



## A review of Social media influence and public perceptions of financial crime in Nigeria

Shehu FU<sup>1</sup>, Rasheed AA<sup>2</sup>, Balogun TA<sup>3</sup>, Rasheed AA<sup>4</sup>, Rasheed AO<sup>4</sup>, Aliyu B<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Mass Communication, National Open University of Nigeria, Nigeria

<sup>2</sup> Department of Computer Engineering, Enugu State University of Science and Technology, Enugu State, Nigeria

<sup>3</sup> Department of Computer Science, Crown University International, Delaware, USA

<sup>4</sup> Department of Computer Science, Wesley University Ondo, Ondo, Nigeria

<sup>5</sup> Department of Mass Communication, Nasarawa State University, Keffi, Nasarawa, Nigeria

### Abstract

In recent years, social media platforms have developed into dynamic public spheres where individuals, particularly young people, routinely converge to exchange ideas, debate social issues, and shape collective opinions. Beyond facilitating interpersonal interactions, these platforms now play a central role in how citizens interpret political events, respond to governance, and construct their perceptions of crime and justice. This study provides a critical review of the influence of social media on public perceptions of financial crime in Nigeria. Specifically, it interrogates how online discourses frame financial malfeasance, how such framings influence societal attitudes toward offenders and the implications for public trust in governance and law enforcement. The review is structured around three key sub-themes: the conceptual and theoretical foundations of social media influence; the interplay between social media and social behaviour; and an appraisal of media coverage of security agencies' arrests of individuals accused of financial crimes in Nigeria. By synthesizing insights from these perspectives, the paper highlights the dual role of social media as both an agenda-setting tool and a participatory space that can either reinforce or challenge dominant narratives about financial crime. Ultimately, the review underscores the need for a nuanced understanding of the relationship between digital media ecosystems and public perceptions in Nigeria's fight against financial misconduct

**Keywords:** Financial crime, influence, nigeria, public perceptions, social media

### Introduction

In developing countries of Africa and other emerging states of the world, participation in all manners of political activities is shrouded with a lot of ordeals and uncertainties. The technology advancements heralded by the information and communication technology, and especially the internet has enabled more and more aspects of people's daily lives to be conducted online. For many people, the internet has become the primary means of communication. Majority of people have embraced these communication channels as the best means of staying in touch with friends, family, and socioeconomic happenings. According to data, over half of Nigerian teenagers regularly access their social media accounts, and over 80% of them utilize the internet. Youths use the internet for a wide range of purposes, including schoolwork, news gathering, gaming, downloading films and music, viewing pornography, and bullying.

On social media, a variety of online platforms help citizens and public and commercial entities connect and communicate with one another. In fact, according to a survey by Dutton & Blank (2011: 8) <sup>[13]</sup>, 77% of adults in the UK have a social media profile, and over 90% of them use the internet. Social media's extensive use has revolutionized how information is shared and absorbed, and it is now a potent instrument for influencing public opinion and public conversation. Social media platforms give police officers additional ways to interact with the public directly, which helps them achieve performance and reputation goals (Ralph *et al.*, 2024: 4) <sup>[51]</sup>.

Social media platforms have evolved into online gathering places where young people occasionally congregate with

their peers. Many experts thought that social media use among young people may have a negative effect on their lives and behavior, lower their feeling of wellbeing, and inevitably change how they perceive social and political events. This study therefore seeks to review the social media influence and public perceptions of financial crime in Nigeria.

### Significance of the Study

The examination of social media's possible contributions to law enforcement has been a significant topic of discussion among academics. In contrast to what was previously achieved, Jardine (2015: 7) <sup>[29]</sup> claimed that the public now expects an online police presence. According to Guastalli (2020) <sup>[22]</sup>, social media provides a platform for law enforcement organizations to advance the idea of community policing and involvement. These researchers also claim that social media is a legitimate channel for police departments to provide information to the public due to its size and speed. According to Fielding (2023: 2) <sup>[18]</sup>, social media also allows the police to interact with the public in novel and potentially revolutionary ways.

According to Crump (2011: 5) <sup>[9]</sup>, law enforcement personnel can instantly use Facebook and Twitter as a vital information resource to spread information to the public and media because of its widespread use. Similar to this, Meijer & Thaens (2013: 4) <sup>[42]</sup> assert that social media can help the police because it can be used to support their primary duties, which include preventing and investigating crimes, as well as providing a quicker and more direct way for the public to communicate with the police. Griffith (2011: 6) <sup>[21]</sup> also

listed the kinds of evidence that can be obtained from social media sites, such as direct messages to or from a defendant's social media account, status changes, photos, and a person's position at a specific moment. Additionally, because criminals are increasingly using social media to initiate and carry out illicit operations, Peters & Ojedokun (2019: 3) <sup>[49]</sup> emphasize that law enforcement officers now need to understand the concept and functioning of social media.

Terpstra (2024: 4) <sup>[58]</sup> however, pointed out that police officers need to understand and respect the nature of social media primarily because these technological resources have their own logic, norms, and culture.

According to LexisNexis Risk Solutions (2014) <sup>[39]</sup>, despite the fact that law enforcement officials use social media frequently, only a small number of agencies have formal training and policies in place or have staff members assigned to monitor their use. This frequently creates obstacles to the widespread and regular use of social media. Wilson *et al.* (2016: 9) <sup>[62]</sup> noted in their article that police departments may not be interested in or encounter obstacles to social networking initiatives when it comes to e-government issues like managerial and organizational challenges (reluctance to change) and legal challenges (the doubting of the official communication status of social media messages). Furthermore, LexisNexis Risk Solutions (2014) <sup>[39]</sup> issued a warning that because social media is networked, any information that the police post on the platform could be swiftly altered or used for different purposes by anybody in the network. According to Davis *et al.* (2014: 5) <sup>[12]</sup>, an increasing number of police departments have issued guidelines about how officers should conduct themselves on social media.

In a 2012 study on social media use, the International Association of Chiefs of Police found that 94% of the 800 law enforcement agencies surveyed acknowledged using public social networking in some capacity, and 56% of those who did not use it said they were thinking about implementing it soon Davis *et al.*, (2014: 5) <sup>[12]</sup>. Additionally, Murphy and Fonticella (2012: 3) <sup>[45]</sup> mentioned that the New York Police Department has a squad that searches social media sites like Facebook and Twitter for evidence of crimes and possible criminal activities. According to Finlayson and Kelly (2015: 7) <sup>[33]</sup>, Australian police agencies are also embracing social media more and more to fulfill their community policing goals and support more established, conventional programs like Neighborhood Watch. In addition, the Police Executive Research Forum proposed in its 2013 paper, Social Media and Tactical Considerations for police Enforcement, that police enforcement can use social media to handle significant events, reach the public, gather intelligence, and carry out investigations.

