

A REVIEW OF POLITICAL INTEREST AND MEDIA DEPENDENCY ON SOCIAL MEDIA USAGE AMONG THE YOUTH IN MALAYSIA

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Abstract

In the information age, social media has been the essential medium for getting information. However, as social media facilitates the spread of information, the tendency of youth to receive misinformation and fake news on social media gets higher. The problem arises as youth tend to be interested in and dependent on social media to get political information, but they are also exposed to false information on social media, which can affect their awareness of political information. The qualitative research method is employed by reviewing 10 journal articles from the Google Scholar journal and UiTM Online Database from the years 2019 to 2023 that are related to the topic area. The results show that youth in Malaysia are interested in getting political information on social media, especially during the general election, and tend to depend on gaining the information shared on social media platforms. The analysis is through a narrative review showing that high consumption of social media usage affects the level of media dependency and political interest among the youth in Malaysia. Based on the result, it is proven that youths are dependent on and interested in political information on social media based on current situations, such as the general election, as a preparation before casting their vote.

Keywords: *Social Media Usage, Political Interest, Media Dependency, Youth, Malaysia*