



The Right of Children and Teenagers to Access the Internet and Virtual Space

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Abstract

The newest and biggest legal challenge facing the virtual space is the type of facing people's right to access this space. With the presence of many children in this space, the possibility of these people becoming victims increases, and on the other hand, in some cases, these children commit crimes with damages that are almost impossible to cause by them in traditional crimes, so the legislator must first Examine the access of children and teenagers to cyber space. In this research, the rights of children and teenagers will be violated due to their access to cyberspace, and this question will be considered, what rights of children and teenagers will be violated by the right of children and teenagers to access cyberspace? The research results show that violation of the right to health, violation of the right to education, and violation of the right to privacy will be among the effects of children's unrestricted access to the Internet and virtual space.

Keywords: the right to access the Internet, children and adolescents, violation of rights.

1. Introduction

One of the most important special protections in human rights documents is considering children's rights and protecting them. Virtual space, as one of the most important spaces that children and teenagers are in contact with, plays an important role in their growth and socialization. Children are a huge and significant part of societies and due to several factors such as age, emotional and psychological issues, as well as legal and legal restrictions, they need special and independent support in various legal fields. Although children have rights, they face legal restrictions in the eligibility of their rights, which continues until they reach the legal age, and during this period, the rights are enforced by parents and legal guardians, and depending on the case of the executor. Therefore, paying attention to the issue of the right to



access cyber space for children is of particular importance. On the other hand, it should be noted that the application of restrictions in cyberspace for children and teenagers should be done with strict principles. Because the application of these restrictions may lead to children and teenagers not using the Internet properly. The need to pay attention to such an issue comes from the fact that so far there has been no independent research that has studied the issue of the right of children and teenagers to access cyberspace. In this research, the rights of children and teenagers will be violated due to their access to cyber space, and this question will be considered, what rights of children and teenagers will be violated by the access of children and teenagers to cyber space?

2- Research background

Mirdamad Esfahani (2019), in a book, has addressed the issue of "the right to access the Internet for the realization of substantive and procedural human rights". In this book, he distinguishes between the internet as a human right and the means of realizing it as a human right, and he believes that the internet is both a human right and a tool for the realization of other human rights. Badami (2019), in a book entitled "Online children and their right to all-round security in the cyber space, emphasizing the need for legislation in this field: challenges and solutions" by acknowledging the right of the child to appropriate access to ICT technology, on the right Child safety focuses on the use of this space and seeks to investigate and provide a solution to ensure the safety of children in the use of information and communication technology. Safarinia (1401), in an article, has discussed "the right of children to access cyberspace from the perspective of domestic and international law (with emphasis on the interpretive theory number 25 of the Committee on the Rights of the Child)". He concludes that laws and regulations have been approved in Iran, including the document for the protection of children and adolescents in cyberspace, but more protections for children have not yet been provided in line with international documents. Razmi et al. (1400), in a research, investigated the effect of children's right to health on the reliability of data and electronic records. This study has shown that if the electronic data and records in cyberspace do not respect the component of children's right to health in cases such as providing, accessing and collecting data, advertising and good faith, the citation capability and validity of the electronic data and records are considered impossible and The opinion on the implementation of the provisions and other works are not considered as valid documents that can be cited in judicial and legal authorities.

3- Corruption of cyberspace for children and teenagers

In this section, which consists of two topics, the evils of cyberspace for children, such as the psychological effects and harms of cyberspace and the social-cultural-political-effects and harms of cyberspace, will be discussed.



3-1- Psychological effects and damages of virtual space

In the following topic, which consists of four speeches, issues such as virtual addiction, identity crisis, sexual deviations and sexual abuse are discussed.