## Literature Review

### Conceptual Framework of the Study

The study's conceptual framework will examine the definition, types, and uses of social media, as well as how social media affects social behaviors and how location and gender affect social media use. David Easton's system theory, uses and gratification theory, and media systems dependency theory will also serve as the foundation for the study's theoretical framework. Additionally, related empirical studies will be analyzed, and conclusions will be derived from the review's subtopics.

### Social Media: Meaning and Concept

The media, which includes broadcasting and narrowing media such as newspapers, magazines, television, radio, billboards, direct mail, telephone, fax, and the internet, are communication channels that spread news, entertainment, education, or promotional information. Together, they serve as channels of communication or instruments for storing and distributing data. These days, media serves as a global platform for knowledge sharing. Hassan (2004: 8) <sup>[28]</sup> asserts that the media creates links between society, politics, and economics. Judijanto & Aslan (2024: 11) <sup>[30]</sup> claim that the media establishes a framework that safeguards people's traditions and culture while facilitating access to knowledge. As a result, media is a contemporary way of communication that seeks to disseminate knowledge globally, irrespective of any discrimination. Information distribution is being revolutionized by modern communication tools, which now enable intense long-distance connection between bigger numbers of people (one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many communication via e-mail, Internet forums, and social media), regardless of the person's location.

According to Yanbe *et al.*, (2007) <sup>[63]</sup>, a social group is any living thing, including humans, that live together in interacting populations, whether or not they are aware of it and whether or not the relationship is voluntary. Because humans are inherently, inevitably, and by definition social creatures, they can only survive and achieve their needs through social interaction and cooperation. Their social traits are thus mostly objective facts that are ingrained in individuals from birth and reinforced by socialization processes. Dant (1999: 2) <sup>[11]</sup> noted that in order to produce and reproduce their material lives, humans must inevitably enter into production relations that are not controlled by their will.

Social media serves as an interactive platform for communication amongst individuals from all backgrounds. The reason the media is referred to as social media is because of its connection to the platforms and technologies that facilitate the public's and participants' cooperation, exchange, and creation of information on the interactive web. Social media is defined by Collin *et al.*, (2011: 5) <sup>[7]</sup> as media for social engagement that uses highly accessible and scalable communication approaches that transform communication into interactive discussion using web-based and mobile technology. According to Carr & Hayes (2015: 7) <sup>[6]</sup>, social media is a collection of web-based applications that are based on the technological and ideological underpinnings of web 2.0, enabling the production and sharing of user-generated content as blogs and social networking websites.

The Merriam-Webster dictionary (2018) <sup>[43]</sup>, defines social media as electronic communication platforms that allow users to establish online communities for the purpose of exchanging ideas, information, private messages, and other materials, such as videos. According to Eysenbach (2008: 7) <sup>[17]</sup>, social media platforms are widely available through electronic technologies for the purposes of publishing and accessing information, working together on a project, or establishing connections. Social media thus encompasses activities that entail online networking and socializing through text, images, and videos, thereby changing our human relationships with one another and with the organizations that support us.

Social media is an interactive platform that encourages users to contribute by leaving comments or producing original content to discuss specific topics with their social circle, other users, and the world at large. In order to develop highly participatory platforms where people and communities may share, co-create, and discuss their opinions on many topics, social media relies on mobile and web-based technologies. Social media, according to Raub (2015: 8) <sup>[52]</sup>, are computer-mediated tools that let users generate, share, or trade ideas, information, and images and videos in online communities and networks. As an online service or platform, its main goal is to make it easier for people who have similar interests, hobbies, and backgrounds to interact with each other in real life. It enables users to communicate with those who care and share information inside a group with others who share similar interests (Oh & Syn, 2015: 7) <sup>[47]</sup>.

According to Kemma (2013:9), social media functions as a conversation transmission system, with numerous sources reaching numerous recipients. Traditional media, which uses a monologue transmission model (one source to many recipients), contrasts with this. Certain features of social media contribute to its popularity and widespread use across various demographics. Among these traits are:

1. it encompasses wide variety of contents formats including text, video, photographs, audio, portable document format (PDF) and PowerPoint (social content is a by-product of creating content with your community).
2. it allows interactions to cross one or more platforms through social media sharing, email and feeds.
3. involves different levels of engagement by participant who can create, comment or lurk on social media networks.
4. enhances speed and breadth of information dissemination.
5. provides for one – to – one and many – to – many communications.
6. enables communication to take place in real time or asynchronously over time.
7. can take place via a computer including laptops and netbooks, tablets including ipads and iTouch) and mobile phones particularly smartphone).
8. extends engagement by creating real-time online events, extending online interactions offline, or augment live events online.

According to Haleem *et al.*, (2022: 5) <sup>[23]</sup>, social media platforms have gained popularity thanks to digital devices like tablets, smartphones, and notebooks as well as the internet. Millions of people use them globally to get information, news, entertainment, and business, among other things. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, YouTube, blogs, LinkedIn, Google+, Flickr, SnapChat, Vine, Tumblr, WeChat, and WhatsApp are the most widely used of these. More than 500 million individuals use social media sites, particularly Facebook, according to statistical data. Hammond *et al.*, (2005) <sup>[25]</sup> provide support for this, stating that the number of social media users is increasing daily as more and more people spend the majority of their time on social media sites like Facebook, Twitter, and numerous others. Additionally, according to Srinivasan (2019: 6) <sup>[56]</sup>, roughly 250 million of these individuals visit the Facebook website every day.

### Types and Areas of Application of Social Media

Social media comes in various forms and can be used in a variety of contexts. It is well known throughout the nation that the security and intelligence services use social media to inform the public about their operations and to inform the public on their accomplishments through their public relations department. According to Kashef *et al.*, (2021: 9) <sup>[31]</sup>, citizens were kept up to date on pertinent security information by integrating technology into the learning and information framework. In addition to information pertaining to security and intelligence, training institutes also use it for instructional purposes. However, the next section discusses various social media platforms and their use cases.

