

**The Biennial Conference of
The University of the West Indies Schools
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**Title: Texting and sexting among Jamaican
youths: Educational, social, psychological
and legal impacts**

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The Conceptual Framework

Societal

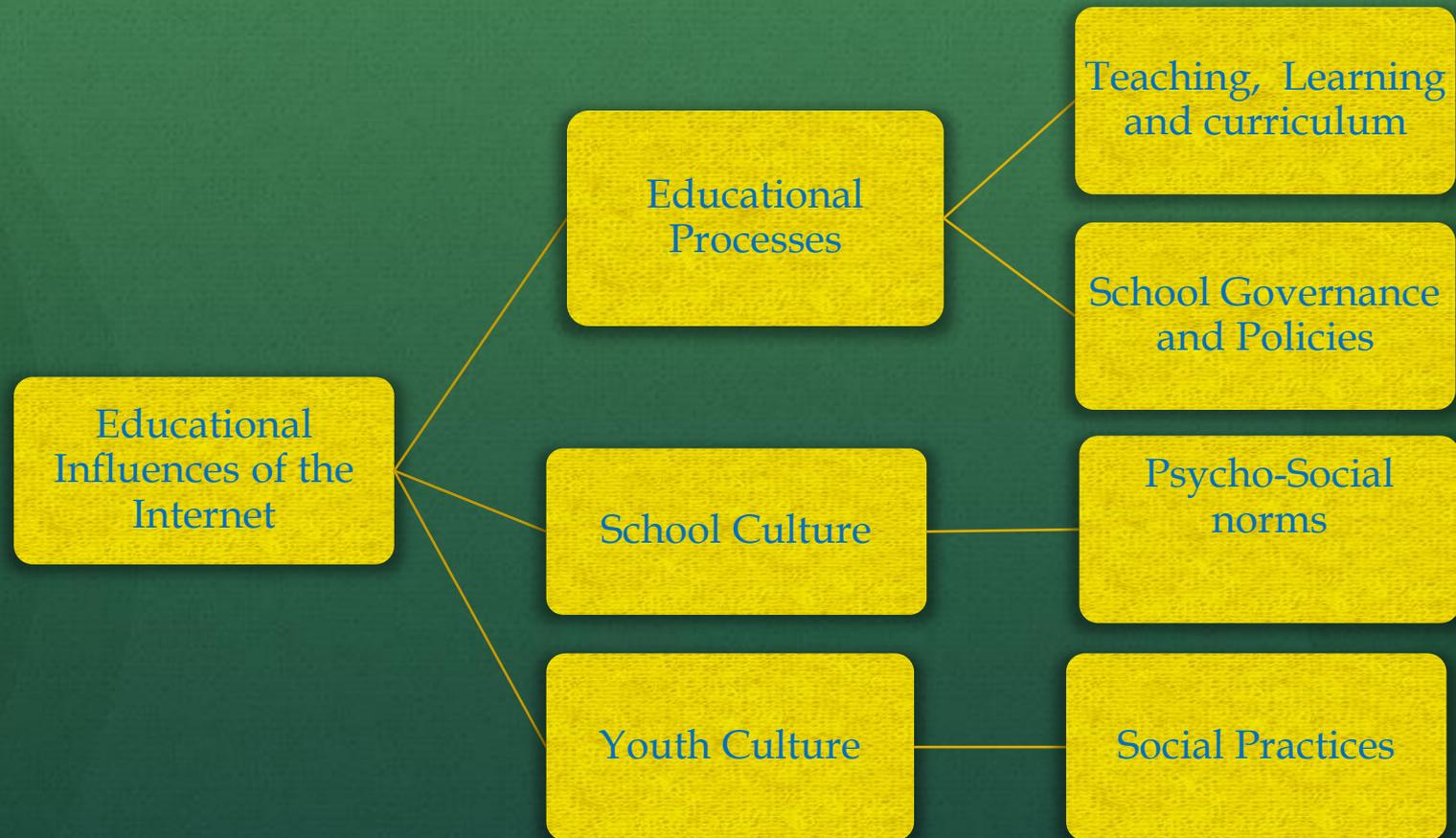
- Governance
- Commerce
- Social Norms
- Cultural Norms
- Religious Norms