A) virtual addiction

Virtual addiction is the excessive use of virtual space or social networks to the extent that without using it, a person feels inadequate and his relationship with the environment is affected by the frequent use of this space and goes out of his natural state (Jahed, 2017). : 174). This mental disorder has been very challenging in countries where the use of the Internet is easy and cheap, and it has involved various institutions. In a country like America, the number of Internet addicts is more than other addicts. To the extent that some addicts spend 18 hours of their daily time on the Internet. In America, it is so disastrous that churches, religious leaders are faced with cries for help from husband and wife or one of them, to get rid of this type of addiction, and Christian counseling institutes are developing internet addiction counseling (Shikhavandi, 2013: 81). The consequences of Internet addiction and the excessive use of virtual space, which is not at the level of addiction, have harmful results and consequences for the individual and society, and bring severe physical, financial, family, social and psychological harm. One of the personal and social consequences of addiction and working a lot with cyberspace is isolation and social withdrawal. Herbert Putnam, the 8th librarian of the National Library of Congress (in 1991), believes that there has been a significant decrease in the social communication of people in the United States over the past 35 years. People go to church less, have less dinner parties, and get together less socially. This issue has major consequences for the society and the individual; Because when children and teenagers are socially involved, they live healthier and happier lives. Another consequence of internet addiction is family problems and its effect on the family and children. Nowadays, the term internet children refers to wives who are addicted to the internet (Ameli, 2013: 26). Statistics show that Internet addiction may lead to family breakdown and divorce. Perhaps believing that a person leaves his wife just because of communicating with another person on the Internet seems terrifying to those who have not become addicted to the Internet; But this issue happens every day in the world of the Internet, and corruption and its subsequent problems affect children.

Dr. Kimberly S. Yang, one of the experts and researchers of Internet issues, believes that although time is not the only determining factor in defining Internet addiction, generally, addicts spend between 40 and 80% of their time with sessions that may last up to 20 hours each. and this causes disturbances in the amount and time of the user's sleep. In extreme cases, even caffeine pills are taken to facilitate a longer time on the Internet. This disorder causes excessive fatigue in the body, which affects academic and work performance, and may weaken the body's immune system and make the person more vulnerable to diseases. In addition, due to the lack of exercise and proper movements, wrist nerve problems and pain behind the eyes and the like occur (ibid.: 35).



b) Identity crisis

Identity has three elements: personal, cultural and social, each of which plays an important role in the development of a person's personality. In comparisons, comparisons form personal identity, the unique characteristic of a person, and social identity is linked to different groups and communities (Giddens, 1400: 126). The Internet is a cultural and social scene that puts a person in various positions of roles and lifestyles, and this itself is a ground for the vulnerability of the user's personality and causes the user to have multiple personalities (Kourani, 2007: 200).

Adolescents are more vulnerable in this environment, especially during the period when their identity is formed, this risk becomes more prominent. With the many possibilities and options that public media, including the Internet, provide to young people, they are constantly introduced to new stimuli and different types of behavior. Such an environment creates an uncertain and continuously changing identity, especially for a generation that is faced with many stimuli compared to the previous generation (ibid.).

Also, through mass media, people reorganize the assumed line between public and private space, and this is a possibility that young people actively use. A young person, especially during puberty, which is the stage of his identity formation, and he always seeks to discover values and internalize them. He is faced with the Internet and the vast, astonishing and diverse amount of information and he has to find his identity through searching in this virtual world, and thus some and perhaps a large number of teenagers may lose their way on the Internet and lose their identity. spend more time with crisis (Hick et al., 2000: 199). On the other hand, sometimes some personality characteristics such as education, age, place of residence and even gender are lost on the Internet; As an example, many people who are talking to each other in chat rooms speak with unreal characteristics and from the language of a false personality that they have created and introduced to their audience or their audience, and yet what effects these characters have They are anonymous to each other (Qobuli Darafshan et al., 1400). Among the results of the identity crisis is the weakening of the users' interest in their homeland, which will be dangerous results such as betrayal of the country and self-deprecation and cultural and personal dependence on foreign countries. Betrayal of the country occurs more often.

c) Sexual deviations

Among the destructive effects of cyberspace crimes, especially content-related crimes, is the emergence of sexual deviations and sexual disorders. Due to the free-thinking approach to sexual relations on the part of its main operators (i.e. the West and especially America) and the commercial attitude towards sexual issues, the Internet caused the emergence of a dirty phenomenon called pornography and the dirty art of sensuality and its rampant spread, which crossed the moral boundaries. It breaks down and is a threat to cultures, especially religious cultures such as Islamic culture. Basically, pornography is defined as a visual or verbal presentation of sexual behaviors with the aim of satisfying the sexual desires of others. Such



content and images, which are presented after the sexual stimulation of others, usually lead to unnatural sexual satisfaction of its referents.

