Intellectual Discourse

Intellectual Discourse

Volume 30   Number 1   2022

Contents

Book Review

AL-KAWAKIBI, Abdul Rahman. *The Nature of Tyranny
and The Devastating Results of Oppression.* Foreword
by Leon T. Goldsmith. Translated by Amer Chaikhouni.
London: Hurst, 2021, 152 pp. Hardback.
ISBN: 9781787385481
Reviewer: *Carimo Mohomed*   255

Understanding Malaysian Youth's Social Media Practices and Their Attitude towards Violent Extremism

Nurzali Ismail[*]
Jasmine Mohamed Jawhar[**]
Danial Mohd Yusuf[***]
Anis Izzati Ismail[****]
Raja Muhammad Khairul Akhtar Raja Mohd Naguib[*****]

Abstract: The exploitation of social media to spread propaganda and violent extremism has become a serious issue, including in Malaysia. This study attempted to examine youth's social media practices and factors that influence their attitude towards violent extremism on social media. To achieve the study aim, an online survey involving 400 respondents was conducted. The findings revealed that, youth like video content the most, followed by written content, infographic and images. Information seeking continues to be an important purpose for using social media. While youth's attitude towards violent extremism is moderate, this study found that, information or argument quality, perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use are factors that could influence

[*] Lecturer, School of Communication, Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM). Email: nurzali@usm.my

[**] Research Officer, Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia. Email: jasminejawhar@gmail.com

[***] Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, AHAS Kulliyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge and Human Sciences, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). Email: danialmy@iium.edu.my

[****] Matriculation Lecturer, Centre for Foundation Studies, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM). Email: anisizzati@iium.my

[*****] Research Assistant, Extremism Analytical Research Unit (EARU) ISTAC-IIUM. Email: khairulakhtar93@gmail.com

attitude. Considering that social media technology is constantly changing, it is proposed that, future studies in countering violent extremism to continually look into youth's social media usage, particularly in understanding different social media platforms, types of content and message design.

Keywords: Social media, countering violent extremism, Technology Acceptance Model, attitude, youth

Abstrak: Penyalahgunaan media sosial untuk penyebaran propaganda, keganasan dan extremism telah menjadi suatu isu serius termasuk di Malaysia. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk meneroka amalan penggunaan media sosial dalam kalangan belia dan faktor yang mempengaruhi sikap mereka terhadap keganasan dan ekstremisme dalam media sosial. Bagi mencapai objektif kajian, kaji selidik dalam talian yang melibatkan seramai 400 responden telah dilaksanakan. Dapatan kajian mendapati belia paling menyukai kandungan video, diikuti oleh penulisan, infografik dan gambar. Pencarian maklumat dalam talian terus menjadi antara tujuan utama penggunaan media sosial. Walaupun sikap belia terhadap keganasan dan ekstremisme hanya berada pada tahap sederhana, ia boleh dipengaruhi oleh informasi atau hujah berkualiti, tanggapan kebergunaan dan tanggapan mudah diguna. Mengambil kira kemajuan aplikasi media sosial yang sentiasa berubah, adalah dicadangkan supaya kajian membenteras keganasan dan ekstremisme pada masa hadapan terus menumpukan kepada penggunaan media sosial dalam kalangan belia, terutamanya bagi memahami platform yang berbeza, jenis kandungan dan reka bentuk mesej.

Kata kunci: Media sosial, membenteras keganasan dan ekstremisme, Model Penerimaan Teknologi, sikap, belia

Introduction

In recent years, internet penetration rate in Malaysia has significantly increased (Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission, 2020). In 2020, internet penetration rate in the country was over 93%, a continuous increase throughout the last decade (Nurhayati-Wolff, 2020). Malaysia is also considered to be among the countries with the highest social media penetration in the world, as it was ranked first in Southeast Asia in 2020 at 84%, followed by Singapore (79%), and Thailand (75%) (Moore, 2020). In terms of social media usage frequency, Kemp (2021) reported that, Malaysians in general, spent an average of 9 hours online daily, of which, 3 hours were spent on social media.

Although high internet penetration is a welcome development, the liberating nature of social media opens the possibility for violent extremism to breed. Unlike the traditional media outlets such as television, radio or newspapers that are more expensive, difficult to penetrate into and are operating on mainly one-way communication, social media is a cheaper option, easily accessible to everyone and is offering two-way communication (Apuke, 2016). This makes social media an ideal platform for violent extremist organisations to disseminate messages and engage their target audience (Bender, 2019).

Youth are considered the main target online. This is a major concern as youth aged 13 to 34 consist of over 80% of active social media users in Malaysia (Ismail, Ahmad, Noor & Saw, 2019). In a study to identify the usage of social media among youth in Malaysia, communication and socialisation showed to be the most important purposes online (Yusop & Sumar, 2013). The ease of internet allows continuous and limitless access to information and interactions (Omar, Ismail & Kee, 2017), exposing youth to violent extremist content online.

Over the years, many cases were reported involving the usage of social media for violent extremism and terrorism in Malaysia. These include using social media to promote ideology, radicalise, and to recruit new members (Zolkepli, 2018; Baharudin, 2021). Even though the number of reported cases were relatively small compared to the general population of the country, the threat of violent extremism through the exploitation of social media should not be undermined.

Hence, without thorough understanding of the role of social media towards violent extremism, particularly among youth, it would be difficult for policymakers, researchers and experts to formulate effective strategies to counter such threat. This study therefore, attempted to understand Malaysian youth's social media practices, and the factors that could influence their attitude towards violent extremism.

Social media and violent extremism

The study into the use of social media by violent extremist groups have been gaining ground for many years, particularly with the rise of Daesh (Thompson, 2012; Gill et al., 2017; Ganesh & Bright, 2020). In recent times, authorities and researchers alike have warned of an increased usage of social media by terrorist and violent extremist groups (Ismail,

2020; Crump, 2020). This is owed to the current global pandemic that has led many countries to impose movement control orders, which essentially make people spend more time at home and online (Ismail, 2020; King & Mullins, 2021).

COVID-19 pandemic has not only demonstrated fear of increased usage of social media by violent extremist groups, but it has also been used as a platform to justify violence. The pandemic was exploited by extremist groups from various political spectrums, from the far-left, to the far-right ideologies (Kruglanski, Gunaratna, Ellenberg & Speckhard, 2020). According to a report published by the Institute for Strategic Dialogue, a large number of social media postings were made by the far-right movements to exploit the pandemic situation (Crawford, 2020). Most of the social media postings attempted to link the pandemic with immigration, Islam, Judaism, LGBT community, and the elite society (Crawford, 2020; Institute for Strategic Dialogue, 2020).

