

# Similarity\_3\_98\_alpiyasin

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**Be Wise on the Internet in the Digital Era**

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**Abstract**

*Prudent internet use in the digital age seeks to mitigate the imprudent actions of adolescent internet users. The primary concerns identified encompass insufficient understanding of mental health dangers, the proliferation of misinformation, and internet addiction. This community service initiative utilizes a socialization approach comprising steps such as a pre-test, a material presentation, a post-test, and an implementation evaluation.*

*Findings from this community service initiative reveal that people in Karanganyar and Astanaanyar who participated in the digital literacy workshop demonstrated enhanced comprehension of safe and responsible internet use. In conclusion, digital literacy education equips the community with essential skills to navigate the online realm responsibly, thereby reducing risks and enhancing the benefits of the internet in the digital age.*

**Keyword :** *Digital Literacy, Internet Behavior, Teenagers, Education*

## Introduction

In the age of globalization and advancing technology, the internet has become indispensable to diverse groups in their daily lives, particularly on social media. Social media eliminates obstacles to social interaction. It is free of constraints on space and time; people can communicate at any time and from any location. Social media undeniably exerts a substantial influence on an individual's life. An individual who begins modestly can expand significantly via social media, and conversely (Daarul, 2025).

Cyberbullying, as articulated by Rahmawati et al. (2025), constitutes a form of harassment executed using digital media, including social media, instant messaging applications, and various online platforms. This situation is escalating as internet usage among students intensifies. Inadequate digital literacy, deficient emotional regulation skills, and a lack of awareness concerning the psychological impacts of online conduct are the primary elements contributing to cyberbullying (Oktavia, Alpiyasin F et al., 2025).

This study highlights the need to incorporate digital literacy into the educational framework to mitigate technological disparities and cybercrime among youth. At SMKS PGRI Selaawi Garut, it is evident that imparting fundamental digital skills to pupils not only safeguards them from online dangers but also cultivates a sense of accountability in their digital conduct. By deepening their understanding of technology, these youths can make informed decisions and navigate the digital landscape with greater skill. This effort is essential as it equips them for a future in which digital participation becomes progressively critical.

The study by En Tay, Alpiyasin F et al. (2025) underscores the importance of digital literacy socialization in enabling students to discern information and efficiently employ artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance their learning experiences. By improving their digital literacy, students may make more informed assessments of information sources and use AI effectively to enhance their experiences. This study demonstrates that education centered on digital literacy enhances individuals' capacity to navigate varied information and equips them to succeed in an increasingly digital landscape.

This endeavor is crucial for fostering a more discerning and adaptable generation when it comes to technology.

This occurrence poses a challenge for a collaborative approach; in rural communities such as Karanganyar, internet use often occurs without a thorough understanding of digital ethics and security. Consequently, improving the community's digital literacy has emerged as an imperative necessity for society, especially for the younger generation, to cultivate intelligent, judicious, and responsible online users.

In a demonstration of commitment to this subject, faculty and students from STMIK Mardira Indonesia partnered with the Karang Taruna organization in Karanganyar to implement the outreach program titled "Wise Internet Use in the Digital Era." This collaboration seeks to educate the Karanganyar community about the importance of using the internet safely and positively, while simultaneously enhancing the role of youth in fostering a technology-conscious society. This program aims to develop a link between higher education and youth organizations to promote positive community change. This outreach offers both theoretical insights and promotes community engagement in fostering a healthy and productive digital environment in Karanganyar.

## **Method**

The community service activities conducted by instructors and students from STMIK Mardira Indonesia, in partnership with the Karang Taruna of Karanganyar, encompass a variety of programs aimed at promoting "Wise Internet Use in the Digital Era." The events occurred in the community hall of Karanganyar, located in the Astanaanyar area of Bandung. The intended audience for this program comprises the population of Karanganyar, specifically individuals aged 20 and older. This demographic was selected because adults actively use the internet for communication, professional purposes, entertainment, and financial transactions. This group is a primary

target for various forms of digital crime, including online fraud, disinformation, phishing, and the dissemination of counterfeit content via WhatsApp, Facebook, and other online platforms. This group also functions as parents who must instruct their children on navigating the digital realm. Consequently, by improving digital comprehension and literacy within this demographic, beneficial outcomes are anticipated to permeate to all family members and the broader community.