Another point is that referring to the Internet to access obscene content is not only limited to abnormal people, and a significant amount of clients are normal people. Basically, the Internet has fueled an atmosphere that, due to its special characteristics, gradually leads to the formation of sexual abnormalities in its users, and it becomes the source of many crimes in cyberspace (especially content) and a prelude to sexual crimes. The reasons why children and teenagers refer to these mentioned materials on the Internet can be summarized in the following cases:

1- Anonymity of clients on the Internet

Clients remaining unknown in the Internet field in some way fuels self-confidence in people and this state forms a kind of irresponsible behavior in a person. Clients are in such a situation that they allow themselves to easily get away from their internet partner, contrary to their natural behavior, or immediately turn to another person. Even in such situations, men allow themselves to think about having sexual experiences with men in their privacy. It is in such an environment that a person can get acquainted with concepts such as group sex, homosexuality, sexual disguise, etc. without any trouble and in an unknown way.

Basically, it is in such an environment that a person can do whatever he wants in introducing himself, and this feature itself is a stimulus for Internet users to use fake identities, and this can be counted among the characteristics of cyberspace culture, which itself is a ground for Committing crimes in cyberspace is also.

2- The ease of public access to the moral-economic corruptions of the virtual space

Erotic content and sex images are easily accessible to everyone. The wide distribution of these materials in social networks such as Instagram, which is not only not a filter in our country, but its software is installed in the smartphones and Android of young people, stimulates them to have the first experience in this field. A curious child or teenager easily enters these spaces away from the eyes of family and social observers and experiences the first forbidden pleasures of lust. It is such ease that leads many to experience sexual abnormal behaviors not in the physical space, but in the virtual space. The result of which is the masturbation of teenagers, which in addition to being forbidden in the holy law of Islam, also causes many physical harms, such as memory loss, short-sightedness, and facial acne.

3- Escape from reality

Some people referring to the vulgar social channels of virtual space, introduce the experience of having some kind of sexual pleasure as the main reason for their referral. Studies also show that sexual satisfaction is the primary reason for engaging in virtual sex. But one of the consequences of this behavior is the avoidance of reality and the expansion of such an experience, for example, a teenage boy or girl suddenly experiences a kind of rational escape



in such an environment and forms a new personality and identity in such an environment, which itself is the source of existence. Abnormal behavior and sexual promiscuity will come.

With addiction to these issues, especially in virtual form, people suffer from various sexual diseases and deviations, which will result in jeopardizing their mental and even physical health. Among the sexual deviations caused by this space are sexual addiction, self-gratification (which is very common among porn users), homosexuality, and the loss of moral modesty. Of course, the spread of such sexual deviations, especially with the spread of cyberspace and the prevalence of its use among teenagers, will also have destructive social effects, which will endanger the survival of society and the human race to some extent.

4- Sexual abuse

Another serious danger of the Internet as a source of children's and teenagers' delinquency in the cyberspace is sexual abuse, which is mostly aimed at children and teenagers in the current era. Children and teenagers, especially in advanced societies where it is possible for them to use the Internet at home and school, are neglected and sexually abused, especially through social networks such as WhatsApp and Instagram. Sometimes people force the victims to accept physical sex by recording private and possibly immoral images through Internet cameras or by obtaining private information and photos of the victims. Or after getting to know each other through chat, they rape the girls by dating and physically present at the place. In some cases, by sending obscene pictures, they encourage people, especially teenagers, to have illicit sexual relations (Halder and Jaishankar, 2013: 144).

According to the studies conducted in the West in this field, most of the teenagers who are neglected and sexually abused are under the age of 18, and in most cases provocative images are sent to them via chat or mobile phone, and then they are asked to be physically present. They are invited to a special place and thus they are deceived and sexually assaulted (Shikhavandi, 2013: 155). This problem has now become one of the serious problems in the West; So much so that most scientists and policy makers have paid more attention to this issue and have organized numerous articles, books and conferences related to it. For example, ten years after the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child by the United Nations in 1989; That is, in 1999, a global meeting was held under the title: Expertise for the protection of children against sexual abuse through the Internet, which led to the issuance of a resolution that states: The more the Internet develops, the more children are exposed to its dangerous contents. will be placed. Criminal activities related to child prostitution and pornography that are abused through cyberspace is now one of the priority issues (Jaishankar, 2011: 266). Although the benefits of the Internet outweigh its potential losses, at the same time, we should not neglect to recognize its dangers. If no action is taken to deal with these risks, the heavy threats will remain on children and teenagers and will prevent the correct use of the Internet in the future. One of the manifestations of which occurred in recent days was a man who was deceiving and threatening young girls under the pretext of research work, who was caught by the complaint of one of the student girls. According to Shargh newspaper, after the arrest of