Although our study did not intend to examine the link between COVID-19 and the use of social media by violent extremist groups, it was nonetheless important to note, how the pandemic has elevated concern on the exploitation of social media, particularly the way how violent extremist groups conducted their activities online (Kruglanski et al., 2020). Thus, it made this study even more relevant, to understand youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.

The usage of social media by violent extremist groups is not only limited to mobilise propaganda, radicalisation and recruitment. It is also used to facilitate activities such as to gain funding, communicate, build networks, and to coordinate attacks (Jawhar, 2016). While violent extremists' usage of social media to promote ideologies is eminent (Von Behr, Reding, Edwards & Gribbon, 2013), its direct influence remains inconclusive. In fact, literature has suggested that the role of social media is merely as a facilitator or enabler vis-a-vis violent extremism, rather than being the direct cause of it (Von Behr et al., 2013; Pauwels et al., 2015; Vermeersch, Coleman, Demuynck and Dal Santo, 2020).

It should be noted that knowledge in this area is still limited. Violent extremism within the new media environment is complex, contextual, fast changing and dynamic (Schomerus, El Taraboulsi-McCarthy & Sandhar, 2017; Hardy, 2018; Holmer, Bauman & Aryaeinejad, 2018). As argued by Seraphin, Frau-Meigs and Hassan (2019), the link between

social media and violent radicalisation is at best limited and still inconclusive, particularly in the field of information and communication sciences. Hence, this present study attempted to address the knowledge gap.

The Malaysian situation

Malaysia also has the experience dealing with cases related to the exploitation of social media by violent extremists, particularly those who have been labelled as suspected terrorists. For instance, in 2018, the Malaysian authorities were reported to monitor more than 3,800 social media accounts believed to be actively promoting extremist ideologies and recruiting terrorists ("Almost 4,000 FB accounts being monitored", 2018). It was also reported that, 240 individuals were arrested, while 800 social media accounts were blocked to curb the spread of militant ideologies in the country ("Almost 4,000 FB accounts being monitored", 2018).

Lim (2018) reported that, a series of counter-terrorism operation in the country saw the arrests of suspected terrorists, including a 17-year-old student. The minor planned to conduct attacks on churches, Hindu temples and entertainment outlets using Molotov cocktails (Lim, 2018). While it was not clear how the minor was radicalised, he exploited different social media platforms to upload warning videos of his terror plots to groups with links to Daesh (Lim, 2018). In a separate news report, a housewife was nabbed for her alleged plot to ramp into non-Muslim voters during the 2018 Malaysian General Election (Chew, 2018). Prior to her arrest, she recruited 10 followers using different social media platforms (Chew, 2018).

McLuhan's (1967) proposition of the creation of global village, which characterises social media and the way how it gets people connected, presents both opportunities and threats (Arriagada & Ibanez, 2020; Pennycook, Bear, Collins & Rand, 2020). For instance, there were cases in Malaysia involving individuals who tried to seek spiritual knowledge for transformation on social media, only to get connected with violent extremists and terrorists who then radicalised them (Mohamad, 2020).

While the Malaysian authorities remain vigilant and are committed towards weakening the threats of violent extremism and terrorism in the country, the danger is far from over. The 'post-Daesh' misconception that

leads to the thinking that the threat of violent extremism and terrorism has weakened is naïve and overly simplistic (Sinatra, 2020). According to Jawhar (2020), propaganda, radicalisation process, recruitment and networking are still actively taking place in Malaysia and throughout the region by utilising various communication spheres, making the danger even more difficult to identify.

Understanding attitude towards violent extremism on social media

In this study, we employed the Technological Acceptance Model (TAM) to aid understanding on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media. TAM which originated from the Theory of Reason Action (TRA), underlines the fundamental premise that, technological acceptance is influenced by two integral factors; perceived usefulness (PU) and perceived ease of use (PEOU) (Davis, 1989). According to Davis (1989), PU refers to one's own belief that using a new technology would help to improve job performance, taking into consideration its advantages and disadvantages, while, PEOU emphasises on how a new technology would help to make job performance easier.

Based on TAM and the earlier studies related to the role of social media in facilitating violent extremism (Von Behr et al., 2013; Zolkepli, 2018; Baharudin, 2021), the following hypotheses were tested:

> *H1 PU has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.*

> *H2 PEOU has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.*

TAM as a standalone model, is very robust in predicting one's acceptance of new technologies (Weerasinghe & Hindagolla, 2017). However, it is limited to the functional factors only based on PU and PEOU (Legris, Ingham & Collerette, 2003). Due to this limitation, many studies have extended TAM by incorporating other external variables to make it more comprehensive (Legris et al., 2003; Van Eeuwen, 2017; Jimenez, Garcia, Violante, Marcolin & Vezzetti, 2021). In regard to this present study, we included two other variables which are, the information/argument quality and perception towards violent extremism.

Information/argument quality was a source factor derived from the Elaboration Likelihood Model (ELM). It refers to the quality of a social

media message and how it can influence one's attitude and behavior (Winter, 2019). According to Lee (2017), information/argument quality can help to improve the persuasion of a social media message, and more importantly influence attitude and behaviour. Based on this premise, the following hypothesis was tested:

> *H3 Information/argument quality has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.*

Perception towards violent extremism was another variable included in this study. It generally refers to how youth regard violent extremism. This stems from their own knowledge and experience, which can be influenced by a number of social-psychological related causes such as, education level and standards of living (Zinchenko, Perelygina & Zotova, 2016). According to Villa-Vicencio, Buchanan-Clarke and Humphrey (2016), community's perception towards violent extremism varied and it can be shaped by insecurity feeling, drivers such as poverty, unemployment and other socio-economic issues, and the types of exposure received from the extremist groups. Hence, the following hypothesis was tested:

> *H4 Youth's perception towards violent extremism has a positive and significant effect on their attitude towards violent extremism on social media.*

According to TAM, attitude is crucial in influencing one's behavioural intention towards actual usage of the technology (Davis, 1989; Yang & Yoo, 2004; Sujeet & Jyoti, 2013; Hussein, 2017). Attitude as a psychological concept is defined as an evaluation of any object including ideologies, values and people, which is based on beliefs, emotions and past behaviours. In relation to violent extremism, attitude can be evaluated through the way one endorses or justifies related risky behaviours (International Association of Chiefs of Police, 2014; Nivette, Eisner & Ribeaud, 2017).