### Social Networking Sites

Social network sites, according to Kashef *et al.*, (2021: 6) <sup>[31]</sup>, are web-based services that let users create a public or semi-public profile inside a closed system, with whom they have a connection, view, and navigate their list of connections as well as those created by other users. People utilize this online platform to create social networks or relationships with others who have similar hobbies, pursuits, backgrounds, or real-world connections, whether they be personal or professional. These websites let users create personal webpages and then connect with friends to exchange messages and material.

Users of social networking sites can post digital images and videos, exchange ideas, and update their network about events and activities both online and offline. Additionally, they establish connections with people who reside in other places, from across a city to the entire planet. This is corroborated by Wellman's (2001: 7) <sup>[61]</sup> claim that social networking sites enable the connection of individuals who have similar interests and pursuits across political, economic, and geographic boundaries via online forums, instant messaging, and email. Social networking sites are special because they enable people to connect with strangers, which leads to relationships that would not otherwise be formed. Because Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter are sites that are specifically created for this purpose, they are among the most convenient platforms for users to share ideas, get answers to problems, and hold discussions. These social media platforms can help citizens communicate better, particularly when it comes to urgent national security matters.

According to a study by Glynn *et al.*, (2015: 6), 63% of American Facebook and Twitter users view these platforms as their primary source of news updates, with entertainment news being the most popular. People are more likely to follow stories on Twitter when there is breaking news. Whereas Twitter users will simply follow the sites, feed, and/or retweet the article, users may occasionally be more inclined to remark on social media sites when the news story is more political.

Social networking sites like Facebook, WhatsApp, and Hi5 were created to bring individuals together who had previously met in person. The majority of users have made connections with strangers on Facebook.

According to a study, people primarily use social networking sites like Facebook because they satisfy their basic needs of establishing connections, creating friends, staying in touch with one another, and updating friends on their lives. As people use social networking sites like

Facebook, Twitter, and Myspace to build and maintain relationships with others, they can connect with friends, family, loved ones, and even strangers who live in different places, from cities to the entire world, regardless of the social network platform they use (Subrahmanyam *et al.*, 2008: 8) <sup>[57]</sup>.

### Blogging

A blog is an online conversation or informational website that consists of discrete, frequently informal text entries called posts that resemble diaries. Usually, posts are shown in reverse chronological order, with the most recent entry at the top of the page. "Multi-author blogs" (MABs), which feature content authored by numerous authors and occasionally professionally edited, were created in the 2010s. Single-author blogs and MABs are becoming more and more integrated into the news media thanks to the growth of Twitter and other "microblogging" platforms. The verb "blog" can also indicate "to add or maintain content to a blog".

This interaction sets blogs apart from other static websites, as they enable users to post comments online (Akehurst, 2009: 8) <sup>[1]</sup>. Newson *et al.*, (2008: 4) <sup>[46]</sup> claim that blogging is a type of social networking service. Bloggers do more than just create content for their blogs; they also frequently cultivate relationships with other bloggers and their viewers. Typical blogs include digital photographs, text, and connections to other blogs, websites, and other material that are relevant to the subject matter. The popularity of many blogs can be attributed in large part to readers' ability to connect with other readers and leave publicly available comments. However, in order to eliminate hate speech and other objectionable information, blog owners and authors frequently regulate and filter online comments. Though some concentrate on art blogs, photoblogs, video blogs, or "vlogs," music blogs, MP3 blogs, and podcasts, the majority of blogs are mainly textual. In order to encourage higher order thinking, Halic *et al.*, (2010: 5) <sup>[24]</sup> employed blogs in a leadership class. They discovered that students who wrote received more points in class than those who did not. Self-reflection, which is crucial for leadership growth, can be encouraged through blogging (Krishnaiyer *et al.*, 2012: 14) <sup>[37]</sup>.

Blogs as an online form of journal can have a single author, or several authors. Most blogs allow readers to post comments in response to an article or post (Mishne & Gance, 2006:9) <sup>[44]</sup>. Blogs are also being used by some institutions to post news articles or open conversations about them.

Social media usage for social entertainment websites has skyrocketed. According to McCloud *et al.*, (2016: 10) <sup>[41]</sup>, more people are getting their amusement via the internet rather than viewing TV shows and movies. In recent times, the majority of people use blogging sites for more than just information exchange; they have discovered that they are a terrific way to stay updated on news and for fun. According to studies (Kelly 2024: 7) <sup>[34]</sup>, 73% of Americans and 61% of Britons in the 18–24 age group view blogs as a source of entertainment and amusement, respectively. Similarly, half (in the United States) and fifty-six percent (in the United Kingdom) of respondents between the ages of thirty-five and forty-nine cite blog websites as their primary source of entertainment and news updates about the latest fashion and celebrity lifestyle trends.

### Media Sharing

Video hosting services and image sharing, sometimes known as photo sharing, are the two components of social media sharing. A user's digital images can be published or transferred online through image sharing, also known as photo sharing. Uploading, hosting, maintaining, and sharing photographs (publicly or privately) are among the services provided by image sharing websites. Applications and websites that make it easier to upload and view photographs both offer this feature. Individual user-created and user-managed online photo galleries can also be loosely categorized under this name. Individual end users can post, share, and view lawfully any type of video personal, commercial, or royalty-free by using a video hosting service. Video content is typically uploaded by users through the hosting service's website, desktop or mobile application, or another Application Programming Interface (API). Short video clips or full-length TV series and films could be the type of video content uploaded. The video host allows users to activate various embedded codes or links that let other people watch the content, and it stores the video on its server. Usually referred to as a video sharing website, the website serves primarily as a video hosting website.

Sharing media is not limited to home computers and the internet, it can also be done from portable devices like smartphones. These days, smartphones come with wireless networking and other sharing features (Shepard *et al.*, 2011) <sup>[53]</sup>. Mobile phone sharing of media has grown in popularity. Numerous programs and networks have emerged that allow users to share media straight to social networks via mobile devices.

According to Azer (2012: 11) <sup>[3]</sup>, YouTube, wikis, and blogs offer a vast amount of content that includes text, videos, and photos on a variety of topics. Students who download and share tutorial videos on social media platforms for academic reasons have demonstrated beneficial outcomes, according to Brame (2017: 12) <sup>[4]</sup>, since they engage with one another outside of the classroom and support the learning process by creating learning communities. It has been demonstrated that combining the real and virtual worlds both within and outside of the classroom improves academic engagement and peer-to-peer interaction (McCarthy, 2010: 5). According to Esman *et al.*, (2021: 8) <sup>[15]</sup>, interactive social media and community-based platforms, such as Skype, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, blogs, wikis, Blackboard, and Moodle, are increasingly taking over educational institutions.