this man, who is more than 50 years old, his house was searched and documents indicating his other crimes were also obtained. The judge of the 6th branch of the Irshad Prosecutor's Office in Tehran announced the arrest of this man, who is about 57 years old, and told the reporter: This man was trying to deceive young girls by claiming that he is a writer and that he needs research work, surveys and interviews for his new book. He used to make an appointment with the girls by talking to the girls under the pretext that you are young and smart and I need to interview you, and then he would make them forget with these words like I am your grandfather and then he would progress in the relationship to a certain point. when it comes to sex. According to this investigator, the Irshad Prosecutor's Office in some cases also forced its victims to engage in a certain type of sexual intercourse in very private public places such as cafes and coffee houses and at certain times when there was no traffic.

2-3- Effects and social-cultural-political damages of virtual space

In this topic, social-cultural-political-virtual space effects and damages are discussed in six sections in order of importance.

A) Destabilization of the family and reduction of security and peace

One of the effects of content-related crimes such as pornography and promoting obscene material is the weakening of family and marital relationships; Because it is one of the works of pornography and sexual addiction, which is very common in societies where cheap internet is available to people and sexual virtual space is a new and attractive phenomenon for them. In these cases, some of their wives complain that they don't pay attention to them and instead of enjoying being in the center, they spend their time on the Internet and virtual space enjoying the family and being with their sexually deviant spouse. Part of the factors of divorce in such countries is internet addiction, especially virtual sex addiction. Those who have promoted virtual sex trade for dirty profit and the institutions that ignore such issues with indifference or indifference are one of the most important social groups, intentionally or unintentionally. That is, they lead the family to decline, and the children of divorce suffer the most (Rajabipour, 1387: 114). Other family members enjoy being with each other less and spend most of their time in colorful but dirty entertainment in cyberspace. As a result, love, as the main and basic pillar of the family, is weakened. The children who are born in this environment suffer moral deviation and their mental health is lost. Therefore, the result of the sexual data of the cyberspace will be the increase of phenomena, such as children of single parents, spouses who live alone, and illegitimate children. Therefore, the need for comprehensive monitoring in cyberspace by responsible institutions and families doubles (Bavna, 2016: 96). The task of cultural institutions is also very important and influential in creating culture for the correct use of virtual space and social networks.

One of the works of criminals; Such as unauthorized access, eavesdropping and receiving, falsifying data, destroying and disrupting data, disrupting the system, preventing access, stealing data, reducing the security of society's citizens and endangering their privacy.



Sometimes in private conversations, we may say something that we hope the listeners will forget, or we may write something that we later regret and hope that the readers of our letter will get lost in the pages of other pages and forget it; But information technology gives everyone the possibility to file and store all current and past information in an orderly manner and find it immediately whenever they need it, or to find so many wrong or private words and videos of children and teenagers quickly. Spread it so that there is no chance to compensate (Hasanbeigi, 1397: 100). This is where protecting the privacy of people, especially teenagers, which may affect their future, doubles. Because, firstly, it is possible for everyone to listen to the content, and secondly, the data is never deleted and is always added to their volume with every copy operation and Internet publication (Ibid.: 104). Today, the privacy of children and teenagers involved in cyberspace is exposed to risks that never existed before information technology, just as no one was at risk of electrocution before the advent of electricity technology, now we must be careful that the development of privacy technology and Do not set the future of teenagers on fire. Dealing with cyberspace crimes and strict data protection both through the government and service organizations and through individuals themselves will be very effective in reducing this issue. In this field, experts recommend using a proxy, installing a firewall, installing anti-virus and anti-spyware, and cultural work.

b) Reducing the national interests and values of the user

One of the characteristics of the Internet is its universality, which, despite its benefits, also has destructive effects on the national cultures of societies; Because by using the internet, while dealing with the dominant English language, users move away from their national language, which is Farsi in Iran, and consider the use of English terms to be modern, for example, in Internet chats, Farsi speakers are more They use the English alphabet instead of the Persian alphabet (one of the reasons is the lack of powerful Persian software). Expanding this use will weaken the Persian alphabet.

c) Changing norms and destroying culture

Considering the difference of norms from one community to another, electronic facilities including virtual space promote cultural exchange and influence. In between, weak cultures or owners of powerful cultures, but with little effort, will be affected by the invading culture (Mirdamad Esfahani, 2019: 78). In this exchange, Islamic culture is also a culture with support, but if Muslims do not try to recognize and introduce it, they will undergo eclecticism and change against the invading culture of the West.