In regard to this study, we took the starting position by assuming that attitude towards violent extremism was influenced by PU, PEOU, information/argument quality and perception towards violent extremism. Taking into account the discussion on TAM and the other variables, the following framework was proposed (Figure 1).

Figure 1. The proposed framework of the study
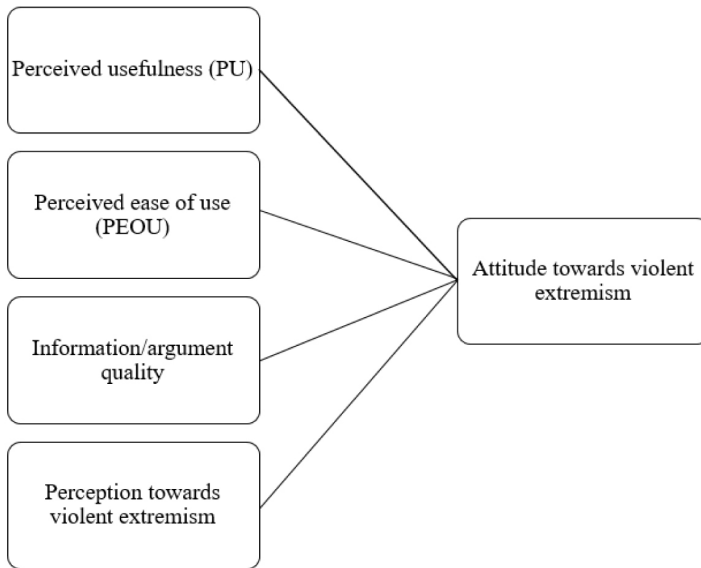
This study addressed the following research objectives:

1. To explore the effect of PU and PEOU on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.
2. To examine the effect of information/argument quality on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.
3. To investigate the effect of youth's perception towards violent extremism on their attitude towards violent extremism on social media.

Research methodology

This study employed the quantitative research method. According to Babbie (1998), a quantitative approach enables a huge population to be reached and described. Specifically, in this study, a cross-sectional online survey was conducted to understand Malaysian youth's social media practices and factors that influence their attitude towards violent extremism on social media.

The main advantage of an online survey is that it allows data collection across geographical location, more manageable and cost effective (Fricker & Schonlau, 2002). In comparison to a longitudinal

study, the findings of a cross-sectional study are not definite. The same study if being conducted at other times and contexts may yield different outcomes (Davies, 1994). The main advantage of such a study is that it allows data to be collected within a short time and different variables to be measured (Davies, 1994).

The instrument development

An online survey was created and distributed using the Survey Monkey application. It was prepared in both Malay and English languages. There were nine categorical variables: age, gender, education, social media experience, duration of usage daily, devices, choice of platforms, types of content and purpose of usage; and five continuous variables: perception towards violent extremism, PU, PEOU, information/argument quality, and attitude towards violent extremism on social media.

Every categorical variable was coded numerically. As for the continuous variables, they were measured using the five-point Likert scale (1 = strongly disagree, 2 = disagree, 3 = not sure, 4 = agree, 5 = strongly agree). Four measurement items were included in each continuous variable. They were adapted based on past studies related to violent extremism, social media acceptance and usage and TAM (Bhattacherjee & Sanford, 2006; Chen & Lee, 2008; Rauniar, Rawski, Johnson & Yang, 2013; Li & Suh, 2015; Nivette et al., 2017; Dixit & Prakash, 2018). This is demonstrated in Table 1 below.

As proposed by Elangovan and Sundaravel (2021), prior to the actual data collection procedure, the researchers have consulted two panel of experts to assist with the face and content validity of the survey instrument. In addition, a pilot study was carried out to measure the reliability of the survey instrument. An online pilot survey involving 50 respondents was conducted. The data from the survey was analysed using the Cronbach's alpha test. This was to ensure the internal consistency of the survey instrument.

The accepted value for Cronbach's alpha test as proposed by Cooper and Schindler (2008) is 0.700 and above. Greater score of Cronbach's alpha value implies higher internal consistency of the construct (Cooper & Schindler, 2008). In regard to the instrument of this study, each construct was measured above 0.700, hence they were accepted. This is presented in Table 2 below.

Table 1: Variables and Measurement Items

Perception on violent extremism		
No.	Items	Sources
1	It is necessary to react by showing anger against injustice.	Nivette et al., (2017)
2	It is not wrong to have violent radical ideas as long as they remain as thoughts and not actions.	
3	Sometimes people have to resort to violence to defend their values, convictions, or religious beliefs.	
4	It is not wrong to support groups that use violence to fight injustices.	
PEOU		
No.	Items	Sources
1	Social media is flexible to interact with.	Rauniar, et al., (2013)
2	I find it easy to do many things using social media.	
3	It is not difficult to become skilful at using social media.	
4	Communication is made easy using social media.	
PU		
No.	Items	Sources
1	Using social media enables me to get re-connected with people that matters to my life.	Rauniar, et al., (2013)
2	Social media enhances my communication effectiveness.	
3	Social media makes it easier for me to get the latest news and information.	
4	Social media enables me to get information related to my social group(s).	

Argument/information quality		
No.	Items	Sources
1	It is important that information on social media is convincing and influential.	Bhattacherjee & Sanford, (2006); Chen & Lee, (2008); Li & Suh, (2015)
2	I prefer social media information that is emotionally appealing.	
3	I like social media information that is intellectually engaging.	
4	I like social media content that is attractive and visually appealing.	
Attitude towards violent extremism on social media		
No.	Items	Sources
1	Social media is a good platform for me to find friends who share similar views as I do.	Rauniar, et al., (2013); Dixit & Prakash (2018)
2	Social media is useful for me to get information related to injustices around the world.	
3	Social media is a useful platform to communicate with other members of my social group(s).	
4	I find myself to be easily influenced by social media postings, including those that promote violence in the name of faith and religion.	