In addition to sharing content and streaming movies, playing games has become one of the most popular social media activities. As a result, it has become a platform for multimedia entertainment, and it appears that every social media site aims to provide entertainment. This has made communication and entertainment go hand in hand, allowing one to enjoy playing his favorite game apps and conversing at the same time (Kim *et al.*, 2013: 9) <sup>[36]</sup>.

### Social Bookmarking

One centralized online service that enables users to add, modify, annotate, and share bookmarks of web documents is called social bookmarking. Estelles *et al.*, (2010: 7) pointed out that tagging is an important aspect of social bookmarking systems, enabling users to arrange their bookmarks and create shared vocabularies called

folksonomies. This is why there have been a lot of online bookmark management sites since 1996. Members of social bookmarking services save links to websites they wish to share or remember. In addition to being typically public, these bookmarks can be saved privately, shared only with specific individuals or groups, shared only within specific networks, or a combination of public and private domains. The permitted users can view these bookmarks in a search engine, chronologically, by category, or by tags (Hammond *et al.*, 2005: 9) <sup>[25]</sup>.

The majority of social bookmarking sites advise users to use informal tags to arrange their bookmarks rather than the conventional folder structure found in browsers, while some sites offer categories and folders or a mix of tags and folders. Additionally, they allow the viewing of bookmarks linked to a selected tag and provide data on the quantity of individuals who have bookmarked them. Certain social bookmarking applications can generate clusters of tags or bookmarks by inferring relationships between tags. Sharing bookmarks with contacts, organizing a huge number of bookmarks, and accessing a consolidated set of bookmarks from many computers are all made possible by social bookmarking.

According to Harinarayan & Vasantha (2010: 8), social bookmarking has been utilized by organizations such as enterprises, libraries, and universities to enhance web search and promote knowledge sharing among users. Over the past few years, educators have become increasingly interested in social bookmarking technologies, a developing instructional technology. This technology provides a social platform for interactions and conversations as well as solutions for information sharing. In addition to offering a way to add more remarks to the electronic document's margins, these tools let users collaboratively underline, highlight, and annotate an electronic text. In a security, intelligence, and academic context, social bookmarking tools serve a number of functions, such as: classifying and organizing web pages for quick and easy retrieval; maintaining tagged pages accessible from any networked computer; helping users share resources they need or want with others; enabling access to tagged pages via RSS (Really Simple Syndication) feeds, cell phones, and PDAs (Public Display of Affection) for greater mobility; enabling instructors and librarians to monitor operational progress; and providing officers with an additional means of cooperation and joint discovery (Gray *et al.*, 2011: 10) <sup>[20]</sup>.

### Theoretical Framework of the Study

The system theory, uses and gratification theory, and media systems dependency theory developed by David Easton will serve as the foundation for the study's theoretical framework. Spinello (2010: 7) <sup>[55]</sup> stated that knowledge does not exist in a vacuum. There are theories in every discipline that explain the facts that can be observed in that field.

### David Easton System Theory

The system approach initially has biological roots and was first introduced by Ludwig Von Bertalanfy in his "general system theory" notion. A distinct viewpoint on how society operates is provided by systems theory. According to this idea, society is made up of many interrelated subsystems, each with unique structures and functions. They interact,

influence, and are influenced by each other; these subsystems are not separate.

Fundamentally, society is viewed as an open system by systems theory. Systems theory contends that organizations, including the political system, are continuously impacted by and have an impact on their surrounds, in contrast to conventional organizational theory, which holds that organizations function independently of their surroundings. David Easton's approach describes a dynamic process where environmental inputs, such as public support and demands, influence government decision-making. The decisions made by institutions, public administration, and organizations within the political system are influenced by these inputs, which are a "black box," in addition to intra- and extra-societal influences. These choices are subsequently translated into outputs that reflect the authoritative distribution of values, such as laws, rules, and regulations. Another name for this is the input-output method.

### a. Gatekeeping Mechanism

It is a technique employed in systemic approaches to weed out the appropriate needs from the populace. It is employed by the government to address significant issues and formulate regulations and policies in response. Systems theory heavily relies on feedback loops. Because they create new demands and support among the populace on the advantages and disadvantages of government programs, the political system's output results in new cycles of decision-making. Because of the constant interactions between the system and its surroundings, the sociocultural system is always evolving.

### Uses and Gratification Theory

Another name for this theory is the Needs and Gratification Theory. This model focuses on the motivations behind the use of particular media. Katz, Blumler, & Gurevitch, introduced the Uses and Gratifications theory in 1973 <sup>[32]</sup>. The uses and gratifications model asserts that audience members have specific requirements or desires that are met by utilizing both media and non-media sources (Weiyan 2015: 7) <sup>[60]</sup>. This indicates that the audience exposes themselves to media or media content due to a variety of needs. Consequently, the main focus is on the theory's idea that consumers expect to gain specific advantages from any media they would expose themselves to. The audience has a tendency to stop using the media channel or material if it fails to meet their needs, wants, and/or expectations. If the audience's basic needs are not consistently met by a media, they will have the freedom to look for another one. The uses and gratifications theory, according to Kashef (2021: 13) <sup>[31]</sup>, entails a change in emphasis from the communicator's goals to the receiver's goals in order to ascertain the purposes that mass media serves for audience members. Because of this, Curras-Perez *et al.*, (2014: 7) <sup>[10]</sup> argue that the uses and gratifications hypothesis implies that media consumers actively choose and use the media. According to Kelly (2024: 5) <sup>[34]</sup>, there is a connection between the motivation behind media use and the satisfaction it provides. The uses of the social media have been in existence in recent years due to the internet revolution; it is an indication that they certainly provide meaningful gratifications to those who use them. This study shall unearth gratifications which the social media present to their teeming number of users

(populace) through their areas of application. The major emphasis in the uses and gratifications theory is that the user or the audience plays a great part in the choice of the media or the media content he or she consumes; and, this is determined by what gratifications the content or the media offer. From the argument above, the theoretical significance of uses and gratifications theory to this study has been made clear.

### Media System Dependency (MSD) Theory

The media system dependency (MSD) theory can be used to explain this study. Melvin Defleur and Sandra Ball-Rokeach introduced the media systems dependency theory in 1996. The idea focuses on a complex system where people, the media, their personal surroundings, and the social environment are all dependent on one another. To put it another way, media systems dependency theory is a relationship model that holds that people's ability to achieve their objectives depends on the media system's information resources (Yanbe *et al.*, 2007) [63].