Educational

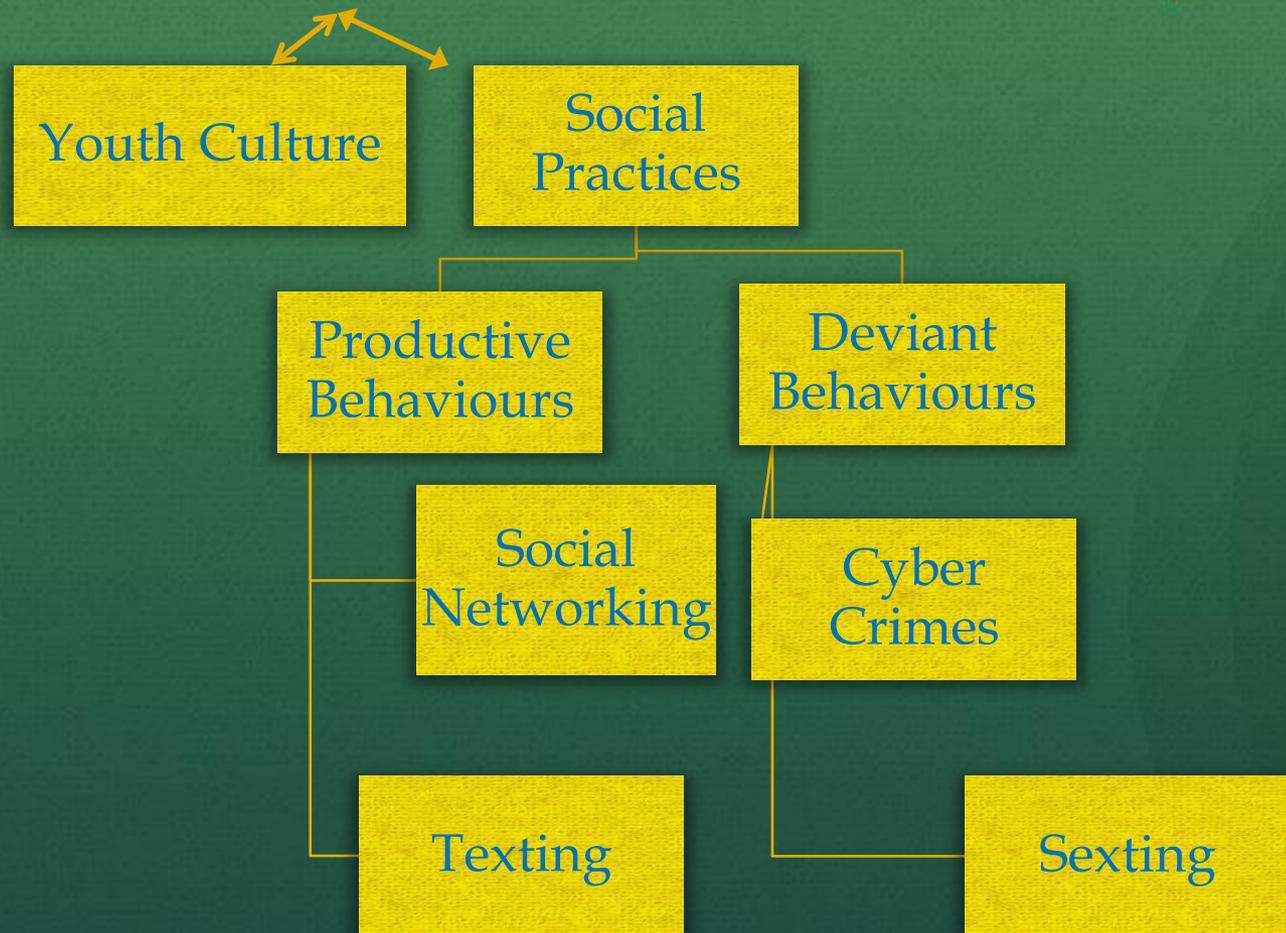
- Educational Processes
- School Culture
- Youth Culture