d) financial and investment insecurity

One of the most basic beliefs accepted by most societies is property ownership. In the virtual space, with the introduction of electronic property, which is in the form of electronic money, data and valuable documents, the need to maintain financial security and take care of it will be the responsibility of the government. Therefore, one of the effects of fraud and electronic theft



is the insecurity of investment in the field of electronic property (Ameli, 2016: 60). This is why Article 13 of the Computer Crimes Law states: Anyone who illegally uses computer or telecommunication systems by committing actions such as entering, changing, erasing, creating or stopping data or disrupting the payment system, or property or benefit or acquire services or financial privileges for himself or another, in addition to returning the property to its owner, imprisonment from one to five years or a fine from twenty million (20,000,000) Rials to one hundred million (100,000,000) Rials. or both punishments will be imposed. According to Article 19 of the Islamic Penal Code, this crime is a fifth-degree punishable crime, which according to Articles 88 and 89 of the same law, if committed by a child and adolescent under the age of 15, it becomes protective and educational measures, which include:

A- Surrender to parents or guardians or legal guardians by obtaining a commitment to discipline and educate and take care of the good morals of the child or teenager.

Note- When the court deems it expedient, it can, depending on the case, obtain from the persons mentioned in this paragraph a commitment to carry out the following matters and to announce the result to the court within the prescribed deadline:

- 1- Introducing a child or teenager to a social worker or psychologist and other professionals and cooperating with them
- 2- Sending a child or teenager to an educational and cultural institution for education or vocational training
- 3- Necessary measures to treat or quit addiction of a child or teenager under the supervision of a doctor
- 4- Preventing the association and harmful communication of a child or teenager with persons as determined by the court
- 5- Preventing children or teenagers from going to certain places

B- Surrender to other natural or legal persons that the court deems to be in the interest of the child or adolescent with the obligation to carry out the orders mentioned in paragraph (a) in case of incompetence of the parents, guardians or legal guardians of the child or adolescent or lack of access to them in compliance with the regulations Article (1173) of the Civil Code

Note - Surrendering a child to qualified persons is subject to their acceptance.

C- Advice by the court judge

T- Warning and warning or obtaining a written commitment not to repeat the crime

D- Detention in the correctional center from three months to one year in the case of punishment crimes of the first to fifth degrees



Note 1- The decisions mentioned in clauses (T) and (C) are applicable only to children and adolescents aged twelve to fifteen years. It is mandatory to apply the provisions of the ban in the case of children and adolescents who have committed crimes of the first to fifth degrees of punishment. In our case, as the crime of Internet fraud is a crime of 5th degree, therefore detention in the correctional center is mandatory from three months to one year, and for teenagers who commit the above punishable crime and their age at the time of committing is between Fifteen to eighteen years is the full calendar year, because the legal punishment for the above crime is fifth-degree ta'zir, detention in a correctional center from three months to one year, or payment of a fine from ten million (10,000,000) to forty million (000) Rials. 40/000) rials or performing 180 to 720 hours of public service.

e) Fading the progressive values of Islamic society

Every society has values that are derived from its culture, but there are some progressive values in Islamic societies, which are fading due to the influence of the restrictive and promiscuous culture of the West. Values such as a woman's modesty and chastity, the importance of having a human personality and not its gender, the ugliness of exposing the body, especially the private parts, etc., which are fading as a result of the prevalence of the use of obscene material and the use of promiscuity in human relationships. In an article, Dean Chabner considers such consequences to be the result of the prevalence of sexual abuse and pornography and says: Detailed and extensive studies have not been conducted in this regard over the years, but ABC News psychologists, based on their experiences in cases with children have dealt with, believe that boys who have dealt with violent and pornographic images often have lecherous motives towards girls; At the same time, girls also show a positive response to such tendencies of boys. It is as a result of the spread of rumors that Bluetooth and sending obscene images are growing among Islamic societies, free relationships between boys and girls are promoted. Scandals and nudity are widespread at parties and weddings, especially among teenagers.

f) political effects (weakness in sovereignty and political authority)

