### Introduction

The effect that media (internet) has on young minds: Changes in personalities of the adolescent

How does the internet have an effect on young developing minds? The goal of this project is to find how things on the internet such as music and videos can change the ways that an adolescent viewer/listener thinks. By the end of this group's research, I want to find how these personality changes can be either negative or positive.

### Research Question

How does the internet influence how adolescents view themselves?

### Theories

**Functionalism:** Society remains stable because competing companies make products that promise a wanted change. With growing media and the media craze of capturing everyday life with pictures society is constantly showing off their self image. They advertise over social networks to get people more interested in products. Companies use Facebook now have a lot of advertisements that people feel like they need.

**Conflict:** Companies are competing to make money off the same product. Companies have power over the buyers by manipulatively promoting products that people feel like they need.

**Interactionalism:** On social media, people post pictures of themselves to show that they've reached some sort of milestone in their physical fitness by going to the gym or following a diet.

### Materials & Methods

In an article, Lawrie explains how media can affect the way we think and process.

- Lawrie talks about the change of guy’s larger body physique to a much more physically structured body.
- People are becoming more self-conscious about what they eat and weigh.
- Girl’s image of themselves has changed from a curvier image to a slimmer, thinner waist look.

“First, it is possible that the media pressure to be thin, which has previously been focused on females, is now being translated to males.” [5]

This quote shows that media exerts pressure on everyone. Though women focus more on how their body look, so do men. More people have started to register into gyms in order to improve how they look because of media.

### Findings

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2. Social networks where the subjects have one or more profiles open, by age group and social class (vertical percentages)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aged 12-14</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Male</strong></td>
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<td>MySpace</td>
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<td>Facebook</td>
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<td>Fotolog</td>
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Source: Cenameri, 2013 [1]

### Conclusions

The media influences our self image using representation or pressure. Some people do take pressure to the extreme. Women become very skinny and thin looking and men try to gain more muscle. Both sexes do this to look more attractive. Our research explains how people use the internet to define how they believe their opposite sex if not themselves should look. While the internet gives off a view of a thin firm physique people idolize that perspective and wish to follow the footsteps to gain that body.

### References

[4] [Statistics Brain](https://www.statisticbrain.com)