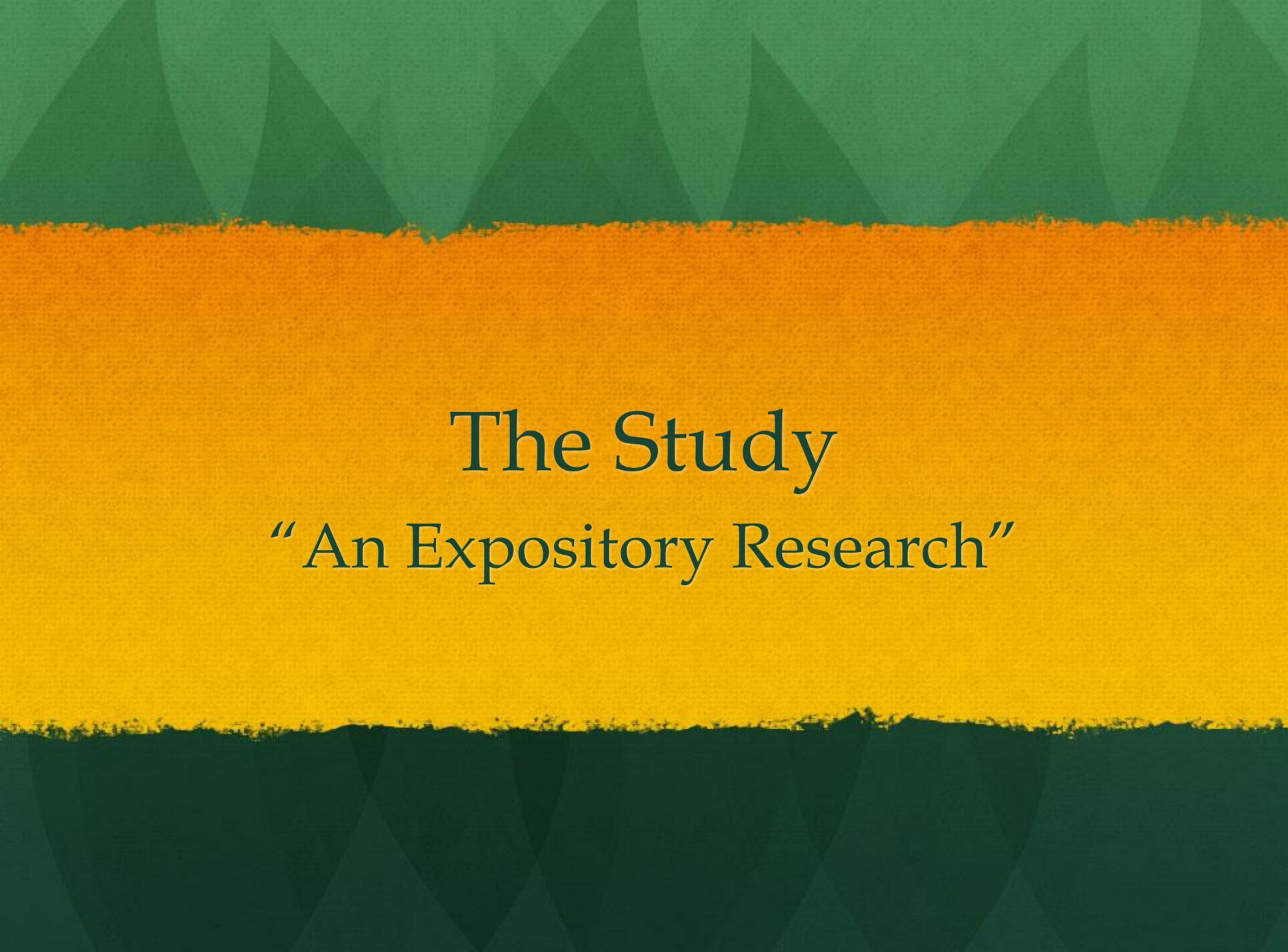
**Influences of
the Internet
in Jamaica**

Internet's Influence: Education in Jamaica



Internet and Youth Culture





The Study

“An Expository Research”