The most obvious feature of the Internet is the accumulation of diverse information in it, and this feature has made it the world's largest information warehouse. In a way that good and bad, right and wrong present their wishes and knowledge in colorful ways (Kourani, 2007: 155), therefore, it is these users who are confused in front of a large amount of information and have to choose. Some believe that this freedom of information is a step towards democracy; Because users have access to all kinds of information and therefore they can choose from among them what they think is the most correct and follow the best thought in different political, cultural and... fields (Staki, 2004: 50). But do users have complete freedom in choosing information? Is the information available to users as it is, these are the questions that shake the opinion of the advocates of freedom of information, for example when a user wants to look for a topic, for example, about Iran, through powerful search engines such as Google and Yahoo. Do these search engines honestly provide the most important and accurate information about this? But the truth is different, because studies show that the atmosphere governing the Internet and its



constituent structure are all based on the goals and policies of the main operator of the Internet; It means America and it is planned through key companies like Icon.

Two examples can be mentioned:

1. The famous Google website and many popular Internet search engines, based on some of the censorship policies mentioned above, provide predetermined information based on the user's keywords, which usually results in a large number of users. There are up to 50 search results in the first rows, they are used for their final use and they obtain and introduce their final conclusions and general impressions based on these items, for example, keywords such as Iran, Iraq, Korea when typed in the search box and search. It is possible, in the top list of search results, pages will be shown, which in some way directly or indirectly have an obvious connection to the intelligence and security departments of the United States. For example, in the case of Iraq, Iraq, which has been examined and studied from the perspective of the documents of the American spy agency and other information departments inside and outside the United States, is introduced to the users of the Iraq keyword search. The main source of this is the vast effort of the Americans to dominate the global highway of information and present an image of the world based on the view of the United States and its global policy to every city of the global village, which through a place called the Internet, explores the world. they give (Qooboli Darafshan et al., 1400).

2. Among other things that can be considered as a type of American monopolistic diplomacy on the Internet and that is the foundation of the slogan: Look at the world or the Internet from the American point of view, is the creation of numerous news bases on the Internet by organizations that are The United States is supported morally and materially so that a significant amount of news and media information that is published on the Internet and available to the majority of network users in all parts of the world is related to what can be called the diplomacy of American media monopoly. take For example, the World News Internet network, which has more than five hundred news and information websites in more than ten living languages of the world, and the news published by different news sites of this huge news network is always placed in the top lists of search results, with regular updates. And the frequent publication of a considerable amount of news and various information on the Internet interprets certain news and information to web users, behind which there is a kind of line based on American cyber. A kind of selfish and monopolistic copywriting for the floating information space on the Internet, which is used daily by a huge amount of citizens of the global village. However, Washington's modern diplomacy, which is based on the axis of information, communication and trying to monopolize this process in an effective and inclusive media called the Internet, is increasingly looking for safe security ways with a higher effectiveness factor and less destructive effectiveness. Finally, the establishment of the internet police in the center of America and the acquisition It has targeted the web for years to come.

Something that is strongly contrary to the principles of inclusiveness, which considers the Internet as a highway to speed up communication and optimal and non-censored dissemination



of information by any person and in any place in compliance with relevant material and intellectual rights. Definitely, any user who knows that predetermined plans have been prepared for him in the cyber media and does not have the right to choose and act more and better, and is always a secret and unverified police by the countries present on the Internet, e-mail, blog, website and functions Various people will monitor him, he will always prefer being disconnected to being online (Hunter, 2017: 6).

As we know that information plays the biggest role in people's political decisions, therefore, mass information in a warehouse called the Internet can play a prominent role in guiding public opinion and political choices of users (Ibid.: 17). In this situation, the way of presenting information in the elections of a country will be very effective and it will be effective in the way of arranging the pieces of the ruling body of the countries. Therefore, the Internet can be a threat to the sovereignty of countries and by providing targeted information aligned with the American media, it can isolate and make any voice against the American views less effective (Basu, 2007: 80). As a result, with the coordinated work of the media, it will push the country's elections in the direction that America and its allies want. This is why most countries take measures to deal with this trend, such as filtering and blocking sites that provide information to undermine their sovereignty.

4- Violating the rights of children and teenagers in cyber space

Since today is the era of information technology and technology, having access and familiarity with the Internet and virtual space is a natural and unavoidable thing for all people in all age groups. But along with the advantages of the wide virtual world, there are disadvantages and disadvantages especially for children. These harms cannot be ignored due to their serious harm, and their importance is so great that sometimes it puts children's fundamental rights such as their right to life at risk. In this section, the most important harms caused to children due to access to cyber space and exercising the right to access information and communication are discussed.