Table 2: Cronbach's Alpha Results Based on the Pilot Study Data

Construct	Cronbach's alpha
Perception on violent extremism	0.769
PEOU	0.808
PU	0.743
Argument/information quality	0.747
Attitude towards VE	0.742

The sample

The data collection procedure involved 400 respondents. They were Malaysians, aged 18-34. The rationale for choosing respondents aged

18-34 was supported by past studies that reported, youth made up the vast majority of social media users (Ahmad & Ismail, 2016; Anderson & Jiang, 2018). The sample size was decided using sampling calculator, based on the Malaysian population of over 33 million people. It also took into consideration the 95% confidence interval and 5% margin of error. Convenience sampling was employed in this study, mainly due to its flexibility which allows individuals who fit the criteria of the study to participate (Fricker, 2008).

The procedure

Call for participation in this study was advertised on social media. Specifically, the study was advertised in various social media groups and communities. This included promoting the study on Facebook and WhatsApp groups. Potential respondents who fulfilled the criteria of the study were invited to participate in the online survey. The criteria to participate in the online survey were; the respondents must be Malaysians, 18-34 years old and have at least one year of social media experience.

Consent for participation was sought before the start of the survey. The respondents were made aware that their participation was voluntary and they had the opportunity to quit at any time before the survey was submitted. Once the survey was submitted, it was no longer possible to identify the respondents and their responses due to the anonymity. There was no identifiable information included in the survey. Participation in the online survey took approximately 15-20 minutes.

Findings and discussion

Demographic characteristics

A huge majority of the respondents who participated in this study were Malays (88.2%), followed by Chinese (7.8%), Indian (3%) and others (1%). The large number of Malay ethnic respondents was expected, considering that the survey may possibly be shared on online platforms where participants are predominantly Malays. The lack of participation among respondents from other ethnic groups is addressed in the limitations and suggestions for future studies section.

Table 3: Demographic Findings

Item	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Ethnicity	Malay	353	88.2
	Chinese	31	7.8
	Indian	12	3
	Others	4	1
Age	18-24	215	53.9
	25-34	184	46.2
Gender	Male	165	41.4
	Female	234	58.6
Education	Postgraduate qualification	53	13.3
	Bachelor's degree	224	56.1
	Diploma	94	23.6
	School certificate	28	7

In term of the respondents' age, 53.9% of them were 18-24 years old, while, the remaining 46.2% aged 25-34. Female made up 58.6% of the respondents, while male respondents consisted the remaining 41.4%. As for the respondents' highest educational qualification, 56.1% had bachelor's degree, 23.6% diploma, 13.3% postgraduate degree and the remaining 7% had school certificate. The demographic findings are presented in Table 3.

Social media practices

Most of the respondents of this study (92.5%) had more than 5 years of experience using social media, 6% had between 3-4 years using social media and the remaining 1.5% had 2 years or less experience. In terms of their duration of social media usage daily, 44.3% used social media more than 4 hours daily, 24% between 3-4 hours, 18.5% between 2-3 hours and the remaining 13.3% used it for less than 2 hours.

Table 4: Social Media Experience, Duration of Usage and Device

Item	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Social media experience	5 years >	370	92.5
	3-4 years	24	6
	< 2 years	6	1.5

Duration of usage daily	4 hours>	177	44.3
	3-4 hours	96	24
	2-3 hours	74	18.5
	<2 hours	53	13.3
Device	Mobile phone	391	97.8
	Other devices	9	2.25

Most of the respondents (97.8%) indicated that they accessed social media mainly using smartphone. The remaining 2.25% used other devices such as laptop, personal computer and tablet. The findings related to the respondents' social media experience, duration of usage daily and their devices are reported in Table 4.

This study found that the respondents most frequently used WhatsApp (49%), followed by Instagram (20.3%), Twitter (11.5%), Facebook (10%), YouTube (6%) and others (3.25%). In term of their preferred types of content on social media, 35.6% preferred video, written content (26.1%), infographic (13.3%), image (12%), video story (7.3%) and others (5.8%). The findings related to the respondents' most frequently social media platforms and their preferred types of content are presented in Table 5.

Table 5: Respondents' Preferred Social Media Platforms and Types of Content

Item	Category	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Social media platform	WhatsApp	196	49
	Instagram	81	20.3
	Twitter	46	11.5
	Facebook	40	10
	YouTube	24	6
	Others	13	3.25
Preferred types of content	Video	142	35.6
	Written content	104	26.1
	Infographic	53	13.3
	Image	49	12
	Video story	29	7.3
	Others	23	5.8

Respondents in the 18-24 age group preferred Instagram, while those in the 25-34 age group favoured Facebook and Twitter more. A closer examination using chi-square analysis found that there was a significant relation between respondents' age and their choice of frequently used social media platforms $X^2(1, N = 400) = 9.581, p < .05$. The finding is presented in Table 6. However, a separate examination revealed that there was no significant relation between respondents' gender and highest education qualification with their choice of social media platforms.

Table 6: Chi-square Test – The Most frequently
Used Social Media Platforms According to Age

	Value	**Df**	**Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)**
Pearson Chi-Square	9.581[a]	7	.024
Likelihood Ratio	10.121	7	.182
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.468	1	.063
N of Valid Cases	400		

a. 4 cells (25.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .46.

Chi-square test was also conducted to examine the respondents' preferred types of social media content with their age, gender and highest education level. The results revealed that, there was a significant relation between respondents' age and their preferred social media content $X^2 (1, N = 400) = 28.218, p < .05$. This finding is shown in Table 7.

Table 7: Chi-square Test – Preferred Types of
Social Media Content According to Age

	Value	**df**	**Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)**
Pearson Chi-Square	28.218[a]	8	.018
Likelihood Ratio	8.605	8	.377
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.740	1	.053
N of Valid Cases	400		

a. 6 cells (33.3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .46.

Table 8: Chi-square Test – Preferred Types of Content
According to Education Qualifications

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	37.300a	32	.038
Likelihood Ratio	40.841	32	.136
Linear-by-Linear Association	.001	1	.976
N of Valid Cases	400		

a. 28 cells (62.2%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .01.

Similarly, there was a significant relation between respondents' preferences of social media content and their level of education X^2 (1, N = 400) = 37.3, p < .05. The respondents with higher education qualifications (postgraduate and bachelor levels) preferred written content more, while those with lower education qualifications (diploma and school certificate) liked video content. The chi-square test finding is presented in Table 8.