Media systems dependence theory, according to Kelly (2024: 12) [34], makes the assumption that the more a person relies on using media to meet their requirements, the more significant a part the media will play in their lives and, thus, the greater impact the media will have on them. As the world grows more complicated, people use the media to communicate or make sense of what is going on. Additionally, it was claimed that people will grow more reliant on media that fulfills a variety of their wants rather than just a select few. The more a person depends on the media to share ideas and express their thoughts, the more they are impacted by the media. According to Yanbe *et al.*, (2007) [63], our views, cognitive processes, emotional states, and behaviors will all alter the more we rely on social networking. As people grow to assume that the media system will help them achieve their goals, they typically form dependence relationships with the media or medium that they believe will be most beneficial in achieving their goals.

The theory could be viewed as very relevant to this study, which sought to investigate the applications of social media and its perceived influence among secondary school students. The findings of the study will help to explain the change in attitude, cognition, emotional states or behaviour of society as a result of dependency on social media.

### Social Media and Social Behaviour

Social media has a significant impact on our culture, economy, and worldview in real time. Social media has given rise to a new platform that allows individuals to connect, relate to, and mobilize for a cause, share ideas, ask for and provide advice, and offer counsel. Social media has made it possible for everyone to have a voice and engage in democratic processes, including those in oppressive nations, by removing obstacles to communication and establishing decentralized channels of communication. Social media may be a useful communication tool for security and intelligence, and it has improved people's sense of closeness to real or virtual communities. For institutions, businesses, entrepreneurs, and nonprofits, on the other hand, social media may be a source of moral decadence for those who intentionally mislead and misrepresent the public. Additionally, it could be a source of diversion for important security issues. However, there have also been worries

expressed over potential connections between depression and excessive social media use, as well as the problems of cyberbullying and online harassment. Collin *et al.*, (2011: 9) [7] noted that social media site is a beneficial socializing tool especially among young people across the globe.

Social behavior, also referred to as human behavior, is any action taken by an individual that qualifies, changes, or otherwise modifies another individual's act. The society encourages a social behavior, which in turn encourages other group or society members. It includes the ways in which we communicate through our physical and emotional behaviors as well as the ways in which ethics, beliefs, genetics, and culture impact us (Van Royen *et al.*, 2017) [59]. According to Campbell (1975: 3) [5], social conduct is a reaction directed towards humanity or coexistence among members of the same species that results from social communication. A crucial component of social psychology is social behavior, which includes features of romantic relationship as well as assistance with aggressive behavior. As factors of social behavior, Eberhard (1975: 6) [14] adds attitude, self-concept, cooperation or communication, and conflict resolution. It is a type of reaction that can be either positive or negative and is directed towards the society within the same species.

Through social interactions in the family and community, social behaviors are created. Negative social behaviours are ones that are harmful to others or do not take into account their welfare. An alternative term for these actions would be antisocial behavior. It is any behavior that is deemed to be disruptive to other members of society, including dishonesty, nuisance, criminality, violence, and online sexual crime. According to Leiner *et al.*, (2009: 11) [38], the internet was first intended for gathering academic data for study, but in more recent years, it has also been utilized for business purposes and interpersonal contact. According to Yanbe (2007: 2) [63], social media influences how teenagers communicate, think, and reason, as well as how they gather information. More than 90% of American teenagers have access to the internet, and over 75% use it at least once a day for socializing, according to a study by Van Royen *et al.*, (2017: 3) [59]. This is supported by Wellman's (2001: 5) [61] observation that parents are extremely concerned about their teenagers' frequent usage of social media, which causes them to stop participating in their academic pursuits.

According to Sood *et al.*, (2020: 8) [54], cyberbullying sends harassing messages to different people, which can cause shame, humiliation, and even suicide. After spending so much time on social media and its influences, many students forget the social grace of showing their parents and superiors the respect they deserve. This demonstrates how social media can have a detrimental effect on kids' conduct. This supported the findings of Weiyan (2015: 8) [60], who claimed that social media can easily influence users to engage in negative social behaviors, particularly when it comes to posting nude photos online, copying friends' offensive slang, starting riots or other disturbances, developing an addiction, and giving up on academic endeavors. The study by Yanbe *et al.*, (2007: 4) [63] confirmed the dangers of utilizing social media (Facebook, MySpace, and Twitter) to expose young people to more sexual harassment. Social media platforms have the ability to quickly affect societal perceptions and behaviors due to offensive remarks made to harass peers, as stated by Van

Royen *et al.*, (2017: 7) <sup>[59]</sup>. He admitted that social media platforms have detrimental social impacts on both individuals and society as a whole since they make it simple to trick or even entice people to engage in immoral behavior. This result was consistent with Yanbe *et al.*, (2007: 9) <sup>[63]</sup> assertion that roughly 51% of the 21 million youths and students who use social networking sites on a regular basis have experienced some form of negative social impact.

According to ComScore Media Metrix (2006: 2) <sup>[8]</sup>, social media facilitates peer-to-peer expression, commenting, picture uploading, blogging, interacting with new acquaintances, exchanging ideas, and forming an imagined self-image, all of which contribute to social culture. Youths who use social media increasingly share everything on their minds online in an attempt to receive feedback. For this reason, Yanbe (2007: 11) <sup>[63]</sup> suggested that parents teach their children about the internet's and social media's benefits and drawbacks as well as appropriate and inappropriate use. Additionally, Spinello (2010: 15) <sup>[55]</sup> came to the conclusion that young people frequently use social media to display carefree attitudes, opulent lifestyles, and a general disregard for the law. They also readily mimic negative attitudes and show disrespect for established authorities. According to (Gray *et al.*, 2011: 10) <sup>[20]</sup>, social media has captured the interest of the majority of young people to the point where they have developed an addiction.

Weiyen (2015: 7) <sup>[60]</sup> observed that the number of young people using the internet for anti-social activities rather than for legitimate or worthwhile reasons is increasing at an alarming rate. They use websites for fraud, dating scams, and pornography in the community. Social media platforms promote bad behavior in young people, like catching up with strangers and other forms of negative associations.

### Review of Media Coverage of Security Agencies' Arrests in Nigeria

Public information dissemination by journalists is essential to societal transparency. According to Alum (2014) <sup>[2]</sup>, journalism entails obtaining, analyzing, and disseminating information to a large audience about a range of societal activities, including institutional, political, and environmental ones. To create factual accounts of events, journalists use a variety of methods, including observations, interviews, and investigations. Specialized areas within this industry, such as political, legal, and crime reporting, call for in-depth knowledge and contextual awareness (Harrower, 2007) <sup>[27]</sup>.

