

## **The Correlation Between Social Media Addiction and Substance Use in Alma College Students**

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1. Title: The Correlation Between Social Media Addiction and Substance Use in Alma College Students
2. We are researching the correlation between the amount of time spent on social media and the amount of alcohol and nicotine used by Alma College students in the IPHS department.
3. We want to question how much social media effects our decisions or likeliness to use other forms of addictive substances such as nicotine or alcohol. We would like to see the correlation to see if social media makes an impact on our behaviors when it comes to substance use.
4. Through our findings we would like to use our research and statistical findings to utilize and discover ways to educate the public on the effects of social media's effect on the use of these addictive substances. From our findings we hope this will encourage people to put limits on their social media use to avoid the consequences of these harmful and addictive substances.
5. We are using an anonymous online survey that will be sent to IPHS students to gather our data. Then the data will be clean and reduced based on any data that does not fit the criterion as well as any data that is an extreme outlier. The analysis of variance (ANOVA) method will be used will to statistically determine the differences of two means, measuring whether the means of each group vary among the data. The strength of this correlation will be shown using charts and tables to discuss the results. If there is a positive correlation, then the research can show that an increase of social media use causes an increase of alcohol and nicotine use. If there is a negative correlation, then social media does not cause alcohol or nicotine use.
6. We are still currently in the collecting phase; our surveys have been administered we are hoping to continue with the statistical analysis within the next few weeks. If there is a positive correlation in our findings, then the research can show that an increase of social media use causes an increase of alcohol and nicotine use. If there is a negative correlation, then social media does not lead to alcohol or nicotine use.