A significant relation was also reported between respondents' preferences of social media content and gender X^2 (1, N = 400) = 18.849, p < .05. It was found that, a bigger percentage of male respondents (42.4%) preferred video content compared to female (30.8%). On the contrary, more female respondents (28.6%) preferred written content compared to male (22.4%). The chi-square test finding is reported in Table 9.

Table 9: Chi-square Test – Preferred Types of Social
Media Content According to Gender

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	18.849a	8	.016
Likelihood Ratio	19.520	8	.012
Linear-by-Linear Association	3.509	1	.061
N of Valid Cases	400		

a. 7 cells (38.9%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .41.

When probed on their main purpose for using social media, it was found that 50% of the respondents used it to get the latest news and information, 21.5% for entertainment, 11.5% to share information with

family and friends, 7.3% to build and maintain relationship, 6.8% for
learning and the remaining 3% for other purposes. This is presented in
Table 10.

Table 10: Purposes for Using Social Media

Purpose	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
To get the latest news/information	200	50
Entertainment	86	21.5
Sharing of information	46	11.5
Building/maintaining relationship	29	7.3
Learning	27	6.8
Other purposes	12	3

**Factors influencing youth's attitude towards violent extremism on
social media**

The findings revealed that, youth respondents who participated in this
study had a moderate attitude towards violent extremism on social media
(M = 3.50, SD = .585). Breakdown of findings for the four independent
variables tested showed that PEOU recorded the highest mean score
(M = 4.08, SD = .588), followed by information/argument quality (M
= 3.43, SD = .632), PU (M = 3.32, SD = .764) and perception towards
violent extremism (M = 2.45, SD = .854).

Next, we conducted the multiple linear regression statistical analysis
to measure each variable and their relationship with attitude towards
violent extremism on social media. All four independent variables were
entered and analysed simultaneously to identify the main predictor for
attitude towards violent extremism on social media.

The findings presented in Table 11 indicate that, information/
argument quality, (p = <.001, b = .600), PU (p = <.001, b = .283) and
PEOU (p = <.001, b = .112) were significant predictors for attitude
towards violent extremism on social media, R^2 = .426, F (3,395) =
97.51, p < .05. However, perception was not found to be a significant
predictor for attitude (p = .461, b = .026).

Table 11: Multiple Linear Regression Analysis

Multiple linear regression analysis of factors influencing attitude towards violent extremism on social media				
Variables	Attitude			
	B[a]	β[b]	t	Sig. (p-value)
Perception	.018	.026	.739	.461
PEOU	.128	.112	3.386	.001
PU	.221	.283	6.664	.000
Information/ argument quality	.348	.600	8.802	.000
R^2	.426			
Adjusted R^2	.421			
F	97.51			

Based on the findings of the multiple linear regression analysis conducted, this study supported Hypothesis 1, Hypothesis 2 and Hypothesis 3, while Hypothesis 4 was not supported. This is summarised in Table 12.

Table 12: Hypothesis Testing Result

Hypothesis	Result
PU has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.	Supported
PEOU has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.	Supported
Information/argument quality has a positive and significant effect on youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media.	Supported
Youth's perception towards violent extremism has a positive and significant effect on their attitude towards violent extremism on social media.	Not supported

Discussion

Social media continues to be important for youth. Increased frequency of social media usage among youth lead to enhanced exposure of violent extremist information. Even though it was argued that exposure to violent extremism on social media does not directly translate to individuals being radicalised (Conway, 2017), it still needs to be treated with caution, considering that social media can help to facilitate the

radicalisation process (START, 2018). Continuous exposure to the extremists' content leads to increased consumption, dissemination of information and communication with the extremists (START, 2018).

This study found that WhatsApp and Instagram were favoured more compared to Facebook and Twitter. A closer examination revealed, younger respondents who were in the 18-24 age category preferred Instagram more, while those in the 25-34 age category favoured Facebook and Twitter. This finding is similar to Alhabash and Ma (2017) who reported that, Instagram is preferred more by younger social media users due to the motivations provided such as entertainment, social interaction and convenience. This study also suggested that youth preferred video content the most, followed by written content, infographic and images. This, however, does not imply that visual is more important than verbal. Instead, both visual and verbal elements are equally important, as social media preferences can be influenced by various considerations including personality traits (Mwaba, Saini & Abratt, 2017).

It is also worth noting that youth's preferences of social media platforms and types of content are influenced by gender, age and educational qualifications. For instance, when compared between genders, it was found that male respondents liked video content more, while female respondents preferred written content. This is explained by Karatsoli and Nathanail (2020) who indicated that the usage of social media between genders may differ in terms of liking and practices.

Information seeking continues to be the main purpose for accessing social media. This particular finding echoed the literature (Wok, Idid & Misman, 2012; Hamat, Embi & Hassan, 2012; Baboo, Pandian, Prasad, & Rao, 2013; Yin, Agostinho, Harper, & Chicaro, 2014). Youth's preferences to consume quick stories and to get insider information on social media, particularly during crisis situation (Ismail et al., 2019), open the possibility for extremists' exploitation (Kruglanski, et al., 2020). This also led to misinformation and disinformation of news on social media which can create confusion (Close, 2021).

PU, PEOU and information/argument quality were found to be crucial factors that can influence youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media. This was explained by Gerrand (2020) who indicated that, a conducive environment, including the easy-

to-use social media technology can encourage youth towards violent extremism. In addition, we found that information/argument quality to be the strongest factor that could influence attitude towards violent extremism. According to Machdar (2019), information/argument quality is important as it can influence other relating factors with regard to the usage of social media.

This study reported that perception towards violent extremism is not a crucial factor in influencing youth's attitude towards violent extremism on social media. This is partly explained by Charkawi, Dunn and Bliuc (2021) who indicated that perceived injustice does not necessarily lead to support towards violent extremism. In fact, social identity, sense of belonging and resilience are more crucial indicators that can influence one's support towards violent extremism (Charkawi et al., 2021).

In regard to the use of TAM in this study, PU and PEOU have provided useful lens to understand youth's usage of social media and their attitude towards violent extremism on social media. However, TAM as an information system theory alone is not adequate to explain the behavioural and relational factors that could also influence youth's social media adoption. Hence, a more holistic understanding of new technology acceptance needs to consider not only the functional factors, but also the psychological factors which require the extension of TAM (Park, Kim & Ohm, 2015).

Limitations and suggestions for future studies

While this study has provided useful preliminary understanding on Malaysian youth's social media practices and their attitude towards violent extremism, it also has limitations that should be acknowledged and addressed.