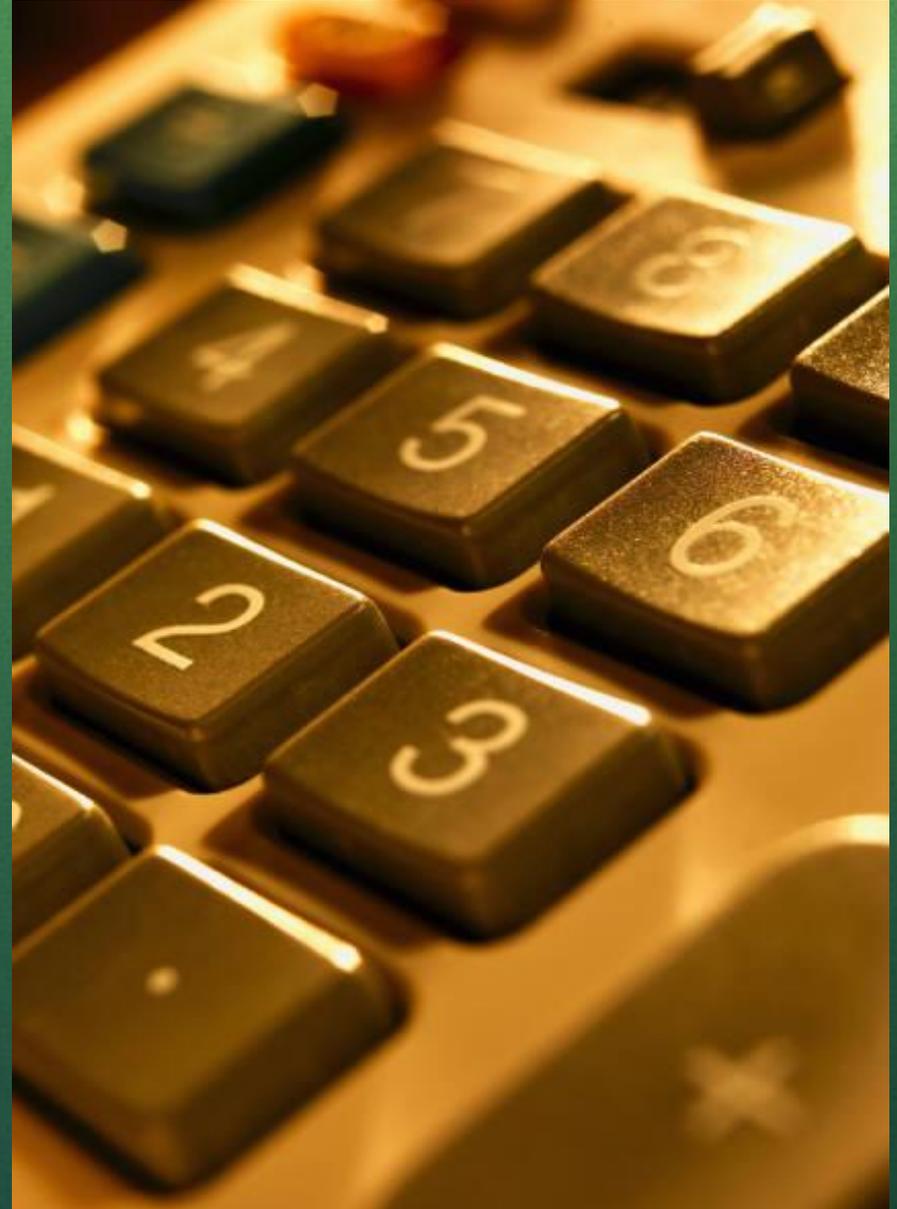
Theoretical Framework

- Grounded theory:

Theory that is developed inductively from a corpus of data. This study is situated in the paradigm of grounded theory because I am taking a case rather than a variable perspective. Therefore, in this study, different cases are used to build a 'whole new theory' about the educational, social, psychological, and legal influences of **texting** and **sexting** among Jamaican youths.

Research Questions

1. How does texting influence youth culture in Jamaica?
2. What are the perceived influences of the practice of sexting on the life high school youths in Jamaica?