A) violation of the right to education

Another harm of digital world technology is its effect on children's educational performance. Although the advantages of information and communication technology in the field of education were mentioned in the previous discussions, but according to a report, new communication and digital technologies can make students academically weak and passive in the classroom, for example, according to studies conducted in 91 A study conducted in England among children aged 11 to 16 years indicates that banning mobile phones has a positive effect on their school test scores (Bland and Murphy, 2016: 6-9). This indicates that in some Information and communication technology cases can have a negative impact on children's education.



B) violation of the right to health

As mentioned, the right to access information gives the child the opportunity to benefit from the virtual space. But this very diverse access creates problems, for example, digital entertainment has created a lot of visual appeal and children's access to entertaining content, but today there is talk of digital dependence and cyberspace addiction. Also, many parents in the family environment, considering the social changes resulting from information and communication technology, are worried about the isolation and separation of children from their family and their surroundings, and even the occurrence of depression and obesity among children. In this part, the threats are more towards the child's mental health. The role of visual media, both private and national, newspapers, advertising billboards, the Internet, especially social networks and chat programs on mobile phones, computer games... besides being useful for all sections of society, including children, direct and indirect threats to growth, physical health - Mental health and well-being of the child. Looking around, it is clear that the role of the media and the cyberspace has occupied so much children's time, especially teenagers, that in addition to the possible threats, it has robbed them of the opportunity to study and learn. In relation to child health, obesity is increasing in children which is caused by their immobility; It is the product of the attraction and entertainment of digital games and sitting for a long time in front of computers and television (Bauna, 2016: 62).

On the one hand, satellite TVs have provided the right to choose more freely and also a kind of equality in access to information, and on the other hand, it has caused the fear of assimilation, violent entertainment, pornographic advertisements, and various discriminations between social groups, cultures and nations. In the meantime, some optimists believe that these media innovations in a sense show a kind of educational revolution and a different socialization process and lead children and teenagers to adapt to the realities; It increases their perceptual and movement skills and social competition and makes them powerful; But many believe that the content of these new media is remarkably full of violence, sex, and racist issues, which ultimately lead to the spread of violence, discrimination, fear, and a decrease in empathy, or even the destruction of social and cultural relationships (Hick et al., 2020: 66). The abundance of available evidence shows that there is a significant relative relationship between watching violent movies and children's violent behavior, which emerges with the deterioration of the economic and social situation. In addition to sowing the seeds of violence in children's minds, media and television content also causes undesirable fears, a wrong perception of real violence, and a habit of seeing violence (ibid.: 141). In addition, some production scenes of television programs indirectly encourage children to take dangerous actions. Among its obvious examples, we can mention things like taking medicine and similar things in private and away from the eyes of parents, using toxic substances and dangerous disinfectants, playing with matches and incendiary devices, entering unfamiliar places and talking to strangers. Karimi and Asgharzadeh, 1391: 58).



Television advertisements also play a big role in the formation of children's identity. Commercial advertisements on television are full of gender discrimination and stereotypes of two sexes. To advertise girls' toys, they usually show a cute little girl playing slowly; But the advertisement of boys' toys is always full of excitement and noise and emphasizes playing outside the house. This is how commercial advertising exposes children to gender discrimination (Brier, 2010: 44). Also, advertising harmful and unhealthy foods that encourage children to eat them is not only not good for the child's health, but also causes conflict between children and parents to buy these foods. In some countries, such as India, advertising of children's products is broadcast during crime and horror series and series, because due to the lack of special programs for children in the age group of 4-6 years in this country (with more than 25 local languages), children often watch television programs. They use satellite. Also, out of the ten favorite programs watched by children at this age, five programs belong to scary and scary crime series (ibid.: 49).

c) violation of the right to privacy

Violation of privacy in cyberspace happens in two ways. Either the user makes his information available or other users enter his privacy without his permission. Undoubtedly, children register their personal information and pictures as primary and basic information in the virtual space on the sites and social networks in order to use the facilities of the virtual space. In the studies of the Children's Protection Fund (UNICEF), according to the research conducted in different countries, it refers to this phenomenon. In studies carried out in England until 2009, about 1800 children aged 11 to 16, their addresses, phone numbers and even pictures of their school uniforms have been published online (Davidson et al., 2009: 141).