Reporting on security agencies and anti-corruption initiatives is a particular area of interest for journalists. Given the complexity of national security and corruption issues, Okon (2013) <sup>[48]</sup> points out that reporting on security and graft agency actions calls for ingenuity and interdisciplinary skills. In order to influence public opinion and hold institutions responsible, journalists in this profession draw attention to incidents involving well-known corruption cases, political unrest, and international terrorism.

The Nigerian media has extensively covered cases involving security agencies' arrests of prominent individuals accused of corruption. Premium Times (2020) <sup>[50]</sup> documented several high-profile cases

1. **Orji Uzor Kalu:** The former governor of Abia State and current Senate chief whip was convicted for embezzling ₦7.1 billion. His conviction was later nullified by the Supreme Court, which ordered a retrial. Although the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) pledged to re-arraign him, no progress has been reported. Civil society groups continue to demand accountability.
2. **Olisa Metuh:** The former PDP spokesperson was convicted for diverting ₦400 million but successfully appealed his conviction, citing judicial bias. The case was slated for retrial, with the EFCC vowing to contest the appellate court's judgement.
3. **Doyin Okupe:** The former aide to ex-President Goodluck Jonathan is facing charges for laundering ₦702 million linked to funds received from the ex-National Security Adviser, Sambo Dasuki. His trial is ongoing, and he has been permitted to travel for medical treatment.
4. **Abdulrasheed Maina:** The former Pension Reform Task Force Team chairman faces allegations of mismanaging over ₦100 billion. Maina fled Nigeria multiple times but was re-arrested and extradited in December 2020. His trial remains in progress, marked by dramatic courtroom incidents, including his collapse during proceedings.
5. **Mohammed Adoke:** The former Attorney-General is implicated in the controversial \$1.1 billion Malabu Oil deal. The EFCC accused him of laundering money and facilitating bribery. Adoke denies any wrongdoing, asserting that he acted on instructions from then-President Goodluck Jonathan. His legal battle continues, with multiple charges and bail approvals granted for medical travel.

These examples demonstrate the difficulties Nigeria's legal system faces, such as appeals, delays, and accusations of prejudice. Even while the media is crucial in raising awareness of these problems, ongoing public attention and activism are still necessary to guarantee accountability and openness in government.

The thorough coverage of these incidents by Nigerian media highlights the vital role that journalism plays in educating the public and holding influential people responsible. But it also highlights structural problems with the legal system, necessitating cooperation from all parties involved to improve the administration of justice.

Highlight of some of the other ongoing trials of prominent individuals for alleged corruption cases are presented in table below.

**Table 1:** Showing Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC) High Profile Cases 2000 – 2010

| S/N | Name  | Case status                   | Amount of money involved | Status of suspect (s)  |
|-----|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 1   | Ayo Fayose (former Governor of Ekiti State)   | Arrested on 51 count charges  | N1.2 billion             | Case pending, granted bail   |
| 2   | Adenike, Grange (former Minister of Health)   | Arrested on 56 count charges  | N300 million             | Discharged and acquitted   |
| 3   | Joshua Dariye (former Governor Plateau State)   | Arrested on 23 count charges  | N700 million             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2007  |
| 4   | Saminu Turaki (former Governor Jigawa State)  | Arrested on 32 count charges  | N36 billion              | Case pending, Granted bail since 2007  |
| 5   | Oji Uzor Kalu (former Governor Abia State)  | Arrested on 107 count charges | N5 billion               | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 6   | James Ibori (former Governor Delta State)   | Arrested on 170 count charges | N9.2 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008 as he is currently serving jail term in the UK |
| 7   | Iyabo Obasanjo (former Senator)   | Arrested on 56 count charges  | N10 million              | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 8   | Lucky Igbinedion (former Governor of Edo State)   | Arrested on 191 count charges | N4.3 billion             | Case determined, ordered to pay \$25 million as fine                                 |
| 9   | Gabriel Aduku (former Minister of Health)   | Arrested on 56 count charges  | N300 million             | Discharged and acquitted   |
| 10  | Jolly Nyame (former Governor of Taraba)   | Arrested on 41 count charges  | N1.3 billion             | Case pending, state) 2008  |
| 11  | Chimaroke Nnamani (former Governor of Enugu State)  | Arrested on 105 count charges | N5.3 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2007  |
| 12  | Michael Botmang (former Governor of Plateau State)  | Arrested on 31 count charges  | N1.5 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 13  | Roland Iyayi (former MD of FAAN)  | Arrested on 11 count charges  | N5.6 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 14  | Prof. Babalola Borishade (former Minister of Aviation)  | Arrested on 11 count charges  | N5.6 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 15  | Boni Haruna (former Governor of Adamawa State)  | Arrested on 28 count charges  | N254 million             | Case pending, Granted bail by court since 2008                                       |
| 16  | Femi Fani kayode (former Minister of Aviation)  | Arrested on 47 count charges  | N250 million             | Case dismissed in June 2014. Granted bail since 2008                                 |
| 17  | Bode George (PDP Chieftain)   | Arrested on 68 count charges  | N100 billion             | Jailed in October 2009   |
| 18  | Rasheed Ladoja (former Governor of Oyo State)   | Arrested on 33 count charges  | N6 billion               | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 19  | Senator Nichola Ugbane; Hon. Elumelu and others   | Arrested on 158 count charges | N5.2 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2009  |
| 20  | Hamman Bello Hammed (Ex CG Customs)   | Arrested on 46 count charges  | N2.5 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail   |
| 21  | Adamu Abdullahi (former Governor of Nasarawa State)   | Arrested on 149 count charges | N15 billion              | Case pending, Suspect on court bail  |
| 22  | Attahiru Bafarawa (former Governor of Sokoto state)   | Arrested on 47 count charges  | N15 billion              | Case pending, Granted bail by court  |
| 23  | 23 Hassan Lawal (former Minister of Works)  | Arrested on 37 count charges  | N75 billion              | Case pending, Granted bail by court  |
| 24  | 24 Kenny Martins (Police Equipment Fund)  | 28 count charges              | N7.7 billion             | Case pending, Granted bail since 2008  |
| 25  | Esai Dangabar, Atiku Abubakar Kigo, Ahmed Inuwa Wada, John Yakubu Yusufu, Mrs. Veronica Ulonma Onyegbula and Sani Habila Zira | 16 count charges              | N32.8 billion            | Case on going, Granted bail by court   |

This table underscores the widespread nature of corruption cases handled by the EFCC and highlights the complexities in achieving conclusive justice.

