



## Changes in Communication Media in Family Communication Patterns in The Digital Era

Reni Ayu Wardani <sup>\*1</sup>, D.I. Ansusa Putra<sup>1</sup>, Muhammad Al

Hafizh<sup>1</sup>, Agus Slamet Nugroho<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> UIN Sulthan Thaha Saifuddin Jambi, Indonesia

### Abstract

Advances in information and communication technology greatly affect changes in communication patterns in family life. Technological advances can certainly change the way family members communicate. Not only the way of communicating, but the communication media used today is also changing. Changes in communication media make the current family communication pattern less harmonious. As we know, communication is very important in life, especially in the family. This research uses a literature study research method, namely about changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era. The purpose of this study is to determine the changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era and how the family communication process in the digital era. The method used is a literature study with information collection techniques from various written sources. The sources used are , books, and journals that are relevant to with changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era. The theory used is Technological Determinism. Communication is a very important thing, but if communication is less effective, it will certainly be a problem, especially in the family. The existence of communication in the family, of course, the family will be harmonious. Changes in communication media in families in the digital era are certainly a reason for researchers to examine this

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\*Authors Correspondence: Reni Ayu Wardani: reni@gmail.com

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## Introduction

Advances in information and communication technology from year to year have developed rapidly and are increasingly sophisticated. The digital era, commonly referred to as the technological era, certainly has changed. Technology provides convenience in various ways, in order to make all work activities more efficient. Technology has also made human life more enjoyable. With the existence of technology, it certainly makes it easier to communicate, especially long-distance communication.

Technology also has an important role in the field of communication. Communication on social media nowadays is often done by everyone to interact, convey information and so on. The presence of social media, of course, begins with the existence of technology, previously the technology used was cellphones that could only send messages and make calls, now it is certainly more sophisticated, namely smartphones or smart phones that can change everything. Smartphones certainly have more uses and benefits than regular telephone. The presence of this smartphone is what makes anyone able to use it and clever in using it. It's not just teenagers who are good at technology nowadays. But parents and children are good at using it. Technology is used by various groups, both parents, children, teenagers, even early childhood are good at using technology.

In the past, the presence of the internet was present at the end of the 21st century, internet users and the general public still

identified it as a mere "tool". Unlike now the internet has become a separate "media" that even has interactive capabilities. This aspect has given birth to extra convenience for its users. Even in family communication that is separated by distance, the interactive nature of the use of convergent media has exceeded the potential for feedback, because an audience who accesses convergent media directly provides feedback on the messages conveyed. (Prasanti: 2016)

With advances in technology, of course there are changes that occur, one of which is the communication media. The communication media used today are certainly not the same as the communication media before the existence of technology. Media is a tool or means used to communicate, in this case the communication media has facilitated and is used by families to communicate. If in the past social media such as the internet, WhatsApp, Instagram, Facebook, and others were just social media which were considered normal media or media that were not prioritized for communication, but now these social media are instead made a priority for communicating. Today's society is more preoccupied with using the media to disseminate information and communication than having to meet in person. Because with ease and certainly more efficient. Technological advances by utilizing the media are not only about making time easier and more efficient, but this also has an effect on family communication patterns. Changes in the medium of communication of course can

change the relationship between family communication.

The current development of information and communication technology has also changed harmonious family relationships. According to Yasraf (2004: 476), through the development of information and communication technology that is instantaneous, fast, virtual, face-to-face communication is taken over by interactive, relationships mediated by social media. Nowadays social media has also become a highly prioritized thing to store together memories because social media can store memories that have been uploaded on social media. And of course this is a digital footprint that will never disappear. All of that is in social media, that everything has been taken over by social media. Not only that, but the interaction between families is also like that.

Family is a group of people living in one house who still have kinship or blood relations due to marriage, birth, adoption and so on. In a family there must be parents and children. A harmonious family will make family life happy. Happiness in the family will be harmonious if it is based on communication. Communication can create openness between parents and children and vice versa. What if within the family members there is no communication relationship, they will definitely be closed to each other and don't care about each other. Communication is very important in life, especially life in the family.

The current pattern of family communication has been taken over by social media. Family sociologist, Ogbrun states that the family system changes as a

result of technological changes (Ihromi: 2005).

Based on the background above, the researcher is interested in raising this phenomenon, namely Changes in Communication Media in Family Communication in the Digital Age. The formulation of the masala in this study is: 1). How do communication media change in family communication patterns in the digital era? (2). What is the process of family communication in the digital era?

## Method

The method used in this research is literature study or literature review (Literatur Research), namely researchers who analyze sources related to the topics raised in this study. The sources used are in the form of e-mail, books, and journals that are relevant to changes in communication media in family patterns in the digital era. Communication

According to Nazir (2014:27), Literature study is a data collection technique by examining literature sources in the form of books, notes, reports related to the problem to be solved. So that the study used in this research is closely related to changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era.

The method used in this research is literature study with information gathering techniques from various written sources. The sources used are in the form of e-mail, books, and journals that are relevant to changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era. In

this study the theory used by the author is using theory Technological Determinism. This theory was put forward by Marshall McLuhan.