d) Damage to the socialization process of children and adolescents

In the current era, the transformation of social and cultural values and children's opinions is not affected by the intellectual approaches of parents and even religious leaders in societies, but such social and cultural changes are caused by electronic media and, in other words, the virtual world. Some people are of the opinion that the expansion of virtual space and the Internet world in contemporary societies can be considered as a foreshadowing model of cultural development (Biron, 2018: 2). To provide harmful platforms for the formation of various threats against the child's safety.

e) Violation of the right to safety of children and teenagers

1- Sexual abuse against children in cyberspace

Images of child sexual abuse and exploitation existed before the Internet. The creation and expansion of the World Wide Web since the early 1990s, along with a significant reduction in the cost of hardware and telecommunications, led to an increase in crimes related to child pornography, including its production, distribution, and possession (Carr, 2004: 11). Currently, the cyber space offers more than one million images of thousands of sexually abused children.



It is estimated that the production and distribution of child abuse images in cyberspace generates billions of dollars in revenue for its businessmen. It is also predicted that the volume of annual transactions will reach from 3 billion dollars to 20 billion dollars.

Regarding the concept of sexual violence against children or in other words "child sexual abuse", although according to the global violence and health report, a complete, comprehensive and international definition has not been provided; (Etin, 2015: 169-170) but a group of researchers define this type of violence as "the involvement of the child in sexual activity that he does not fully understand or is unable to express conscious consent to, or the child is unable to do it in terms of "Rushdi is not ready" (Irvanian, 2008: 64). The Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols on the sale of child prostitution and child pornography use the definition of pornography: "In child pornography, by any means, children engaged in real or simulated sexual activities, or through the display of their sexual parts. They are photographed together with sexual objects.

With these unmistakable interpretations, sexual abuse of children in cyber space is considered as violence, and according to that, any kind of abuse with any motive towards children is called "sexual violence". This issue is stated in Article 34 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child: "Member States undertake to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse." Due to the fact that children are always at risk of sexual abuse, in recent years, with the increasing growth of communication technology, this phenomenon against children has taken a new form, and its scope has targeted a wide range of children, and on the one hand It has become a profitable illegal business for the operators of this field.

Based on this, individual and community understanding of pornography or sexual abuse of children is different among societies. So that there are no common definitions, principles or regulations among societies regarding this type of violence, and perhaps this is one of the biggest challenges in trying to fight crimes related to children (Taylor, 2017: 106) research evidence in this field indicates It is that the age of children in this type of violence reaches at least 5 years due to the easy access to information transfer in the virtual world and this indicates a serious threat of harm to children. Until the advent of the Internet, the abused were usually girls, but in recent years, many boys have been at risk of being abused on the Internet (Cooper, 2015: 223). They form different social classes. Although according to some reports, the age of abusers in this type of violence is under 18 years old (Palmer, 2014: 23), so children themselves can be considered as a factor in violating the right to safety of other peers.

Conclusion

European countries are of the opinion that digital media has increased convergence and more intimate communication among children, and this opportunity should be raised for the development of digital literacy. In fact, children can learn about themselves through the virtual world using social networks. Among the government's support in this field is encouraging the development of safe internet through the industry in the country by taking advantage of



financing programs and its detailed evaluation in accordance with the industry and its subordinate laws. In this regard, the European model seeks to strengthen and develop children's digital skills through school curricula. In these countries, Internet Service Provider (ISP) industries will play a very important role in promoting children's online safety, policies and technical support in this field. Therefore, in Iran, Internet service providers should consider the highest level of privacy by default for children and pay special attention to the protection of their data in cyberspace. Also, parents will not have the ability to monitor their children using the Internet, so by using the services of the mentioned industries, they can get help from new technologies in order to monitor children electronically in such an environment. Therefore, the legislator can provide such a field for service providers and use their capabilities.

Following the actions of international and regional organizations and especially some national and transnational non-governmental organizations and even some governments in identifying and exposing and disseminating the sufferings of the world's children and creating a kind of "global awareness" between governments and nations, gradually reacting to it and The change of perspective in the regulation of specific penal policy became a global concern. In response to the specific requirements of this range of crimes and the specific characteristics of the victims and the way these crimes are committed, the international criminal law system in the light of compiling and approving hard (mandatory) and soft international documents (strategic principles, declarations, recommendations, etc.) in The global level (United Nations) and regional level (such as the Council of Europe and the South Asian Union) have considered two major strategies (criminalization and harmonization of the criminal laws of countries) to fight effectively against them.

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