

Special Issue

Promoting the Digital Resilience of Youth

Message from the Guest Editors

Recent media coverage has raised concerns about the negative impact of technology use on the mental health, well-being, and physical safety of adolescents. This has led to moral panic and deficit-based approaches that aim to shield and protect youth from online risks, such as parental control software, age verification systems, and AI-based risk detection.

The goal of this special issue is to form new research frameworks that adopt a strength-based approach to creating programs, design-based interventions, and socio-technical innovations that leverage evidence-based research to foster the digital resilience of youth.

In this special issue, we aim to synthesize research that moves beyond traditional approaches, which rely on restrictive and privacy-invasive mechanisms, toward resiliency and autonomy-based designs that empower teens to utilize their knowledge to self-regulate and cope with online risks. By doing so, we seek to raise important questions and recommendations for setting a forward-thinking agenda for future socio-technical research and practice on promoting the digital well-being and safety of youth.

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Social Sciences is an international, open access, peer-reviewed journal publishing the latest research across all disciplines of the social sciences, including anthropology, economics, law, linguistics, education, geography, history, political science, psychology, sociology, and other related areas. The journal is especially interested in interdisciplinary research, and aims to encourage creative, innovative, and critical reflections across social science disciplines. The journal welcomes conventional length articles, shorter Research Notes or articles, as well as Special Issue submissions, as long as they meet the journal's standards of quality and originality.

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