This study mainly involved Malay respondents. Low participation among respondents from other ethnic groups was due to limited advertisement of the study and restricted distribution of the survey. This study which was conducted as part of an international collaboration short term research project had to consider suitable sampling method and recruitment strategy based on the available resources. Even though the quality of this study in general was not impacted as it was not meant to explore ethnicity, it is proposed that future studies consider a more inclusive participation among respondents from different ethnic groups

based on the demographics of the country. This is to provide a more balanced representation based on the country's ethnic composition.

It should also be noted that the findings of this study could not be generalised. Hence, future studies that aim to explore further on youth's social media practices and their attitude towards violent extremism can consider using probability sampling method that provides equal opportunity for the population to be part of sample for the study (Taherdoost, 2016). Probability sampling can help to minimise bias and enable generalisability of research findings (Taherdoost, 2016).

In addition, this study also has a number of important suggestions related to developing a more thorough understanding on youth's social media practices, factors that influence their support towards violent extremism and how to counter the threat online. First, it is proposed that future studies address further on youth's preferences of the types of social media content. In order for future countering violent extremism programs on social media to be successful, knowledge of the various types of content to be used for different audiences is necessary (Lua, 2021).

Second, as shown in this study, information/argument quality is an important factor that can influence attitude towards violent extremism on social media. Hence, future studies on countering violent extremism need to develop a deeper understanding on the social media message design aspect. The message design aspect is crucial to ensure the success of countering violent extremism campaign on social media (Bodine-Barone, Marrone, Helmus & Schlang, 2020).

Third, it is proposed that future studies adopt alternative methods including the projective research techniques. As violent extremism is a sensitive topic, respondents may possibly be more careful when answering direct questions pertaining to the issue during survey or interviews. Projective techniques which aim to unravel true feelings among respondents can help to overcome this problem. In fact, the application of projective techniques is not new, especially in psychology, marketing and crime related research (Garb, Wood & Nezworski, 2000; Piotrowski, 2015).

Last, it should be understood that social media practices are dynamic and constantly changing. Hence, it is important that new studies

continue to be conducted to understand the usage pattern in relation to violent extremism. In Malaysia, the extremists would initially reach out to their target audience using open social media platforms with the aim of maximising reach (Yasin, 2017). This is followed up by a more private communication, mainly targeting selected individuals to radicalise (Yasin, 2017). As pointed out by Jani (2017), despite recent crackdowns, the extremists continue to use social media to spread their ideologies online and this remains a huge threat to the nation (Jawhar, 2020).

Acknowledgement

References

Ahmad, J., & Ismail, N. (2016). Investigating Malaysian youth's social media practice for crime prevention. In Azmawati, A. A. & Khan, R. E. (Eds.), *Social media in Asia: Changing paradigms in communication* (pp. 107-129). Newcastle, UK: Cambridge Publishing.

Alhabash, S. & Ma, M. (2017). A tale of four platforms: Motivations and uses of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat among college students? *Social media and society*, 1-13.

Anderson, M., & Jiang, J. (2018). *Teens, social media and technology 2018*. PEW Research Center. Retrieved from https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2018/05/31/teens-social-media-technology-2018/

Apuke, O. D. (2016). Social and traditional mainstream media of communication: Synergy and variance perspective. *New media and mass communication*, *53*, 83-86.

Arriagada, A., & Ibanez, F. (2020). "You need at least one picture daily, if not, you're dead": Content creators and platform evolution in the social media ecology. *Social media + society*, *6*(3), 1-12.

Babbie, Earl. (1998). *The practice of social research (8th ed.)*. Belmont: Wadsworth Publishing Company.

Baboo, S. B., Pandian, A., Prasad, N. V., & Rao, A. (2013). Young people and new media in Malaysia: An analysis of social uses and practices. *Journal of arts, science & commerce*, *4*(2), 50-56.

Baharudin, H. (2021). Radicalised Malaysian man arrested under ISA and deported, wife placed on restriction order. *The Straits Times*. Retrieved from

https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/politics/radicalised-malaysian-man-arrested-under-isa-and-deported-local-religious-teacher

Bender, S. M. (2019). Social media create a spectacle society that makes it easier for terrorists to achieve notoriety. *The Conversation*. Retrieved from https://theconversation.com/social-media-create-a-spectacle-society-that-makes-it-easier-for-terrorists-to-achieve-notoriety-113715

Bhattacherjee, A., & Sanford, C. (2006). Influence processes for information technology acceptance: An elaboration likelihood model. *MIS quarterly*, *30*(4), 805-825.

Bodine-Barone, E., Marrone, J. V., Helmus, T. C., & Schlang, D. (2020). *Countering violent extremism in Indonesia: Using an online panel survey to assess a social media counter-messaging campaign*. Rand Corporation. Retrieved from

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RRA233-1.html

Charkawi, W., Dunn, K., & Bliuc, A-M. (2021). The influences of social identity and perceptions of injustice on support to violent extremism. *Behavioral sciences of terrorism and political aggression*, *13*(3), 177-196.

Chen, S-H., & Lee, K-P. (2008). The role of personality traits and perceived values in persuasion: An elaboration likelihood model perspective on online shopping. *Social behavior and personality: An international journal*, *36*(10), 1379-1400.

Chew, A. (2018). Malaysian police arrest 15 terror suspects, including housewife, for planning attacks during election. *Channel News Asia*. Retrieved from

https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asia/malaysia-police-arrests-15-terror-suspects-housewife-ge14-10309870

Close, L. (2021). Reducing the threat of terrorism on a global-and local-level. *The Strategist*. Retrieved from

https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/reducing-the-threat-of-terrorism-on-a-global-and-local-level/

Conway, M. (2017). Determining the role of the internet in violent extremism and terrorism: Six suggestions for progressing research. Retrieved from

https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/147609186.pdf

Cooper, D., & Schindler, P. (2008). *Business research methods (10th ed.)*. New York: McGraw-Hill/Irwin.

Crawford, B. (2020). Coronavirus and conspiracies: How the far right is exploiting the pandemic. *The Conversation*. Retrieved from

https://theconversation.com/coronavirus-and-conspiracies-how-the-far-right-is-exploiting-the-pandemic-145968

Crump, J. (2020). Terrorism and security threat trends in 2021. Security. Retrieved from https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/94219-terrorism-and-security-threat-trends-in-2021

Davis, F. (1989). Perceived usefulness, perceived ease of use, and user acceptance of information technology. *MIS quarterly*, *13*(3), 319-340.