Study Design

Qualitative Research

1. Discourse Study

a.) Interviews

- Police Officers
- Lawyers
- Teenage Youths
- Young Adults (19-29)
- Adults (30 and over)

b.) Focus Group Interviews

Young Adults
Parents
Teachers

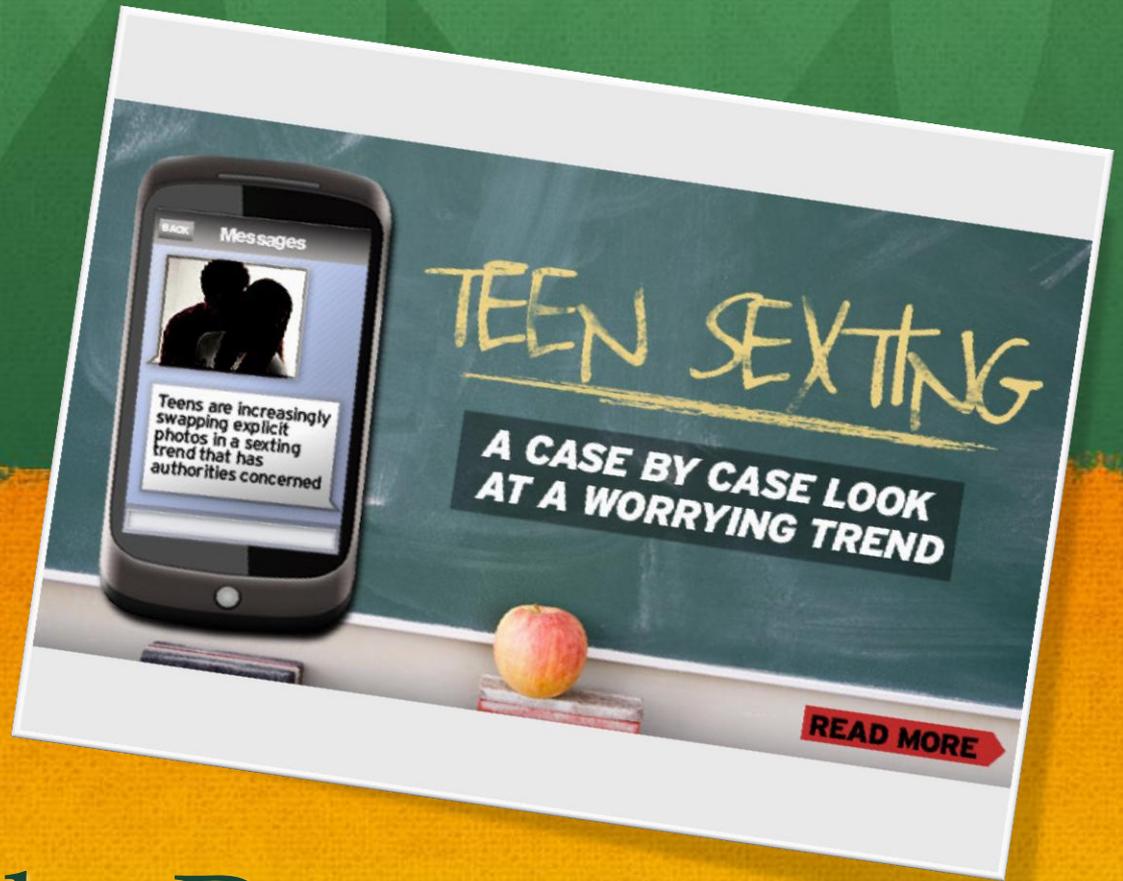
2. Document Study

- Jamaica's Crime Reports
- Laws of Jamaica
 - Cyber Crimes Act
 - Offences Against the Person Act
 - Child Pornography (Protection) Act



Texting ----- Sexing

- The term texting, describes short communication made over a cell phone through short messaging system (SMS).
- Sexing is the texting of sexually explicit messages via SMS.



Sampling the Data

Document Study:- The Literature

Sexing Excerpt from the literature-

In October 2008, officials in the Tunkhannock School District in northeastern Pennsylvania discovered photographs of semi-nude and nude teenage girls on cell phones that had been confiscated. Many of these girls were students in the district. It was obvious that male students had been trading these images over their phones.

Document Study:- The Literature

Sexing Excerpt from the literature-

“Among teens the sexting phenomenon appears to be a combination of a number of factors: digital imaging technology that can easily capture and send images, impulsivity, raging hormones, peer or partner pressure and teen’s biological incapability to effectively predicting the potential negative harmful confidences of their actions” (Willard, N., 2010).

