediency in adulthood, is of great importance in shaping human behavior. In other words, when a child performs the violent behavior of a TV character on his younger brother, he commits a kind of pure imitation. At the same time, an adult consciously imitates a new way of committing a crime, subject to heroism or deviant imitation for his comfort or whatever.

1-4- Disorder of Character

Every human being has a special reaction toward a single stimulus, which represents his personality, which is a specific aspect of each person's personality, his "character" that is different from the character of others

Psychologists and psychiatrists believe that neurological diseases have gradually decreased and behavioral disorders have increased in recent years. All the research that has been done in this field confirms this view because due to the weakening of religious and moral principles, the pressure of conscience or reaction has been significantly reduced. On the contrary, due to the people's desire to satisfy their institutional motives and their lack of attention to the observance of social, religious, and moral rules, severe defects in their personality have been revealed, which is the same as a character disorder.

The search for different emotions will, in many cases, lead directly to the violation of legal and moral boundaries, to the marginalization of social life, and conflict with the law enforcement mechanisms. The term "second life" or "carnival life" is a term used by a criminologist called Becton for the first time to refer to a part of a person's life. The second life of the people is the part of life that is not accessible to the formal and logical world and legislators and politicians. This territory is a good space for irrationality and the bedrock of most crimes.

1-5- Sexual Disorders

Over the past two decades, pornography has grown exponentially with the use of the Internet. So much so that its various forms have become one of the most serious virtual injuries and problems in most countries. Any Internet user can potentially access a wide range of pornographic content freely without being known. As a result, addiction and sexual addiction to adult entertainment sites can greatly affect a person's social relationships. Therefore, according to the American Psychiatric Association, the classification of sexual disorders ¹ is divided into three categories: 1) Impaired sexual functions include sexual desire disorders (decreased sexual desire and sexual aversion), sexual arousal disorders, orgasmic disorders, etc. 2) Paraphilias are characterized by intense and repetitive sexual desires, fantasies, or behaviors that involve unusual topics, activities, or situations. 3- Sexual identity disorder, which is characterized by clear and stable assimilation with the opposite sex, which is accompanied by a strong feeling of discomfort with one's gender [20].

2- Social Harms of Crime Media

Social harms have accelerated in recent years, including the decline in the age of criminals and delinquents. These conditions have led to increased academic failure, dropouts, and social harm among the youth

¹ DSMIV-TR

population. Experts and governments consider the preservation and development of human capital (staffing) more important than natural and physical capital. Therefore, to realize human capital, one of the most important measures that governments should include in their grand plans will be controlling social harms and crime. Social harms and crime are a serious threat and destroyer of social capital and public health. For this reason, this issue is one of the current concerns of governments [21]. Therefore, the most important social harms resulting from the media coverage of crime can be:

2-1-Dissemination of Deviant Advertising Patterns

One of the main business tools is advertising, and, naturally, its main purpose is to inform and describe goods and services. In general, advertisements may contain immoral or defamatory content or images. The content is to harm the health and public order of the community, or it contains excessive distortions about a product, whether it is done independently through the mass media or a third party has sent the advertisement to the media.

Most media experts believe that media texts shape one's attitude toward the world. These texts, with their orientations and consciously define the world we are in and provide patterns for appropriate behaviors and attitudes. Satellite networks, for example, seek to normalize a particular range of social

relationships, such as premarital or out-of-wedlock sex, and make negative behaviors unusual and outdated. They are a good environment for changing moral boundaries and cultural norms. Unfortunately, they inject a certain amount of anti-moral and anti-Iranian drugs into our people every day. The negative effect of this drug will be greater on some people, especially the young generation and people whose proper cultural norms are not properly established.

2-2- Non-compliance of Media Topics with the Situation of the Audience

Obviously, suppose the subjects of movies, TV, satellite, or Internet available to the public do not correspond to the social relations we accept or are not in the direction of growth and promotion of the cultural level of the society. In that case, they will be like a razor blade. Undesirable splits and widens the scope of their differences.

Perhaps we can recognize the inconsistency of media content with the situation of the audience and its relationship with creating a platform for incitement to commit various crimes by identifying the desired and unintended consequences and effects of this phenomenon. It means that by fully recognizing the inefficiencies of the media in understanding indigenous culture and its effects and consequences, which appear mostly on the vulnerable strata of society (women and adolescents), we can find out

its relationship with delinquency and the rate of its commission. Therefore, the occurrence of certain behaviors audience can be due to differences in the media's content and situation, such as the complication of premature puberty and perception disorders.

2-3- Promoting a Culture of Consumerism

Many TV channels pursue one goal through their various programs and advertisements or movies worldwide, promoting the spirit and culture of consumerism among different segments of the population. Following the promotion of consumerist culture and its introduction as a common cultural goal in society, it is always possible in a society that some people, due to lack of access to legal means and methods, choose to commit a crime and, through delinquency to a life of luxury and material well-being. Achieve. Alternatively, turn away from the main text of society, turn to delinquent and deviant behaviors, or cause the emergence of some deviant or criminal subcultures.

