

Prof. Hibberd

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Time

2/27/2019

I rarely post on Facebook and Instagram due to various reasons. I don't have unlimited cellular network, so I can't post immediately wherever I take photos. I also value more privacy, not having to share everyday life memories with the entire world. I chat on social media more often, but has decreased in these past few years.

The personal meaning of the chat function has changed quite drastically since I started using Facebook during Middle School.

At first, I found it a really fresh way of chatting. I started using popular acronyms back then, such as idk, jk, lol, and so on. I found it fun playing around with my friends. This aspect continued even until now with only a few people.

Later on, I started adding teachers as friends on Facebook, which became a place for me to reach them unlike the formal atmosphere in the physical classroom. This also changed the way students could communicate with their teachers, creating extra work for teachers having to respond their students' messages outside of class time.

Now in Paris, social media becomes a really important way of free communication with my parents, teachers, and friends from back home. I use video calls with my family, cherishing every moment we have on call. I send wishes to my friends and teachers during festivals.

Therefore, texting becomes a more formal way of communication than before. After our distances have increased, I finally knew how online chat is so necessary and convenient.

After I started using Instagram, I took a few photos with my friends, some photos of myself, and things that I observe. I haven't posted in a really long time.

I find our pages on social media, including our profile posts, chats, comments, and other actions shaping an image of ourselves online. Does this represent a person as a whole? I wouldn't say it does completely. It doesn't include all the unrecorded events in our lives. But it can provide an online identity that may be different from the everyday identity that we have.

Personally, what is seen in my social media is only a tiny part of the activities that I do. I should look more real in person after talking in person with me.