The effort aims to engage not only persons with advanced educational backgrounds or technological proficiency but also those who remain unacquainted with the digital realm. The objective is for all societal groups to comprehend the fundamental concepts of digital security and implement them in their daily routines. The implementation stages of community service include a preparatory phase that involves identifying the target population, devising relevant instructional materials, and developing content on digital literacy and the effects of internet use. The socialization phase includes community seminars that elucidate the risks and benefits of the internet and present solutions for prudent use. The next part includes small-group discussions and practical simulations, prompting the audience to share experiences and examine the effects of online activity. The assessment phase comprises questionnaires distributed before and after the activities to assess knowledge gains and shifts in community attitudes toward internet use.

### **Results and Discussion**

The community service event titled "Wise Internet Use in the Digital Era," conducted on Tuesday, July 1, 2025, at the Hall of Karanganyar Village in the Astanaanyar district of Bandung, was executed seamlessly and successfully. This program was a partnership between instructors and students from STMIK Mardira Indonesia and the Karang Taruna of Karanganyar Village, focused on improving the community's digital literacy, specifically concerning internet ethics and security. The participant count reached 17, aligning with the target demographic of adults aged 20 and older.

The participants exhibited considerable interest throughout the activity, as seen by their punctuality, active involvement in discussions, and willingness to partake in pre-tests, post-tests, and a prize quiz. The event commenced at 7:30 AM with the committee's technical preparations. Participant registration commenced at 8:30 AM, followed by the opening ceremony at 9:00 AM, conducted by the MC. Following introductory remarks by the village chief, the chairman of Karang Taruna, the supervising lecturer, and the event coordinator, participants completed a pre-test to evaluate their preliminary understanding of digital literacy. The site of the community service activities in Karanganyar Village, Astanaanyar, as seen in the photograph below:



**Figure 1. Location of PkM Activities**

Subsequently, in their presentation on "Internet Ethics and Digital Threats," Najhan and Nasywa emphasized the significance of maintaining politeness and responsibility in online communication. Participants were informed about prominent digital risks, including hoaxes, cyberbullying, and online scams (such as fraudulent lotteries and phishing), and their effects on individuals and society.

The subsequent presentation concentrated on "Safe and Smart Internet Usage Tips." This material underscored the importance of protecting personal data, avoiding dubious links, and identifying misinformation while

avoiding harmful materials. The presenters additionally provided pragmatic advice, including the judicious use of screen time, the formulation of robust passwords, and the prevention of social media dependency. A photograph pertinent to the material presentation is included below.



**Figure 2. Delivery of Material**

In addition to the two topics presented, the activity also included an ice-breaking session to lighten the atmosphere. Participants engaged enthusiastically, and the mood became much more relaxed, as shown in the image below.

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**Figure 3. Ice Breaking participants**

Upon the delivery of all materials, participants completed a post-test to evaluate their comprehension following the presentations. The results demonstrated a notable enhancement: whereas most participants answered about 40-50% of the questions correctly on the pre-test, their average score increased to 80% on the post-test, as illustrated in the graphic below. The program culminated in an interactive quiz encompassing questions pertinent to the provided subject. The three quickest participants with accurate responses were awarded gifts as a token of gratitude for their involvement. This activity effectively accomplished its objective of imparting to the community a fundamental comprehension of becoming discerning, analytical, and responsible internet users.



Figure 4. Participant Post-test

### Conclusion

The community service event titled "Wise Internet Use in the Digital Era," organized by instructors and students from STMIK Mardira Indonesia at the Hall of Karanganyar Village in the Astanaanyar district of Bandung, was executed seamlessly and adhered to the established timetable. This event effectively imparted to the community the significance of internet ethics, an understanding of diverse digital hazards such as hoaxes, online scams, and harmful content, and strategies to mitigate and address these challenges.

The primary subjects addressed, including Internet Ethics and Digital Threats, together with Safe and Smart Internet Usage Tips, significantly augmented the participants' understanding. The pre-test and post-test findings demonstrated an enhancement in comprehension following the presentation of the information. The participants' enthusiasm during the discussion sessions, Q&A, and interactive quiz further indicated that this activity was pertinent to the community's requirements in navigating the contemporary digital era.

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