2-4- Heroism and Fame

One of the other negative effects of the media is heroism and creating a sense of fame in people. When the media portrays a criminal's actions and behavior in great detail and sometimes in an exaggerated way and publishes photos, images, and statements of him, they undoubtedly attract the opinion and desire of the weak-minded and prepared people a factor in the direction.

Therefore, they are encouraged to commit crimes.

2-5- Deviant Acculturation

Abusive media propaganda may have a temporary detrimental effect on the performance of individuals in society, leading them to religious projections, delinquency, and abnormalities. Every human being and nation has an identity formed based on religious, cultural, traditional, environmental, social, educational components, and his research into the wisdom and thought of peoples and the exploration of facts. It is where the hostile mass media, by inducing a series of so-called cultural teachings, incites other societies' cultures and deals fatal blows to the national and religious identity of the people.

2-6-Increased Infidelity and Divorce

Betrayal is usually not a complete betrayal from the beginning. However, it starts from work, social, etc., friendships, and with the development of this friendly relationship, the work leads to infidelity and then betrayal. The negative effect of excessive use of pornographic sites on the relationship between couples has been fully proven. The instability of marital life has been mentioned as one of the consequences of internet addiction. Research shows that married men who turn to the Internet and chat rooms experience infidelity and violence from their wives, especially when these men engage in

romantic relationships with the opposite sex in chat rooms, their family life ends. One of the most harmful consequences of Internet addiction is family problems and their impact on marital relationships, parents, and children. Statistics show that Internet addiction can lead to emotional or hidden divorce and eventually family breakdown and formal divorce. The couple's solution is to end their marital life through infidelity, which forms for more than 50 percent of American divorces and 30 percent of Iranian divorces.

CONCLUSION

Environmental issues all have unique properties that make them of fundamental value as the basic elements of our daily lives. However, these issues are often subject to extreme harm, if they are not properly protected and, when it would be the case, restored. Hence, prevention-based approaches are deemed the most logical. Furthermore, sometimes the cost of restoring the status quo is so high that even by identifying the root cause or the guilty parties, they cannot be sentenced to restoring the status quo, as any effort might bring about high costs. Scrutinizing these issues has led scholars and experts of the Based on its main mission, the media and factors such as education, religious institutions, religion, etc., plays the role of information and education in society to prevent crime. The influence of mass media is greater than social institutions. Accordingly, the media will be more effective in increasing crime

and harming society and individuals. Due to the curiosity, dependence, and great interest of children and adolescents in the media, this group is more influenced by media content than other sections of society. Media influence on the audience follows a two-way process. First, it uses more media channels to reach the level of access and increase the use of the audience; secondly, in discussing the content, structure, and functions of the media, the audience, whether active or passive, is necessary to receive the message. In receiving the message, at least, it will have an impact of more than zero. Thus, mass media, especially super media such as radio and television, can play an important role in controlling crime. Suppose the images or content provided by the media have incorrect cultural meanings and teachings. In that case, it can open the way to crime and the message to the audience, especially children, and Lead juveniles to commit crimes and perversions, and make it difficult to use external crime control, impose heavy punishments, and adopt populist approaches. Important points about the media one are the facilitators and those in charge. The other is the presentation of content and programs presented to the audience through the media. If experienced people and professionals are not responsible for media management, expect proper performance from the media cannot be imagined. For example, the media imposes superficiality in the discussion of myths and legends or in the making of films and images related to them by inverting the

conversations and discussions within society, creating an unrealistic view. It occurs in different sections of society, especially children and adolescents who do not have enough experience.

If the media does not pay attention to the content and programs presented to the audience, it can cause irreparable damage and cause many problems to the community and families. Therefore, it is suggested:

1. The media should try to establish cultural capital in society. In other words, the people of society have a greater sense of responsibility in understanding and conforming to society's dominant culture. As a result, the culture of citizen supervision is established more than before.
2. Religious teachings should be taught in the right way by members and groups of society to prevent deviations and crimes. Proper education of the norms and spirit of Islamic culture following the current generation's tastes is the reason for the effectiveness of religious teachings in reducing the deviations and inefficient crimes of institutions such as families, schools, universities, and subcultures, especially cultural media.
3. Presenting the content and productions of media programs in innovative and pleasant artistic forms for the audience to raise the culture and awareness of the society.
4. Feeling more responsibility of families regarding the education of their children

concerning their relationship with the media, especially cyberspace and the Internet, as well as more cooperation with children and adolescents in choosing the content provided in cyberspace without direct and firm prohibition, which causes curiosity and provide child and adolescent secrecy.

5. Media planning of the Radio and Television of the Islamic Republic of Iran regarding the production of various combined programs, shows, roundtables, conversations, etc. for the audience, through which the necessary skills such as problem-solving, decision making, personal and social communication, thinking and creative and resist the unwanted demands of others and the ability to say no trained to them.
6. Dedicating more time of parents to their children as the main educators of the next generation

Preparing and making available media programs and content for children and adolescents in cyberspace, magazines, games, etc., contain scientific, Islamic, and patriotic content.

ETHICAL CONSIDERATION

The present article has been written while preserving the originality of the content and observing the principle of fairness and trustworthiness.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Planning and writing of the manuscript was done solely by the author.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest was reported by the author.

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