

Preliminary title:

Internet Explorer.

A Critical Analysis of the Internet Culture of Millennials among North America.

Preliminary structure:

1. Preliminary Thesis:

As the first generation to grow up under the influence of digital technologies, Generation Y is extensively affected by modern mental health issues that originate from the always-on smartphone culture, as well as having difficulties with finding their identity.

2. Millennials – the first generation to live as digital natives

- What are millennials:

- Born between 1980 and 2000
- Me Me Me Generation
 - Narcissistic personality disorder more common than ever(?)
- ADD/ADHD (attention deficit (hyperactivity) disorder) Generation
 - The Internet as distraction from work

- Definition of digital natives

- Someone who grew up surrounded by the digital world
 - “Digital natives are inventing new, online ways of making each activity happen” (Prensky)
- Antonym: Digital Immigrant

3. Always-On Smartphone Culture

- Smartphone: the life changing technical gadget

- Provides access to the Internet, mobile-games, books, ... at any time

- Allows people to stay connected with other people at any time
 - “If you leave your phone behind, it’s like missing limb syndrome”
(Elon Musk qtd. by Frischmann)

4. Identity Crafting in the Digital Age

- Instagram – The number one self-promotion platform
 - Manipulating depiction of picture-perfect lives
- Mass phenomenon *Catfish*
 - Catfish: using fake pictures and pretending to be someone else online
 - *Catfish: The TV Show* - Ongoing reality television series about this issue for seven years already

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