## **Result and Discussion**

### **1. Changes in Communication Media in Family Communication Patterns in the Digital Age**

Communication is an important thing in human life. Every human being carrying out his activities definitely needs something called communication, both verbal and nonverbal communication. Communication itself is a necessity for every human being. As we know, communication itself is a relationship of interaction between individuals and individuals, individuals and groups and groups and groups.

According to Carl I. Hovland, Communication is a process by which individuals transmit stimuli to change the behavior of other individuals. Everett M. Rogers: Communication is a process in which an idea or idea is transferred from a source to a recipient, with the intention of changing a behavior. Communication can unite relationships, not only that with communication we can exchange ideas, thoughts and ideas. At this time even communication is done Everyone can use various media. Communication is not just face-to-face interaction but can also use the media. The digital era or commonly called the technological era, is an era that we think of as a sophisticated era, everyone can easily carry out all their activities, such as conducting long-distance communication,

disseminating information, obtaining information and so on, of course easily and efficiently. The digital era is a period when information is easily and quickly obtained and disseminated using digital technology. Meanwhile, digital technology is technology that uses a computerized system connected to the internet.

The digital era takes us in a more advanced direction, encouraging everyone to be prosecuted so as not to be left behind by the times. With the progress and development of information and communication technology, of course everything can change to be more advanced and there are changes in every field, one of which is the field of communication.

With the progress of today's era, of course communication is very easy, if in the past someone wanted to exchange news with relatives or friends those who are far away have to wait some time even days to send it. Of course, it's different from today's digital era, everything can be done easily and efficiently. Someone only uses technology, namely gadgets to easily exchange news with each other. communication can be done with anyone quickly.

The progress of the times, with the sophistication of technology, of course, there are positive and negative things that can be obtained, right. Of course you have to be good at filtering information and good at using it so you don't fall into something that is not good. The digital era has brought changes in terms of communication, in this study the authors examine changes in

communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era.

Changes in information technology have an influence on core values as a way of living, adapting and communicating in family communication in the digital era. Advances in information and communication technology can change the communication media used by families in the digital era.

In today's era, it's not only children, teenagers who use their gadgets to. However, today's parents inevitably also follow the times, namely the digital era. The occurrence of technological changes in the digital family has created solitary humans. (Prasanti: 2016).

Communication before getting to know active gadgets in communicating, turns into passive. The dependence on this gadget has changed the way of face-to-face communication that has been felt by experience. (Zis, dkk: 2021). In the past between families when communicating more to face-to-face communication along with the progress of the times the communication media used made it easier to communicate.

Family communication that occurs for families using information technology in this digital era has resulted in a model of life based on the principle of individualism and creates a model of lonely life in a crowd. With the change in communication media used in the digital era, of course it also influences the attitude that is always alone or individualism. With With gadgets, family communication is also less harmonious. In a family When gathering, gadgets are not separated, each family member is busy with

his own gadget. In a family When gathering, gadgets are not separated, each family member is busy with his own gadget. In fact, one-house communication also uses gadgets to communicate.

## **2. Family Communication Process in the Digital Age**

Communication between families is something that must be owned by every family. With communication between families, life will be more harmonious, open to each other, and understand each other. The process of communication in every family certainly makes communication run effectively. Communication can be said to be effective if the communication gets a response or feedback from the other person.

In a family, there must be parents and children. We know that parents are guides and educate their children. It is very necessary for parents to introduce and teach values to their children. Parents are responsible for the formation of attitudes and behavior what his son did. But in the current era, a family must have their own gadgets and of course they are busy with their gadgets. Both parents and their children. In fact, in the communication process always rely on technology to carry out the communication process.

Every family today, unlike before, is all taken over by the world of technology. Including the communication process carried out in family members. in the communication process. the process of the message conveyed is sometimes not responded to by the other party.

According to Kumar (Wijaya: 1987) characteristics of communication in the family are:

- a) Openness is the extent to which individuals have a desire to be open with others in interacting.
- b) Empathy is an individual feeling that feels the same way that others feel, without having to be actually involved in that person's feelings or responses.
- c) Support can help someone be more enthusiastic about doing activities and achieving the desired goals. This support is expected from the closest people, namely, family.
- d) Positive feelings, namely where individuals have positive feelings about what other people have said about them.
- e) The similarity here means that individuals have similarities with other people in terms of speaking and listening.

These are the characteristics of communication. However, in reality communication between families in the digital era is more towards individualism, indifference and lack of empathy and lack of openness to one another. Each family member prefers technology.

### **3. Theory of Technological determinism**

In this study, the authors use the theory of technological determinism. This theory was put forward by Marshall McLuhan the first time in 1962 in a book entitled *The Gutenberg Galaxy: The Making of Typographic Man*. The Theory of Technological Determinism states that technological changes and developments have a major impact on society. Rationale McLuhan in the theory of technological

determinism, namely changes in the way of communication will shape human existence.

### **Conclusion**

Based on the literature study conducted, it can be concluded that changes in communication media in family communication patterns in the digital era have changed. These changes are in the communication media and family communication processes. The changes that occur are resulting in an attitude of individualism and a lonely life in the midst of a crowd. The family communication process that is carried out is more about prioritizing technology in the sense that it is more comfortable to communicate using gadgets rather than having to communicate directly.

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