Davies, R. B. (1994). From cross-sectional to longitudinal analysis. In Dale, A., & Davies, R. B. (Eds.), *Analyzing social and political change* (pp. 20-40). SAGE Publications.

Dixit, R. V., & Prakash, G. (2018). Intentions to use social networking sites (SNS) using technology acceptance model (TAM): An empirical study. *Paradigm*, *22*(1), 65–79.

Elangovan, N., & Sundaravel, E. (2021). Method of preparing a document for survey instrument validation by experts. *MethodsX*, *8*(2), 1-9.

Fricker, R.D., & Schonlau, M. (2002). Advantages and disadvantages of internet research surveys: Evidence from the literature. *Field methods*, *14*(4), 347-367.

Fricker, R. D. (2008) Sampling methods for web and e-mail surveys. In Fielding, N., Lee, R. M., & Blank, G. (Eds.), *The SAGE handbook of online research methods* (pp. 195-216). SAGE Publications.

Ganesh, B., & Bright, J. (2020). Countering extremists on social media: Challenges for strategic communication and content moderation. *Policy & internet*, *12*(1), 6-19.

Garb, H. N., Wood, J. M., & Nezworski, M. T. (2000). Projective techniques and the detection of child sexual abuse. *Child maltreatment, 5*(2), 161-168.

Gerrand, V. (2020). Can social networking platforms prevent polarization and violent extremism? Retrieved from

https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/global-extremes/can-social-networking-platforms-prevent-polarisation-and-violent-extremism/

Gill, P., Corner, E., Conway, M., Thornton, A., Bloom, M., & Horgan, J., (2017). Terrorist use of the internet by the numbers: Quantifying behaviors, patterns, and processes. *Criminology & public policy*, *16*(1), 99-117.

Hamat, A., Embi, M. A., & Hassan, H. A. (2012). The use of social networking sites among Malaysian university students. *International education studies*, *5*(3), 56-66.

Hardy, K. (2018). Comparing theories of radicalisation with countering violent extremism policy. *Journal for deradicalization*. *15*, 76-110.

Holmer, G., Bauman, P., & Aryaeinejad, K. (2018). *Measuring up: Evaluating the impact of P/CVE programs*. United States Institute of Peace. Retrieved from

https://www.usip.org/sites/default/files/2018-09/preventing-countering-violent-extremism-measuringup.pdf

International Association of Chiefs of Police. (2014). Using community policing to counter violent extremism: Five key principles for law enforcement. Washington, DC: Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. Retrieved from https://www.theiacp.org/sites/

Institute for Strategic Dialogue. (2020). *Far-right exploitation of Covid-19*. Retrieved from https://www.isdglobal.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/20200513-ISDG-Weekly-Briefing-3b.pdf

Hussein, Z. (2017). Leading to intention: The role of attitude in relation to technology acceptance model in e-learning. *Procedia computer science*, *105*(2017), 159-164.

Ismail, N., Ahmad, J., Md. Noor, S., & Saw, J. (2019). Malaysian youth, social media following, and natural disasters: What matters most to them? *Media watch*, *10*(3), 508-521.

Ismail, N. (2020). Heightened risk of violent extremism. *The Star*. Retrieved from

https://www.thestar.com.my/news/focus/2020/06/07/heightened-risk-of-violent-extremism

Jani, M. H. (2017). Countering violent extremism in Malaysia: Past experience and future prospects. *Counter terrorist trends and analyses*, *9*(6), 6-10.

Jawhar, J. (2016). *Terrorists' Use of the Internet: The Case of Daesh*. Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

Jawhar, J. (2020). Deaths of Daesh key regional operatives and current terrorism threat in Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines. In C. T. Ban, (Ed.), *SEARCCT's selection of articles 2020* (pp. 69-82). Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

Jimenez, I. A. C., Garcia, L. C. C., Violante, M. G., Marcolin, F., & Vezzetti, E. (2021). Commonly used external TAM variables in e-learning, agriculture and virtual reality applications. *Future internet*, *13*(7), 1-21.

Kemp, S. (2021). Digital 2021: Malaysia. We are social. Retrieved from

https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2021-malaysia

King, M., & Mullins, S. (2021). COVID-19 and terrorism in the West: Has radicalization really gone viral? Just Security. Retrieved from https://www.justsecurity.org/75064/covid-19-and-terrorism-in-the-west-has-radicalization-really-gone-viral/

Kruglanski, A. W., Gunaratna, R., Ellenberg, M., & Speckhard, A. (2020). Terrorism in time of the pandemic: Exploiting mayhem. *Global security: Health, science and policy*, *5*(1), 121-132.

Lee, U-K. (2017). International tourism advertisements on social media: Impact of argument quality and source. Sustainability, *9*(9), 1537.

Legris, P., Ingham, J., & Collerette, P. (2003). Why do people use information technology? A critical review of the technology acceptance model. *Information & management*, *40*(3), 191-204.

Li, R., & Suh, A. (2015). Factors influencing information credibility on social media platforms: Evidence from Facebook pages. *Procedia computer science*, *72*, 314-328.

Lim, I. (2018). Cops nab suspects who plotted GE14 voter attacks, firebombing of worship houses. *Malay Mail*. Retrieved from

https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2018/06/01/cops-nab-suspects-who-plotted-ge14-voter-attacks-firebombing-of-worship-hou/1637256

Machdar, N. M. (2019). The effect of information quality on perceived usefulness and perceived ease of use. *Business and entrepreneurial review*, *15*(2), 131.

Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission. (2020). Internet users survey 2020. Retrieved from https://www.mcmc.gov.my/skmmgovmy/media/General/pdf/IUS-2020-Report.pdf

McLuhan, M. (1967). *The medium is the message: An inventory of effects*. London: Penguin Press.

Mohamad, S. F. N. (2020). Perspectives of female terror offenders. In C. T. Ban, (Ed.), *SEARCCT's selection of articles 2020* (pp. 83-92). Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

Moore, M. (2021). Social media penetration in Southeast Asia as of January 2021, by country. Statista. Retrieved from https://www.statista.com/statistics/487981/social-penetration-in-southeast-asian-countries/

Mwaba, K., Saini, Y., & Abratt, R. (2017). Personality and content preferences on social network sites in South Africa. *South African journal of business management*, *48*(4), 13-20.