Discourse Analysis

“Spooking Casper’s Cousin”

Focus Interview Sexting Excerpt

Casper: Can I just give a quick input?

Moderator: Yes

Casper: Alright because this stuff that’s going on, my cousin just call me and tell me what happened to him this morning.

Moderator: You can share it. Yea man come man come

Casper: Yes. He was ahm... You want me tell me them or you will tell?

Cousin: No you tell them.

[This young man was a walk-in who lives in England, but came to Jamaica to visit his relatives and came to the session with his cousin]

Discourse Analysis

“Spooking Casper’s Cousin”

Focus Interview Sexting Excerpt

Moderator: No man, you can join

Casper :Talk man

Casper’s Cousin: Ahm:

Moderator: Come up I can get what you are saying on tape

Casper’s Cousin: I was just here mate, so I am checking my mobile, talking to this girl, so this girl was like I’m bored and I was like, ok then and she said she wants to send me a picture of her chest.

Discourse Analysis

“Spooking Casper’s Cousin”

Focus Interview Sexting Excerpt

Casper: Yea him just show me the picture.

Moderator: She just sent it?

Casper: Yea.

Moderator: Is it a local girl?

Casper’s Cousin: Ahm it’s this girl I’m talking to so [long pause with a shrug]...

Moderator: Locally?

Casper’s Cousin: Yea in England.

Moderator: Oh in England.

Casper’s Cousin: Yea. It was like a shock, cuz I wasn’t expecting it. She said she was bored but I wasn’t expecting to get a picture.

[The young man blushed and smiled all at once]

Discourse Analysis

“Spooking Casper’s Cousin”

Focus Interview Sexting Excerpt

Moderator: Alright, alright so what did that do for you?

Casper’s Cousin: I was like yeeaaaa, but it was a shock really. I wasn’t expecting a picture I swear, I was shocked. But a part from that she never really talked to me so I wasn’t really expecting. Like she was asking if I think she was a freak and I’m thinking yea.

Moderator:: Ok so you gonna go and check her out when you go back?

Casper’s Cousin: Definitely
(Laughing)

Moderator: Ok

Lucky8: That’s the thing that’s another reason for me not to do it. You see what he said, he got the picture and he just showed it to Sylvester.

Discourse Analysis

“Spooking Casper’s Cousin”

Focus Interview Sexting Excerpt

Casper’s Cousin: But that’s my family though.

Lucky8: That’s your family but it doesn’t matter and then you now get a different perception of this girl.

Casper’s Cousin: No no no I don’t think she’s a whore or anything, I just think she’s a freak.

Lucky67: But in your culture it’s ok to be a freak, in Jamaica initially it was a really bad thing and then because of the dancehall culture turning over as soon as one person start singing bout freaky girl is this and freaky girl is that is like girl feel lead basically.

Moderator: And they want to become freaky?

Lucky67: Yea because that is what is in right now even now. So even if I never used to do it before, I going pressure myself to do it to give of the image as if I am that type of person when really and truly they might be good girls. MHM.

Casper: True

Discourse Analysis

Youth Culture & Sexting

Tales from a recent graduate of a Jamaican traditional high school graduate and first Year University Student (age 19):

Lucky8: The whole influential thing, I never really see that coming out, but there were girls like who wanted to be a part of the other girls company and I guess they would do stuff to get the attention and try to be popular. So like for example, an eighth grader would be like, tek off 'ar uniform and tek pictures of 'ar breasts and wadeva, and go in the bathroom do those stuff.

Moderator: Mmhm

Discourse Analysis of Jamaica Youth Culture of Sexting in Schools

Cont...

Lucky8: And then she put them up on facebook so that yuh know, the older girls can see that, OH!! She mature and maybe she can hang out with us or summin like that, in that case. ...Ahm sexting the sixth formers were the most, actually, fifth formers were the most you know, prominent with it and really out there, they never care. They talk about what they do and whateva and they would like, for example, lunch time, they would be under the trees and they talk what they do, what they sent and show each other everything that they were doing and it was like nothing to some a them.



Conclusions

Questions