### Conclusion

The review of social media influence and public perceptions of financial crime in Nigeria underscores the profound

transformation of digital platforms into arenas of public discourse, where narratives about corruption, financial malfeasance, and governance are actively contested. Social media not only amplifies awareness of financial crimes but also shapes how citizens interpret, legitimize, or challenge the actions of institutions and individuals involved. This dual role as both a participatory space and an agenda-setting

mechanism makes social media central to the construction of public attitudes toward corruption and the credibility of state institutions.

At the same time, the evolving role of journalists in covering corruption and national security cases demonstrates the increasing interconnectedness between traditional media and digital platforms. Journalists, by leveraging the reach and immediacy of social media, continue to hold institutions accountable and draw attention to practices that threaten societal stability. Yet, they must also adapt to the interdisciplinary demands of modern reporting—balancing investigative rigor with the dynamics of online communication, where narratives can rapidly shift and misinformation may distort public perceptions.

Taken together, these insights suggest that Nigeria's battle against financial crime requires more than the enforcement efforts of security agencies; it also depends on a nuanced engagement with the digital information ecosystem. Building public trust will require transparent communication strategies, responsible media practices, and proactive measures by journalists and state actors alike to counteract false narratives while amplifying credible ones. Ultimately, the convergence of social media influence, public perception, and journalistic responsibility highlights the urgent need for collaborative approaches that strengthen accountability, reinforce democratic values, and safeguard national stability in the digital age.

### Recommendations

Based on the aim and content of this study, the following recommendations are worth mentioning

- Since social media shapes how Nigerians perceive financial crimes, users should be encouraged to engage critically and responsibly with online content to avoid reinforcing misinformation or biased narratives.
- Agencies involved in investigating and prosecuting financial crimes should maintain open, timely, and accurate communication with the public to strengthen trust and credibility in their work.
- Journalists must continue to evolve their methods, combining investigative rigor with the demands of fast-paced social media environments, so that coverage of financial crimes remains accurate, balanced, and socially responsible.
- Greater synergy between mainstream journalism and online platforms can ensure that narratives about financial crimes are better contextualized, reducing distortions and enhancing public understanding.
- Citizens should be empowered to participate in constructive online discussions that hold institutions accountable while reinforcing democratic values and societal stability.

### References

1. Akehurst G. User generated content: the use of blogs for tourism organizations and tourism consumers. *Service business*,2009:3:51-61.
2. Alum BI. Impact of ICT on Information Gathering and Dissemination of Television Reporters. *New Media and Mass Communication*, 2014, 29.
3. Azer SA. Can “YouTube” help students in learning surface anatomy? *Surgical and radiologic anatomy*,2012:34:465-468.
4. Brame CJ. Effective educational videos: Principles and guidelines for maximizing student learning from video content. *CBE—Life Sciences Education*, 2017.
5. Campbell DT. On the conflicts between biological and social evolution and between psychology and moral tradition. *American psychologist*,1975:30(12):1103.
6. Carr CT, Hayes RA. Social media: Defining, developing, and divining. *Atlantic journal of communication*,2015:23(1):46-65.
7. Collin P, Rahilly K, Richardson I, Third A. The benefits of social networking services, 2011.
8. Comscore Media Metrix. It's a social world: Top 10 need-to-knows about social networking and where it's headed. (n.d.), 2006.  
[https://www.comscore.com/Insights/Presentations-and-Whitepapers/2011/it\\_is\\_a\\_social\\_world\\_top\\_10\\_need-to-knows\\_about\\_social\\_networking](https://www.comscore.com/Insights/Presentations-and-Whitepapers/2011/it_is_a_social_world_top_10_need-to-knows_about_social_networking)
9. Crump J. What are the police doing on Twitter? *Social media, the police and the public. Policy & internet*,2011:3(4):1-27.
10. Curras-Perez R, Ruiz-Mafe C, Sanz-Blas S. Determinants of user behaviour and recommendation in social networks: An integrative approach from the uses and gratifications perspective. *Industrial Management & Data Systems*,2014:114(9):1477-1498.
11. Dant T. *Material culture in the social world*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK), 1999.
12. Davis EF, Alves AA, Sklansky DA. Social media and police leadership: Lessons from Boston. *Australasian policing*,2014:6(1):10-16.
13. Dutton WH, Blank G. Next generation users: the internet in Britain, 2011.
14. Eberhard MJW. The evolution of social behavior by kin selection. *The Quarterly Review of Biology*,1975:50(1):1-33.
15. Esman EN, Madrigal DV, Mascunana CG. Social Media Exposure and English Writing Proficiency of Grade 11 Students in a Philippine Public High School. *Technium Soc. Sci. J*,2021:20:212.
16. Estellés E, Del Moral E, González F. Social bookmarking tools as facilitators of learning and research collaborative processes: The Diigo case. *Interdisciplinary Journal of E-Learning and Learning Objects*,2010:6(1):175-191.
17. Eysenbach G. Medicine 2.0: social networking, collaboration, participation, apomediation, and openness. *Journal of medical Internet research*,2008:10(3):e1030.
18. Fielding NG. Police communications and social media. *European Journal of Criminology*,2023:20(1):316-334.
19. Glasgow PA. *Fundamental of Research Methodology*. Mitre Product, 2005, 1 – 27.
20. Gray PH, Parise S, Iyer B. Innovation impacts of using social bookmarking systems. *MIS quarterly*,2011, 629-643.
21. Griffith HL. Understanding and authenticating evidence from social networking sites. *Wash. Journal of Tech. & Arts*,2011:7:209.
22. Guastalli H. *Strategic Use of Agenda-Setting Theoretical Framework by Law Enforcement Agencies on Social Media Forums: An Innovative Approach to Community Policing* (Doctoral dissertation, Northcentral University), 2020.