Nivette, A., Eisner, M., & Ribeaud, D. (2017). Developmental predictors of violent extremist attitudes: A test of general strain theory. *Journal of research in crime and delinquency, 54*(6), 755-790.

New Straits Times. (2018). Almost 4,000 FB accounts being monitored for terror elements. Retrieved from https://www.nst.com.my/news/crime-courts/2018/03/344739/almost-4000-fb-accounts-being-monitored-terror-elements

Nurhayati-Wolff, H. (2020). Internet user penetration in Malaysia from 2015 to 2025. Statista. Retrieved from https://www.statista.com/statistics/975058/internet-penetration-rate-in-malaysia/

Omar, B. Ismail, N. Kee, N. S. (2017). Understanding online consumption of public affairs news in Malaysia: A strategic approach. *Journal of Asian Pacific communication*, *28*(1), 172-194.

Park, E., Kim, H., & Ohm, J. Y. (2015). Understanding driver adoption of car navigation systems using the extended technology acceptance model. *Behaviour & information technology*, *34*(7), 741–751.

Pauwels, L., Brion, F., Schils, N., Laffineur, J., Verhage, A., De Ruyver, B., & Easton, M. (2015). *Explaining and understanding the role of exposure to new social media in violent extremism - an integrative quantitative and qualitative approach*. Eekhout, Gent: Academia Press.

Pennycook, G., Bear, A., Collins, E., & Rand, D. G. (2020). The implied truth effect: Attaching warnings to a subset of fake news headlines increases perceived accuracy of headlines without warnings. *Management science*, *66*(11), 4944-4957.

Piotrowski, C. (2015). Projective techniques usage worldwide: A review of applied settings. *Journal of the Indian academy of applied psychology*, *41*(3), 9-19.

Rauniar, R., Rawski, G., Johnson, B., & Yang, J. (2013). Social media user satisfaction – theory development and research findings. *Journal of internet commerce*, *12*(2), 195-224.

Schomerus, M., El Taraboulsi-McCarthy, S., & Sandhar, J. (2017). *Countering violent extremism (Topic guide)*. Birmingham: GSDRC, University of Birmingham.

Seraphin, A., Frau-Meigs, D., & Hassan, G. (2019). *Youth and violent extremism on social media: Mapping the research*. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). Retrieved from

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/322171461_YOUTH_AND_VIOLENT_EXTREMISM_ON_SOCIAL_MEDIA_MAPPING_THE_RESEARCH_United_Nations_Educational_Scientific_and_Cultural_Organization

Sinatra, M. (2020). "Post-Daesh": Tackling misperceptions in Malaysia. In C. T. Ban, (Ed.), *SEARCCT's selection of articles 2020* (pp. 47-58). Southeast Asia Regional Centre for Counter-Terrorism (SEARCCT), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malaysia.

START (2018). The use of social media by United States extremists. Retrieved from https://www.start.umd.edu/pubs/START_PIRUS_UseOfSocialMediaByUSExtremistsResearchBrief_July2018.pdf

Sujeet, K. S., & Jyoti, K. C. (2013). Technology acceptance model for the use of learning through websites among students in Oman. *International Arab journal of e-technology*, *3*(1), 44-49.

Taherdoost, H. (2016). Sampling methods in research methodology; how to choose a sampling technique for research. *International journal of academic research in management (IJARM)*, *5*(2), 18-27.

Thompson, R. L. (2012). Radicalization and the use of social media. *Journal of strategic security*, *4*(4), 167-190.

Van Eeuwen, M. (2017). Mobile conversational commerce – messenger chatbots as the next interface between businesses and consumers. University of Twente. Retrieved from http://purl.utwente.nl/essays/71706

Vermeersch, E., Coleman, J., Demuynck, M., & Dal Santo, E. (2020). *Social media in Mali and its relation to violent extremism: A youth perspective*. International Counter-Terrorist Centre (ICCT). Retrieved from https://icct.nl/app/uploads/2020/03/Social-Media-in-Mali-and-Its-Relation-to-Violent-Extremism-A-Youth-Perspective.pdf

Villa-Vicencio, C., Buchanan-Clarke, S., & Humphrey, A. (2016). *Community perceptions of violent extremism in Kenya*. The Institute for Justice and Reconciliation (IJR). Retrieved from https://media.africaportal.org/documents/IJR-Violent-Extremism-in-Kenya-final-web-.pdf

Von Behr, I., Reding, A., Edwards, C. & Gribbon, L. (2013). *Radicalization in the digital era: The use of the internet in 15 cases of terrorism and extremism*. RAND Europe. Retrieved from https://www.rand.org/content/dam/rand/pubs/research_reports/RR400/RR453/RAND_RR453.pdf

Weerasinghe, S., & Hindagolla, M. (2017). Technology acceptance model in the domains of LIS and education: A review of selected literature. *Library philosophy and practice*, *1582*, 1-26.

Winter, S. (2019). Do anticipated Facebook discussions diminish the importance of argument quality? An experimental investigation of attitude formation in social media. Media psychology, *23*(1), 79-106.

Wok, S., Idid, S. A., & Misman, N. (2012). Social media use for information-sharing activities among youth in Malaysia. *Journalism and mass communication*, *2*(11), 1029-1047.

Yang, H-D., & Yoo, Y. (2004). It's all about attitude: Revisiting the technology acceptance model. *Decision support systems*, *38*(1), 19-31.

Yasin, N. A. M. (2017). The evolution of online extremism in Malaysia. *Counter terrorist trends and analyses*, *9*(7).

Yin, J. L. S., Agostinho, S., Harper, B., & Chicaro, J. F. (2014). The engagement of social media technologies by undergraduate informatics students for

academic purpose in Malaysia. *Journal of information communication and ethics in society*, *12*(3), 177-194.

Yusop, F.D., and Sumari, M. (2013). The use of social media technologies among Malaysian youth. *Procedia social and behavioural sciences*, *103*, 1204 -1209.

Zinchenko, Y. P., Perelygina, E. B., & Zotova, O. Y. (2016). Perceptions of extremism in the youth daily consciousness. *Procedia – social and behavioral sciences*, *233*, 322-326.

Zolkepli, F. (2018). Police foil terror plot in KL. *The Star*. Retrieved from

https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2018/01/23/police-foil-terror-plot-in-kl/

In This Issue

Note from the Editor

Research Articles

Book Reviews