

SOCIAL MEDIA AND ELDERLY PEOPLE: RESEARCH TRENDS

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ABSTRACT

Population aging is becoming a worldwide reality a global reality, and engagement with social media as well. The older adult population is growing rapidly and their mental and physical health will be a global concern. Social networks have been regarded as an essential partner to assist older persons. It is therefore essential to know how the older population interacts with social media and the possible advantages and risks in this contact. This paper reports the findings of a comprehensive literature review in the area of social media and the elderly. The study of the research articles focused on their research\approach, methods of data collecting, research areas, goals and findings. Our results suggest that presently there is no prevailing research approach for this area of study, samples are usually extremely small, research efforts are focused on particular domains, and there is a missing of rigor in the reporting process. This study is significant since it highlights the present status of research in this area and leads future prospective research.

KEYWORDS: *Elderly, Social Media, Literature Review.*

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