23. Haleem A, Javaid M, Qadri MA, Suman R. Understanding the role of digital technologies in education: A review. *Sustainable operations and computers*,2022;3:275-285.
24. Halic O, Lee D, Paulus T, Spence M. To blog or not to blog: Student perceptions of blog effectiveness for learning in a college-level course. *The Internet and higher education*,2010;13(4):206-213.
25. Hammond T, Hannay T, Lund B, Scott J. Social bookmarking tools (I). *D-lib Magazine*,2005;11(4):1082-9873.
26. Harinarayana NS, Vasantha Raju N. Web 2.0 features in university library web sites. *The electronic library*,2010;28(1):69-88.
27. Harrower T. *Inside Reporting: A Practical Guide to the Craft of Journalism*, 2007, 2012.
28. Hassan R. *Media, politics and the network society*. McGraw-Hill Education (UK), 2004.
29. Jardine E. *The Dark Web dilemma: Tor, anonymity and online policing*. Global Commission on Internet Governance Paper Series, 2015, 21.
30. Judijanto L, Aslan A. Globalization and the Erosion of Tradition: Modelling the impact of Global Culture on Local Customs. *Mushaf Journal: Jurnal Ilmu Al Quran dan Hadis*,2024;4(3):554-562.
31. Kashef M, Visvizi A, Troisi O. Smart city as a smart service system: Human-computer interaction and smart city surveillance systems. *Computers in Human Behavior*,2021;124:106923.
32. Katz E, Blumler JG, Gurevitch M. *Uses and Gratifications Research*. *The Public Opinion Quarterly*,1973;37:509-523. <https://doi.org/10.1086/268109>
33. Kelly A, Finlayson A. Can Facebook save neighbourhood watch?. *The Police Journal*,2015;88(1):65-77.
34. Kelly F. *The impact of digital and social media on the news consumption and democratic engagement of 25 to 35 year olds* (Doctoral dissertation, Institute of Art, Design+ Technology), 2024.
35. Kemna T. *Dialogue, twitter and new technology-based firms: The communication practice on a social medium*, 2013.
36. Kim E, Lin JS, Sung Y. To app or not to app: Engaging consumers via branded mobile apps. *Journal of Interactive Advertising*,2013;13(1):53-65.
37. Krishnaiyer SS, Raja Mushahar RH, Ahmad N. Using Blogs as a Tool to Facilitate Students' Reflection. *GEMA Online Journal of Language Studies*,2012;12(3).
38. Leiner BM, Cerf VG, Clark DD, Kahn RE, Kleinrock L, Lynch DC. *et al.* A brief history of the Internet. *ACM SIGCOMM computer communication review*,2009;39(5):22-31.
39. LexisNexis Risk Solutions. *Law enforcement usage of social media for investigations*, 2014. <https://risk.lexisnexis.com/insights-resources/white-paper/law-enforcement-usage-of-social-media-for-investigations>
40. McCarthy J. Blended learning environments: Using social networking sites to enhance the first year experience. *Australasian journal of educational technology*,2010;26(6).
41. McCloud RF, Okechukwu CA, Sorensen G, Viswanath, K. Entertainment or health? Exploring the internet usage patterns of the urban poor: a secondary analysis of a randomized controlled trial. *Journal of medical internet research*,2016;18(3):e46.
42. Meijer AJ, Thaens M. *Social media strategies: Understanding the differences between Facebook and Twitter*. Government Information Quarterly,2013;30(4):385–393.
43. Merriam-webster.com. Definition of SOCIAL MEDIA. (n.d.), 2018. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/social%20media>
44. Mishne G, Glance N. Leave a reply: An analysis of weblog comments. In: *Third annual workshop on the Weblogging ecosystem*, 2006.
45. Murphy JP, Fontecilla A. Social media evidence in government investigations and criminal proceedings: A frontier of new legal issues. *Rich. JL & Tech.*,2012;19:1.
46. Newson A, Houghton D, Patten J. *Blogging and other social media: Exploiting the technology and protecting the enterprise*. Gower Publishing, Ltd, 2008.
47. Oh S, Syn SY. Motivations for sharing information and social support in social media: A comparative analysis of Facebook, T witter, D elicious, Y ou T ube, and F lickr. *Journal of the Association for Information Science and Technology*,2015;66(10):2045-2060.
48. Okon GB. National security and journalism practice-emerging considerations for Nigerian journalists. *Global Journal of Arts Humanities and Social Sciences*,2013;1(4):1-5.
49. Peters SE, Ojedokun UA. Social media utilization for policing and crime prevention in Lagos, Nigeria. *Journal of social, behavioral, and health sciences*,2019;13(1):11.
50. Premium Times. High profile corruption cases Nigerians expect in 2021. Online news, 2020.
51. Ralph L, Elliott IC, Murphy J, Glennon R. Navigating the digital beat: a review of social media as a public engagement tool in policing. *International Journal of Emergency Services*, 2024.
52. Raub K. *An Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis Inquiry into Facebook Newcomer Motivations for Participatory Activities*, 2015.
53. Shepard C, Rahmati A, Tossell C, Zhong L, Kortu P. LiveLab: measuring wireless networks and smartphone users in the field. *ACM SIGMETRICS Performance Evaluation Review*,2011;38(3):15-20.
54. Sood SM, Hua TK, Hamid BA. Cyberbullying through intellect-related insults. *Jurnal Komunikasi: Malaysian Journal of Communication*,2020;36(1):278-297.
55. Spinello R. *Cyberethics: Morality and law in cyberspace*. Jones & Bartlett Publishers, 2010.
56. Srinivasan D. The antitrust case against Facebook: A monopolist's journey towards pervasive surveillance in spite of consumers' preference for privacy. *Berkeley Bus. LJ*,2019;16:39.
57. Subrahmanyam K, Reich SM, Waechter N, Espinoza G. Online and offline social networks: Use of social networking sites by emerging adults. *Journal of applied developmental psychology*,2008;29(6):420-433.
58. Terpstra J. Digitalization and local policing: normative order, institutional logics and streetlevel bureaucrats'

- strategies. *European Journal of Policing Studies*,2024:36(1-2):36-58.
59. Van Royen K, Poels K, Vandebosch H, Adam P. "Thinking before posting?" Reducing cyber harassment on social networking sites through a reflective message. *Computers in human behavior*,2017:66:345-352.
60. Weiyang LIU. A historical overview of uses and gratifications theory. *Cross-Cultural Communication*,2015:11(9):71-78.
61. Wellman B. Physical place and cyberplace: The rise of personalized networking. *International journal of urban and regional research*,2001:25(2):227-252.
62. Wilson CP, Wilson SA, Gwinn M. Identifying barriers to diversity in law enforcement agencies. *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*,2016:14(4):231-253.
63. Yanbe Y, Jatowt A, Nakamura S, Tanaka K. Can social bookmarking enhance search in the web?. In: *Proceedings of the 7th ACM/IEEE-CS joint conference on Digital libraries*, 2007, 107-116.