Chapter 9
A Systematic Review of the Literature on Digital Citizenship

Pelin Yolcu
University of Dicle, Turkey

ABSTRACT

It can be called "digitalization" to first convert all kinds of data such as voice, text, document, image into computer bits consisting of 0 and 1 and then send it to another place with the help of telecommunication technology. The lifestyles of individuals and societies have started to become digital thanks to the whole of the data produced in the digital environment or later transferred to the digital environment. Technological developments in the information age we live in have changed the lifestyles of individuals along with the opportunities they provide. One of these technological developments, especially the internet, has rapidly increased its place in the lives of individuals since the 1990s, and has become effective in many areas such as education, communication, health, politics, industry, and media. Individuals share their feelings and thoughts in online environments, exchange information, and quickly become aware of events taking place in various parts of the world.

INTRODUCTION

In its traditional sense, citizenship refers to membership in a nation (Fischman and Haas 2012: 170). Since the first time this concept emerged, it has reached the present day by crossing different regions and cultures in a dynamic state. The concept of citizenship was used to express a citizen who believed in political participation, freedom and equality in the city-states of Athens, a person living under the auspices of the dominant structure in the medieval feudal state, and people who adopted the same ideology in the Soviet Union (Parlak & Kaftan, 2010). On the other hand, events affecting societies fundamentally have transformed the understanding of citizenship. In the historical process, the increase in population, new inventions, geographical discoveries, and developments in science and technology bring about a transformation in the understanding of citizenship (Gutas, 2011).

With the transition from an industrial society to a scientific society, the development in science and technology has been reflected in every aspect of life and integrated with daily life. At the end of this

integration, concepts such as digital citizenship began to take their place in social life (Akgün et al, 2011). Therefore, since communication between citizens has started to take place in the digital environment and with technological tools, a good citizen and a good digital citizen should be able to act safely, consciously and effectively when using technology in real life and the virtual environment.

The development of information and communication technology has made the tools in which these technologies are used widespread. As a result of these developments, it has become easier to access information with these tools without the limitation of time and place, and it has become possible for each individual to communicate with citizens living in another world's geography. At this point, the concept of digital citizenship, which has emerged with the elimination of borders in the point of communication and communication of the Internet and with globalization, can correctly use technology and the tools included in human life, respect personal rights and ethical rules on digital platforms, and use digital tools responsibly and security awareness. Refers to the person (Mossberger et al., 2007).

Digital citizenship is the individual's effective use of communication tools and displaying the responsibilities expected from her daily life in the virtual environment. According to Farmer (2010), digital citizenship is defined as education aimed at raising people who access information in the virtual environment effectively and use this information positively, both socially and individually. Therefore, digital citizenship is the problematic, safe, legal and ethical use of the individual's channels of access to information and the Internet (Bailey & Ribble, 2007).

Considering the common point of the definitions made for digital citizenship, it comes to the fore that digital citizens participate effectively in online environments. In addition, it is seen that digital citizens use communication and information technologies in a responsible, safe, legal and ethical manner. In addition, digital citizens need to be aware of the risks experienced in online environments and combat these risks. However, this alone is not enough. In addition, digital citizens must create safe communities and environments, be aware of how to organize their personal information, and become competent in Internet use. Technological developments in the information age we live in have changed individuals' lifestyles and the opportunities they provide. One of these technological developments, especially the Internet, has rapidly increased its place in the lives of individuals since the 1990s and has become influential in many areas, such as education, communication, health, politics, industry, and media. Individuals share their feelings and thoughts in online environments, exchange information and quickly become aware of events occurring in various parts of the world. Topics such as face-to-face communication, face-to-face education, shopping in stores, reading on paper, searching for information from the library, social networks, course software, virtual shopping sites, newspaper applications, and search engines have begun to be carried out online environments.

For users of the digital world, it is no longer enough to use the computer well, and the importance of maintaining an effective and correct existence in this environment is increasing daily. Many jobs such as receiving news, communicating, shopping and researching over the Internet have forced individuals to use information and communication technologies effectively. In line with the technological developments, whose effects we see in all areas of life, individuals from all age groups have come to use these resources as a necessity beyond entertainment. This virtual world, which is used so effectively, has carried the roles of individuals in real life to these environments and has made the transition to digital citizenship a necessity. While individuals with limited resources were influential in the past, it has become essential to raise individuals who have developed digital citizenship behaviours, know how to access primary resources by using technology well, and can use applications such as e-government (Greenhow & Robelia, 2009). The state and its devices use communication channels, which are a necessity of democracy, to

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